

## 1 **QUESTIONS ON REVELATION 12 & 15**

- Chronology – where does it all fit?
- Interpreting the characters
  - Who are they?
  - How literally do we interpret the descriptions?
- The persecution of the saints?
  - These are not under God's special protection
  - Faithfulness is absolutely necessary
- The Mark of the Beast (666)?

## 2 **A SIGN APPEARS IN HEAVEN**

- Clear references to earthly events
  - Some which have already occurred
  - Some which are about to occur
- Main characters
  - Woman (church or Israel?)
  - Dragon (Satan, specifically identified in 12:9)
  - Beast from the sea (Antichrist, implied)
  - Beast from the earth (false prophet, only in Revelation)

## 3 **THE WOMAN**

- Clothed with the sun
- The moon was under her feet
- A garland of twelve stars (Genesis 37:9-10)
- Cried out in labor and pain when she gave birth to a Male Child
  - Who would rule the nations with a rod of iron (Psalm 2:9)
  - Was caught up to God and His throne

## 4 **THE WOMAN**

- Fled into the wilderness under the protection of God for 1,260 days (42 months; 3 ½ years)
- Has other offspring who are to be persecuted by Satan because they keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ

## 5 **THE FIERY RED DRAGON**

- Seven heads, ten horns and seven diadems
- His tail drew one-third of the stars from heaven
- Stood before the woman to devour her Child as soon as He was born (Matthew 2:13-18)
- Dragon and his angels engaged in war against Michael and other angels in heaven
  - Did not prevail and there was no place for them in heaven

## 6 **THE FIERY RED DRAGON**

- Identified as the "Devil", "Satan" and "that serpent of old", and "the accuser of the brethren"
- Deceives the whole world
- A loud voice from heaven announces a woe to the earth for the devil has been cast down with great wrath and a "short" time

## 7 **THE FIERY RED DRAGON**

- Persecuted the woman
  - The woman was given two wings of a great eagle to the place prepared for her and is nourished for "a time, times and half a time" (3 ½ years)
- Spewed water out of his mouth to carry away the woman by a flood (but the earth helped her and swallowed up the flood)
- Made war against the woman and the rest of her offspring who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ

#### 8 **THE BEAST FROM THE SEA**

- Rises out of the sea (Gentiles?)
- Seven heads and ten horns
- Ten crowns on his horns (Daniel 2, 7)
- A blasphemous name on his heads
- Like a leopard, bear, and lion (Daniel 7)
- The dragon gave him power, a throne, and great authority

#### 9 **THE BEAST FROM THE SEA**

- One of his heads was mortally wounded but was healed
  - All the world marvels at the miraculous healing and all follow the beast
  - All the world worship the dragon and the beast saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him"

#### 10 **THE BEAST FROM THE SEA**

- He was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies
- He was given authority to continue for 42 months
- He blasphemed God, His tabernacle, and those in heaven
- It was granted to him to make war with and overcome the saints
- He was given all authority over every tribe, tongue and nation
- All who do not have their names written in the Lamb's Book of Life worship him

#### 11 **WARNING TO THE VIOLENT**

- If anyone has an ear, let him hear!
  - He who leads into captivity will go into captivity
  - He who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword
- This demonstrates the patience and faith of the saints

#### 12 **THE BEAST OUT OF THE EARTH**

- Two horns like a lamb
- Spoke like the dragon
- Exercises all the authority of the first beast
- Causes all to worship the first beast

#### 13 **THE BEAST OUT OF THE EARTH**

- He performs great signs in the sight of the beast
  - He makes fire come down from heaven
  - He deceives those on the earth with the signs
- He tells people to make an idol of the beast
- He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast so that it would speak and kill

those refusing to worship the image

14  **THE BEAST OUT OF THE EARTH**

- He causes all to receive a mark on their right hand or forehead
  - Small and great
  - Rich and poor
  - Free and slave

15  **THE BEAST OUT OF THE EARTH**

- No one may buy or sell without the mark of the beast or the number of his name
- "Here is wisdom"
  - Calculate the number of the beast
  - It is the number of a man
  - His number is 666

16  **SUMMARY: THE UNHOLY "TRINITY"**

- The Dragon
  - Satan, the Devil, the serpent of old
  - Acting in the role of the Father
- The Beast from the Sea
  - The antichrist, world ruler, died and raised to life
  - Acting in the role of the Son
- The Beast from the Sea
  - Initiates worship of the beast and the dragon
  - Acting in role of the Holy Spirit

17  **THE 144,000 FOLLOW THE LAMB**

- The Lamb is standing on Mount Zion (Temple Mount in Jerusalem)
- 144,000 with the Father's seal are with the Lamb
  - Sing a new song before the throne
  - Not defiled with women, virgins
  - Follow the Lamb wherever He goes
  - Are the Firstfruits to God and the Lamb
  - Without fault before the throne of God

18  **THREE ANGELS ISSUE PROCLAMATIONS**

- First Angel
  - Having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth
  - Every nation, tribe, tongue, and people

"Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water!"

