

³ Blessed *is* he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time *is* near. —
Revelation 1:3 (NKJV)

A man with a long white beard and hair, wearing a simple brown robe, is seated in a rocky, arid landscape. He is holding a scroll open with his left hand and writing on it with a quill in his right hand. The scroll has some text written on it, including the words "KAAACBIAITY" and "TONTICPAPAYIX". The background shows rolling hills and a clear sky.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)



- The **imagery** and **symbols** in Revelation are necessary in comprehending the **BIG PICTURE** - but if we focus too much on the imagery and symbols we can easily **MISS** the **BIG PICTURE**.
- The **BIG PICTURE** in chapters 8:2-11:19 is clearly **GOD WILL BRING CALAMITY** upon those who persecute His people.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)



**Revelation 8:4
(NKJV)**

⁴ And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand.

- A series of three “7's” — 7 seals (6:1-8:5); 7 trumpets (8:6-9:21); and 7 bowls of wrath (15:1-16:21).
- John describes them one after the other by revealing from different viewpoints the judging and restraining action of God.
- Those who prayed for help in their distress CAN know that God HEARS - it would be their prayers that initiate divine judgment.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)



■ 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS (8:2-6)

- ▶ The natural calamities symbolized by the first 4 trumpets have weakened the Empire (8:1-13)
- ▶ The 5th and 6th trumpets introduce the last two factors that contributed to the demise of the Roman Empire. (9:1-21)

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Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)



■ THE 5TH & 6TH TRUMPETS (9:1-21)

- ▶ Before the 7th trumpet we see one of John's interlude visions, much like we saw in ch. 7 (10:1-11:14)
- ▶ Before proceeding with the 7th trumpet, John speaks to the mission of believers to a lost and dying world.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

A Chronological Summary of Revelation 11

11:1, Temple is measured

God's property protected (Zech. 2:1-5)

11:2, Holy City trodden

Church is persecuted (Heb. 12:22-23)

11:3, Two witnesses prophesy

Gospel is preached (John 15:26-27)

11:7, Work completed / beast kills them

Satan apparent victor (Rev. 13:7, 15-17)

11:8-10, Earth rejoices / their dead
bodies lie in street 3 1/2 days

Apparent defeat of the Lord's people

11:11-14, Witnesses raised, ascend, tenth
part of city fell

Christ's cause vindicated (Rev. 20; Dan. 7)

11:15-19, 7th trumpet sounds, kingdoms
of world become the Lord's

Christ reigns as King of Kings (Rev. 17:14;
Eph. 1:20-23; 1 Cor. 15:23-26)

Revelation 12:1–17 (NKJV)

¹ Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. ² Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth. ³ And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. ⁴ His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. ⁵ She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.

Revelation 12:1–17 (NKJV)

⁶ Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days. ⁷ And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, ⁸ but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. ⁹ So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. ¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

Revelation 12:1–17 (NKJV)

¹¹ And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. ¹² Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.” ¹³ Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male *Child*. ¹⁴ But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

Revelation 12:1–17 (NKJV)

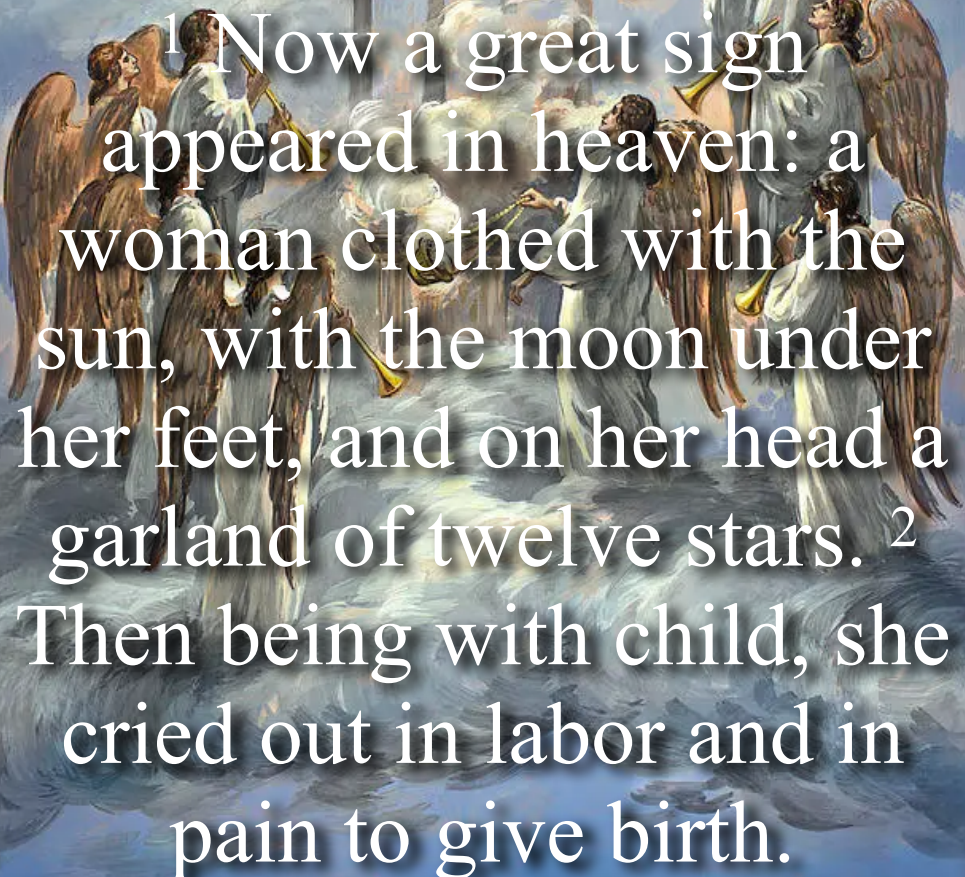
¹⁵ So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. ¹⁶ But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. ¹⁷ And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

Revelation 12:1–2 (NKJV)



¹ Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. ² Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.

■ THE WOMAN, HER CHILD & THE DRAGON (12:1-2)

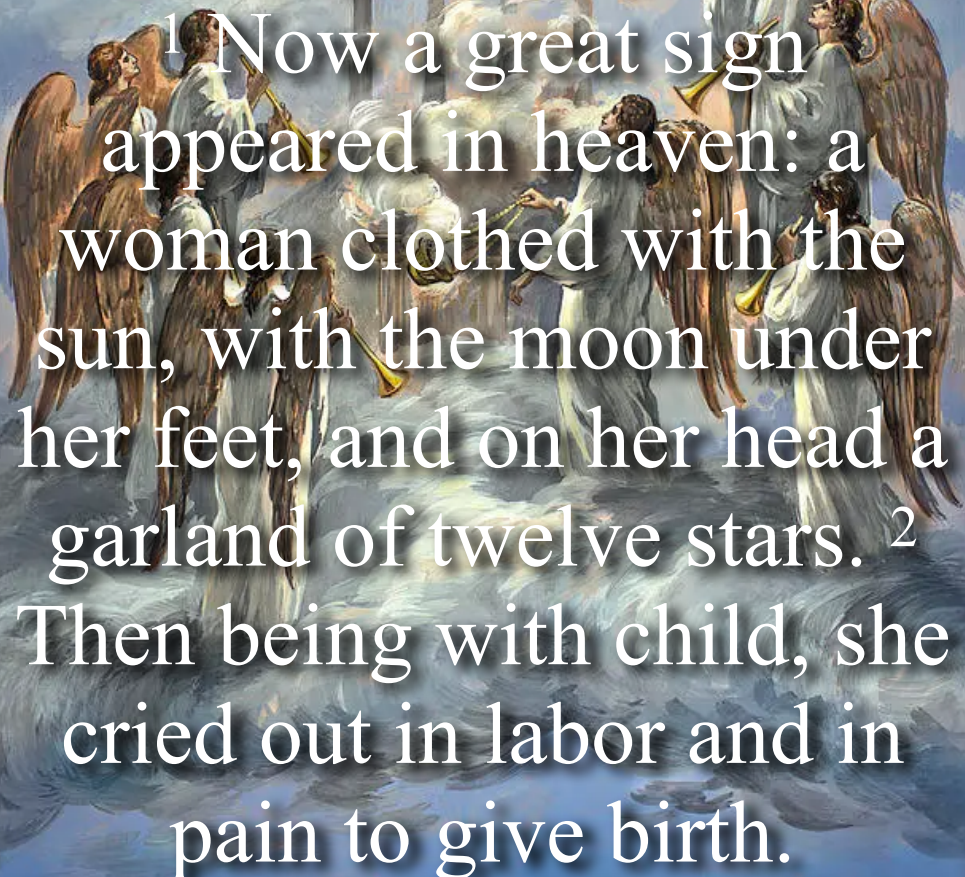
- ▶ Another interlude occurs after the sounding of the 7th trumpet and before the 7 bowls of wrath being poured out.
- ▶ This interlude explains who the characters are and what the underlying reasons are for the conflict.
- ▶ Through these revelations the reader is made aware of the fact that all of God's judgments are just and righteous.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

