

66-Revelation – 13-Transcript

welcome welcome once again to Wednesday night Bible study and just give me one moment while I sort out the audio thing there we go so welcome to Wednesday night Bible study were on Revelation chapter 12 this evening and this is where it starts to get wild I think in the next few chapters there's all kinds of opportunities for us to conjure up very wild ideas that really have nothing to do with what the text is really saying and in this chapter chapter 12 there are two concepts that are floating around out there in the Christian world and even in the Church of God one of them that we just need to knock on the head because the text is not saying what is being taught so I'll open with the word of prayer and then we'll get into Revelation chapter 12 our Heavenly Father we pause before you we just give you praise father and we just glorify your name we thank you so much for sending Jesus Christ and for opening our hearts and our minds to him we glorify Him father and we know that as we glorify Him we bring honor and praise to you we pray that you'll be with us this evening that you'll bless our study that you'll increase our understanding and that you'll deepen our commitment to walk with Christ we thank you Father we ask this blessing now in Jesus most Holy Name Amen so we're on to Revelation chapter 12 and remember we are in this seventh trumpet which is the third wall and this chapter opens up very interestingly with a with a vision that John had that has just been terribly misinterpreted so we'll go to the scripture now and in Revelation chapter 12 and verse 1 John has this vision he

says there appeared a great wonder in heaven a woman clothed with the Sun and the moon under her feet and upon her head a crown of twelve stars and she being with child cried travailing in birth and pained to be delivered last year it was all about these two verses in Revelation chapters 12 verses 1 & 2 the Christian world just lit up last year and I am talking about some of you may be familiar with this I'm talking about September 23rd on September 23rd the the constellations lined up in such a way that it seemed to reflect exactly what is written here in Revelation chapter 12 verses 1 & 2 you'll see here in the the you'll see a woman in the constellation and you'll see the Sun she's clothed with the Sun and you'll see that the moon is at her feet you'll also notice that there are these stars above her there are 9 stars that were perfectly aligned above her and then 3 planets as well to make 12 so she has 12 stars in her crown she has the Sun that is clothing her the moon is at her feet 9 months earlier the planet Jupiter which is the King planet entered into her womb which created the conception and so everybody was saying September 23rd this is the rapture this this is when everything lines up and the church is going to be raptured and of course you know we sat back and just said this is just not true and long before September 23rd we were saying it's just it's just not going to happen because this is a misinterpretation of the text so what is the text really saying let's go back to the text here and what we see here will actually go back to chapter 11 and before I do that I just want to go to actually chapter 1

verse 1 this is what's going to keep us from getting into trouble if we remember the purpose of the apocalypse this is the apocalypse the revealing of Jesus Christ which God gave to him and why did God give Christ this revealing to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass so this is for us and it's for us to understand what's going to happen in the future and that all of this is going to happen quickly and he sent and signified it so I have here a symbol so he codified it he put it in symbols by his angel unto his servant John so John received this revelation this apocalypse he received it in symbols so if you see this sign is this sign the thing or is this sign pointing to the thing and telling you that the thing is up ahead and and this is where this is what we have to do to ensure that we don't get mixed up that unlike Genesis where we take Genesis literally you know Adam was a real man Eve was a real woman they were not symbols revelation is actually the opposite where in Genesis we take everything literally unless it's obvious we're dealing with a symbol in Revelation basically we take everything symbolically unless it's obvious that it should be taken literal literally so the reason that people got mixed up here is they are treating what is symbolic they're treating it as if it's literal so we have to understand then that the message is codified and just as when Christ was speaking here on earth when he came as a human being and he says to his disciples it's been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God it's not for everybody but to others he spoke in parables why that seeing they might not see and hearing they might not

understand so we have many people who
you know the fool says in his heart
there is no God and because he says
there is no God when he comes to
scriptures like revelation it's all
hogwash to him you know the fool looks
at revelation and just thinks yeah I
read the Bible it doesn't
make any sense well that's the obvious
obstacle for those who don't believe in
God or don't take God seriously for
those of us who has opened our hearts to
Christ and we know this is the Word of
God you know what we labor we wrestle
with this we struggle with it we go over
it over and over year after year what is
God saying and because we struggle like
this God opens up our understanding
so God deliberately puts hurdles in
front of the wicked so that they don't
understand
but then for those who's it's intended
for he puts in us the desire to labor to
understand and it's with that labor for
understanding that he opens up to hit up
to us his word so a revelation is not
for everybody I was talking to my wife
the other day about these kind of crazy
ideas that are out there we're gonna
talk about the place of safety in a
moment which is also another crazy idea
that's taken from the book of Revelation
and she said to me you know it's very
interesting she said they're using
exactly what they're using revelation as
an evangelical tool they're using it to
recruit or as a way to keep people in
their church so you know if I have the
ticket to the place of safety I have
your ticket to the place of safety and
if you leave my church you're not going
to the place of safety and so sort of
this leash that I'm able to put on the
members of the church to keep them in my

