

AUSTELL GRANDVIEW SDA CHURCH PRESENTS



THE
APOCALYPSE
SERIES

SHOWCASING JESUS CHRIST IN PROPHECY

THE BATTLE
FOR
WORSHIP

EPISODE 9

THE BATTLE FOR WORSHIP

Based on Revelation Chapter 12

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MAIN IDEA

In Revelation 12 there was a war that took place. This war was about one thing and one thing only, worship. The dragon wanted worship. The Dragon's quest for worship in heaven failed, so he continues to his attack on earth against those who unwaveringly worship Christ.

KEY TEXT

Revelation 12:7-12; Hebrew 1: 6, 8; Isa 14: 12-15

KEY POINTS

1. JESUS alone deserves our worship.
2. Worship is not a church service, but a relationship.
3. The dragon has created counterfeits in order to gain our worship.
4. The Devil is okay with us giving Christ less than he is worth.
5. True worship is all of who I am responding to all of who Christ is

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. How worship means to you in light of establishing a relationship with Christ?
2. How might you give Christ his full worth in your worship?
3. How can I stay focus so that I am not deceive into counterfeit worship?
4. What does Satan's quest for Christ throne has to do with me?

INSIGHTS

Revelation 12 paints a drama with 4 scenes

1. Pregnant woman about to give Birth - [Rev 12:1,2](#)
2. A Mysterious Dragon lay waiting to devour the child, but the child was saved by God - [Rev 12: 2-6](#)
3. War broke out in Heaven between the Michael (the male child) and the dragon (the dragon lost) - [Rev 12: 7-11](#)
4. Dragon cast out to earth where he continues to carry out his attack against the woman and finally against her offspring - [Rev 12: 13-17](#)

[Rev 12:7-9](#) provides us the climax of what's really happening in this chapter 12 of Revelation:

7 Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. **8** But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. **9** The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

Key Players in the Drama

In order to help us grasp what is happening in a drama it is necessary to identify who the key players are. In the drama of Revelation 12 the key players are:

- a. Woman about to give birth to male child
- b. Dragon wants to devour the male child
- c. Michael
- d. Offspring of the woman

Revelation is a book of Symbols. Each of the key players Revelation 12 represents something. Knowing what or who the key players represent is crucial to understand the message of the chapter.

INSIGHTS

Identity of the Woman

Throughout the bible, both in the OT and the NT, a woman is used to symbolized church or religious moment.

2 Cor 11:1,2 Paul Presents the church as God's Bride

Isa 54:5 Isaiah says that God is the Husband of his people Israel

Jer 3:20 Again Israel's unfaithfulness to God is described as a woman's unfaithfulness to her husband.

Heaven is protecting the woman represented in Revelation 12, and the devil is against her. Hence the woman in this passage is God's church.

Identity of the Dragon

The author of Revelation 12 did not leave us to speculate about the identity of this Dragon, Revelation 12:9 said that the Dragon is the Serpent of old, the Devil or Satan- this is very clear, the serpent in Revelation 12 is the Devil, Satan

Identity of Michael

Satan who seeks to destroy the male child that the church of Christ is giving birth to is now waring in heaven with a male who is identified as Michael. Who is this Michael that Satan is waring against?

Jude 9 - Speaks of Michael the Archangel

Dan 12:1 In the time of trouble Michael stands up and delivers his people

1 Thes 4:16 - Jesus Christ will come from Heaven with the voice of the Archangel
It is Jesus who stands up for his people; It is Jesus himself who returns to earth to claim his people; **Michael is none other than Lord Jesus Christ.**

In the battle between Christ and the devil Christ and his angel prevailed, and Satan was ultimately expelled from heaven to the earth where he continued to carry out attack on the church.

INSIGHTS

Devil Carried out an attack on the Church of Christ as an institution.

538AD to 1798AD is record in history as “The Dark Ages,” during which period the Christian church endured grave persecution under the Papacy. This was a time when Satan aggressively tried to permanently out the light of the Church of Christ.

“Great numbers were driven from their habitations with their wives and children stripped naked... many of them inhumanly massacred.”

Revelation says that Satan’s last attack is against the offspring of the Church. But it did not stop there, it says the offspring of the church who obey the commandments of God and hold fast to their Testimony about Jesus.

Satan’s last attack is against those who keep God’s Commands and Stay true to their testimony about Jesus. Those who would not allow anything to compromise their relationship with Jesus Christ.