Revelation 12:1–2 (NKJV)



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■ THE WOMAN, HER CHILD & THE DRAGON (12:1-2)

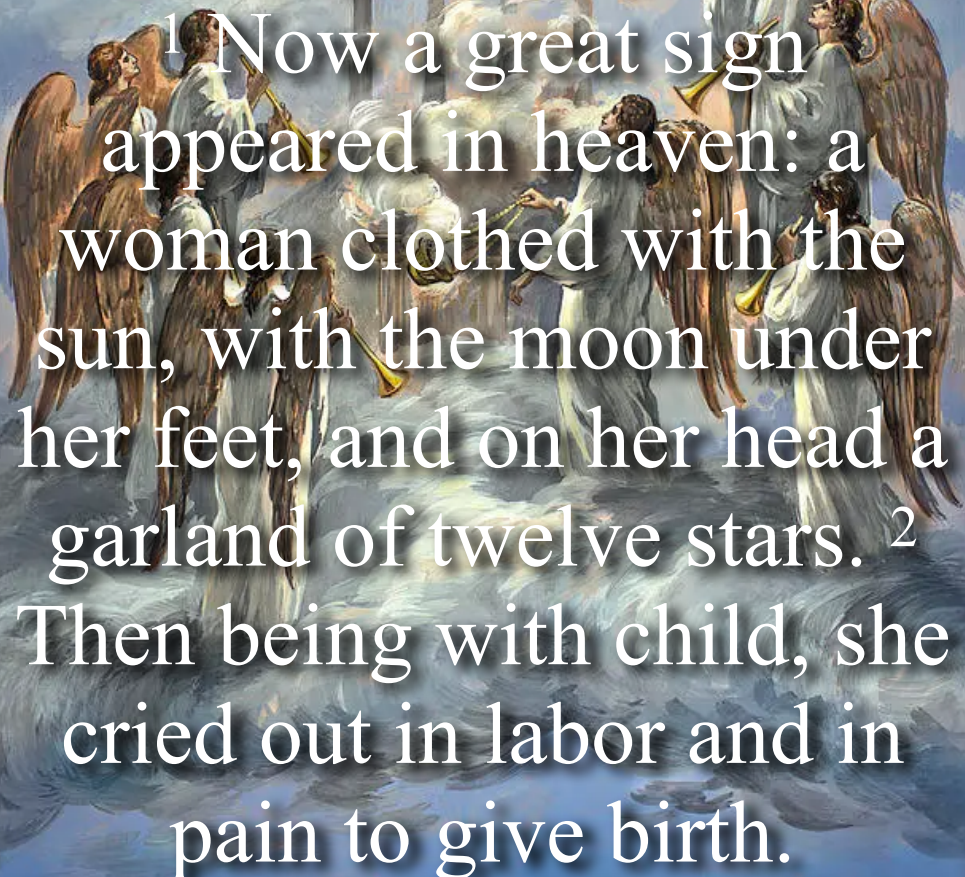
- ▶ A radiant woman is in the focus of the vision throughout the chapter.
- ▶ Several views have been put forth to the identity of this woman:
 - Fleshly Israel (Ge. 12:3; Ro. 1:3)
 - Mary, the mother of Jesus (Isa. 7:14)
 - The church (Rev. 22:17)
 - The faithful remnant of God in the BOTH the O.T. and N.T. (True Israel)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

Revelation 12:1–2 (NKJV)



¹ Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. ² Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.

■ THE WOMAN, HER CHILD & THE DRAGON (12:1-2)

► The faithful remnant of God in the BOTH the O.T. and N.T. (True Israel)

Micah 4:10 (NKJV)

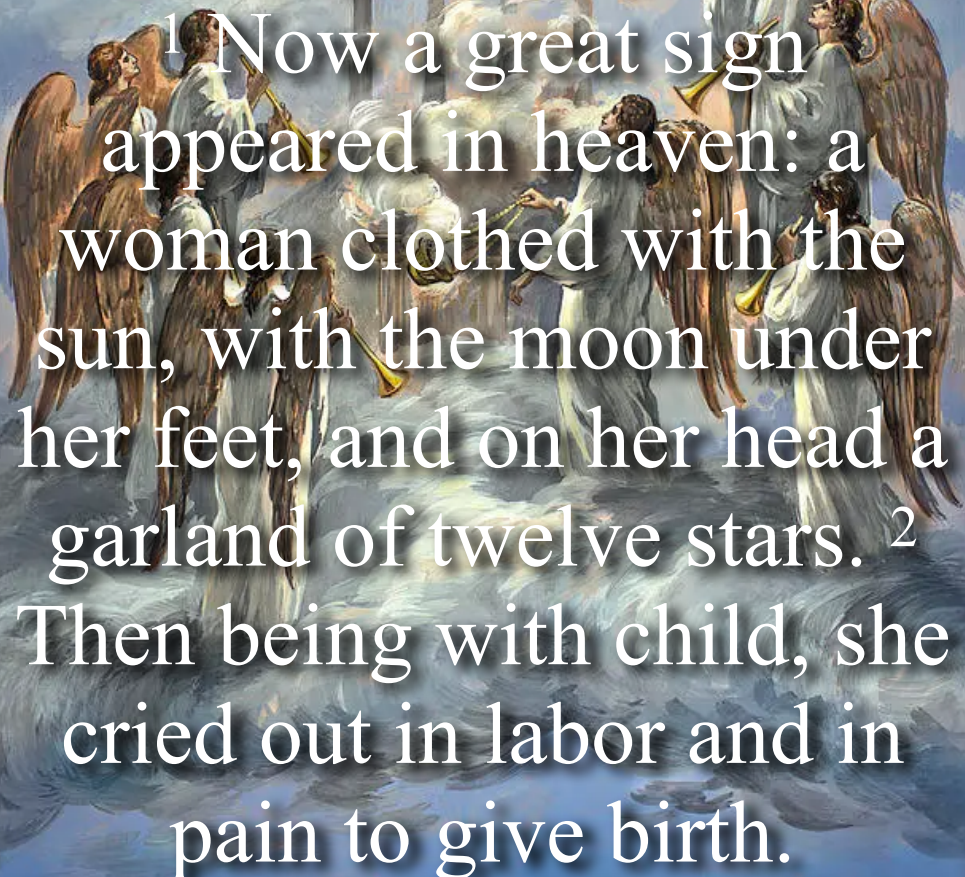
¹⁰ Be in pain, and labor to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, Like a woman in birth pangs. For now you shall go forth from the city, You shall dwell in the field, And to Babylon you shall go. There you shall be delivered; There the Lord will redeem you From the hand of your enemies.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

Revelation 12:1–2 (NKJV)



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■ THE WOMAN, HER CHILD & THE DRAGON (12:1-2)

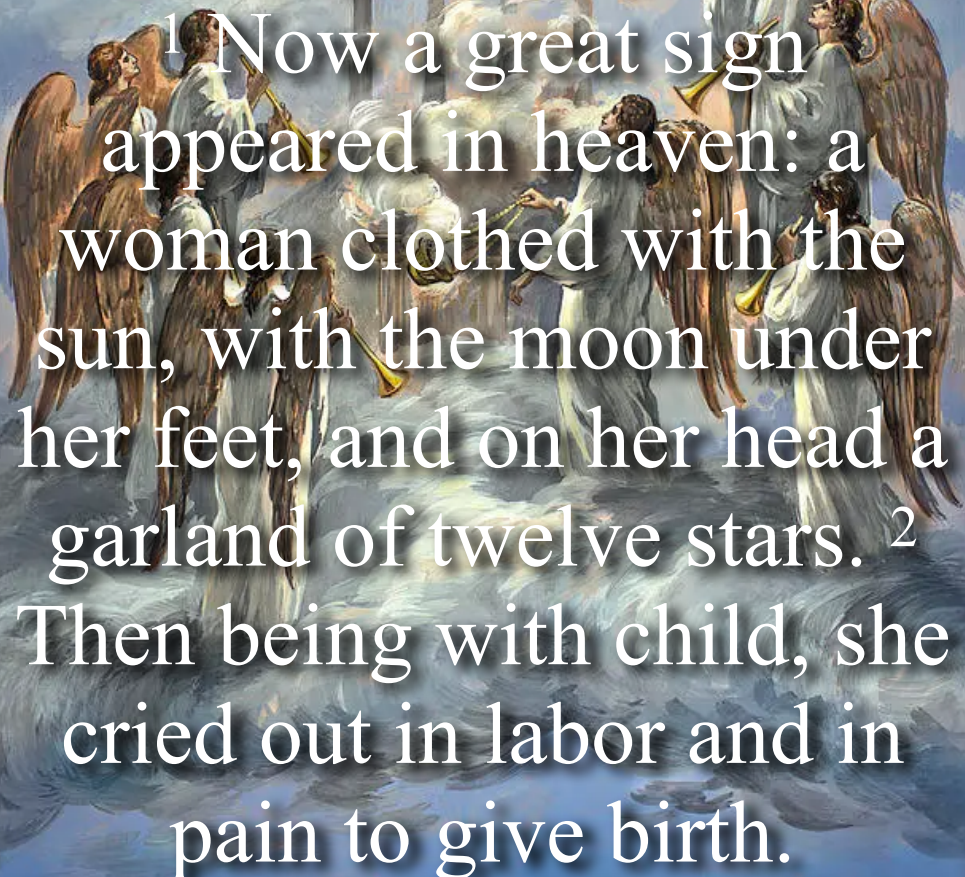
- ▶ She represents the people of God in continuity (note Gal. 6:16).
- ▶ Nearly 2,000 years had passed since God promised Abraham that through his seed all families of the earth would be blessed (Gen. 12:3).
- ▶ The loyal people of God looked for the Messiah - they waited for their anointed king — He came by means of the remnant of Israel (Rom. 9:4,5)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

