

Final Countdown: The Book Of Revelation
 "A Woman, A Child... and A Dragon?" #16
 Cornerstone Church of Poway
 Pastor Ed Turley
 November 22, 2020

Big Idea: God extends His mercy with a final countdown before He judges the World.

1. Israel Gives Birth To The Savior Of The World

"A great and wondrous **sign** appeared in heaven: a **woman** clothed with the **sun**, with the **moon** under her feet and a **crown of twelve stars** on her head. She was **pregnant** and cried out in pain as she was about to give **birth**."

Revelation 12:1-2 (NIV)

2. The Devil Unsuccessfully Tries To Stop God's Plan

"Then another **sign** appeared in heaven: an enormous **red dragon** with **seven heads** and **ten horns** and **seven crowns** on his heads. "His tail swept **a third of the stars** out of the sky and **flung them to the earth**. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that he might **devour** her child the moment it was born. She gave birth to a son, **a male child**, who will **rule all the nations with an iron scepter**. And her child was **snatched up to God and to His throne**."

Revelation 12:3-5 (NIV)

"Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations.

"He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty." **Revelation 19:15 (NIV)** [also see Psalm 2:9]

3. Satan's Limited Access Will Be Denied As He Is Thrown Down To Earth

The **woman fled into the desert** to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for **1,260 days**. And there was war in heaven. **Michael and his angels fought against the dragon**, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they **lost their place in heaven**. 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.

Revelation 12:6-9 (NIV)

"How you have **fallen from heaven**, O morning star, son of the dawn!

You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations!"

Isaiah 14:12 (NIV)

4. Our Power Comes From The Blood Of Jesus & Our Personal Testimony

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "**Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of His Christ**. For the accuser of our brothers, who **accuses** them before our God day and night, has been

hurled down. They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.” Revelation 12:10-11 (NIV)

Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But **woe to the earth and the sea**, because the devil has gone down to you! **He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short.** When the dragon saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he **pursued the woman** who had given birth to the male child. The woman was given the two wings of a great eagle, so that she might fly to the **place prepared for her in the desert**, where she would be **taken care of for a time, times and half a time, out of the serpent's reach.”**
Revelation 12:12-14 (NIV)

He will enter the glorious land of Israel, and many nations will fall, but Moab, Edom, and the best part of Ammon will escape. **Daniel 11:41 (NLT2)**

5. We Don't Have To Live In Fear, God Is With Us

“Then from his mouth the serpent **spewed water** like a river, to overtake the woman and sweep her away with the torrent. But **the earth** helped the woman by opening its mouth and swallowing the river that the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and **went off to make war** against the rest of her offspring--those who **obey God's commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus.”** **Revelation 12:15-17 (NIV)**

“Who will bring **any charge** against those whom God has chosen? It is **God who justifies.**

Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died--more than that, who was **raised** to life--is at the right hand of God and is also **interceding** for us. **Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things **we are more than conquerors** through Him who **loved us.** For **I am convinced** that **neither** death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” **Romans 8:33-39 (NIV)**

➤ **Will I choose to live in fear or faith?**

My next right step, I will:

- Accept Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior
- Stay for Partnership Class **today**, 12:30-2:00 pm, lunch included
- Invite someone to church or join a watch party on Sunday
- Join our Zoom Bible Study on the Book of Revelation-Tuesdays 6:30 pm

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Family Corner: [Choose one day this week to ask questions to go deeper in faith as a family. Try this over dinner. Keep it under 12 minutes.]

Small Groups: [Choose as many questions that honor your group's time commitment]

Open in Prayer:

- What thoughts from this week's message encourage you to live like Jesus?

How has God blessed you so far in this study of God's Word?

Icebreaker: When you were a child, who was the most important woman in your life besides your mother? Why?

“A Woman, A Child... and A Dragon?”

1. Israel Gives Birth To The Savior Of The World

Read Revelation 12:1-2

Describe the woman, the child, and the dragon. Who does each represent?

Read Genesis 37:9-11

Read Isaiah 7:14 & 9:6

2. The Devil Unsuccessfully Tries To Stop God's Plan

Read Revelation 12:3-5

How did Satan try to stop God's plan from the beginning?

3. Satan's Limited Access Will Be Denied As He Is Thrown Down To Earth

Read Revelation 12:6-9

Where does the next conflict occur?

Who is the protagonist?

What is the outcome of this conflict?

What is the significance of the outcome for the earth? For Christians?

Which Old Testament and New Testament are parallel to this passage?

When do you see this battle occurring: At some particular time and place in history?

Pre-history? Post-history? Anytime during the ongoing battle between the kingdom of God and Satan?

**4. Our Power Comes From The Blood Of Jesus & Our Personal Testimony
Read Revelation 12:10-17**

When has Satan seemed very real to you?

How do you overcome Satan?

What spiritual battle have you faced recently? Did you realize that it was a spiritual battle at the time?

What do you need to do to be stronger for spiritual battle?

How can your friends pray for you?

How can you pray for them?

Read Ephesians 6:10-18

Which piece of armor do you need the most right now?

5. We Don't Have To Live In Fear, God Is With Us

Read Romans 8:33-39

How do these verses support Romans 8:1 "There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ."

What verse or phrase specifically strikes you?

How do we choose faith over fear?

Close in Prayer.