

The Great Reversal | A Series through Revelation

The Cosmic Battle

Text: Revelation 12

Synopsis: Every injustice and evil act you see here has roots in Satan. We are all called to sacrifice and triumph over evil in the eternal power of Jesus' death.

Big picture: Chapter 12 begins the second half of the book of Revelation.

I. There's a battle going on

Context: John is explaining the cosmic spiritual battle that lay behind the suffering of the seven churches under roman persecution.

II. It isn't new

This battle has been happening since the Fall. [Genesis 3:15](#)

A.The Players [Rev 12:1-4](#)

Referred to as signs or symbols in [v1, 3](#), they depict is something larger than literal figures.

1. **Dragon** - the serpent, devil
 - a. He personifies perfect evil; wicked in every way. He is powerful.
2. **Child** - Jesus
 - a. He was born of a woman, He will rule the nations, and He ascended into heaven. [Rev 12:5, Psalm 2:9](#)
3. **Woman/offspring** - faithful people of God
 - a. This is the church then and now! [Rev 12: 4, 6, 14-15, 17](#)

B.The Plot

1. Jesus defeats the dragon through His death and resurrection [Rev 12:4-6](#)
2. Dragon is cast to Earth [Rev 12: 7-12](#)
3. Dragon inspires hatred and persecution of Messiah's people [Rev 12: 13-17](#)

II. It's still happening

The conflict we see in our world right now is just a symptom of the real war going on.

III. We face a real enemy *(And it might not be who you think)*

John is showing the churches that any nation or human is not the real enemy. [Eph 6:12, Eph 2:1-3](#)

A. Three areas of spiritual battle:

1. **The ways of the world**

The unhealthy social environment in which we live. The prevailing worldview.
Application: What are you ingesting? Who do you want to be like?
2. **Our fleshly desires**

Our inclination to do what's wrong, the internal struggle, the natural state.
Application: What are the scripts you listen to again and again?
3. **The ruler who exercises authority over the lower heavens**

Demons aren't divine - but they are working.
Application: Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Submit yourself to God's way. James 4:7

IV. We have real hope

This struggle is not the end. Your story has been written and so has Satan's; his time is limited.

1. The faithful are the target. Hold fast
2. God protects his people. Don't fear
3. God has already Rest secure

V. This is how we overcome

Revelation 12:11:

They triumphed over 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.