Revelation 12:1–2 (NKJV)



¹ Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. ² Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.

■ THE WOMAN, HER CHILD & THE DRAGON (12:1-2)

► In Scripture, the faithful remnant of God and the Church are often depicted as a female figure:

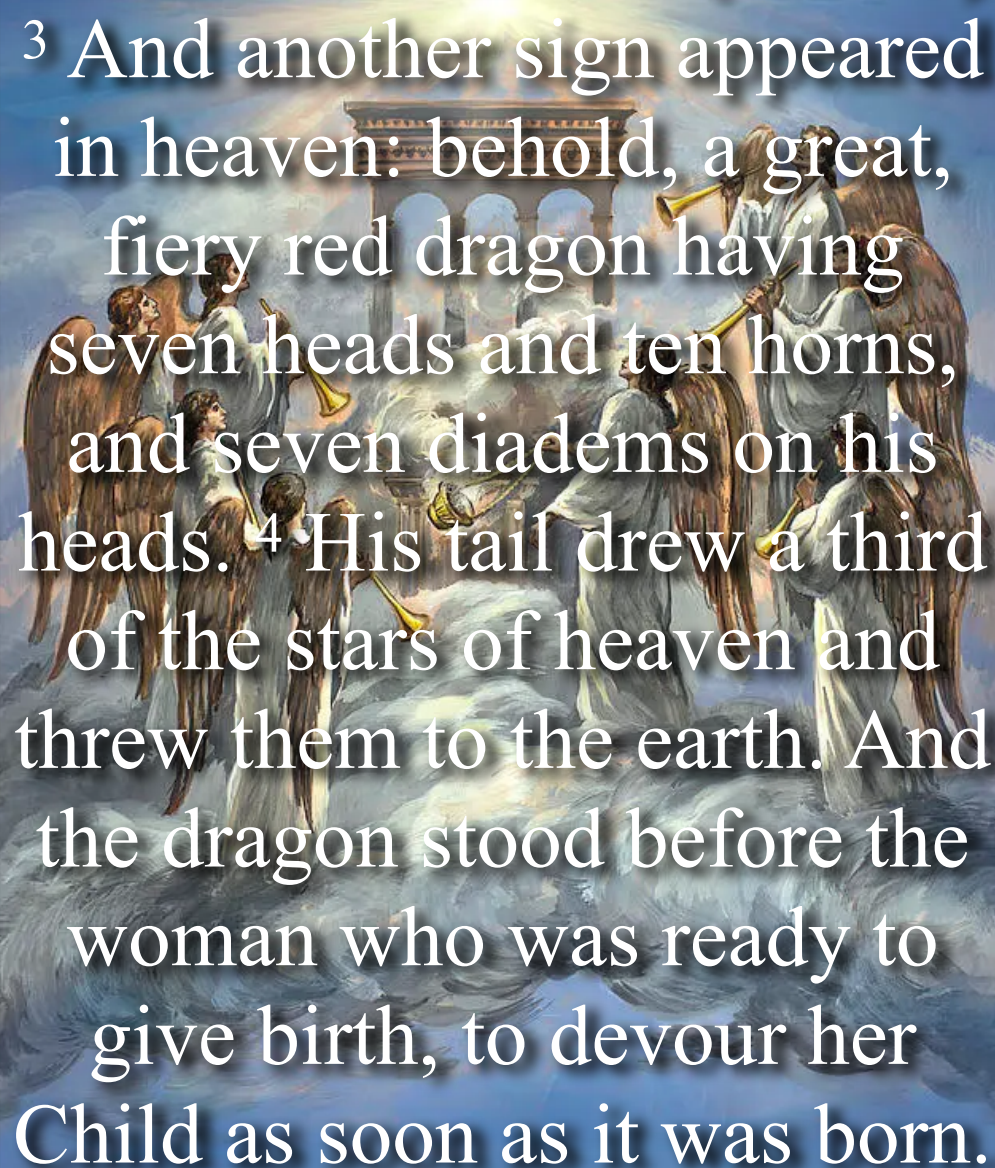
- She is a bride (Hos. 2:19; Rev. 22:17; Rom. 7:4; 2 Cor. 11:2; Eph. 5:22-32);
- She is a mother (cf. Gal. 4:26),
- She is seen as an elect lady (2 John 1).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

Revelation 12:3–4 (NKJV)



³ And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. ⁴ His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

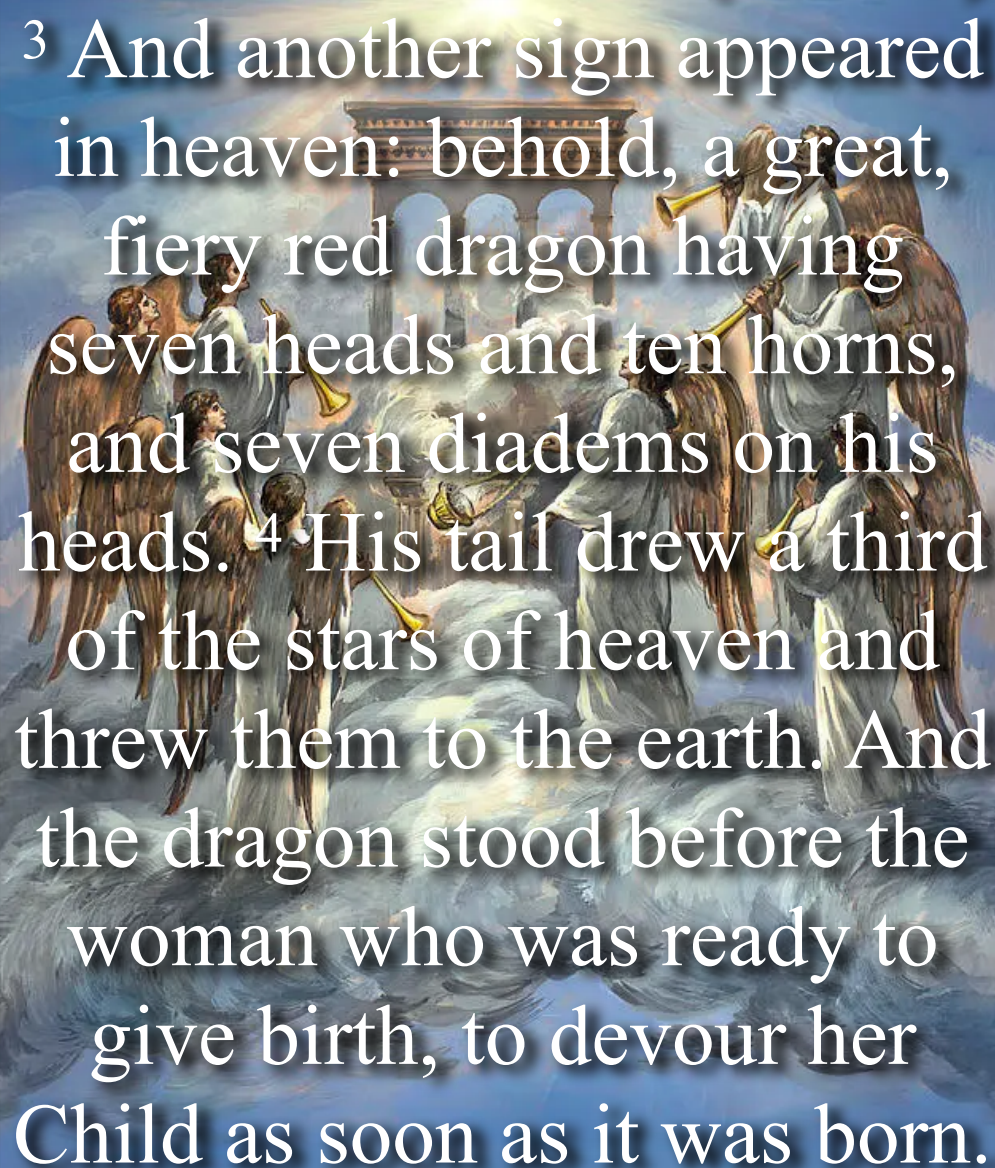
- THE GREAT RED DRAGON (12:3-4)
 - ▶ There is no question as to who this great red dragon is, for 12:9 specifically states that he is that “old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan.”
 - ▶ His seven heads and ten horns symbolize that he has power and authority on the earth
 - ▶ The dragon stands before the woman to devour her Child — an attempt to destroy God’s redemptive purpose.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

