
The background features a warm, golden-yellow gradient. In the upper left, a silhouette of a person stands with arms raised in a gesture of praise or triumph. In the lower right, a silhouette of a figure is shown falling or being cast down, with limbs outstretched. The text is overlaid in the center, written in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

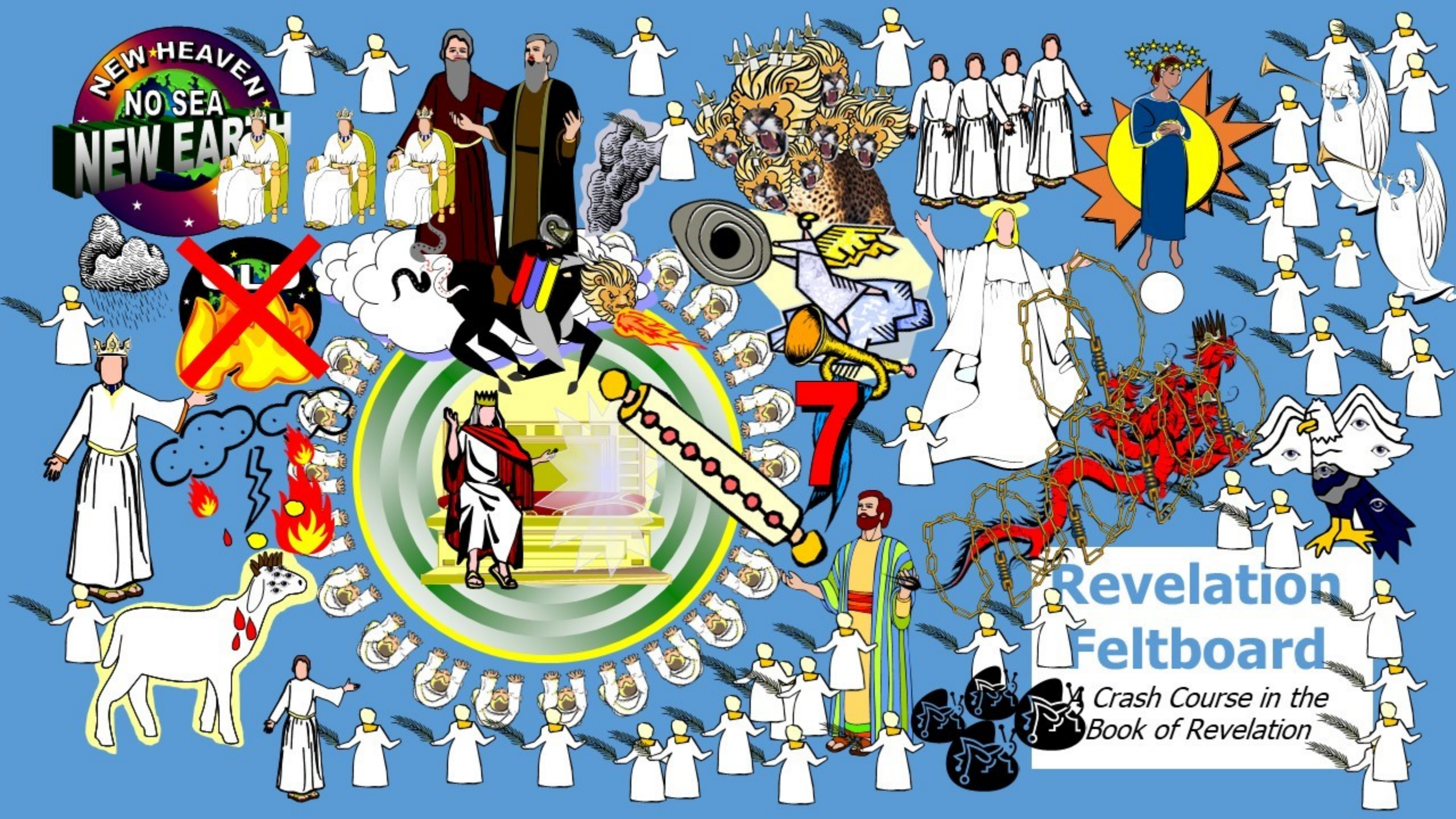
Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.” (Revelation 12:10)



**Sh'ma Yisrael, Adonai Eloheinu
Adonai Echad
Baruch Shem k'vod malchutto,
l'olam va'ed**

**Hear, O Israel: the LORD is our God.
The LORD is One.
Blessed be the name of His glorious kingdom
for ever and ever.**

NEW HEAVEN
NO SEA
NEW EARTH



Revelation Feltboard

*Crash Course in the
Book of Revelation*

A woman in a white robe stands in a dark, starry space, holding a glowing child in a white cloth above her head. The child is surrounded by a bright, glowing aura. The woman is looking up at the child with a reverent expression. The background is a deep purple and blue, filled with stars and nebulae.

Revelation 12

**The Woman, the Child, the Dragon
War in Heaven**

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

¹ Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. ² Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.

³ And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. ⁴ His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. ⁵ She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

⁶ Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

⁷ And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, ⁸ but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. ⁹ So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

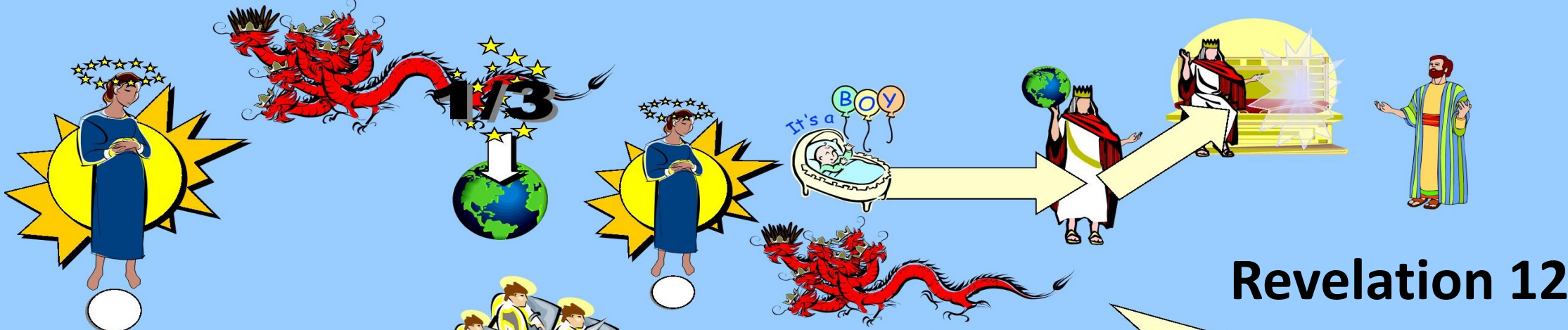
REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. ¹¹ And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. ¹² Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.”

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

¹³ Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child. ¹⁴ But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. ¹⁵ So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. ¹⁶ But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth.

¹⁷ And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.



Revelation 12

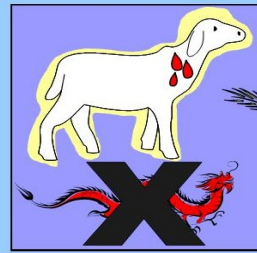
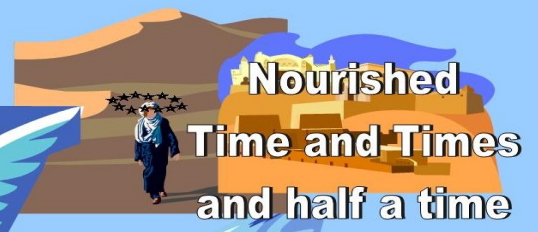
"Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down."



"And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death."

"Rejoice, O Heavens and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea!"

"For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time."



SHORT TIME



REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- Last chapter (11) about Temple in Jerusalem, and two witnesses. Focus on Israel, but measuring and convicting of entire lost world.
- **Overview of plan of God regarding Israel**
- Given **important “history lesson”**- past and future Glimpse of life for Israel during 2nd half of Tribulation.

*Official seal of the
State of Israel*



REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

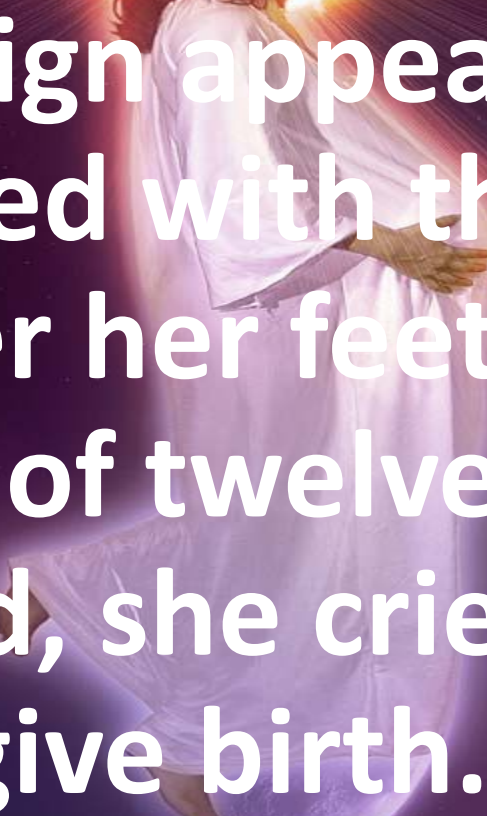


- **7th Trumpet blown**, but have not yet seen beginning of last set of judgments (*Bowl Judgments*, or “*the 7 plagues*” not until ch. 16)
- Chapter 12 still in “**interlude**” between 2nd set of judgments and 3rd (last) set.

