

CHRISTMAS VICTORY

Rev 12

First a couple of quick notes about the passage we're looking at.

Revelation is *apocryphal*. So it has hidden, secondary meanings open for much interpretation.

Second, remember that the Bible was written FOR us but not TO us.

John was writing to persecuted early Christians living under the boot of Rome, specifically perverted Roman emperors and dead Jewish system.

So his message to the early Christians was very simple: Jesus is King of Kings and Lord of lords,

and in spite of the persecution that you're going through *he has taken his great authority and is now reigning!*

Third, remember that there are no chapters or verses in the Bible, those were added later.

In chapter 11 we see the ministry, death and resurrection and victory of the two witnesses, followed The 7th trumpet which proclaims:

*The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ
and he shall reign forever.*

And that chapter ends with a wonderful verse 19:

the Temple of God is now open to everyone; the ark of the covenant is seen by everyone and there was an earthquake and other events

From chapters 11-12, John is giving us a view of the entire span of history. Chp 12 is obviously the birth of Jesus, everyone agrees with that.

I believe 11.19 is a depiction of the crucifixion of Christ.

What happened when Jesus was crucified?

- There was an earthquake, darkness and signs
- The veil in the temple was *torn* from top to bottom
- All of humanity gained access to the Presence behind the veil (Heb 6, 9, 10)
- The Old ark was gone, and a new ark has taken its place: *The body of the resurrected Jesus*

And now we enter with boldness into the holy of holies and obtain grace and mercy! *We have an eternal Ark who will never pass away.*

Then in chapter 12 we see an acct of all of history:

Satan being cast out of heaven the 1st time after drawing a third of the Angels with him;

We see the Old Covt Church birthing the New Covt God-man;

We see the second defeat of Satan when Jesus crushed his head at his resurrection.

And finally we see the New Covt Church in its wilderness journey where...

No matter what the enemy does, he is defeated! No matter how much the accuser accuses, his lies have been exposed

The devil has been cast down and our loving Father feeds us in our journey.

So...NOW salvation, strength, the kingdom and the power has come...

And we OVERCOME the devil by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of our testimony,

And we LOVE Him till we die!

THE ENEMY Accuser (katagoreo) A complaint at law

See Jn 8: woman in adultery...the elders brought a complaint from the LAW... Teacher, the LAW says... Where are your “accusers”

Every day, Satan would bring an accusation: *Does not the LAW say?*

The greatest breaker of the law...is the accuser.

The one who disregards the law...is the accuser.

The one who hates the law...is the accuser

Our accuser is personal; an ancient accuser; a failure yet daring; angry; complete with devices; malicious; watchful; crafty.

But suddenly, in the fullness of time, a woman, the seed of David travailed, And a King was born! THE King was born. Not “a” Lord, THE Lord

So now when the devil comes accusing, we point him to our lawyer.

When the liar comes... I can call my Attorney

Thief steals... I can take it back in Jesus name!

THE VICTORS

Inside the ARK of Jesus, vs 10 tells us we have FOUR things: Salvation; Strength; the Kingdom and the Power.

SALVATION HAS COME Soteria...total salvation, body, soul and spirit. But remember, the Kingdom is NOW but not YET!

“We have been saved from the penalty, the power, the pleasure and the presence of sin” (AW Pink)

Right now:

I have been saved totally from the penalty of sin. I can see my Ark, I can come boldly to Him and thru my confession, I am cleansed!

I have been saved from the gnawing, bone-crushing, grinding power of sin.

I can live freer than ever before; have victory; walk in obedience; pure lifestyle

I have been saved from the *pleasure* of sin.

I know there is pleasure in sin for a season, but also know the foolishness of my flesh. I know what lust...bitterness...envy...strife...greed can do.

And SOME DAY, ***I will be saved from the presence of sin!***

I know that some day, my body will be glorified and ALL appetites will be gone...

Beloved, NOW are we the sons of God...

STRENGTH HAS COME

Dunamis...DYNAMITE. Power, miracles, might, virtue.

But if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his spirit who dwells in you (Rom 8.11)

Wait? The same power that flowed through the dead body of Jesus now resides in me?

:This is the NOW, not YET of the Kingdom.

:The Holy Spirit is IN us and can do marvelous things thru us. He will give life now, but He will eventually give full new life in the age to come.

But if you want further clarification...Paul:

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,
the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that y may know what is the HOPE of His calling,
what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the *exceeding greatness of His power* toward us who believe,
according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ
when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,
far above all principality, power, might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.
And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

ALL names; governments; authorities; powers; militaries; economies

Why? Because

THE KINGDOM and the POWER HAVE COME

Changes the word “power” from “dynamite” to AUTHORITY

Privilege and delegated influence.

YES...I am privileged!! I am special...a chosen generation, royal priesthood, holy nation...

And in our wilderness journey, our Father has promised to keep, protect, nourish and provide!