Revelation 12:3–4 (NKJV)



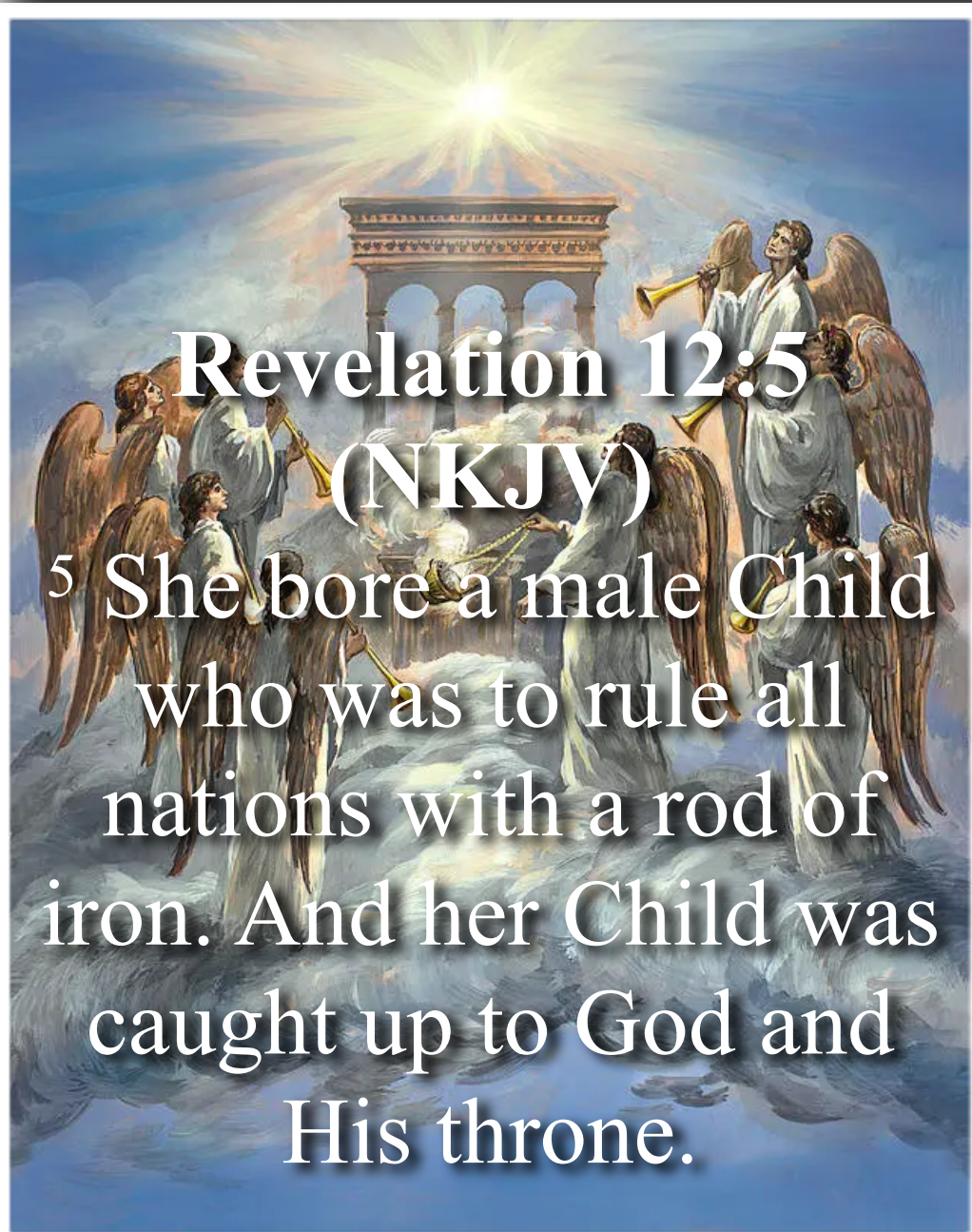
³ And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. ⁴ His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

- THE GREAT RED DRAGON (12:3-4)
 - ▶ Satan’s effort to devour the man child at his birth failed — Herod tried to have Jesus killed (Matt. 2:16).
 - ▶ Several attempts were made by the Jews to put Christ to death, but they failed until He “finished the work” God gave him (John 17:4).
 - ▶ Finally, at the crucifixion of Jesus, Satan appeared to triumph, but instead, he himself was defeated (He. 2:14-15).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)



■ THE ROYAL MAN CHILD (12:5,6)

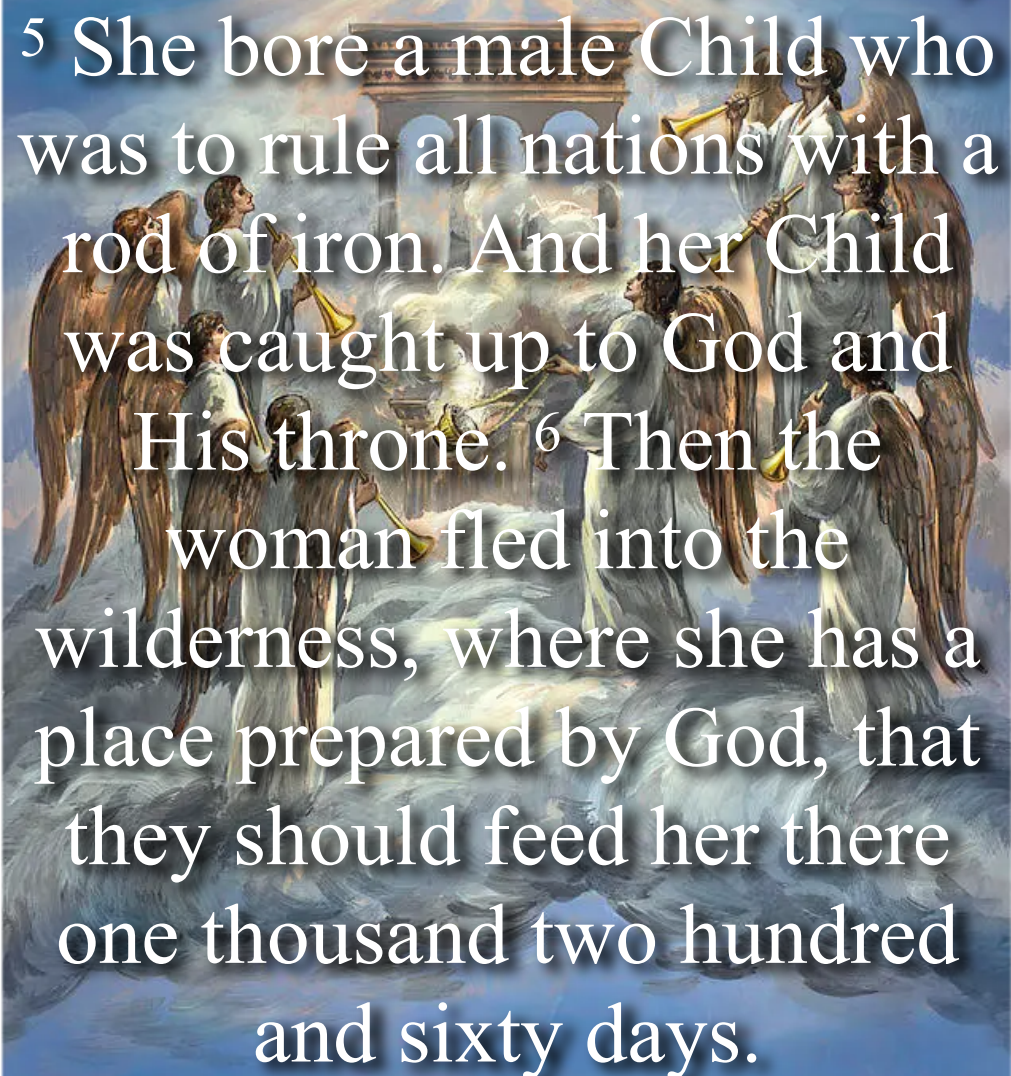
- ▶ As prophesied, Jesus would rule the nations with power and strength (19:15; Ps. 2:9).
- ▶ The rod of iron points to the fact that his rule was to be with absolute authority (Eph. 1:20-23).
- ▶ The destiny of all nations is in the hands of him who is the faithful witness, the “prince of the kings of the earth” (1:5).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