- **Critical to interpret correctly.** Test for Bible commentators (*so is chapter 6*). Don't get this right, probably won't get rest of book, or Bible, correct.
- **Several characters/"identities" to correctly decipher.**
 1. **Pregnant Woman**
 2. **Her male child**
 3. **The dragon**
 4. **Michael**

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- Chapter/verse designations man-made (not inspired).
- Could say chapter 12 really begins in last chapter, verse 19:
“Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.”
- **Chapter 11 ends in the heavenlies, chapter 12 begins there.**



¹ Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. ² Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.



**The Question of the Ages, full of
Commentary and Controversy...**

Who is this woman?

**Some answers are laughable, far
fetched, way off base and self-
serving. But it's really very simple.**

- **“a woman...”** 4 women described Revelation: 1) Jezebel (2:20); 2) Harlot (ch 17/18); 3) Bride of Messiah (19:7, 21:2, 9) and 4) this pregnant woman. **Getting her identity right is crucial.**
- Most common **error** is that she is the **Bride of Christ, or the Church** (*no scriptural basis*). If so, in a lot of trouble, subject to stoning by Law!
- **She’s pregnant!** “Bride” in Israel is engaged, not yet married, but covenant is binding. Church is, or is *supposed to be*, a virgin. **This just doesn’t fit!**

- Another common error = Mary, mother of Jesus. Does not fit with 12 stars, sun and moon, wilderness flight, nor content/context of vision.
- Could go into **all sorts of errors**, but perhaps one of biggest, and most arrogant, **Mary Baker Glover Patterson Eddy, claimed *she* was this woman.**
- “Man child” she delivered supposedly *Christian Science*, her “new religion,” dragon is “mortal mind” attempting to destroy her new religion.



Won't spend time with
more errors.

Again, *only way* to
correctly interpret
scripture, *is with scripture.*



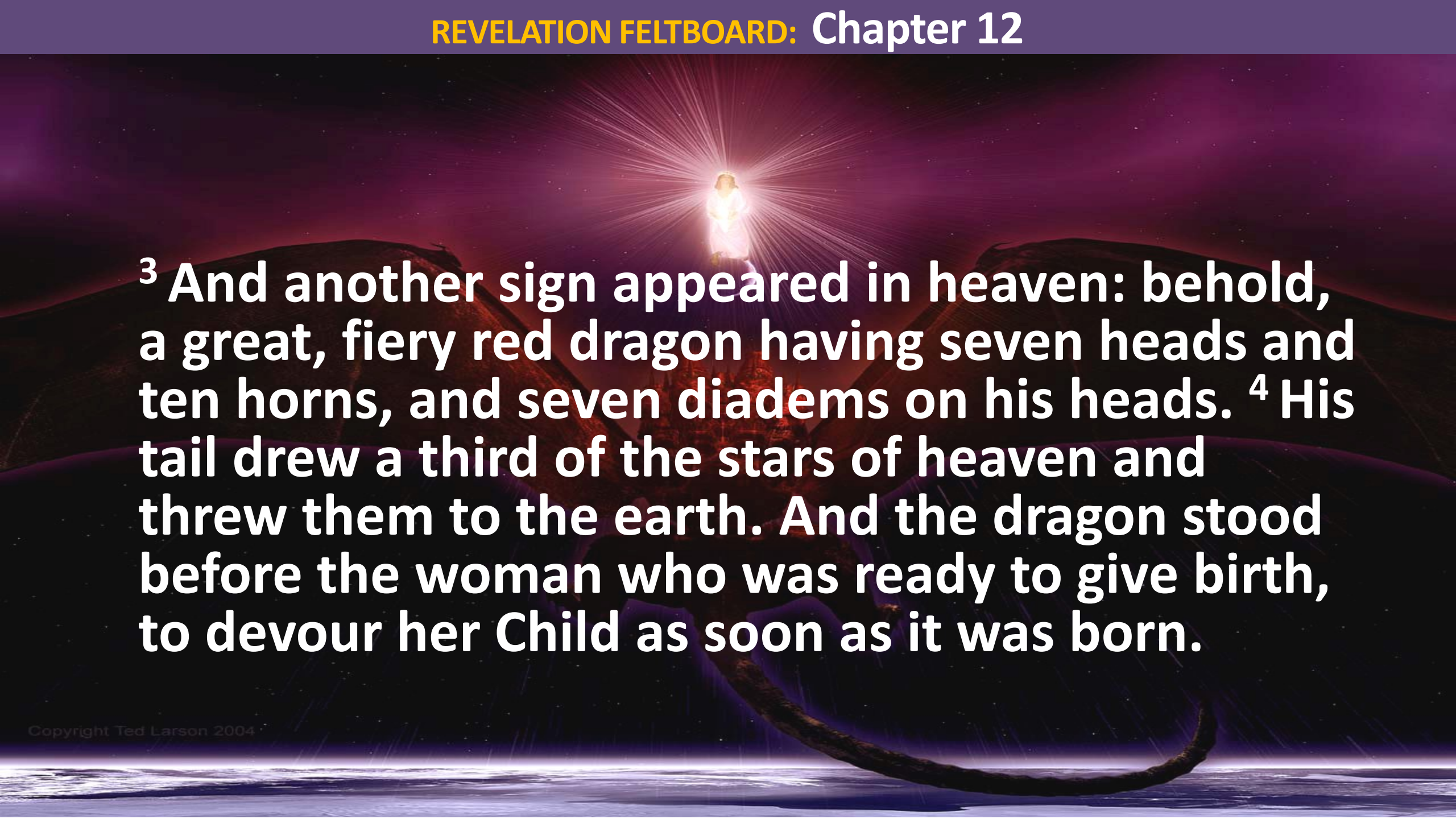
- **Biggest clue in Genesis 37:9,** Joseph has a dream: *“Then he dreamed still another dream and told it to his brothers, and said, “Look, I have dreamed another dream. And this time, the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to me.”*
- Joseph sees brothers, father and mother bowing down to him in dream. *(Near and far prophecy)*

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- 12 tribes of Jacob (Israel) are 12 stars. Joseph is a type for Jesus, the ultimate deliverer. Everyone will bow down to him one day.
- Isaiah 9:6, verse everyone knows from Christmas cards: *“Unto us a child is born....”* Unto whom? **Unto Israel.** Israel in labor thousands of years.
- Isaiah 66:7 clear: *“Before she was in labor, she gave birth; Before her pain came, She delivered a male child.”*
- Very specific/clear reference to Israel giving birth to Messiah after much pain. First believers reading Revelation understood this plainly.

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- **Woman in vision = Israel** (*not the Church, not a constellation and not anyone or anything else*).
- 12 stars = 12 tribes of Israel
- Child she delivers is Yeshua HaMashiach.
- **Without correct interpretation, nothing will make sense.** Figurative ID stretched, scripture twisted (*or ignored*) to make things fit.
- **When we understand woman = Israel, reveals picture of God's plan for His people.** (*Rest of this chapter makes no sense without this interpretation.*)



³ And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. ⁴ His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

- ***“a great, fiery red dragon...”*** dragon interpreted in v. 9: *“So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”* No question who this is.
- Bible addresses **this enemy several places**, chiefly Isaiah 14:12-17 and Ezekiel 28:2-15. If you don't already know about his origins and intentions, read these passages carefully (also Genesis 3; Jude 13; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4; John 8:44).



REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12



**Vision defies our
imagination, but
we still try!**

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- **“RED”** used 2X in Rev, here and 2nd horse chapter 6. Red associated with war and death. Satan at war with God and with God’s people since his downfall.
- **“The adversary [accuser]”** (*literal meaning of “satan” or HaSatan in Hebrew*) introduced what we call **“spiritual warfare”** (*for more information on this see Ephesians 6:10-13; 2 Corinthians 2:11; Daniel 10:1-9; Amos 7:1; Isaiah 59:17; 2 Kings 6:16; Revelation 9 and more.*)
- Many references throughout scripture to this warfare ...*another lesson for another day!*

- We are part of the **war of the ages**, the conflict between good and evil, God and the enemy.
- Enemy's biggest tactic is **deceit**.
- God's weapon is **truth**.
- **CRITICAL REMINDER:** Don't make mistake of considering these two "generals" on equal terms! One is a created being with limited power and an ultimate end. The other is Almighty, The Creator, All-Powerful, All-Knowing, and Eternal. **BIG DIFFERENCE!!!**

- ***“seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.”*** description also appears in Revelation 13/17. *Will defer discussion of these heads and horns until then.*
- ***“...a third of the stars of heaven...”*** interpreted as 1/3 of heavenly host of angels that followed enemy in opposition to God. *(See Daniel 8:10)*
- ***“to devour...”*** Satan *(the dragon)* trying to destroy Messiah *(Child in vision)* since beginning of time. Messianic line begins with Eve, where He is first promised.

COMMENTARY: *“This vision of Satan standing before the woman ‘who was ready to be delivered, to devour her child as soon as it was born’ refers to the attitude of Satan ever since Genesis 3:15. This promise was given to humanity, predicting eventual deliverance from the domination of Satan....God guaranteed deliverance through the “seed of the woman.” In response, Satan initiated what Bible scholars call “the conflict of the ages,” attempting to stamp out the seed of the woman from the time of Adam and Eve to the Tribulation Period, from Genesis to Revelation. Satan tried to stop the seed by the murder of Abel by Cain (Gen. 4); by his effort to pollute the human race (Gen. 6, [Nephilim]); by his attempt to cut off the Hebrew nation in Egypt (Exodus 1, 2); and by the decree of Haman (Esther 3).*



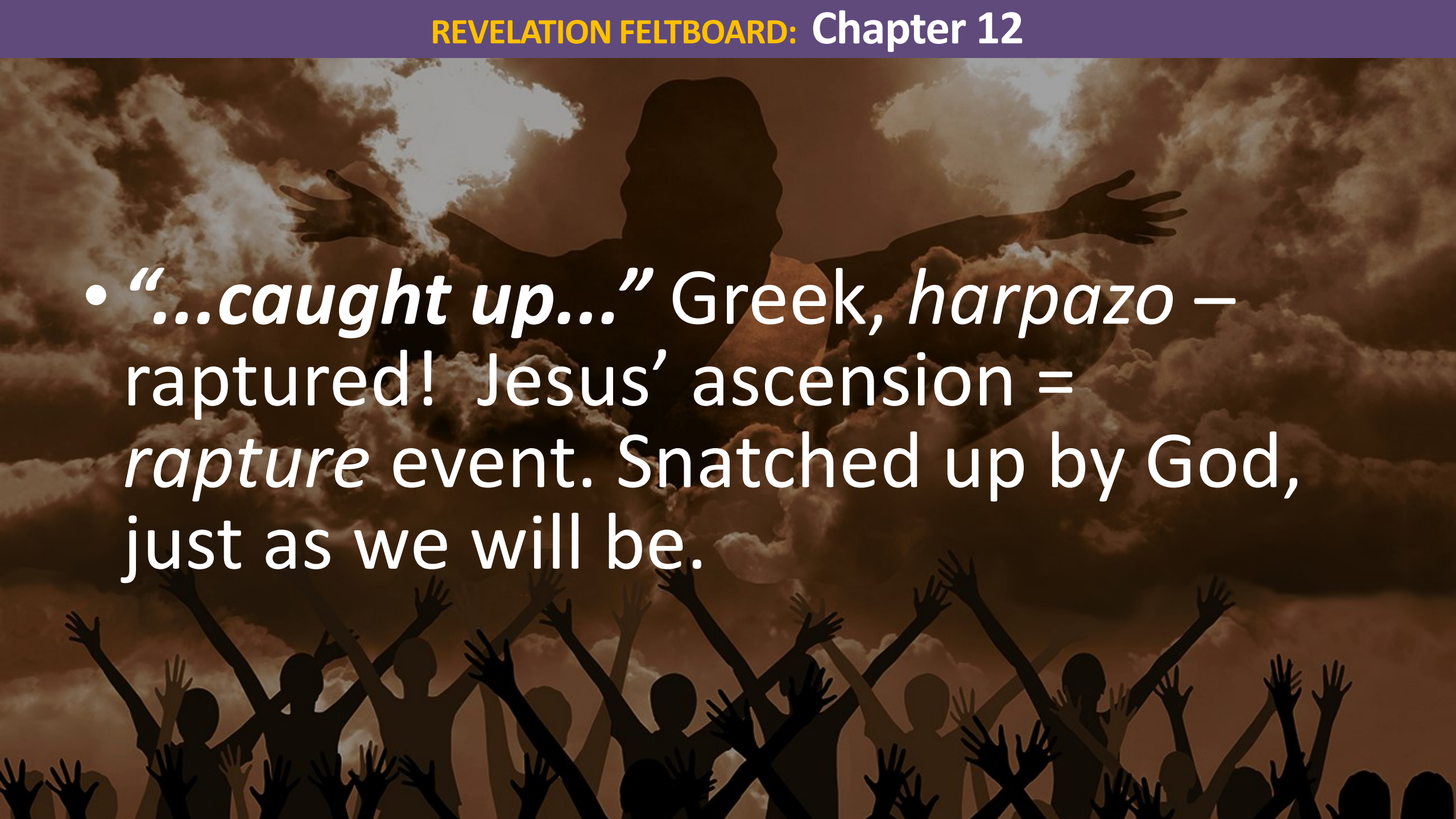
COMMENTARY: *(continued)*

Several times during the life of Christ he tried to destroy the “seed of the woman” – Herod’s decree to kill babies, the storm on the Sea of Galilee, and the attempts to throw Christ over a cliff. During the Christian dispensation the conflict is seen in Satan’s persecution of the Church; his propagation of [false religions]; the Dark Ages, when the Word of God was kept from men; and false religions that spring up everywhere but offer no remedy for sin. This conflict will reach its climax during the Tribulation when Satan through the Antichrist will seek to get men to worship him.” (LaHaye)

⁵ She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.



- ***“a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron..”*** Already ID’d male child, but this verse also identifies Him. Reference to Psalm 2:9 *“You shall break [rule] them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter’s vessel.”*
- Verses provide identity: *“I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession.”* (Psalm 2:7-8)
- **Can only be speaking of Jesus, Messiah, Son of God, who will rule nations,.**

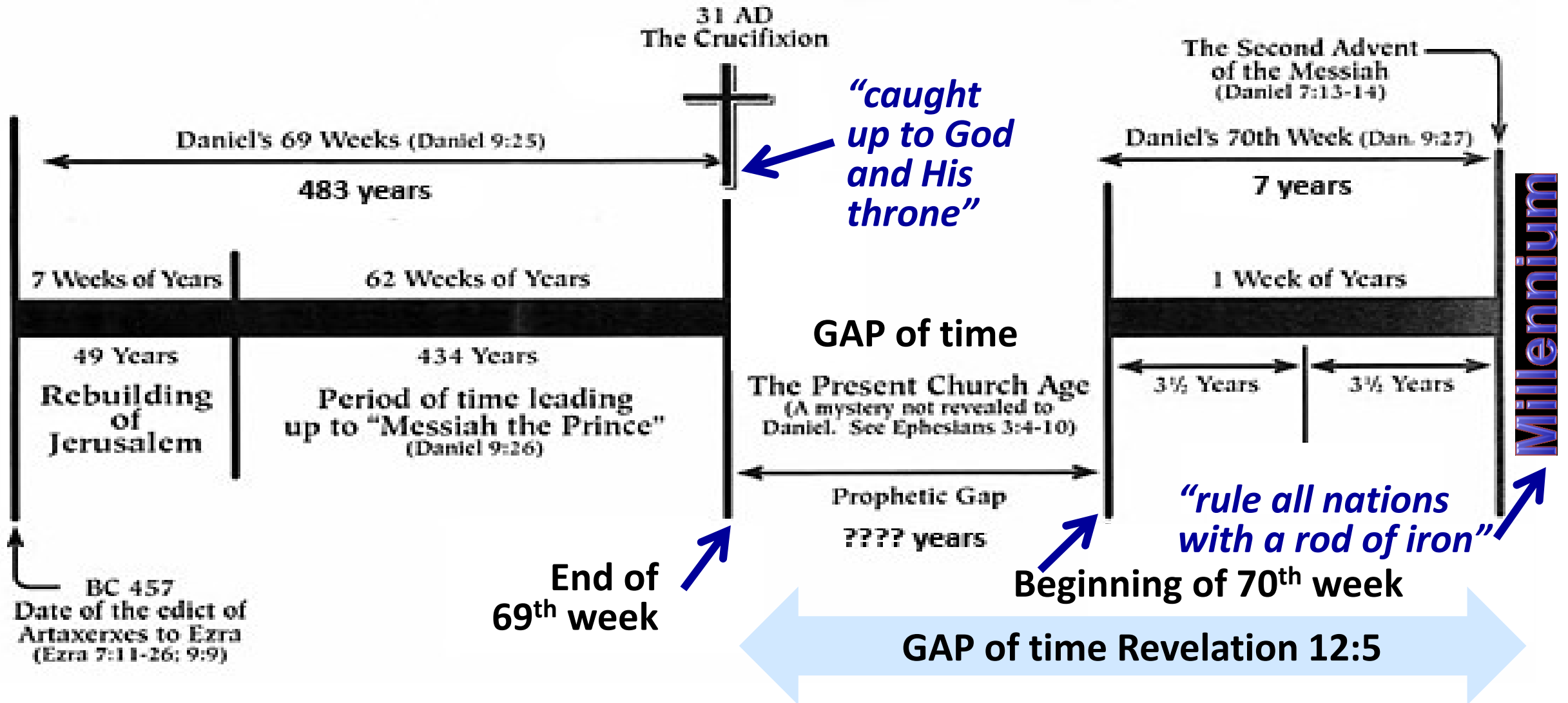
- 
- “...*caught up*...” Greek, *harpazo* – raptured! Jesus’ ascension = *rapture* event. Snatched up by God, just as we will be.

