Wednesday Bible Study – January 7, 2015 "A Child to Rule All Nations" – (Revelation 12:1-5)

Read Revelation 12:1-9

Note the timeline diagram emphasizing four main events. About 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years into the Tribulation, we have the 2nd Fall of Satan, to be followed later by a third fall.

REVIEW FROM LAST SUNDAY:

FALLS OF SATAN

- FALL I Ezekiel 28:15; Isaiah 14:13
- FALL II Ezekiel 28:16; Isaiah 14:12
- FALL III Ezekiel 28:18; Isaiah 14:15-17

REVELATION 12:1

Study again the Falls of Satan from Ezekiel – 1st fall, Chapter 28:15; 2nd fall 28:16; 3rd fall, 28:18. Also Satan's falls from Isaiah:1st fall, Chapter 14:13; 2nd fall 14:12; 3rd fall, 14:15-17

Chapters 12 and 13 of Revelation present the "unholy trinity":

Chapter:	Member of the "Unholy Trinity":
12	Satan
13	the Beast out of the Sea – this is the dictator of the Revived Roman Empire
13	the beast out of the land is the dictator of Palestine in the Tribulation

In Chapter 12 we have the greatest period of Anti-Semitism the world has ever known. In <u>Chapter 12:9</u> we have the 2nd Fall of Satan and his angels (demons).

Revelation 12:1-5 - ANTI-SEMITISM

Verses 1, 2: FIRST SIGN – The Jews seek a sign – God gave just that: "There appeared a great wonder in heaven" (Aorist passive indicative of horao – $\delta\rho\acute{\alpha}\omega$) "a woman clothed (perfect tense) with the sun". The "woman" represents Israel; "clothed" (Perfect passive participle) represents the genes of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob – all believers. "sun" – Genesis 37:9, 10 – prophesy of Joseph; "and the moon" – Rachael and Lea, wives of Jacob.

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"under her feet, and upon her head a crown of 12 stars" (12 children of Jacob). In spite of everything, the Jews continue to exist.

Verse 2 – "And she (seed of woman, Israel – <u>Genesis 3:15</u>)" being with a child" (Jesus Christ the Messiah) "cried" (reveals the pain of constant attack upon the line of the Savior). "Travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered" (Virgin Birth). SATAN'S OBJECTIVE WAS TO HINDER HIS COMING – TO SEVER HIS LINE.

Verses 3, 4 - SECOND SIGN

"And there appeared another (allos – another of the same kind) sign in Heaven, and behold a great red dragon..." (drakon – $\delta\rho\alpha\kappa\omega\nu$, meaning to see clearly, to be smarter than others; super-smart – Satan is a genius). The Hebrew in Isaiah 51:9 means "the super brilliant one".

Red is the color of ruler-ship; kings wore purple, which was crimson. The Roman armies adopted red for their uniforms, the original "red-coats". The Assyrians' armies, not defeated in 200 years of battle, wore Red.

"...having (present active participle) seven heads and ten horns," (seven heads means the 7 empires which had removed the theocracy from Israel.)

What is a Theocracy? Answer: "A form of government in which God is recognized as the supreme civil ruler."

"Ten horns" represent the 10 nations comprising the Revived Roman Empire. <u>Daniel 2:41-45</u> speaks of these ten horns; also <u>Daniel 7:20-22</u>.

"Seven crowns upon his heads": Revelation 17:9-11 depicts that three of the ten nations will be conquered by the dictator; seven will maintain their crowns.

Verse 4 - "...third part of the stars of heaven"

Here we see intelligence in action: $^{1}/_{3}$ of the angelic creatures will go out with Satan at the time of his fall – perhaps billions – $\underline{\text{Job.38:7}}$ "and did cast them to the earth." (Fallen angels thrown out to the earth – where they do their work)

"And the dragon stood before the woman (Israel) which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child" (Jesus Christ)

Verse 5 – 1st & 2nd ADVENTS OF Jesus Christ presented.