Revelation 12:5,6 (NKJV)



⁵ She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne. ⁶ Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

- THE ROYAL MAN CHILD (12:5,6)
 - ▶ What was intended by the devil to be a means of extermination became God's means of salvation.
 - ▶ Through the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ redemption for the sins of mankind was made possible (1 Cor. 15:1-4).
 - ▶ When Christ ascended to God, he began his rule over all the nations (Eph. 1:20-23; Dan. 7:13-14).
 - ▶ Verse 6 is elaborated on in 13-17

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)



Revelation 12:7-8 (NKJV)

⁷ And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, ⁸ but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer.

■ WAR IN HEAVEN (12:7-12)

- ▶ The scene shifts from earth to heaven as the devil vainly leads his forces to destroy the Christ.
- ▶ Michael is called an “archangel” (Jude 9), “one of the chief princes” (Dan. 10:13), “the prince of Israel” (Dan. 10:21), “the great prince” (Dan. 12:1), and contended with the devil over the body of Moses.
- ▶ He now battles against the dragon at the death of Christ (see v. 12).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)



Revelation 12:7-8 (NKJV)

⁷ And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, ⁸ but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer.

■ WAR IN HEAVEN (12:7-12)

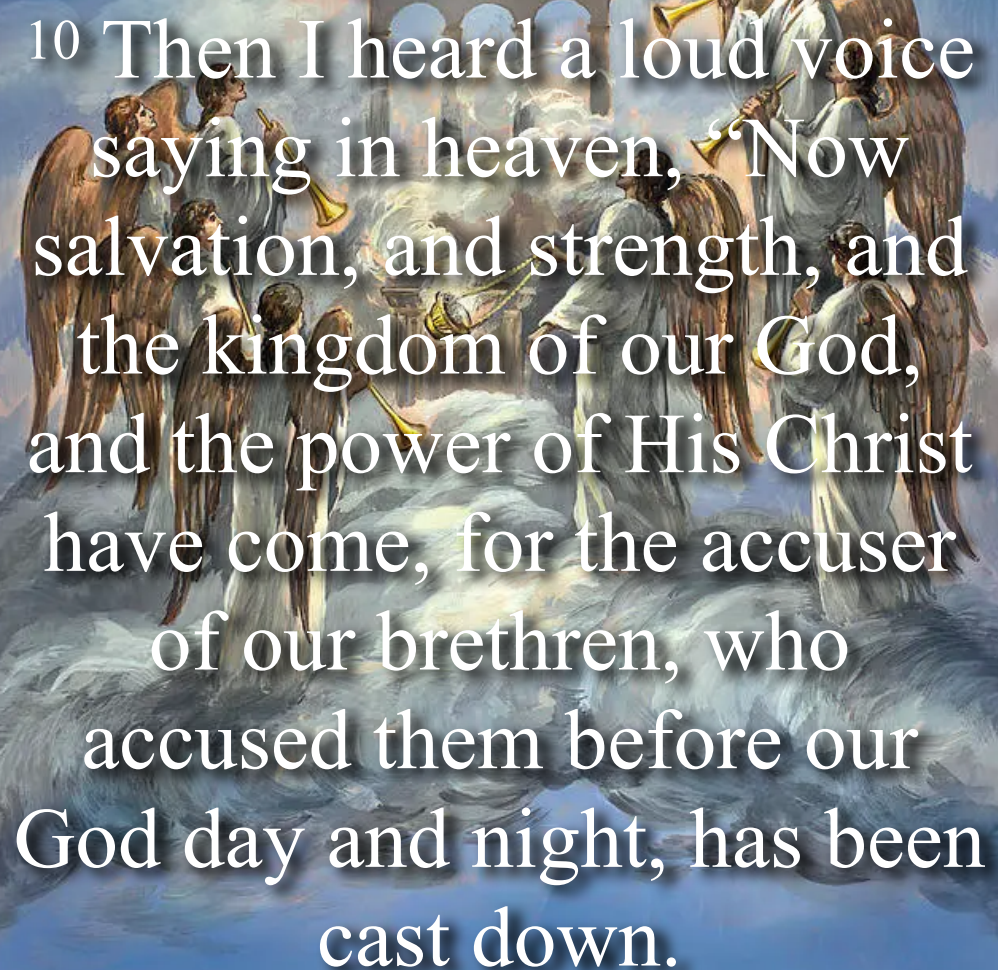
- ▶ Satan and his angels are cast down to earth (9; Luke 10:18; John 12:31)
- ▶ Satan's scheme has failed and God's plan victorious, God's salvation and kingdom has come! (10-12)
- ▶ Satan has lost a war, but the battle rages on (1 Pet. 5:8,9).
- ▶ The scene shifts back to the earth where Satan wages war against God's people, the church, using the powers of Rome (9-13; Daniel 7:23-25)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

Revelation 12:10–11 (NKJV)



¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

■ WAR IN HEAVEN (12:7-12)

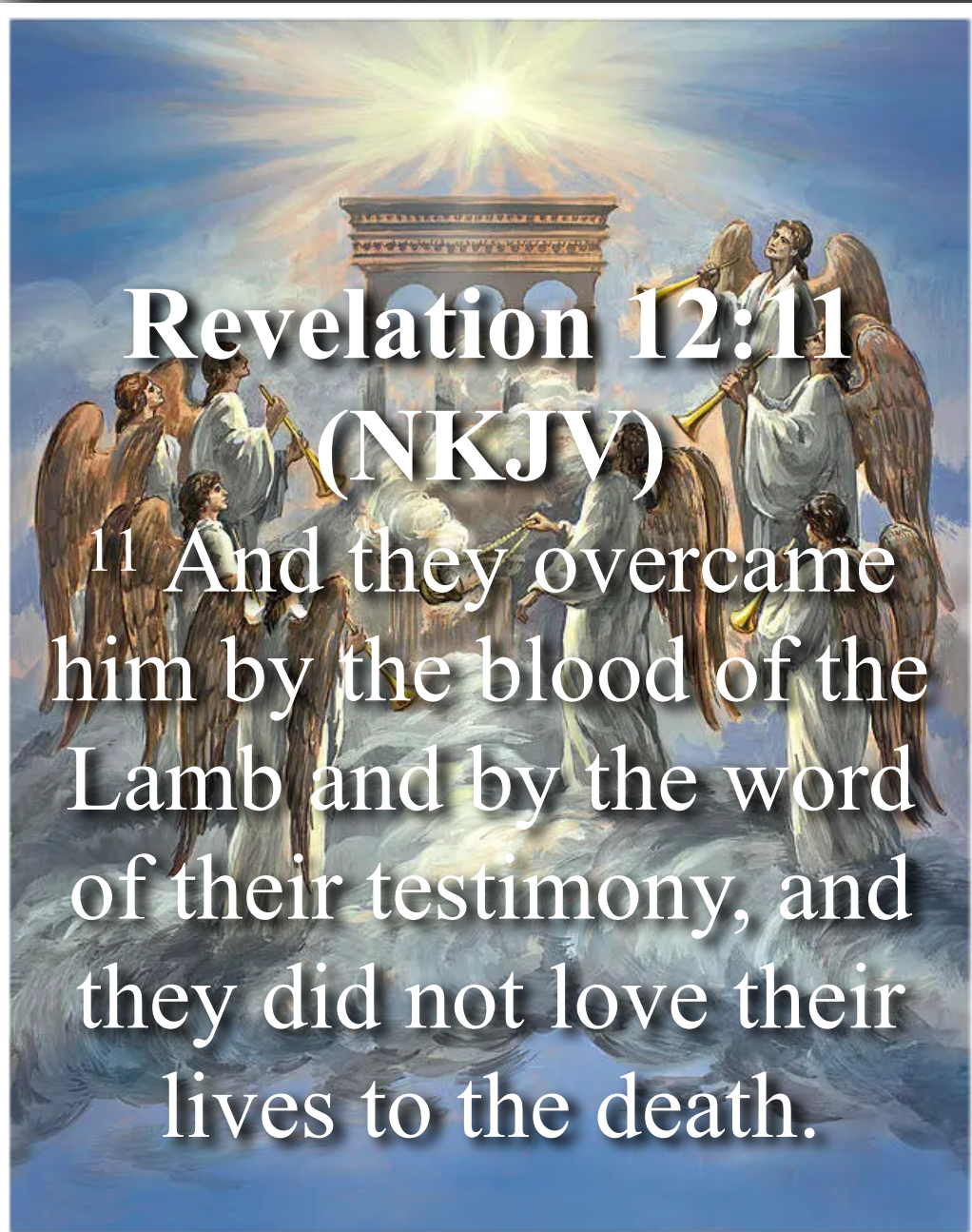
► The death, burial, and resurrection of Christ accomplished three things:

1. Salvation is come (Eph. 1:7; Col. 2:15; Heb. 2:14-15).
2. The kingdom of our God is purchased by his blood (1:5-6; 5:9-10; Col. 1:13-14).
3. The power of Christ is established throughout all the world (Matt. 28:18; Eph. 1:20-23; 1 Pet. 3:22).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)



■ WAR IN HEAVEN (12:7-12)

► Those accused by Satan, “brethren” have “conquered, gained the victory.”

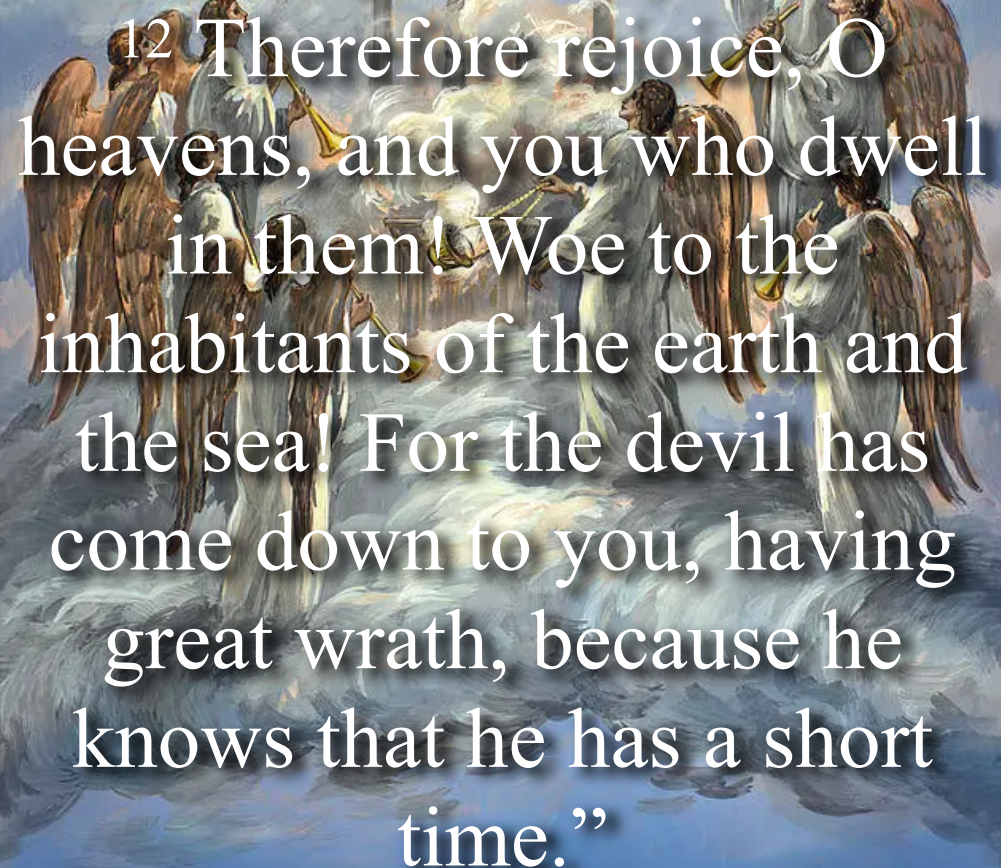
1. By the blood of the Lamb: (1:5-6; 5:9-10; 1 Pet. 1:18-19; Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 6:3-5, 17-18; Acts 22:16).
2. By the word of their testimony: (Rom. 1:16,17; 1 Cor. 1:6,18; 2 Thes. 1:10; 2 Tim. 1:8; Heb. 11:39).
3. Did not love their lives to the death (Mt. 10:28; 2 Tim. 3:12; Rev. 2:10)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

Revelation 12:12 (NKJV)



¹² Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.”

■ WAR IN HEAVEN (12:7-12)

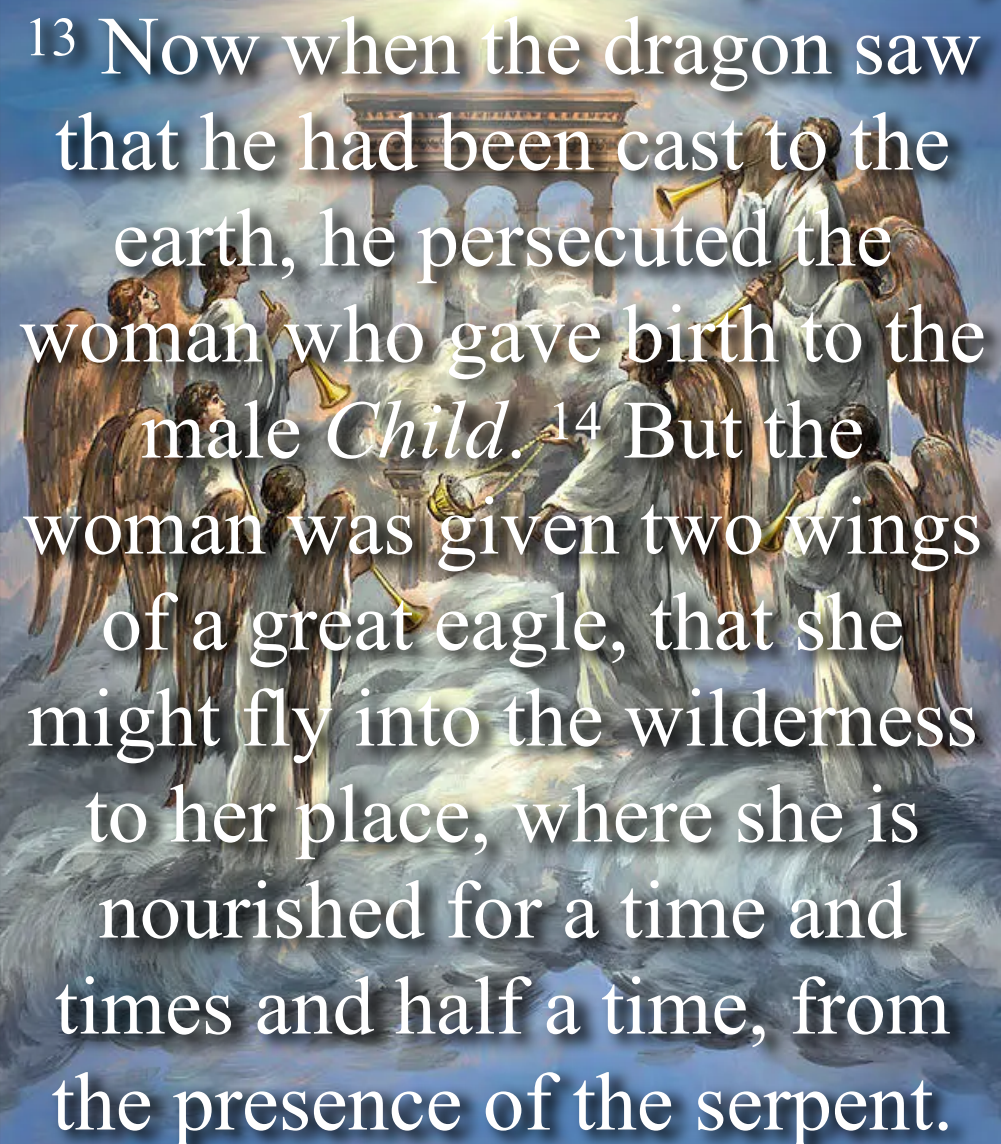
- ▶ The heavenly angels and all loyal saints who emerged from the great tribulation celebrate because of Satan’s defeat; (6:9-11; 7:14).
- ▶ BUT! Since the devil failed to destroy God’s plan, His efforts are directed towards destroying God’s kingdom on earth.
- ▶ This explains the events portrayed in Revelation — Satan is at war with God’s people! (Dan. 7:23-25)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

