

### I. Third Angelic Explanation

- A. **REVIEW:** angelic explanations within the book of Revelation are similar to a parentheses or a “pause” on the storyline to explain or give more context. They are meant to give us a glimpse of the bigger picture of what is happening.
- B. This third angelic explanation covers Revelation 12–14, just after the 7th trumpet and before the next series of severe judgments (7 bowls).
- C. This angelic explanation answers why God’s wrath is so severe and requires replacing the governments on earth as revealed in the 7th Trumpet. Satan and the Antichrist will violently attack God’s people (Revelation 12–13) yet Jesus will help them (Revelation 14).
- D. Revelation 12 describes a battle between Satan and Michael the archangel in the spiritual realm (possibly Daniel 12:1). We don’t know for sure when this happens but considering the context I believe it would be in the timeframe of the end times.
- 1. REVIEW:** Daniel 9 & 12 gives us the timeframe of 7 years (70th week, a week of years not days). Revelation repeatedly refers to the latter half of this week: 3 ½ years, 42 months or 1,260 days.
- E. Revelation 13 describes a battle between the Antichrist and the Church in the earthly realm. Satan, the Antichrist and the False Prophet are revealed as the counterfeit trinity.
- F. Revelation 14 describes seven visions that give insight into the different ways the Lord will intervene to empower the Church to walk in victory even in great persecution.
- G. The seven main symbols in the book of Revelation are also in this section. Daniel used most of these symbols too (Daniel 7:3–7, 12, 17; 8:4). He described the Antichrist as the Beast with a vast empire (Daniel 7:7, 11, 19–23) supported by ten kings whom he described as the ten horns (Daniel 7:7, 20, 24; 2:41–42; Revelation 12:3; 13:1; 17:3, 7, 12, 16).
1. The Woman with the Male-child (Jesus) and her Offspring: the woman is Israel (Genesis 37:9–11, Joseph being the 12th). Satan wars with her offspring who is the Church (Romans 11; Ephesians 3:6).
  2. The dragon is Satan (Revelation 12:3, 4, 7, 9, 13, 16, 17; 13:2, 4; 16:13; 20:2).
  3. The first Beast is symbolic of the Antichrist (Revelation 13; 14:9–11; 17:3–17; 19:19–21; 20:4, 10).
  4. “Another” Beast is symbolic of the False Prophet who is only called “another Beast” one time. All other times he is called the False Prophet (Revelation 13:11–17; 16:13; 19:20; 20:10).
  5. The seven heads are the seven empires/governments that have persecuted Israel and resisted God throughout history (Daniel 2:41–42; 7:7, 20, 24; Revelation 12:3; 13:1; 17:3–16).
  6. The ten horns speak of a future 10-nation alliance who rule simultaneously over their own nation while coming into partnership with the Antichrist (Daniel 2:41–42; 7:7, 20, 24; 11:36–45; Revelation 12:3; 13:1; 17:3, 7, 12, 16).
  7. The Harlot Babylon is a city in the Middle East that will function

with worldwide spiritual and financial influence (Revelation 17–18; cf. Isaiah 13–14; 21; Jeremiah 50–51), and will seduce many to sin while also persecuting the Church.

### II. War Breaks Out in Heaven & Satan is Cast to Earth (Revelation 12)

*War broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon [Satan]; and the dragon and his angels fought, <sup>8</sup>but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. <sup>9</sup>The dragon...called the Devil...was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him... <sup>12</sup>“Woe to the inhabitants of the earth...for the devil has come down to you, having great wrath [fury], because he knows that he has a short time.” Revelation 12:7–9,12*

- A. Satan will give his throne to the Antichrist around this time and possibly fully possessing him. Could this above passage give some context to that?
- ...The dragon [Satan] gave him [Antichrist] his power, his throne and great authority. Revelation 13:2*
- B. Some teach that this war in heaven occurred at the cross and that Satan is now confined to the earth. However, we’re taught by the Apostle Paul to war against Satan’s host that operate in the heavenly places. I believe the casting of Satan to the earth is unique to this timeframe and thus still in the future.
- We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities...against the rulers of the darkness...against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Ephesians 6:12*

### III. Satan Persecutes God’s People (Revelation 12:13–17)

*Now when the dragon [Satan] saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman [Israel] who gave birth to the male Child [Jesus]. <sup>14</sup>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 [3½ years], from the presence of the serpent [Satan]. <sup>15</sup>So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth [persecution] like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood [destroyed]. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring [Church], who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. Revelation 12:13–17*

- A. When Satan is cast to the earth, his rage is going to be fixated on Israel and the Church. He wants to destroy the nation of Israel, of which the Messiah came, who also carries one of the prophetic centerpieces of God’s story (Matthew 23:39; Daniel 9) and also her offspring, the Church (Romans 11). He knows his time is short.
- “...for I say to you [Jerusalem, Israel], you shall see Me [Jesus] no more till you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’” Matthew 23:39*