- **HISTORY IN A NUTSHELL...Several “gaps” in time here.**
 - 1) between woman “giving birth” and child being caught up (*about 33 years*),
 - 2) Then and ruling the nations (*almost 2,000 years and counting*).
 - 3) between verses 5 and 6 (*between ascension of Jesus and tribulation, again, 2,000 years+*).
- Many **gaps** in scripture cover assumed periods of time. At least 24. **Daniel 9** (“70 weeks”) large gap essential to understanding of that passage.

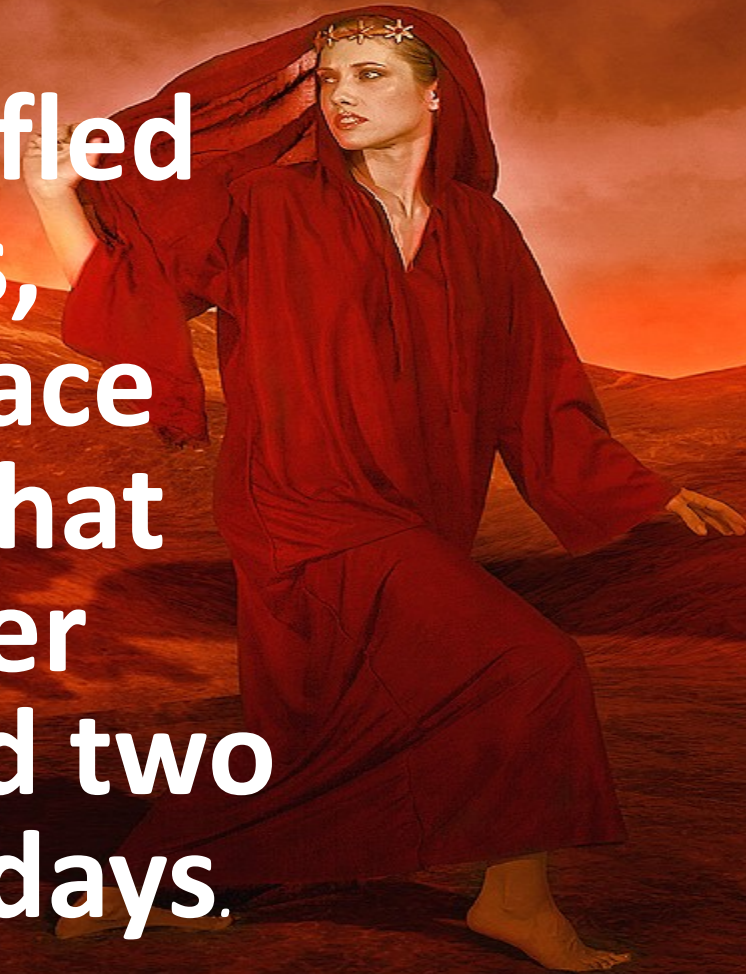
- **Daniel's gap between 69th and final 70th week** = time between Messiah "cut off" (*His death*) and time of "Jacob's Trouble" (*Tribulation = 70th week*).
- Gap here (ch 12) between *ascension and return to rule* in Millennium.
- NO mention of Christian Era, Age of Grace, or Church itself in these verses (*if interpreted correctly*), except birth and ascension of male child born to this woman. **Entire vision relates to Israel.**

- First 5 verses occur before end of Daniel's 69th week, then a gap (*where we live now, age of Church*) followed by 70th week, tribulation period.
- Chapter 12 does not concern the Church, but Israel.
- ***“to God and His throne.”*** Jesus is the only one who has ascended to heaven and to the throne of God (His authority). There is no question of His identity through these verses and throughout scripture. *Any other interpretations are false.*

DANIEL'S SEVENTY WEEKS (Daniel 9:24-27)



6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.



- ***“the woman fled...”*** Woman = Israel. “Israel” is *national* Israel. ***ANY other interpretation won’t work!***
 - Mary mother of God fleeing into the wilderness?***
 - Church fleeing into the wilderness (most likely gone by then),***
 - a constellation fleeing into the wilderness?***
- All interpretations must be in context with scripture.**
- Israel is **“on the run”** from the enemy, who is madder than hell!

- “*...into the wilderness...*” Literal place? Where? **Lots** of speculation. As most of Revelation, *must determine method of interpretation* – literal, or symbolic?
- *Declaring a literal interpretation and assuming a literal wilderness place, ...where is this place? **WE DON'T KNOW!!!** Not told.*
- Many speculate *could be* place we call **Petra**, in southwestern Jordan, east of Negev desert region of Israel.

- **Reasons?** Matthew 24:15-16; Isaiah 34 and 63, and Micah 2.
- Petra **can house about 250,000+** people in thousands of apartment-like caves.
- **Within “God-ordained” boundaries of Israel,** completely inaccessible (*very defensible*) except through Siq (*narrow opening in rocks*), or overhead.
- Previously occupied by Edomites, descendants of Esau (means “red”), before being built into the “red rock” city of hand-carved dwellings by Nabataeans in 3rd century BC.

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12



- “Rose City” – stone color
- Established 312 BC, capital city of Nabataeans. Before this, Edomites (Esau’s descendents) *[ALSO CALLED IDUMEA]*
- Jordan's most-visited tourist attraction
- “Lost” until 1812, found by Swiss explorer
- 190 miles from Jerusalem (*by road*)

- “Siq” - entrance to Petra
- Treasury Building
- Formerly inhabited by Edomites (Idumea)

Prophecy Against Edom

“Behold, I will make you small among the nations; You shall be greatly despised. ³ The pride of your heart has deceived you, You who dwell in the clefts of the rock, Whose habitation is high; You who say in your heart, ‘Who will bring me down to the ground?’ ⁴ Though you ascend as high as the eagle, And though you set your nest among the stars, From there I will bring you down,” says the LORD. (Obadiah 1-4)

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- In current Jordan
- Treasury Building at entrance





INDIANA JONES
and the
LAST CRUSADE

1989 movie "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade" made Petra famous. Scenes through the Siq that open up onto the Treasury Building are no movie set. Those are real!)

Amphitheater



Individual “apartments”



REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- Reference in Isaiah 63 **Messiah will come (2nd coming) from Bozrah**, city near Petra (Edom).

¹Who is this who comes from Edom, [Petra] With dyed garments from Bozrah, This One who is glorious in His apparel, Traveling in the greatness of His strength?—“I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save.” ² Why is Your apparel red, And Your garments like one who treads in the winepress? ³ “I have trodden the winepress alone, And from the peoples no one was with Me. For I have trodden them in My anger, And trampled them in My fury; Their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, And I have stained all My robes. ⁴ For the day of vengeance is in My heart, And the year of My redeemed has come.



REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- Speculation **Bozrah** (= “*sheep pen*”) site of Jesus’ 2nd coming, *before He comes to Jerusalem.* Isaiah 34/63, Micah 2 support this.
- Petra (*aka Mt. Seir in Scripture*) a stunning place, but plenty of information available, (*you can research!*).
- Whether Petra = ancient fortress for Israel in last days or not **remains to be seen**. Seems likely, but regardless of where it is, God will divinely care for His people during “Time of Jacob’s Trouble” – last 3 ½ years of tribulation – as they flee from persecution of final world leader (*empowered by dragon*).

- “***...that they should feed her...***” “[they] should feed” all one word, *trephe* in Greek. Literally to *cherish with food, pamper, lovingly care for*. “They” not in original manuscript.
- Complete Jewish Bible states, “*...and she fled into the desert, where she has a place prepared by God so that she can be taken care of for 1,260 days.*”
- God will ***lovingly care for His people***, not merely feed them.

