**THE GREAT TRIBULATION**

**The Terrible Triumvirate, No. 10**

**Rev. 12:1 – 13:18**

**Part One**

**The Context:** MacArthur, p. 75 - 76

 “Chapters 12-14 are actually a **digression** in John’s vision, taking readers back through the Tribulation from Satan’s perspective,” (Opt. cit.).

**Keys to the Text:**

 Satan:

 Antichrist:

**The Text:** Rev. 12:1 – 17, Part One

**The Action / Drama**

 Imagine that this is a Biblical Play & the Cast in the Play is as follows:

 1. *Woman* 

 2. *Child* 

 3. *Dragon and his angels* 

 Jude 6

 “Satanic Cross – Upside down question mark that questions the Deity of God. Within the occult it is the representation of the three crown princes; Satan, Belial

 and leviathan. Symbolizes complete power under Lucifer,” <https://www.exposingsatanism.org/signs-and-symbols-of-satanism/>

 4. *Michael, the Archangel* 

 א Daniel 10:12-13,

 ב 10:21

 ג 12:1-4

 ד Jude 9

 ה Hebrews 1:14

 “. . . all ministering spirits sent out to serve . . . (ESV).

 5. *Mankind* / 

 Moral & Spiritual Bankruptcy

 Zephaniah 3:1-5

 Continuing as a Biblical Play, the Action includes:

 The *Woman* is-

 1. Pregnant (2)

 2. Will deliver a male child (5)

 3. Fleeing (6a)

 4. Protected (6b, 14, 16)

 5. Assaulted (15)

**The Exposition:**

 **Verses 1 -2**

A sign (1)

 **ILL:** A sign is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Seven (7) signs in first half of the Tribulation

 12:3; 13:13-14; 15:1; 16:14; 19:20

 A woman (1)

 ISRAEL  The “Wife” of God

 Hosea 2:16-23

 **ILL:** So, in a sense, God is “married” to His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

  + Converted  = 

 Clothed with the sun . . . moon under her feet . . . twelve stars (1)

 Gen. 37:9 Joseph’s second dream

 Cried out in pain (2)

 Isaiah 26:12

 **Verses 3 – 6**

 Great, fiery red dragon (3)

 Isaiah 27:1 and ESVSBftn for 27:1 

 Seven heads . . . ten horns . . . seven diadems (3)

 Diadems or Crowns of Royalty

 α Seven diadems, 12:3. This is the great, red d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or Satan.

 β Ten diadems, 13:1. This is the A\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the Political Leader.

 γ Many Diadems, 19:12. This is J\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Many Diadems punctuates His Sovereignty, His Supremacy above & beyond the

 counterfeit contenders.

 A third of the stars of heaven (4)

 The Angelic Host

 Sinful Angels

 ~ Matt. 25:41

 ~ Luke 10:18

 ~ John 12:31

 ~ 2 Peter 2:4

 ~ Jude 6

 ~ Ezek. 28:11-19

“. . . a poetic allusion, wherein Ezekiel likens the downfall of the proud king of Tyre to the fall and curse on Satan in Gen. 3:1-15,” *The ESV Study Bible*, (Wheaton: Crossway, 2016).

 ~ Isa. 14:12-14

“Verses 12-14 evidently refer to Satan who, as prince of this world system, is the real although unseen ruler of the successive world powers, Tyre, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, etc. “Lucifer,” “day-star,” can be none other than Satan.

“This significant passage points back to the beginning of sin in the universe. When Lucifer said. “I will,” sin began. For other instances for addressing Satan through another, cp. Gen. 3:15; Matt. 16:22-23,”

*The New Scofield Reference Bible*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1967).

 To devour her Child (4)

 >>> Prophecy: Gen. 3:15

 >>> Fulfillment attempted Matt. 2:12-13 and ESVSBftn on 2:13.

 A male Child (5)

 Galatians 4:4 and ESVSBftn.

 Rod of Iron (5)

 >>> Compare 2:27 with 12:5 ESVSBftn and Rev. 19:15

 >>> Prophecy: Psalm 2:9

 Her Child was caught up to God (5)

 <<< Acts 1:9-11 Jesus Christ’s Visible Ascension into Heaven.

 <<< Hebrews 1:1-3

 Wilderness (6)

 Perhaps Moab, Edom, areas of Ammonites; not 100% certain. See Daniel 11:41and 11:40 – 41 ESVSBftn. This is east of the Dead Sea & modern day Jordan.

 One thousand two hundred and sixty [1260] days (6)

 Second half of the Tribulation. 3 ½ + *3 ½* = 7

 What Happens?

 Daniel 9:24 - 27

 **ILL:** *The 70 Weeks of Daniel 9* Chart

 The ESV Study Bible, p. 1608, (Wheaton: Crossway, 2016).

 ^ Antichrist breaks his covenant with Israel 

 ^ Antichrist prohibits Temple Worship in the rebuilt, Jewish Temple in Jerusalem.

 ^ Antichrist sets up the Abomination of Desolation: *I am god*.

 Self-deification.

 2 Thess. 2:3-12

 Daniel 9:27

 Matt. 24:15 – 26

 ^Antichrist devastates Jerusalem

 Rev 11:1-2 and ESVSBftn for 11:1-2

 “Many dispensationalists . . .”

 **Verses 7 – 9**

 War broke out in heaven (7)

 War on Earth

 *and-*

 War in Heaven

 Dragon was cast . . . to the earth (7)

 His original sin of pride & subsequent consequences.

 Deceives the whole world (9)

 Rev. 13:11-14

 The False Prophet (Second Beast) is a charismatic Religious Leader. He is in

 concert with the Antichrist (First Beast) who is a captivating Political Leader.

 Both are energized and empowered by the dragon, who is Satan, the demonic

 Leader. Together, this terrible triumvirate trick, deceive, & control everyone who

 Is outside of Jesus Christ.

 **Verses 10 – 11**

 Accuser (10)

 Accuser of our brethren no longer. Why? See vs. 9. Even Satan has an end.

 Blood of the Lamb (11)

 Romans 8:33-39

 **Verses 12 – 17**

 He [*the great red dragon, devil, Satan*] has a short time (12) 

 His time has been running out, like the sand falling through a Sand Dial. Since

 Christ’s Virgin Birth, Death, Resurrection, Ascension, & Siting on the Throne

 with His Father, Interceding for His Born Again Children; Satan has frantically

 watched his calendar & anxiously sees the inevitable- his days are numbered.

 Wings of a great eagle (14)

 “A graphic depiction of God’s Providential Protection of Israel.” 

 A time and times and half a time (14)

 [1 + 2 + ½ = 3 ½] Second half of the 7 Year Tribulation Period.

 Earth opened its mouth (16)

 Cataclysmic weather & movements within the physical Earth.

 Rev. 16:19

 Rest of her offspring (17)

 Satan & his Army of Fallen, Wicked Angels, will target all Believers, both Jew &

 Gentile. Like a serial killer, he will show no mercy. He will have no remorse.

 Commandments of God . . . testimony of Jesus Christ (17)

 Biblical martyrdom

**Your Reflections & Responses?**