

**Hell On Earth  
Satan And The Mother Of All Wars  
Satan's Rebellion Against God  
Revelation 12:13 – 17**

Scripture quotations are taken from the following translations:

**ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.**

**Scripture quotations taken from the New American Standard Bible® (NASB),  
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973,  
1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation  
Used by permission. [www.Lockman.org](http://www.Lockman.org)**

**Scripture quoted by permission. Quotations designated (NET) are from the NET Bible® copyright ©1996-2016 by Biblical Studies Press, L.L.C. <http://netbible.com> All rights reserved.**

**Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.**

**Scripture taken from the Holy Bible: International Standard Version® Release 2.0. (ISV) Copyright © 1996–2011 by the ISV Foundation. Used by permission of Davidson Press, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED INTERNATIONALLY.**

Satan and his fallen divine followers have been totally and completely cast out of heaven. All access has been irretrievably lost forever to all of them and all who dwell in heaven are rejoicing over that fact, including the church, which is in the presence of the King having been raptured back in Revelation 4:1

The enemy has been cast down to earth, and thus the warning that we read in Revelation 12:12 “For this reason, rejoice, **O heavens** and **you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea,** because the devil has come down to you, having **great wrath**, knowing that he has only a **short time.**” (NASB95)

This is the only place in Revelation that the Greek word for heaven is used in the plural. It is used over 50 times in this book, and always in the singular, except here. Why? What does this tell us?

A little about the Jewish concept of heavens.

2 Corinthians 12:1–5

“This boasting will do no good, but I must go on. I will reluctantly tell about visions and revelations from the Lord. I was caught up to the third heaven fourteen years ago. Whether I was in my body or out of my body, I don't know—only God knows. Yes, only God knows whether I was in my body or outside my body. But I do know that I was caught up to paradise and heard things so astounding that they cannot be expressed in words, things no human is allowed to tell. That experience is worth boasting about, but I'm not going to do it. I will boast only about my weaknesses.” (NLT)

If there is a third heaven, then there must be a 1st and 2nd heaven as well...right?

### **Three Heavens**

*“The Scriptures indicate that there are three heavens. There is no reference to the first or second heaven as being such, but there is a reference to the third heaven (2 Cor. 12:2), and there cannot be a third heaven without a first or second.*

*The first heaven is evidently the atmosphere that surrounds the earth, for reference is made to “the birds of the heaven” (Matt. 8:20; 13:32, R.V.) and to “the clouds of heaven” (Matt. 24:30; 26:64).*

*The second heaven is evidently the stellar spaces, for Scripture refers to “the stars of heaven” (Gen. 26:4; Rev. 6:13).*

*By the creation of a man and a woman with the instructions that they should multiply and replenish the earth, God has populated the earth, which is connected with the first heaven. By the creative act in which the angels were brought into being, God has populated the second heaven. It would seem that the stars of heaven are their abode. In leaving the third heaven, which was His abode, Christ became lower than the angels (Ps. 8:5) and, returning from this sphere into heaven, He passed through the sphere of principalities and powers (Eph. 1:21). Thus it would seem that the angels are occupying an abode between earth and the third heaven.” (Chafer 1993, 437-438)*

Matthew 24:30

“Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and all the tribes of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man arriving on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.” (NET)

Genesis 26:4

“I will multiply your descendants so they will be as numerous as the stars in the sky, and I will give them all these lands. All the nations of the earth will pronounce blessings on one another using the name of your descendants.” (NET)

“The location of the third heaven has never been revealed, but it is the home of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and has never been inhabited by any created being until the present age. When a believer dies, he goes at once to be with Christ (2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:23) and therefore takes up his abode in that sphere. Thus all believers will be brought into that place of glory at the coming of the Lord, and the third heaven is being populated at the present time. Salvation consists in fitting individuals for that heavenly sphere.” (Chafer 1993, 438)

By virtue of John using the plural here for heaven, and by the lack of it being in the plural anywhere else in the book of Revelation, we get a stronger feel for what has just occurred with the dragon and his followers as the residents of the 3rd and 2nd heavens are rejoicing in his being cast down. He is now limited to only one heaven, earth’s atmosphere.