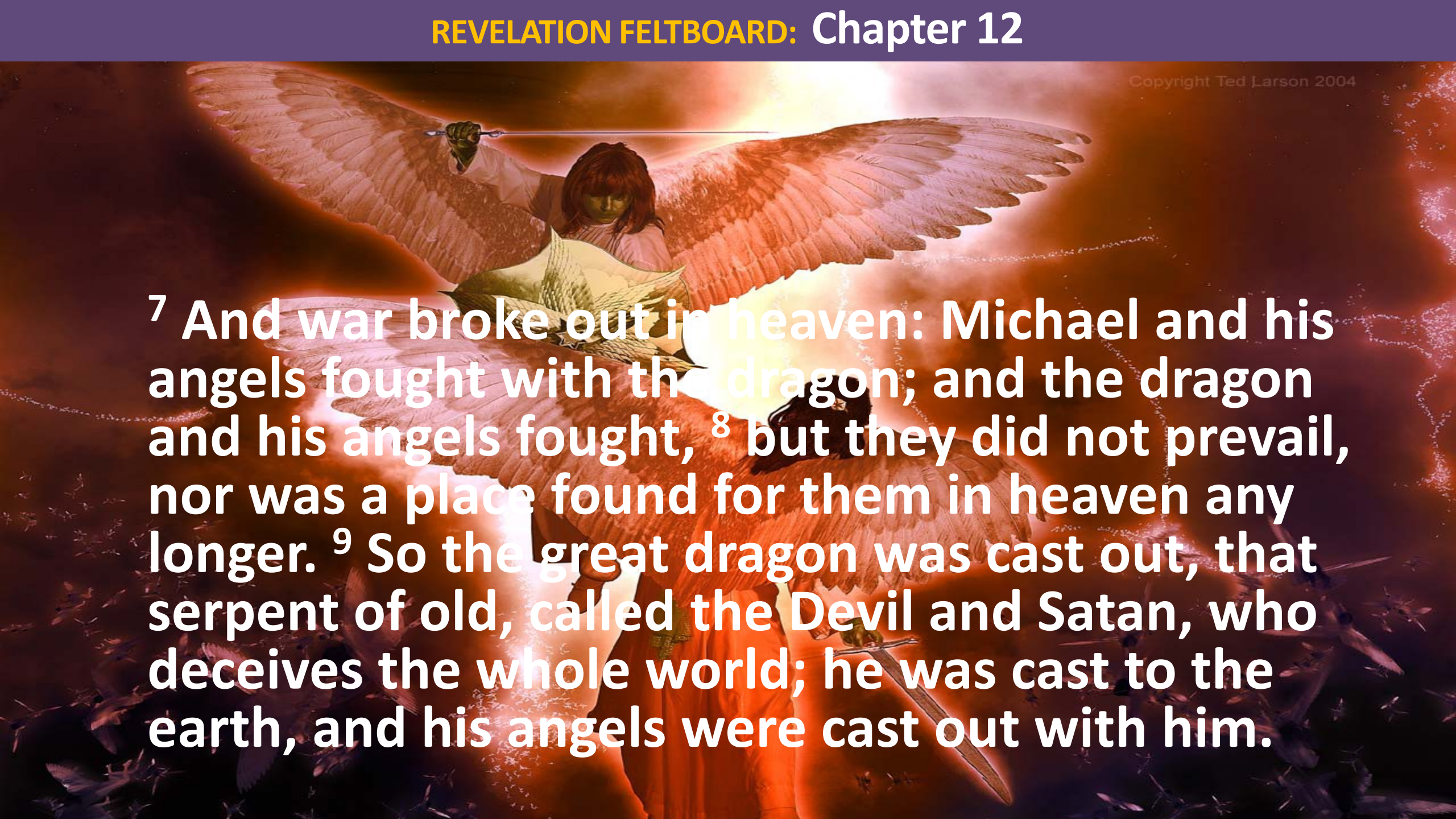
- **“one thousand two hundred and sixty days”** – again. Literal time, 3½ years (360-day years), last ½ of trib.
- Interesting passage seems to indicate areas of old Edom, Moab, and Ammon **escape** from control of final world ruler: *“He [the king of the North, identified as the final world ruler] shall also enter the Glorious Land [Israel], and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon. He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape.”* (Daniel 11:41-42) **Petra located in this region (modern day Jordan).**

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- Daniel 12, continues this OT passage: *“At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, Such as never was since there was a nation, Even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, Every one who is found written in the book.”* (Daniel 12:1)
- Again, scripture our best commentary on the book of Revelation, and on any book in the Word of God.
- Next passage in Revelation 12 relates also to a war between Michael and Satan. Two passages may correlate.

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

Copyright Ted Larson 2004



⁷ And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, ⁸ but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. ⁹ So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

As we have seen, much of this book encourages very vivid imagination and lots of intriguing artwork!



REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12



REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12



REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- Scene change from earth back to heaven. Now war in heaven. TIMELINE???? (????!!!!) **TWO REFERENCES TO BEING CAST OUT!** Original (12:4) and real time (12:9)?
- Continuation of **age-old warfare between God/Enemy**, truth/lies, comes to a major battle.
- “*Michael...*” identified as one of “chief princes” in Daniel 10, and warrior for Israel. Called “**archangel**” by Jude.
- Apparently charged with protection of God’s people, Israel. Zechariah 14, Numbers 21 fights wars for God.

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- “...*but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer.*”

Some interpret this as *original* “casting out” of Satan from heaven to earth in beginning of time.

- However, Satan (“*accuser*”) has apparently had access to heaven, and throne of God, all along... *until now.*

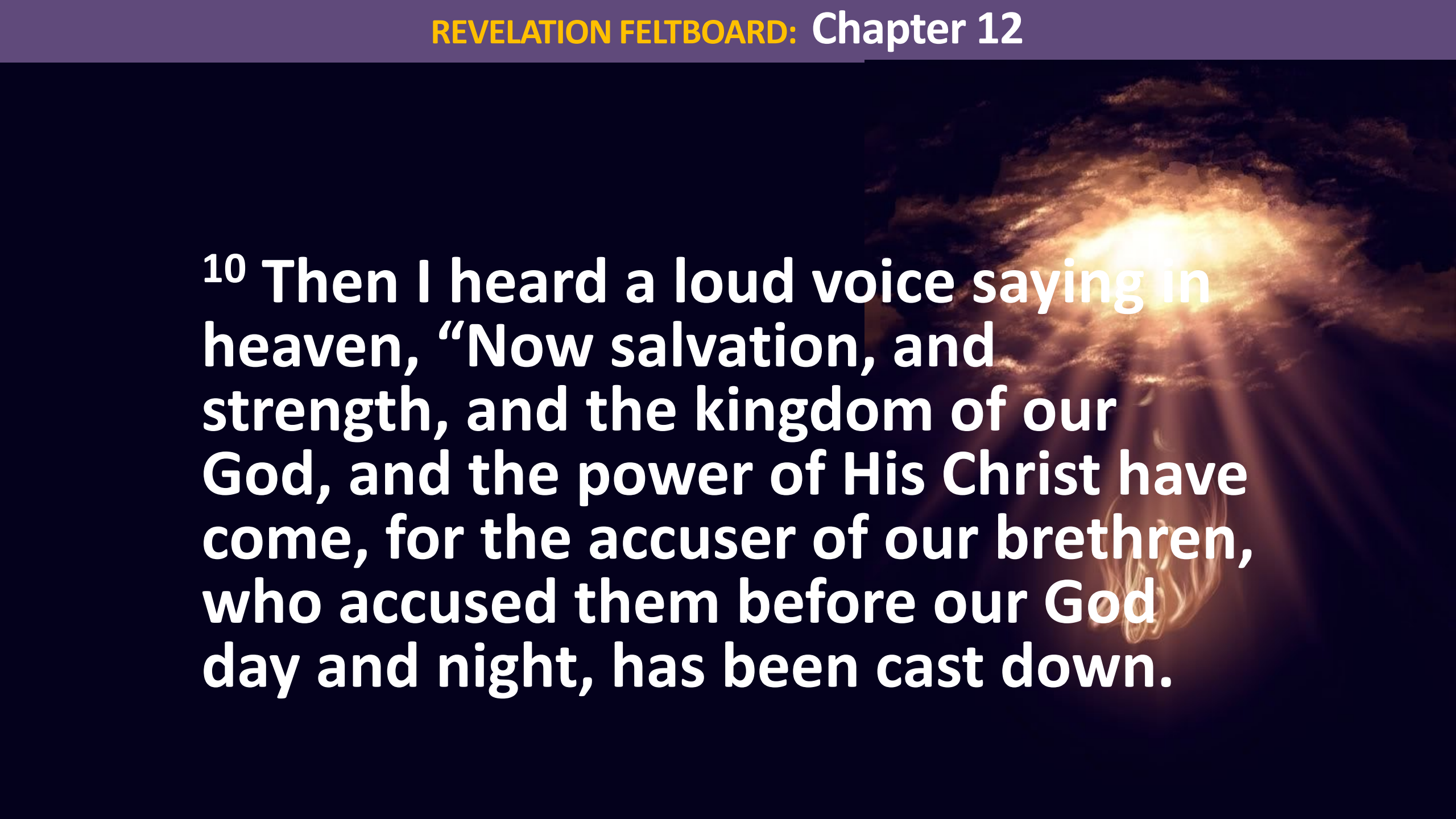
- Seen in Job, Zechariah, Daniel, Luke, Jude and other places. Has been **accusing God’s people from beginning**, playing role of prosecutor before bench of Almighty Judge.