Revelation 12:13–14 (NKJV)



¹³ Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male *Child*. ¹⁴ But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

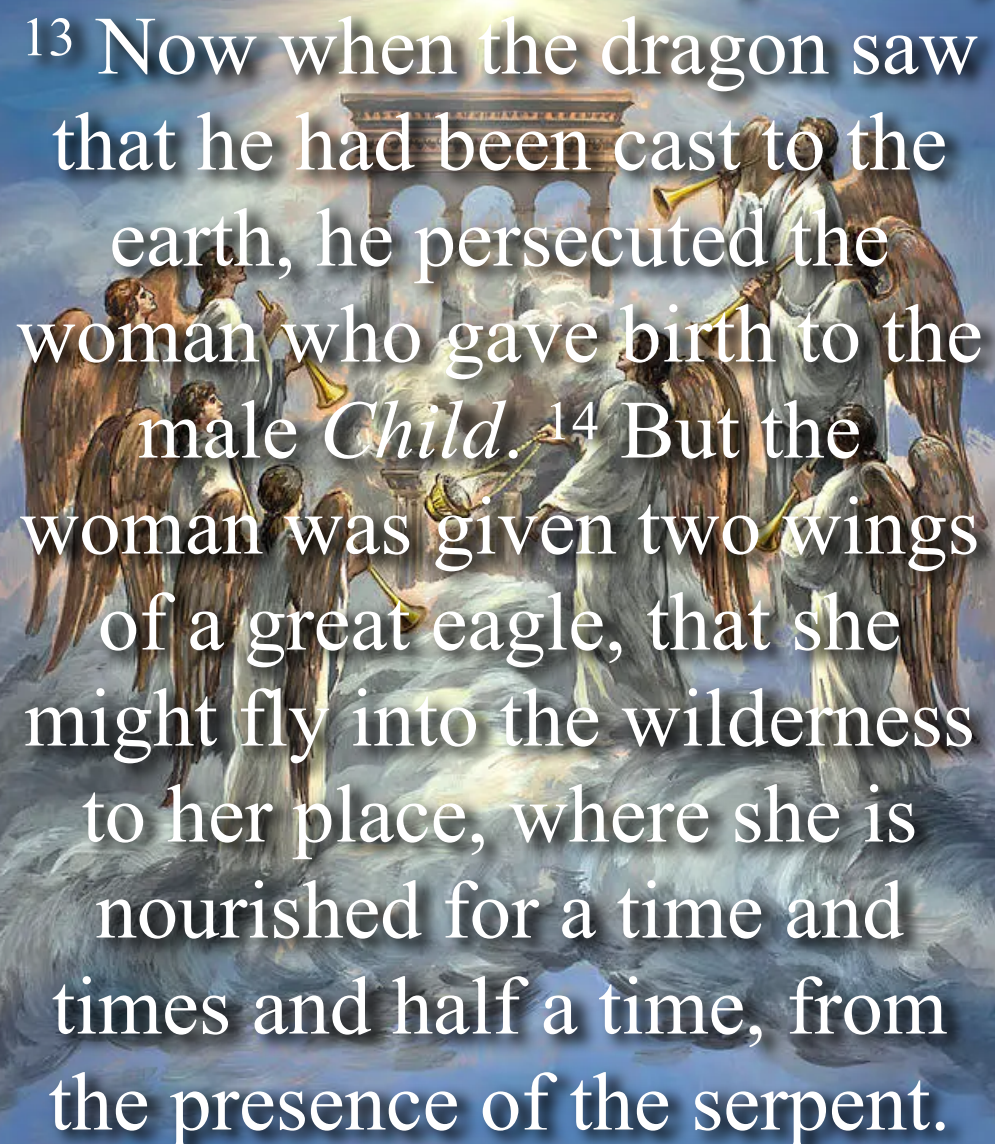
- THE WOMAN IS NOURISHED (12:13-17)
 - The woman, i.e., those who stand for God, will be spiritually protected by God (Jas. 4:7; 1 Pet. 5:8-9).
 - The seed-remnant may suffer physical persecution, but ultimately they will be “more than conquerors” (Rom. 8:35-39).
 - Our true home and sure refuge is in God who will help us “mount up with wings of eagles” and sustain us (Isa. 40:31; Ps. 46:1-3).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

Revelation 12:13–14 (NKJV)



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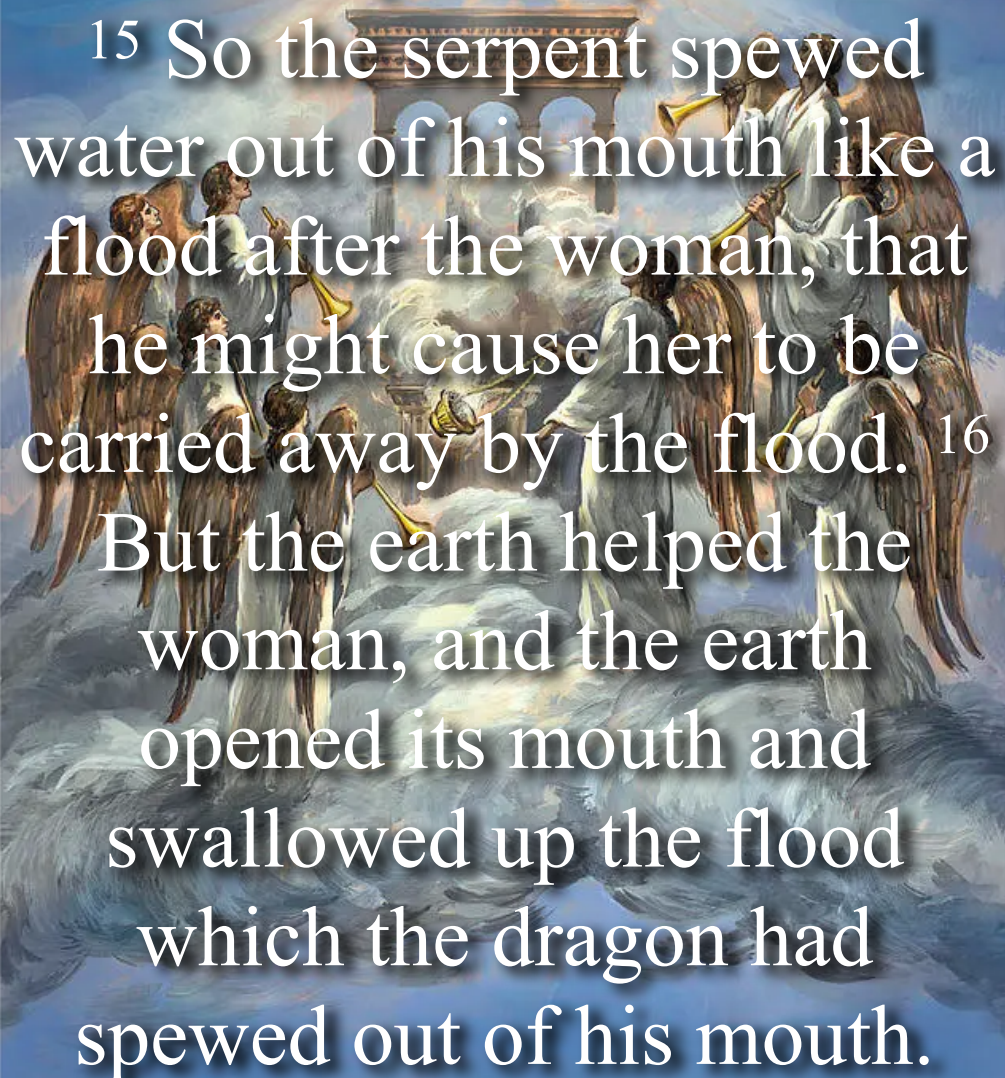
- THE WOMAN IS NOURISHED (12:13-17)
 - ▶ The fulfillment of Daniel’s prophecy is revealed to John when he prophesied that the ruler of the fourth kingdom would war against the saints for a “time, times, and the dividing of time” (Dan. 7:25).
 - ▶ God’s people are under severe persecution from the Roman Empire, but, the promise assured throughout Revelation is that God will nourish his people through the time of testing.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

Revelation 12:15–16 (NKJV)



¹⁵ So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. ¹⁶ But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth.