The warning expressed in verse 12 is to the entire earth. Not just the earth dwellers as with the demon terrorization or demon armies, now it is to the earth and the sea, and as we saw, the air. This is intentionally broad as we will see that much of the destruction and persecution that takes place during the Great Tribulation is generated by Satan. There is still judgment coming from God but what we see from Genesis 3 on is that Satan hates his creator, he hates what God’s plan was for planet earth, Eden, and he hates all who are created in His image, and especially hates those who have opted to follow Jesus Christ or who are part of the people chosen specifically by God, Israel. Now that Satan and his followers are limited to earth, the gloves are off.

We have no idea what that means in terms of appearance, technology, visibility of the fallen, or anything else.

We do know “Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, **will arise**. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued.” (Daniel 12:1, NASB95)

Jesus warned of this period; He was quite explicit in His terms. There is no place anywhere in God’s realm, all that is left is that 3<sup>rd</sup> planet from the sun that he stole from Adam, earth, his realm.

John 14:30

“I will no longer talk much with you, for **the ruler of this world** is coming. He has no claim on me,” (ESV)

Ephesians 2:1–2

“And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the **prince of the power of the air**, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.” (NASB95)

That is all Satan has left at this point in the Tribulation, he knows it, and he has “great wrath.” In the Greek, the two words used by John are an interesting choice.

He uses the word μέγαν (megan, from megale) we use the word mega, which means “exceeding a standard involving related objects, large, great; being above average in quantity, great; being above standard in intensity, especially of sound: loud. Unusual, surprising.” (Arndt, et al. 2000, 623)

The other word John uses is θυμὸν (thumon), intense expression of the inner self, frequently expressed as strong desire, passion, passionate longing; a state of intense displeasure, anger, wrath, rage, indignation. (Arndt, et al. 2000, 461)

Satan is now seen for who he really is as he finds himself limited to earth only. This is significant, he thought he would be like God, “I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.” (Isaiah 14:14, NASB95), but he is limited. Meanwhile, God is not limited at all.

The word for “wrath” (Gr., not orgē, but thymos) means a strong passion or emotion but carries less weight than orgē. It is an emotional rather than a rational state of mind and stems from his own awareness that his days are numbered. The short time or season (Gr., kairos) refers to the time of the great tribulation after which Satan will be bound for the duration of the millennial kingdom. Though many of the judgments of God inflicted on the earth during the great tribulation originate in divine power rather than satanic influence, the afflictions of the inhabitants of the earth spring largely from the activities of Satan, resulting in the martyrdom of countless saints and in widespread human suffering of every kind. (Walvoord 2008, 194)

The role of “place” is very significant in this portion of the vision. John sees that there is no “place” for Satan and his rebels in God’s realm, but there is a “place” for God in Satan’s realm (“earth”) from which Satan cannot drive him out (12:14–16). John sees that the victory of God, revealed in the cross of Christ (“the blood of the Lamb,” 12:11), goes all the way back beyond Satan’s rebellion in heaven. The cross is the response of God’s very being to Satan’s attempt to bring God’s people under his control. The cross is not only a revelation of the heart of God, it is also a revelation of God’s response to our rebellion, our attempt to have God in our life on our terms or to reject him altogether. The cross reveals that God gives himself to the depths of our rebellion and meets us there to offer us forgiveness and new life. John saw that the victory of God over Satan’s rebellion, and ours, has its roots in the very nature of God’s being. It was there that “salvation and power and the Kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ [Messiah]” (12:10) came into being. (Mulholland Jr. 2011, 515)

Verse 12 warns all of earth that the one who has lost legal claim as a result of the opening off the sealed deed by the Lamb, is going to try and spoil the property he is going to be kicked out of.

