

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 12:1-5 NKJV

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. Revelation 12: 6 NKJV

These are people in the wilderness are a Jewish remnant in Judea who flee during the final period of tribulation **and are supernaturally preserved by God**

Revelation 7, 12, and 14 refer to **real people**. People living on earth under God's seal and protection; they are not souls as in Revelation 6:10

Revelation 12: 6 are people satan persecutes **after failing to stop Christ**

This means satan's hatred **shifts from the Messiah to His people** through whom the Messiah came. **Since he could not and cannot destroy Christ, he persecutes the remnant of Israel**

The dragon **turns his rage toward the woman** (Israel), as stated in verse 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 Revelation 12:13 NKJV

Three separate groups: Revelation 12:6,13,14 "Then the woman fled into the wilderness", Revelation 12:17 "the rest of her offspring" and Revelation 7 and 14:1,4 The 144000

❖ 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. Revelation 12:6 NKJV

That equals three and a half years, the same as "time and times and half a time"

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. Revelation 12:14 NKJV

Here is the unified connection: The timing and place connect with Daniel’s prophecy in **Daniel 12:7** concerning **a period of intense trouble and persecution**

Daniel lays the prophetic foundation; **Revelation** completes the prophetic structure. **Daniel** looks forward to the end times, while **Revelation** reveals them in their fullest detail – **625 years**

This also connects with Jesus’ warning to flee in **Matthew 24 – 30 years**

Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place — whoever reads, let him understand. **Matthew 24:15 NKJV**

Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains **Matthew 24:16 NKJV**

Then the woman fled into the wilderness, **where she has a place prepared by God**

❖ **Another very important distinction:** **Revelation 12:17** mentions **“the rest of her offspring”**

After the woman (Israel) is protected, the dragon goes after another group in **verse 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.
Revelation 12:17 NKJV

This seems to **show two related groups but clearly not the same**

“The rest of her offspring” — believers **“who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ”**

That **second group** may include **tribulation believers**, but more broadly, **Jews and Gentiles** **“who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ”**

That means **Revelation 12** is dealing with **more than one group** of people under satan’s attack

Both show **that the dragon cannot erase what God has marked and protected**

❖ The 144,000 in **Revelation 7** and **14** are protected/sealed by God

They are best understood **as distinct groups** **“possibly connected,”** not **“definitely the same”**

Revelation 7 identifies the 144,000 as sealed servants from the **tribes of Israel**

Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads. Revelation 7:3 NKJV

And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed. Revelation 7:4 NKJV

The 144,000 are clearly connected to Israel, and **they are sealed for protection and service**

In **verse 6** “Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God”

The 144,000 appear to be **active witnesses standing with the Lamb on Mount Zion**, they are not hidden in the wilderness

Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand Revelation 14:1 NKJV

They are described as the **redeemed, firstfruits**, and faithful followers of the Lamb in **verse 14**

These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb Revelation 14:4 NKJV

That language suggests they are a special group of sealed servants/witnesses

By contrast, **Revelation 12** pictures the woman being nourished and protected in the wilderness

So the roles of these people during the Great Tribulation are most definitely different

They are connected, **but clearly not identical**

Observation: All three groups of people are connected to Israel, **all** are protected by God, and **all** belong to God’s end-times purposes

Revelation never directly says... **The woman (Israel) in the wilderness is the 144,000**

Today, God absolutely protects His people, though His protection does not always mean the absence of suffering

Scripture teaches that God protects us according to His sovereign purposes and His plan

Here are several biblical truths for us, Grace

God protects us spiritually

And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. John 10:28 NKJV

God protects us physically according to His will

The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him, And delivers them. Psalm 34:7 NKJV

God protects us through trials

Just as He protected Israel in the wilderness Revelation 12:6, 14, God often sustains His people in difficult seasons rather than removing from them immediately

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you. Isaiah 43:2 NKJV

The connection to Revelation 12

In Revelation 12, God prepares a place for the woman in the wilderness and nourishes her there, **which demonstrates a very important principle for us today**

God's protection does not always mean exemption from conflict; it means preservation for His purposes and according to His plan

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28 NKJV

Revelation 12:1–6 presents the sweeping conflict between the dragon and the promised Messiah; that is why communion becomes the perfect response

At the Lord's Table, we remember that the Child (Christ) **the dragon tried to destroy is the Savior who willingly gave His body and shed His blood to defeat sin, satan, and death**

Communion reminds us that our salvation **was not an accident of history**; it was the eternal plan of God

The bread reminds us of Christ's body, willingly broken for us. The cup reminds us of His blood, poured out for the forgiveness of our sins. The very One whom the dragon hated is the Lamb who was slain for us