

Decoding Revelation – Why is There Evil in the World – Week 6

I. SATAN IS REAL

Seven descriptions of Satan:

1. A **DRAGON** with seven heads, ten horns and seven crowns. (Rev 12:1 and Revelation 17)
"It was different from all the former beasts, and it had ten horns." Dan 7:7 (NIV)

Seven heads and ten horns show **completion**.

2. The **SERPENT**. (Rev 12:9)

3. The **DEVIL**. (Rev 12:9)

4. **SATAN**. (Rev 12:9)

5. The one who leads **THE WORLD ASTRAY**. (Rev. 12:9)

"And he said to him, 'I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to.'" Luke 4:6 (NIV)

6. The **ACCUSER**. (Rev 12:10)

7. He knows that **TIME IS SHORT**. (Rev 12:12)

II. GOD WILL NOT BE DEFEATED!

There are two other main characters in the drama of good and evil:

- A woman clothed with the sun (Rev 12:1)

Who is this woman?

Mary?

Israel?

The church?

The **PEOPLE OF GOD**.

- A male child (Rev 12:2)

"You will rule over them with an iron rod." Psalms 2:9 (NCV)

III. THERE IS NO VICTORY WITHOUT A BATTLE.

Four specific battles are mentioned in Revelation 12:

1. The battle against **Jesus**. (Rev 12:3-6)
(The dragon attacks the male child)
2. The battle in **Heaven**. (Rev 12:7-12)
(The war in heaven between Michael and the dragon)

"He replied, 'I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.'" Luke 10:18 (NIV)

3. The battle against **Woman**. (Rev 12:13-16)

"You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself." Ex. 19:4 (NIV)

4. The battle against **Believers**. (Rev 12:17)
(The dragon goes off to make war against the rest of her offspring)

How does Satan wage this war?

- He is the instigator of sin and betrayal (John 13:2)
- He tempts the righteous (Matt 4:3)
- He inflicts suffering on the innocent (Job 2:7)
- He sows discord (Matt 13:37-39)
- He removes the good seed of the Gospel (Mat 13:19)
- He blinds the eyes of unbelievers (2 Cor. 4:4)
- He prowls & devours like a roaring lion (1 Peter 5:8)

How can we have a part in this victory? (Rev 12:11)

1. We overcome by **His Blood!**
2. We are victorious by **Our Testimony!**
3. We love the Lord **Above our own lives!**

Scriptures Referenced – Revelation 12, Revelation 17, Daniel 7:7, Psalm 2:9, Genesis 3:15, Luke 10:18, Ephesians 6:12; 1 Peter 5:8; Luke 4:6; Exodus 19:4; John 13:2; Matthew 4:3, Job 2:7; Matthew 13:37-39; Matthew 13:19, and 2 Corinthians 4:4.