He was unable to destroy the Christ on the earth. He was unsuccessful in his efforts to invade heaven to destroy the Christ. Now he turns to a third part of his campaign. He will exercise his wrath on the woman who produced the Christ. (Summers 1951, 173)

Matthew 24:15–22

“Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), then **those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains**. Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his

house. Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath. For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.” (NASB95)

Mark 13:14–20

“But when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION standing where it should not be (let the reader understand), then **those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains**. The one who is on the housetop must not go down, or go in to get anything out of his house; and the one who is in the field must not turn back to get his coat. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! But pray that it may not happen in the winter. For those days will be a time of tribulation such as has not occurred since the beginning of the creation which God created until now, and never will. **Unless the Lord had shortened those days, no life would have been saved**; but for the sake of the elect, whom He chose, He shortened the days.” (NASB95)

Luke 21:20–26

“But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near. **Then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those who are in the midst of the city must leave, and those who are in the country must not enter the city; because these are days of vengeance, so that all things which are written will be fulfilled**. Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days; for there will be great distress upon the land and wrath to this people; and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. **There will be signs in sun and moon and stars**, and on the earth dismay among nations, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, **men fainting from fear and the expectation of the things which are coming upon the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken**.” (NASB95)

Satan is already preparing earth dwellers for this moment.

The bizarre manipulations and ill effects described in the demonological literature are usually regarded as the result of a great unseen conflict between God and the Devil. In UFO lore, the same conflict has been observed, and the believers have explained it as a space war between the “Guardians” (good guys from outer space), who are protecting our planet, and some evil extraterrestrial race. The manifestations are the same, only the frame of reference is different. The Devil and his demons can, according to the literature, manifest themselves in almost any form and can physically imitate anything from angels to horrifying monsters with glowing eyes. Strange objects and entities materialize and dematerialize in these stories, just as the UFOs and their splendid occupants appear and disappear, walk through walls, and perform other supernatural feats. (Keel 2013, 233-234)

Operation Trojan Horse is merely the same old game in a new, updated guise. The Devil’s emissaries of yesteryear have been replaced by the mysterious “men in black.” The quasi-angels of Biblical times have become magnificent spacemen. The demons, devils, and false angels were recognized as liars and plunderers by early man. These same impostors now appear as long-haired Venusians. (Keel 2013, 234)

Why the heightened anger from Satan. We know he hates believers and he hates God’s chosen people, the Jews, but the warning from Jesus, repeated in all three synoptic gospels and all three alluding to horrible anger and wrath but coming from the beast. The key phrase is the last of verse 12...”having great wrath, knowing he has only a short time.”

Satan knows what the Bible says, and he thinks he can actually impact the outcome it states. He is willing to kill and take as many as he possibly can with him on his way down.

### Revelation 20:1–3

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time. (NASB95)

### Revelation 12:13

“And when the dragon saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male child.” (NASB95)

We get a bit more about the expulsion of the dragon. With this, we also learn just how misguided his and our rebellion is and just who God really is.

The dragon saw - εἶδεν (eiden) - to perceive by sight of the eye, see, perceive. To become aware of something through sensitivity, feel; to take special note of something, see, notice, note; to experience something. (Arndt, et al. 2000, 279-280)

Ok, got it, but the form of the verb, about what the dragon saw, provides additional information for us. It is interesting that the dragon “saw” or realized that he had been cast down to earth. This hints that the expulsion was the instantaneous act of a vastly superior force (God and Michael in 12:9). One minute Satan was in heaven fighting against Michael, the next minute he found himself on earth. (Osborne 2002, 481-482)

A reverse rapture.

As soon as the dragon realizes where he is, that he is no longer in the heavenlies, and that he no longer has access, he then turns his attention to the woman.