19  **THREE ANGELS ISSUE PROCLAMATIONS**

- Second Angel
  - "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication"

Great City of Babylon

- Literal city in Mesopotamia (Iraq)
- Spiritual city (Rome)
- Symbolic city representing the Gentile/Unbelieving world

20  **THREE ANGELS ISSUE PROCLAMATIONS**

- Third Angel, having a loud voice saying:  
"If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name"

21  **THE PATIENCE OF THE SAINTS**

- Those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus
- Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on
- "Yes, that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them," says the Spirit

22  **REAPING THE HARVEST**

- One like the Son of Man on a white cloud
  - Wearing a golden crown on His head
  - Having a sharp sickle in His hand
- Another angel comes out of the temple and cries out to the Son of Man  
"Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe"
- The Son of Man thrust His sickle into the earth to reap it

23  **ANOTHER ANGEL WITH A SICKLE**

- Comes out of the temple and cries out to the Son of Man with the sharp sickle, saying  
"Thrust in Your sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe."  
(over ripe)
- The winepress of the Lord's wrath was trampled outside the city
  - Blood came out of the winepress
    - Up to the horses' bridles
    - For 1,600 furlongs (200 miles)

24  **THE BOWL JUDGMENTS**

- Seven angels having the seven last plagues
  - Clothed in pure white and chests girded with gold
  - Given golden bowls full of the wrath of God by one of the four living creatures
- For in them the wrath of God is complete

25  **THE BOWL JUDGMENTS**

- Pause for worship by those who had victory over the beast, his image, his mark, and the number of his name
  - Standing on the sea of glass
  - Having harps of God
  - Sing the song of Moses and the Lamb

- Smoke from the glory of God filled the temple and no one was able to enter till the seven plagues were complete

#### 26 **THE BOWL JUDGMENTS**

- Bowl 1:  
Poured on the earth and foul and loathsome sores came to all who had the mark of the beast and worshiped his image (100%)
- Bowl 2:  
Poured on the sea and it turned to blood; every creature in the sea dies (100%)

#### 27 **THE BOWL JUDGMENTS**

- Bowl 3:  
Poured on the rivers and springs of waters, turned to blood (100%)  
An angel proclaims God's righteousness in His judgment
- Bowl 4:  
Mankind scorched with fire (100%)
  - Response is to blaspheme God and refuse to repent

#### 28 **THE BOWL JUDGMENTS**

- Bowl 5:  
The kingdom of the beast is filled with darkness and pain (100%)
  - Response is to blaspheme God and refuse to repent
- Bowl 6:
  - Bowl poured on the River Euphrates; its water dries up preparing the way for the kings of the east
  - Three unclean/demon spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the beast and the false prophet
  - Demons go to the kings of the east to prepare for battle – Armageddon

#### 29 **THE BOWL JUDGMENTS**

- Bowl 7:  
Bowl poured into the air
  - A loud voice from heaven says, "It is done!"
  - Noises, thunderings and lightnings and a great earthquake
    - An earthquake more powerful than anytime in human history
  - Babylon divided into three parts

#### 30 **THE BOWL JUDGMENTS**

- Bowl 7:  
Bowl poured into the air
  - The cities of the nations fell
  - Every island fled away
  - Mountains not found
  - Great hail from heaven fell upon men
    - Each hailstone weighed about a talent (100 lbs.)
  - Men blasphemed God because of the plague

#### 31 **GREAT TRIBULATION TIMELINE**

- Seven Seal Judgments (scope=25%)
- Seven Trumpet Judgments (scope=33.3%)
- Two witnesses ascend into heaven
- Revealing of the "Unholy Trinity"
- Kings from the east array at Armageddon
- Seven Bowl Judgments (scope=100%)
- Fall of Mystery Babylon the Great City
- Christ Returns to rule & reign for 1000 years

32  **BABYLON IN THE BIBLE**

- Mentioned over 300 times in Scripture
- Located in Mesopotamia (Iraq today)
- Established by Nimrod (Genesis 10:10; 11:1-9)
- Served as a major capital city in several empires
  - Babylon – Nebuchadnezzar
  - Medo-Persia – Cyrus the Great (secondary)
  - Greece – Alexander the Great
- Antithesis of Jerusalem (City of God vs. City of Man)

33  **BABYLON IN THE BIBLE**

- First earthly judgment after the flood for attempted human independence in defiance of God
- Final earthly judgment for harlotry and intoxicating the world with sin
- Isaiah 47 – God's Judgment
- Isaiah 13 & 14 – destroyed/judged
- Jeremiah 50 & 51 – destroyed/judged

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35  **WHO/WHAT/WHERE IS MYSTERY BABYLON**

- Rome? 7 Hills:
  - Aventine, Caelian, Capitoline, Esquiline, Palatine, Quirinal, & Viminal
- Iraq?
- European Union?
- United States / New York?
- United Nations?

36  **LITERAL BABYLON'S INFLUENCE**

- 360 degrees in a circle
- 60-second minutes; 60-minute hours
- Astrology – pagan zodiac signs
- Double-entry accounting systems
- Golden Egg of Astarte (Easter)
- Yule log replaced by a trimmed tree in late December
- Worship of Baal (Mars) on October 31<sup>st</sup>