

Sunday, July 28, 2024

1 Timothy 4:13, “Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.”

Title: Two Wonders

Series: Revelation ... 18

Text: Revelation 12

Purpose: I want to MOTIVATE my congregation to hold to the Blood of Christ Jesus and to give testimony to His conquering power. Revelation 12:11, *“And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.”*

Introduction:

~ Chapter 12 of Revelation does not advance the timeline of events; it does answer some of the Who, What, Where, When, Why and How questions believers may have.

~ Ephesians 1:4, *“even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love”*,

~ Revelation 13:8, *“and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain.”*

1. The First Wonder – The Woman:

~ Revelation 12:2, *“She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth.”*

See Genesis 3:15 – 16

~ The woman gives birth to a Son: Revelation 12:5, and 19:11 - 16

~ Israel is often referred to as a woman: Isaiah 54:5, 66:7; Jeremiah 3:6 – 10; Micah 4:10, 5:2 – 3

The apostate world system is compared to a harlot: Revelation 17:1 – 2

The Church is to be a pure bride: Revelation 19:6 – 8

2. The Second Wonder – The Dragon:

~ Revelation 12:7 – 8, *“Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, (8) but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven.”*

See Revelation 12:3 - 4

~ Isaiah 14:12 - 15

~ This dragon is called:

~ The devil (accuser, slanderer)– Matthew 4:1

~ Satan (adversary) – Matthew 4:10

~ Beelzebul, ruler of demons – Matthew 12:24

~ The evil one – Matthew 13:19

~ The enemy – Matthew 13:39

~ Murderer – John 8:44

~ Lair – John 8:44

~ Ruler of this world – John 12:31; 14:30

~ God of this world – 2 Corinthians 4:4

~ Prince of the power of the air – Ephesians 2:2

~ Ruler of darkness – Ephesians 6:12

~ The tempter – 1 Thessalonians 3:5

~ The one with power of death – Hebrews 2:14

~ A roaring lion – 1 Peter 5:8

~ The adversary – 1 Peter 5:8

~ Serpent of old – Revelation 20:2

~ The deceiver – Revelation 20:10

~ Satan has warred against God and His anointed throughout human history:

In the Garden in Genesis; in Egypt in Exodus; Haman in the book of Esther; when the royal line is murdered and only the infant Joash remained in 2 Kings 11; with Nebuchadnezzar in Jeremiah 51; in the New Testament Herod seeks to kill the baby boys, Matthew 2:16 – 18;

Judas who betrayed Christ Jesus.

In modern days Hitler, Stalin and now Hamas.

Conclusion:

Believers are involved in a current conflict: Ephesians 6:12, *“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.”*

PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD!

Revelation 12:11, *“And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.”*