...he persecuted the woman...Again, the word choice made by John conveys additional information to us. John uses the word ἐδίωξεν(edioxen) which comes from the base word διώκω (dioko). This word means to “move rapidly and decisively toward an objective, hasten, run, press on, to harass someone, especially because of beliefs, persecute; to cause to run or set in motion, drive away, drive out; to follow in haste in order to find something, run after, pursue. (Arndt, et al. 2000, 254)

Now we totally see the connection between what John is writing about and what Jesus warned about.

They are the same event. Satan, who is now enraged due to being cast out and with a flourish to boot, is chasing after, pursuing persecuting and driving out the woman.

We will see that he does this by personally entering into and empowering the antichrist (Revelation 13:4) This is not the first time that the nation of Israel has had to flee and rely completely on the Lord for protection and sustenance. It is not their first time facing off with the dragon.

### Exodus 15:1–19

“Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD. They said, “I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously, the horse and its rider he has thrown into the sea. The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation. This is my God, and I will praise him, my father’s God, and I will exalt him. The LORD is a warrior, the LORD is his name. The chariots of Pharaoh and his army he has thrown into the sea, and his chosen officers were drowned in the Red Sea. The depths have covered them, they went down to the bottom like a stone. Your right hand, O LORD, was majestic in power, your right hand, O LORD, **shattered the enemy**. In the abundance of your majesty you have **overthrown those who rise up against you**. You sent forth your wrath; it consumed them like stubble. By the blast of your nostrils the waters were piled up, the flowing water stood upright like a heap, and the deep waters were solidified in the heart of the sea. The enemy said, ‘I will chase, I will overtake, I will

divide the spoil; my desire will be satisfied on them. I will draw my sword, my hand will destroy them.’ But you blew with your breath, and the sea covered them. They sank like lead in the mighty waters. Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you?—majestic in holiness, fearful in praises, working wonders? You stretched out your right hand, **the earth swallowed them**. By your loyal love you will lead the people whom you have redeemed; you will guide them by your strength to your holy dwelling place. The nations will hear and tremble; anguish will seize the inhabitants of Philistia. Then the chiefs of Edom will be terrified, trembling will seize the leaders of Moab, and the inhabitants of Canaan will shake. Fear and dread will fall on them; by the greatness of your arm they will be as still as stone until your people pass by, O LORD, until the people whom you have bought pass by. You will bring them in and plant them in the mountain of your inheritance, in the place you made for your residence, O Lord, the sanctuary, O LORD, that your hands have established. The LORD will reign forever and ever! For the horses of Pharaoh came with his chariots and his footmen into the sea, and the LORD brought back the waters of the sea on them, but the Israelites walked on dry land in the middle of the sea.” (NET)

Elsewhere in the old testament we find out that this was not only judgement on Pharaoh and his armies, but also on the true enemy, the power behind the throne.

Isaiah 51:9–11

“Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in days of old, the generations of long ago. Was it not you who cut **Rahab in pieces, who pierced the dragon**? Was it not you who dried up the sea, the waters of the great deep, who made the depths of the sea a way for the redeemed to pass over? And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.” (ESV)

Psalms 74:12–15

“But God has been my king from ancient times, performing acts of deliverance on the earth. **You destroyed the sea by your strength; you shattered the heads of the sea monster in the water. You crushed the heads of Leviathan; you fed him to the people who live along the coast.** You broke open the spring and the stream; you dried up perpetually flowing rivers.” (NET)

That event pointed towards the end of the age and that God would once again and with great finality deal with the dragon.

For 40 years God provided for His people in the wilderness before they crossed the Jordan River and entered the land.

Isaiah 27:1

“In that day the LORD **will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent**, With His fierce and great and mighty sword, Even Leviathan the twisted serpent; And **He will kill the dragon** who lives in the sea.” (NASB95)

Here in Revelation 12, that day is happening

Elijah also gives us an example of how God provides for His people in the wilderness

1 Kings 17:1–9

“Now Elijah the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word.” And the word of the LORD came to him: “Depart from here and turn eastward and hide yourself by the brook Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. You shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there.” So he went and did according to the word of the LORD. He went and lived by the brook Cherith that is east of the Jordan. And the ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook. And after a while the brook dried up, because there was no rain in the land. Then the word of the LORD came to him, “Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you.”” (ESV)

#### Revelation 12:14

“But the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.” (NASB95)

How does the woman escape? Recall Jesus said to head for the hills if you were in Judea. To head for the hills from Judea, you are fleeing to the east from the area generally around Jerusalem.