- **The Accuser** soon to be **banished** from heaven, loses ability to accuse God's people. He and his supporters cast out, no access.
- God has determined there is no more room, or place, for these enemies any longer. (*See Luke 10:18, John 16:11; 12:31*) The **accuser responds in anger (rage)** in next verses.

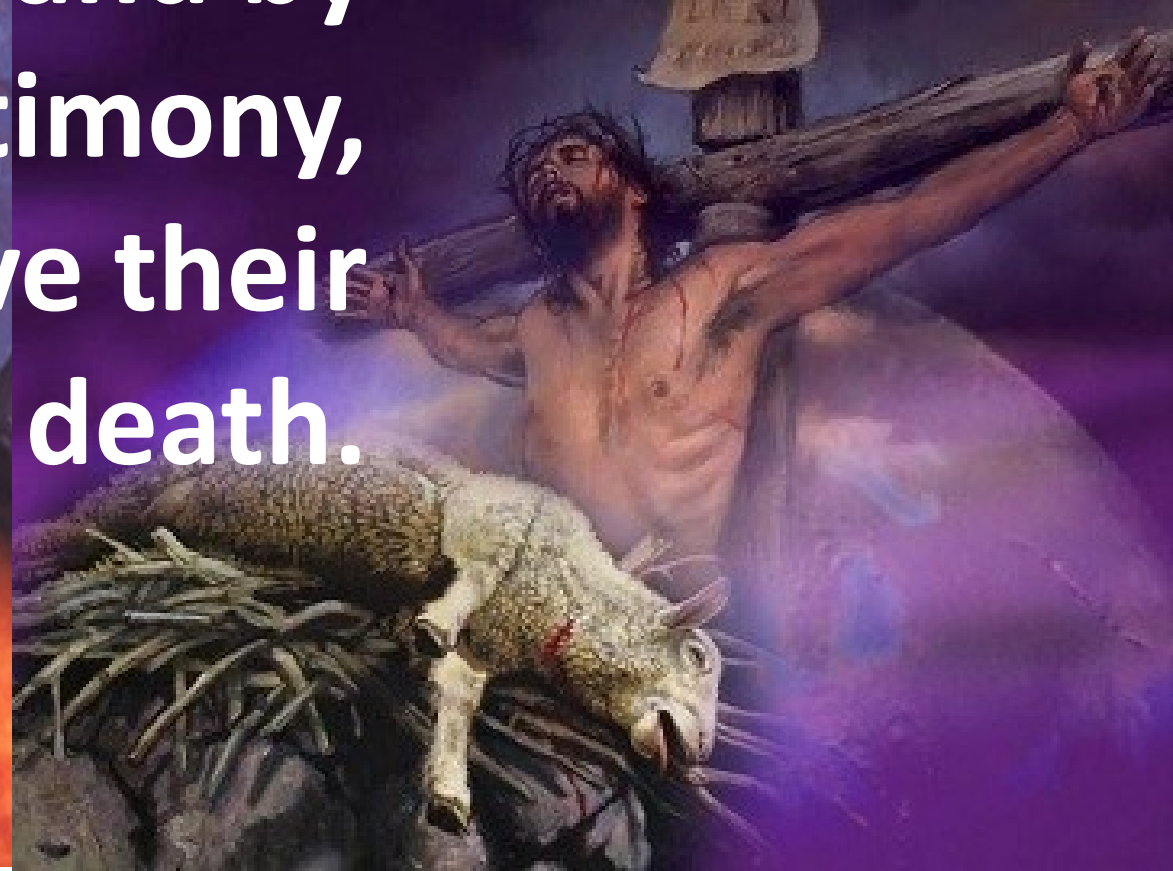
- ***“So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world;...”*** No doubt on ID of dragon. *“The serpent of old”* = teller of lies in the garden. His name is the Devil (*“slanderer”*) and Satan (*“accuser”*) and he deceives whole world. NO ONE else fits this.
- God always ensures we understand important points of scripture. Again, **best commentary on scripture is scripture itself.**
- **The dragon = Satan, here in these verses and throughout rest of the book of Revelation.**



10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

- Another unidentified loud voice from heaven: time for the salvation, strength and kingdom of God to be proclaimed, and all promises to be fulfilled, for the Messiah to take His throne...*very soon*.
- **Reason?** The one who accused believers before the throne of God can no longer do so. The righteousness of God covers believers for all eternity.
- Some speculate voice actually VOICES, believers who have gone on to heaven before these martyrs as they make reference to “**our brethren**.”

11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.



“...they overcame him...” “they” = believers. They (we) overcome enemy by 3 things:

1) first and foremost by ***“blood of the Lamb,”*** blood of Jesus shed for us as payment for our sins, for “eternal redemption” ***“...he entered the Holiest Place once and for all. And he entered not by means of the blood of goats and calves, but by means of his own blood, thus setting people free forever.”*** (Hebrews 9:12) (His work, not ours).

His blood covers us permanently; nothing more we can be accused of before God...***ever.*** 

2) by the “***word of their testimony,***” - Not just verbal testimony, backed up with whole life for Jesus.

COMMENTARY: *There is something that is strengthening in giving a testimony. Don't misunderstand me—some of the testimonies given today are pretty shallow. Some of them are given by those who ought not to be giving a testimony, because the people close to them know their shoddy living, and it makes them rather cynical and skeptical. The place to give a testimony is not at a nice, well-fed church banquet where all the saints say amen to everything you say. If you have a life to back it up, the place to give your testimony is out yonder in the world, when you are up against that godless, blaspheming crowd. Let them know that you belong to Christ and that you are in Christ. (McGee)*

3) Loving God more than corrupt lives on earth. They did this *“to the death,”* probably died as result of steadfast witness. But they indeed overcame enemy to become victors in Jesus.

- *May apply to tribulation saints, but also gives us life application.*
- **We overcome enemy** by blood of Jesus, by living a life that witnesses of our belonging to Him, and by not loving this life, but yearning for Him.
- Remember Revelation 2:10 – *“...Be faithful even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.”*

12 Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.”

***DOUBLE MESSAGE,
TO TWO DIFFERENT GROUPS...***

- Messages to 2 different “dwellers.” These events are a cause for **rejoicing in heaven**, and **woe on earth**.
 - 1) “**dwellers of heaven**” (*saints already in heaven and also those still on earth at this time, **believers who consider earth a mere place of sojourn and not home**. Home is heaven, even if we haven’t gotten there yet!*) and to the entire heavenly host
 - 2) “**inhabitants of the earth**” phrase used over 20 X = reference to unbelievers (*citizenship is earth, not heaven*).

- **THE MESSAGE?** It's almost over, best news to first group, worst news to latter group.
- **This WOE = third woe** from Revelation 11. 7th trumpet has blown, 7 plagues ready to be poured out (*3rd set of judgments*) and then it's all over. The wrath and judgment upon on earth, and those who oppose Him, will be complete.
- In God's plan, already complete at this point. **HE INHABITS ETERNITY!**

- “*...the earth and the sea!*” addition of “sea” is merely underscore that this is literal earth, the entire earth, no exceptions.
- Enemy tossed out of heaven, now angry (*great wrath!*). He knows scripture. He knows he only has a short to time to do his best against God and His people.
- Evil coming on earth will be greater than at any other time in history. **HaSatan cannot accuse anymore, but can still wreak havoc on earth.**

13 Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child.

14 But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

Chapter 12 can read like a 3-act play:

Act 1: History of **God's plan through Israel** (*woman with the 12 stars, waiting to give birth*), Messiah (*male child born to the woman*) and enemy (*dragon*) shown on "movie screen" of heavens.

ACT 2: War in heaven, *most likely yet to come*, resulting in enemy being cast out and he and his followers thrown to earth. *They are mad!*

ACT 3: God delivers Israel (*the woman*) from enemy's persecution, and brings her to a place of divine protection (*already prepared for her*).