"And she brought forth a child... [to] rule the nations with a rod of iron" – this refers to the 2nd Advent, Israel and specifically to Mary, who came from the family of David and from the tribe of Judah.

"Who was to rule" means He doesn't yet rule, but He will.

"Her child was caught up unto God" means the ascension of our Lord.

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"and to His throne": Jesus Christ is seated at Right Hand of Father.

Verse 6 begins with the Tribulation – skipping the Church Age. This verse takes us over to where Satan is cast down to the earth, in the middle of the Tribulation.

NOTE: verse 5 gave us the incarnation, ascension and the session of our Lord, sitting at the Father's right hand. NOW, in verse 6, we have Israel's plight in the MIDDLE OF THE TRIBULATION-

THE JEWS WHO FLEE ARE THOSE SAVED IN THE FIRST 3 ½ YEARS.

"...and the woman" (Israel in the Tribulation – born again Israel)

"...fled..." (They were warned in Matthew 24:13,22 to flee.)

"...into the desert, where she hath a place prepared from The God..." – This is Edom, Moab and Ammon (the mountains where they are to be protected). Daniel 11:41 – God is the ultimate Source of those mountains – the JEWS follow instructions to stay alive.

What will follow this? A period of great hostility to the Jews – anti-Semitism – the worst in history.

(END OF REVIEW)

ANTI-SEMITISM

- I. Definitions: American College Dictionary: "One hostile to the Jews"; Funk and Wagnall's Dictionary: "Opposition to, prejudice against, or intolerance of the Jewish People".
- II. The term "anti-Semitic" is used to means intolerance, hatred, prejudice, opposition to, and persecution of the Jews.
- III. God formed the Jewish race for the specific purpose of being the instrument for the dissemination of the Gospel. Therefore, anti-Semitism is Satanic.
- IV. God selected Abram, a believing Gentile of pure Chaldean extraction, and the ninth in the line of Shem, to be the father of the Jewish race.
- V. The term comes from the word "Semitic" which derives the name of one of Noah's sons, Shem. Although anti-Semitism is almost exclusively applied to those specifically hostile to Jews, the term "Semitic" applies to any of the people of the earth descended from Shem. The Jews are but one branch of the Semitic peoples.

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- VI. The Semitic peoples include the ancient Assyrians, Midianites, Chaldeans, Moabites, Edomites, and Ammonites. Modern day people with at least some Semitic ancestry include Arabs, Syrians, so-called Palestinians, Jordanians, Lebanese, and even some Ethiopians. The tragedy is that many of these people are, and have historically been, among the most actively poisonous, intensely noxious, anti-Semitic.
- VII. There are racial, religious, and regenerate Jews.
 - 1. The Jewish race includes anyone who has the genes of one of the 12 sons of Jacob. Abram became a Jew at age 100, and his name was changed to Abraham. Isaac (laughter) was born to Abraham and Sarah in their old age, fulfilling the promise of Genesis 12:1-3. Jacob was the son of Isaac, and the name of Jacob was changed to Israel.
 - 2. Religious Jews are those who follow a religious system which is actually a distortion of the Mosaic Law, and a counterfeit of Grace. Religion and Regeneration are antithetical. Religious people work to get God's best, whereas people oriented to Grace realize that salvation is "the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." (Ephesians 2:8, 9)
 - 3. Regenerate Jews are those who have personally accepted Jesus Christ as Savior.
- VIII. God promises blessing to the nations that bless the Jews and cursing to those who curse the Jews (Genesis 12:1-3a). History, as recorded both biblically and by secular historians, has confirmed the fulfillment of this promise of God. Part of the amazing blessings and prosperity of the United States throughout our history have been because of our historic benevolence toward the Jewish people. To the extent that our country becomes infected with the virus of anti-Semitism, we can expect God to turn our country's blessings to cursing.

This important information on anti-Semitism will be included in next Sunday's bulletin insert.