The imagery is incredible, for she is not just borne away by an eagle but is actually given the wings of an eagle to fly away herself. (Osborne 2002, 482)

What does John see? Israeli C-130's transporting the people, rotary wing aircraft dropping down and picking folks up? At the very least, this points to the simple fact that those who are fleeing Judea are being given rather supernatural assistance and speed to do so. The refugees who are fleeing and being protected by God will not only be given wings, but they will be supernaturally provisioned, just as in the past.

#### Exodus 19:4

“You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt and how I lifted you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself.” (NET)

#### Exodus 16:35

“Now the Israelites ate manna forty years, until they came to a land that was inhabited; they ate manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan.” (NET)

#### Exodus 17:6

“I will be standing before you there on the rock in Horeb, and you will strike the rock, and water will come out of it so that the people may drink.” And Moses did so in plain view of the elders of Israel.” (NET)

For a period of 3 ½ years God will take care of His people as they hide out from the antichrist. Literally from the presence of the serpent.

#### Daniel 9:27

“And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.” (NASB95)

Not everyone will make it out though, as we saw last week in Zechariah 13:8, full 2/3's of Israel will perish in this time.

#### Revelation 12:15

“And the serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away with the flood.” (NASB95)

Are we talking about an actual river of water? Possible but this might be more along the lines of military force using terms we have seen in the Bible before.

#### Jeremiah 46:7–10

“Who is this rising like the Nile, like rivers whose waters surge? Egypt is rising like the Nile, like rivers whose waters surge. He says, ‘I'll rise and cover the land. I'll destroy city and its inhabitants.’ Horses, get up! Chariots, drive furiously! Let the warriors go forward, Ethiopia and Put who carry shields, and the Lydians who handle and bend the bow. That day belongs to the LORD of the Heavenly Armies. It is a day of vengeance to take vengeance on his foes. The sword will devour and be satisfied, and will drink its fill

of their blood. For the Lord GOD of the Heavenly Armies will hold a sacrifice in the land of the north, by the Euphrates river.” (ISV)

Jeremiah 47:2–4

“This is what the LORD says: “Look, waters are rising from the north, and they’ll become an overflowing river. They’ll overflow the land and all that fills it— the city and those that live in it. People will cry out, and all those living in the land will wail. At the sound of the galloping hooves of his horses, at the rumbling of his chariots, the clatter of his wheels, fathers won’t turn back for their children because their hands are weak, for the day is coming to destroy all the Philistines, to cut off from Tyre and Sidon every helper who remains. For the LORD is destroying the Philistines, the remnant of the coastlands of Caphtor.” (ISV)

Daniel 11:10

“His sons will mobilize and assemble a multitude of great forces; and one of them will keep on coming and overflow and pass through, that he may again wage war up to his very fortress.” (NASB95)

Isaiah 43:1–2

“Now, this is what the LORD says, the one who created you, O Jacob, and formed you, O Israel: “Don’t be afraid, for I will protect you. I call you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I am with you; when you pass through the streams, they will not overwhelm you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not harm you.” (NET)

Psalms 124:1–6

“Had it not been the LORD who was on our side,” Let Israel now say, “Had it not been the LORD who was on our side When men rose up against us, Then they would have swallowed us alive, When their anger was kindled against us; Then the waters would have engulfed us, The stream would have swept over our soul; Then the raging waters would have swept over our soul. Blessed be the LORD, Who has not given us to be torn by their teeth.” (NASB95)

So probably military force and not a flood of water. There is a unique end for those troops who try to find the remnant hiding out in the desert.