- Remember correct identity of woman. **Israel**, not Church. Satan very angry, knows time is short, now turns full fury against Israel. Has always desired to devour Israel and her Messiah.
- However, in verse 17, enemy frustrated about Israel, so turns his attention to “**her offspring.**”
- “***two wings of a great eagle...***” Eagles are often used in scripture as **symbolic for divine deliverance.**



REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- Obviously, nation of Israel not on some gigantic eagle!
- Remember, *take literally whatever CAN be taken literally, and look for scriptural interpretation of those passages obviously symbolic.*
- Some try to make eagle symbol for USA. Big, unfounded, stretch –considering Zechariah 12:3 (*all nations against Israel*) and US waning support.
- **Always look for Biblical interpretation first.** Eagles are a known scriptural symbol for God's protection and deliverance.

- “*...fly into the wilderness...*” have discussed possibility of Petra being a literal place God sets aside for His people.
- However, another important note about this wilderness compared to another wilderness.
- So many references and allusions to **events in Exodus in the book of Revelation** is somewhat uncanny and need to be looked at.



When God delivered Israel out of Egypt...

- He brought them into the wilderness.
- Israel protected, separated from rest of world so God could teach, build them into the nation He intended them to be.
- He sent them a deliverer.
- During entire wilderness experience, God provided for ALL needs, physical and spiritual.
- All food and water was provided, protection was afforded, guidance and teaching given.

- Israel's "nourishment" in wilderness both body and in spirit. Likely same thing will happen in this wilderness (*Petra or some other place*).
- God will divinely protect and provide, will teach them and guide them into truth and saving relationship with His Son, their Deliverer.
- And ***"they will look on Me, whom they pierced."*** (Zech. 12:10)
- Israel protected from serpent's wrath in this time.

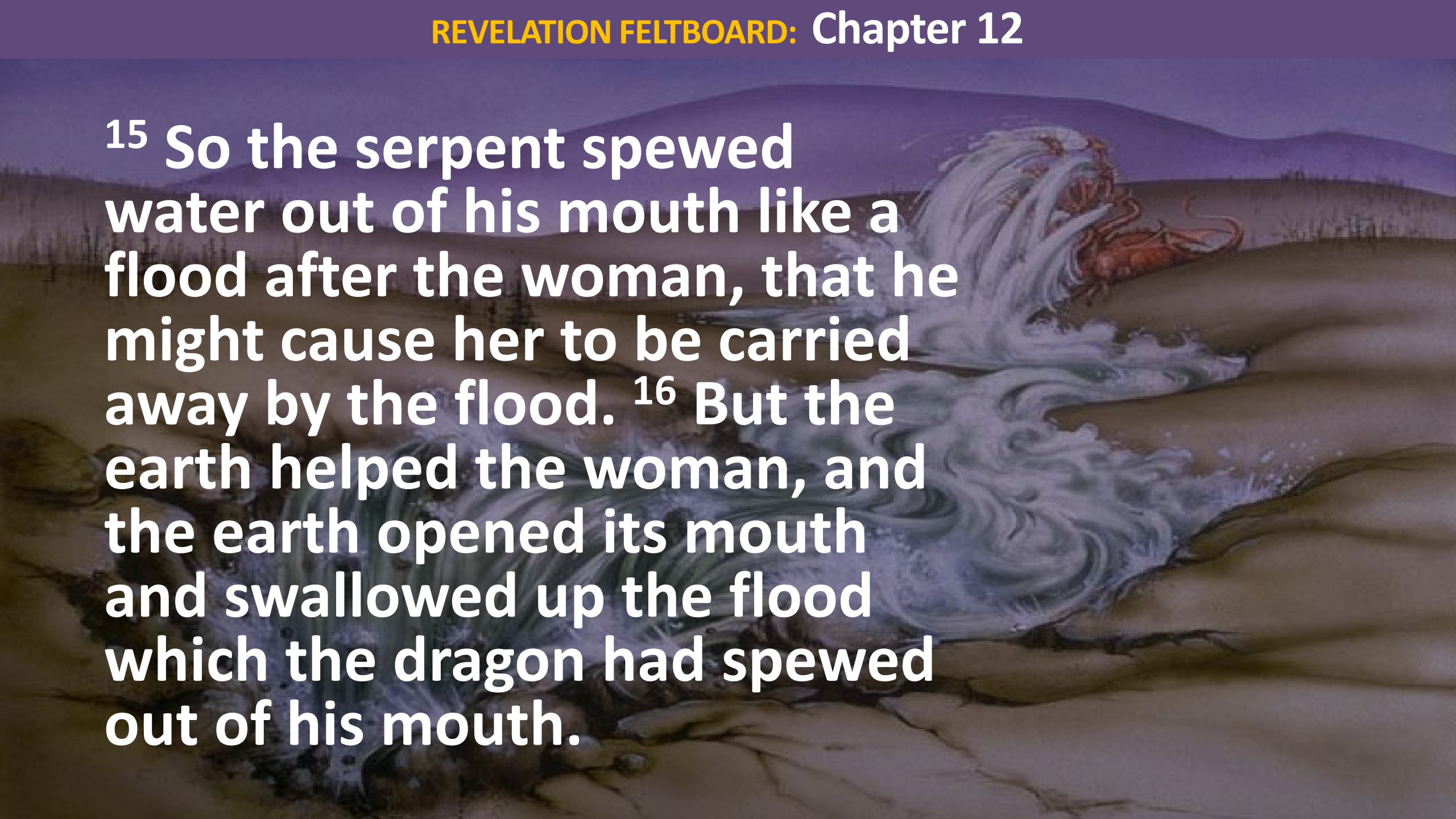
REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12



- ***“a time and times and half a time...”*** Once again given exact length of this period of time.
- From Daniel we know that a **“time”** = one year, **“times”** = two years, **“half a time”** = $\frac{1}{2}$ year. Total, $3\frac{1}{2}$ years (360 day years). *(also tie to Daniel’s prophecies)*
- No question how long. Literal period of time, not allegorical.

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

15 So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. **16** But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth.

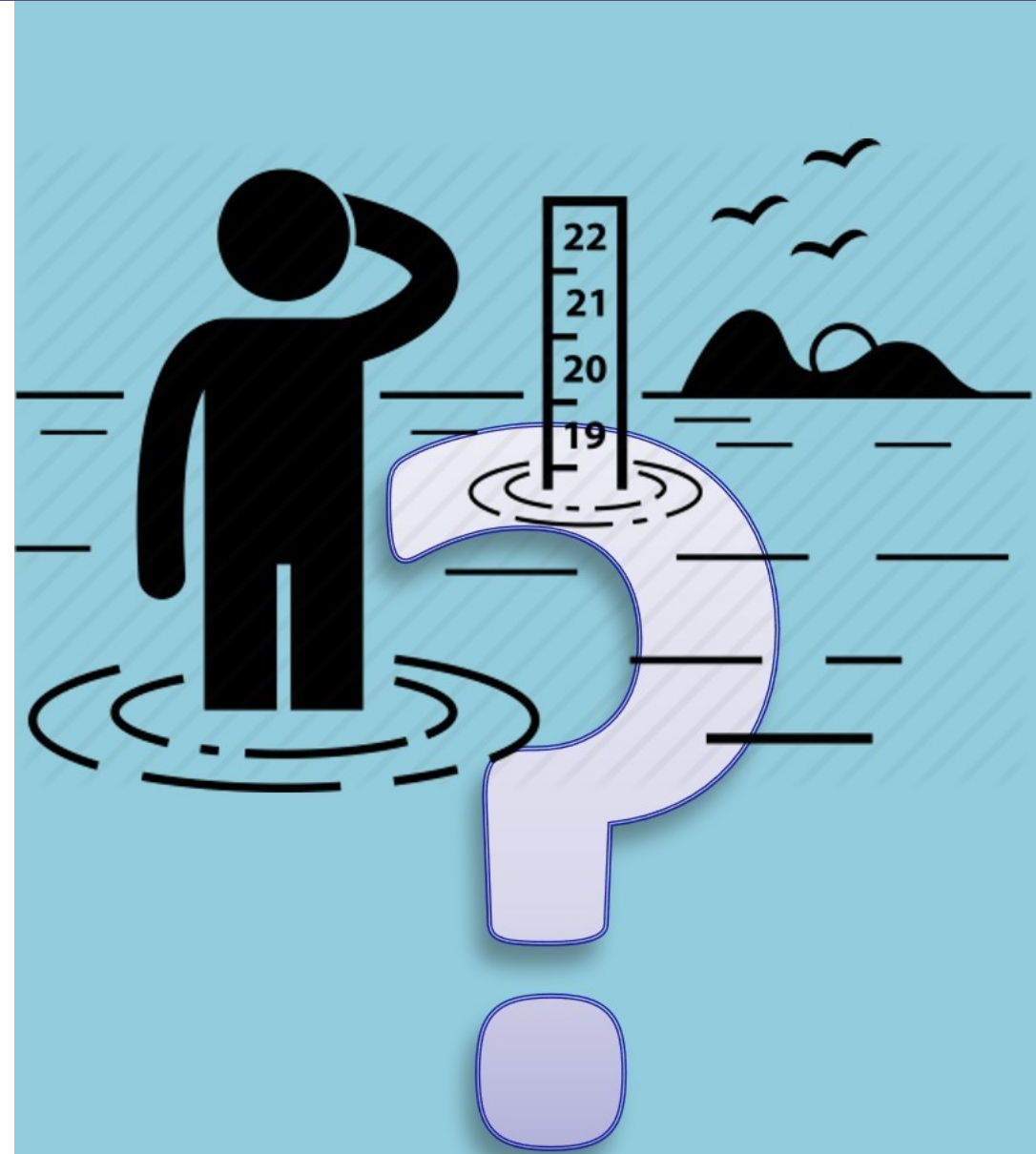
A dramatic illustration of a dragon breathing fire and water into a chasm. The dragon is depicted in a dark, rocky landscape, with a large, turbulent stream of water and fire flowing down a deep, jagged crack in the earth. The scene is set against a dark, stormy sky with distant mountains.