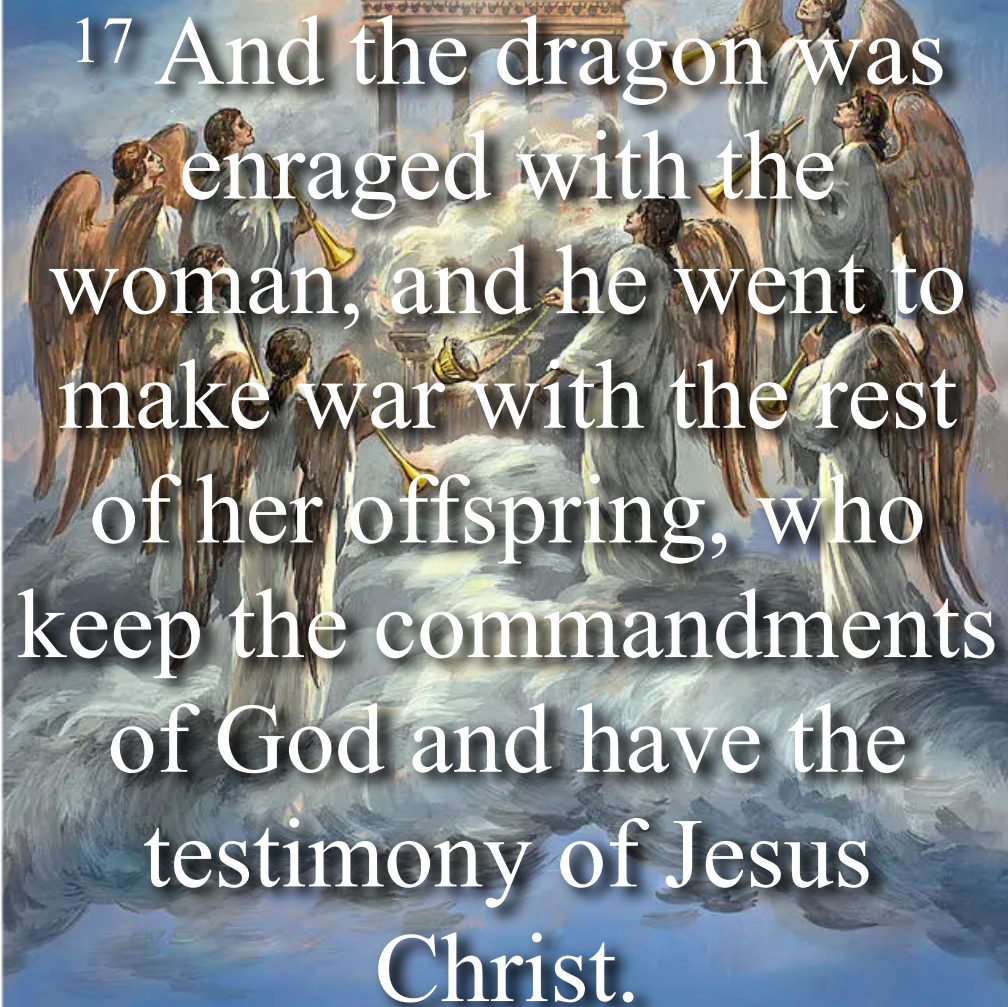
- THE WOMAN IS NOURISHED (12:13-17)
 - ▶ The flood sent forth by the serpent points to his effort to drown the church in a torrent of Roman persecution.
 - ▶ The earth came to the woman's rescue through diverting Rome's attention by political uprisings, local wars, and other conflicts among subordinate kingdoms of the empire.
 - ▶ Divine providence protected, sustained, and delivered the church.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

Revelation 12:17 (NKJV)



¹⁷ And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

- THE WOMAN IS NOURISHED (12:13-17)
 - ▶ Since Satan’s realm of power is limited to the earth, he tried to use Rome to abolish those who are associated with his conqueror —
 - ▶ The remnant of her seed are his brethren, the church, individuals who faithfully obeyed the gospel and continued to live by it.
 - ▶ To this day Satan continues to discourage Christians in order to cause them to abandon the faith.

This world has repeatedly brought suffering to the people of God, but the day will come when God will avenge His saints, and glorify His people.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

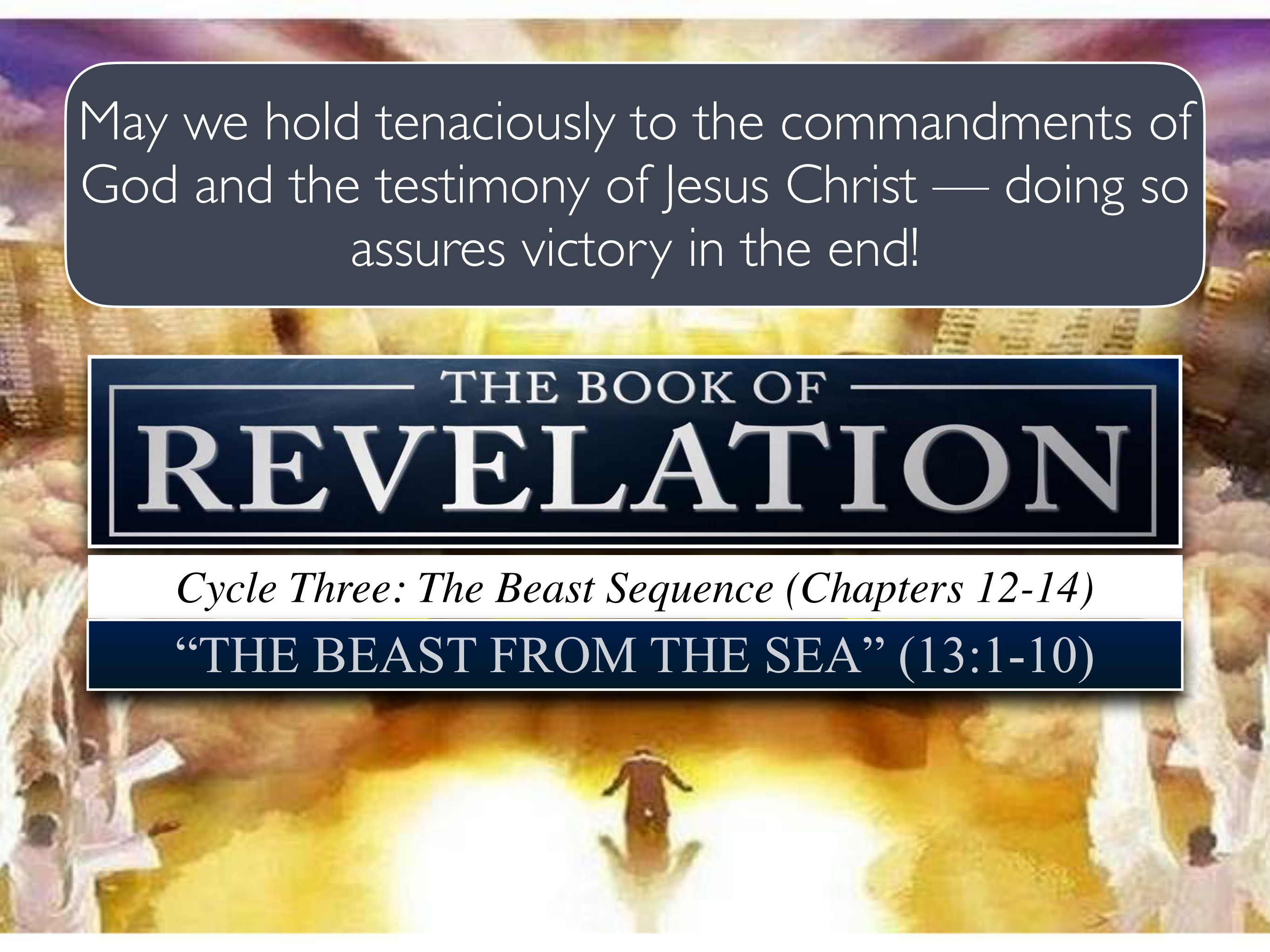
“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

God would, by His sovereign power and might, preserve the gospel and His people in spite of terrifying odds which seemed at the moment to be so unassailable.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)



May we hold tenaciously to the commandments of
God and the testimony of Jesus Christ — doing so
assures victory in the end!

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

**HEAVENS DOOR HAS BEEN OPENED
FOR YOU - WILL YOU ENTER?**

Believe — John 3:16;

Repent — Acts 17:30;

Confess — Romans 10:9,10;

Be baptized — Acts 2:38;

Endure by faith — I Corinthians 15:58

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Three: The Beast Sequence (Chapters 12-14)

“THE VISION OF THE WOMAN AND DRAGON” (12:1-17)

Charts by Don McClain

Preached August 28, 2022

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Daniel 7:11–14 (NKJV)

¹¹ “I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame. ¹² As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time. ¹³ “I was watching in the night visions, And behold, *One* like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him. ¹⁴ Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom *the one* Which shall not be destroyed.