Revelation 12:16

“But the earth helped the woman, and **the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river** which the dragon poured out of his mouth.” (NASB95)

This we have seen before as well.

Numbers 16:19–33

“When Korah assembled the whole community against them at the entrance of the tent of meeting, then the glory of the LORD appeared to the whole community. The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron: “Separate yourselves from among this community, that I may consume them in an instant.” Then they threw themselves down with their faces to the ground and said, “O God, the God of the spirits of all people, will you be angry with the whole community when only one man sins?” So the LORD spoke to Moses: “Tell the community: ‘Get away from around the homes of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.’” Then Moses got up and went to Dathan and Abiram; and the elders of Israel went after him. And he said to the community, “Move away from the tents of these wicked men, and do not touch anything they have, lest you be destroyed because of all their sins.” So they got away from the homes of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram on every side, and Dathan and Abiram came out and stationed themselves in the entrances of their tents with their wives, their children, and their toddlers. Then Moses said, “This is how you will know that the LORD has sent me to do all these works, for I have not done them of my own will. If these men die a natural death, or if they share the fate of all men, then the LORD has not sent me. But if the LORD does something entirely new, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them up along with all that they have, and they go down alive to the grave, then you will know that these men have despised the LORD!” **When he had finished speaking all these words, the ground that was under them split open, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them, along with their households, and all Korah’s**

**men, and all their goods. They and all that they had went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed over them.** So they perished from among the community.” (NET)

Kind of tough to maintain an attack when the earth just opens up and swallows the troops.

Recall the warning of verse 12 was to the earth and the sea. The warning was specific and yet general enough for us to now realize that God was placing all of creation on alert of the presence of the enemy and his anger. Satan wanted to be like the most high (Isaiah 14:14), but the creation of the most high will not even bend to his will and as a result swallows up his efforts to find and destroy the remnant who is in hiding.

In verse 12, Satan is full of wrath towards everything including all of the people of earth, those made in the image of God, but in verse 17, his wrath is now directed towards Israel and against all believers.

Revelation 12:17

“So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.” (NASB95)

The net result for the dragon, after defeat at the hands of God and His creation – anger

There are three defeats of the dragon in chapter 12—the snatching up of the Christ child (12:5), the expulsion from heaven (12:8), and the attempt to drown the woman (12:15–16). Now he attempts a fourth offensive against “her offspring.” (Osborne, Revelation: Verse by Verse, Osborne New Testament Commentaries 2016, 217)

Who is left for the dragon to pursue and persecute?

- The 144,000
- Jews worldwide
- All messianic Jews
- All Tribulation believers

Revelation 13:1

“And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names.” (NASB95)

Some translations provide for a verse 18, And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore. Others simply roll this into chapter 13 verse 1.

The dragon is depicted, in either case, as being on the seashore and furthering his efforts to destroy the woman. Chapter 13 starts off with the beast coming out of the sea. This is the antichrist.

## Works Cited

- Arndt, William, Frederick W. Danker, Walter Bauer, and F. Wilbur Gingrich. 2000. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*. 3rd Edition. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.
- Chafer, Lewis Sperry. 1993. *Systematic Theology*. Vol. 4. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications.
- Keel, John. 2013. *Operation Trojan Horse: The Classic Breakthrough Study of UFOs*. Kindle Edition. San Antonio, TX: Anomalist Books.

- Mulholland Jr., M. Robert. 2011. "Revelation." In *Cornerstone Biblical Commentary: James, 1-2 Peter, Jude, Revelation*, edited by Philip W. Comfort. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers.
- Osborne, Grant R. 2002. *Revelation, Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.
- . 2016. *Revelation: Verse by Verse, Osborne New Testament Commentaries*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.
- Summers, Ray. 1951. *Worthy is the Lamb: An Interpretation of Revelation*. Nashville, TN: Broadman Press.
- Walvoord, John F. 2008. *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*. Galaxie Software.