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

I couldn't resist this one...!



- Devil frustrated by divine protection of Israel. He can't get to her. In anger, he ***“spewed water out of his mouth like a flood.”***
- Literal? Actually a flood of water in the desert? Well, *could be*, but likely a euphemism, one used before in scripture, **for military force**, or a great force of opposition.



- Daniel 9:26 (*part of Daniel's 70 weeks*) speaks of destruction of Temple in 70 AD reads:

“And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined.”

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12



Temple not destroyed with literal flood, but by “flood” of soldiers and military might (*Roman armies*) against Israel at that time.

- Isaiah 59:19: *“So shall they fear The name of the LORD from the west, And His glory from the rising of the sun; When the enemy comes in like a flood, The Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him.”*
- Many other references to enemy forces like force of a flood.
- Perhaps relates to military response by final world leader to try to destroy Israel even under God’s protection.
- **This plan, whatever it is, is foiled.**

- ***“But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood...”*** No reason to believe this is NOT literal. Earth does nothing without command from her Creator.
- God has done this before. Numbers 16:31 (also Numbers 26, Deuteronomy 11, Psalm 106), God opened the earth to swallow up some Israelites who were disobedient.



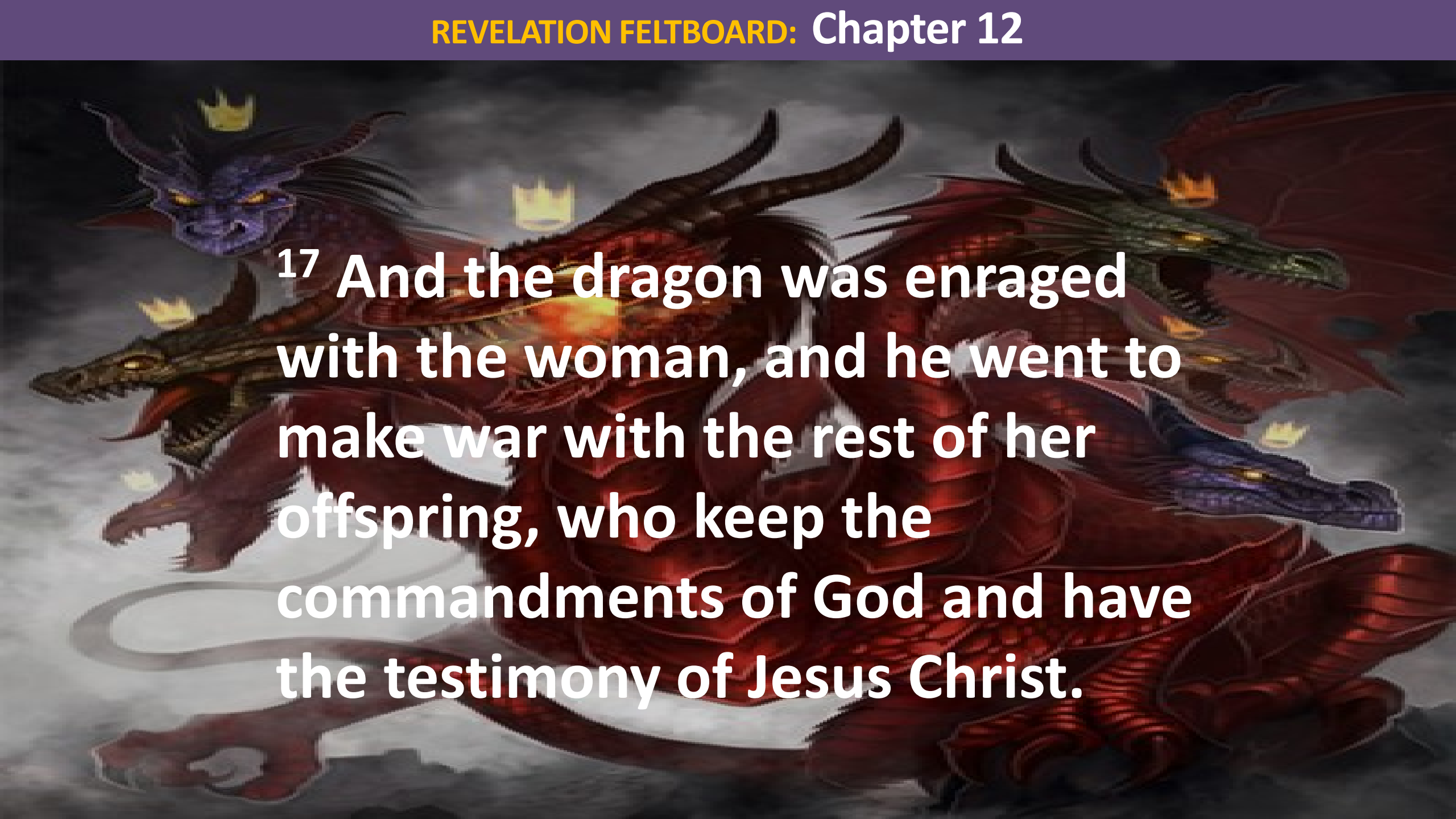
REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- Micah 7:15 says God will work just like He did in times of deliverance from Egypt, against enemies of Israel, *in end times.*

As in the days when you came out of the land of Egypt, I will show them wonders. The nations shall see and be ashamed of all their might; They shall put their hand over their mouth; Their ears shall be deaf. They shall lick the dust like a serpent; They shall crawl from their holes like snakes of the earth. They shall be afraid of the LORD [YAHWEH] our God, And shall fear because of You.

World truly in awe of wonders of Elohim at this time!

- Whether literal flood of water, or flood of military action at Petra (*or wherever she is in the wilderness*), God will open the earth and swallow this evil meant to destroy the *apple of His eye* (Israel).
- “Left Behind” series, LaHaye portrays as a massive military move, swallowed literally into the earth, perhaps by an earthquake. **It’s possible for our God!**
- Whatever happens, God delivers Israel from harm. And this **enrages** the enemy.



17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- Dragon throws **huge temper tantrum**. Enraged with Israel (woman), but cannot do anything to her.
- So rage turned toward next in line, *“her offspring”* (literally, *“remnant of her seed”*).
- Don't have to wonder who this is. Again, the Word provides answer right here. They are *“those who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”*
- These offspring = Believers, who come to Jesus during tribulation – tribulation saints. **Persecution heats up.**

- “...who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” These two identifiers may indicate these believers are more precisely Messianic.
- Could even be sealed 144,000 (*ch 7*). Reference to “the commandments” [the Law] and to the witness of Jesus [grace] (*old and new covenants*).
- Those *now* persecuted could be **Jewish believers**. However, could also be reference to any believer at this time, Jew or Gentile. May also include **entire covenant people of God**.

- Cannot underestimate how **horrible and gruesome** these times will be **for believers**, (Jew and Gentile), *but especially for Jews.*
- Zechariah makes this very clear: *“And it shall come to pass in all the land,” Says the LORD, “That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die, But one-third shall be left in it: I will bring the one-third through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will answer them. I will say, ‘This is My people’; And each one will say, ‘The LORD is my God.’”* (Zechariah 13:8-9)

REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- During time of “Jacob’s Trouble,” the Great Tribulation, **2/3 of the Jews will die**. Passage deals specifically with Israel.
- But 1/3 spared, also “**refined**” through persecution and testing, emerge as remnant of true believers, strengthened by God and standing firm for Him.
- Now ready for introduction to dragon’s “henchmen” – the beast from the sea, and the beast from the land in chapter 13. **An unholy trinity.**



Yevarekh-kha Adonai veyishmerekha

May the LORD bless you and keep you

***Ya'er Adonai panav elekha
vihunneka***

May the LORD make His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you

***Yissa Adonai panav elekha viyasem
lekha shalom.***

May the LORD lift up His countenance upon you
and give you peace.