church and keep the tithes coming to me well the scripture isn't saying this and so if people realize they're free then you know what Christ is their Lord not me and Christ will lead them he's that he's the over shepherd and so people are using and there's someone in particular that I'm maybe two of them that I'm aware of that are horrible they are using that they're abusing God's people and able to keep people God's people in check by by this fear that I might not get into the place of safety and so we don't use the book of Revelation as it as an evangelical tool in an evangelical campaign we may refer to revelation but this is for believers and it's not about recruiting it's not a book for a recruitment it's a book for endurance this is a book to us for us to take it seriously to realize what we may have to go through but that we have to endure to the end so we want to take a very responsible reading of the text so that we can understand really what it's saying and we're not gonna have these kind of wild ideas and put things in the text that are not there we want to take a very responsible approach to the text and so we come back to this Google will be will pick it up to give it context where we were last week in revelation 11 and he says the second woe is past so we're now moving into the seventh trumpet which is the third wall so the second woe is past and behold the third wall comes quickly and the seventh angel sounded so the seventh angel is the third wall the seventh trumpet is the third wall the seventh angel sounded and there were great voices in heaven saying the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ and he shall reign forever and

ever so this is it when the seventh trumpet blows it's all over so whatever happens now in the seventh trumpet it's signaling this is when God moves and ushers in his kingdom and notice this verse 18 and the nations were angry and your wrath has come and the time of the Dead that they should be judged and that you should give reward unto your servants the prophets and to the Saints and then that fear your name small and great and you should destroy them which destroy the earth so this third wall is a time when the nations are angry we have to keep that thought in mind that something happens that causes the nations to be angry and we need to understand this why are the nations so angry and why are they angry with why is you know if you declare Christ why does everybody turn on you why are Christians becoming the most persecuted group in the world what's going on so he goes on to say here and at this time what happened and the temple of God was opened in heaven so he could now see into the temple and there was seen in his temple again this is important this is the last verse we read before we go into chapter 12 and if we take out the chapter breaks which are artificial this flows right into the next verse so that verse 4 we see that the woman clothed with this with 12 stars and the moon at her close at the Sun and 12 stars in her crown and the the moon at her feet all of that is in the context of this that the temple of God was opened in heaven and there was seen in his temple the Ark of his Testament or we could say the Ark of the Covenant so in heaven is the Ark of the Covenant in the temple in heaven and there were lightnings and voices and thunderings

and an earthquake and great hail and so
this this Ark of the Covenant is in
pride of place in heaven that God has
made a covenant with his people and he
is faithful to that covenant and now
he's active and and as he introduces
chapter 12 verse 1 about this woman it's
got something to do with this covenant
but before we go there let's go to
Isaiah 49 where God is faithful Israel
is not and because Israel is not
faithful they don't think God is
faithful and here in Isaiah 49 verse 14
but Zion said the Lord has forsaken me
and my Lord has forgotten me yes indeed
Zion has been punished according to the
law according to the agreement according
to the covenant and because of that
punishment they believe that God has
forgotten them how does God answer in
verse 15

can a woman forget her suckling child
that she should not have compassion on
the son of her womb yeah they may they
may forget yet will I not forget you and
this is why the Ark of the Covenant is
in pride of place in heaven and when the
temple is opened what strikes John right
away is the pride of place that is given
to the Ark of the Covenant and so God
has not forgotten Israel a woman may
forget her suckling child and it may not
have compassion on the son of her womb
that could happen but that God would
forget Israel whom he's covenant and
with that can never happen it's
impossible he says he goes on behold I
have graven you who is I on I have grave
in Israel upon the palms of my hands so
that sacrifice when he came to earth it
wasn't for anybody it was specifically
for Zion and and God will never forget
the Covenant that he has with Zion
behold I have graven you upon the palms

of my hands your walls are continually before me so it might appear that God has forgotten Israel but he hasn't their walls are continually before him so in the context now of this Ark of the Covenant we continue reading the script in chapter 12 so there should be no chapter break the the tempt of seventh trumpet is blown the the heavens are opened you can see the temple and you can see that the Covenant the Ark of the Covenant and there appeared a great wonder that this is a great wonder that appeared in heaven there appeared a great wonder and what was this greatness this mega wonder in heaven it was a woman clothed with the Sun and the moon under her feet and upon her head twelve stars this is symbolic language so we're not looking for 12 actual stars we're not looking for an actual woman in the sky with the Sun and clothed by the Sun and the moon at her feet which got the whole Christian world going wild last year these are symbols and it's harkening back to the symbolism in Genesis 37 again we take Genesis literally unless it's obvious that it's speaking symbolically and so here Joseph had a dream and what he dreamed represented they were symbols they were representing something and John is harkening back to this scripture and he dreamed yet another dream and told it to his brothers and he said Behold I've dreamed a dream more so you have another dream and behold the Sun and the moon and the Eleven stars made obeisance to me so he's one tribe and the other 11 tribes made a busins to him and the Sun and the moon representing his parents so this is really Israel now and so and then so the woman that that symbolism represents Israel and she she is Israel

being with child cried travailing in
birth and pained to be delivered again
this is language that John is borrowing
from the Old Testament Scriptures in
Isaiah he says like as a woman with
child that draws near as Isaiah 26 verse
17 like as a woman with child that draws
near the time of her delivery is in pain
and cries out in her pangs so have we
Israel been in the sight of in your
sight O Lord

so it's understood from the Old
Testament Scriptures that Israel is the
woman and she's in travail to give
birth to the child in chapter 66 before
she travailed she brought forth before
her pain came she was delivered of a
man-child

so again it's understood that Israel is
the woman that gives birth to the child
in Micah be in pain and labor to bring
forth o daughter of Zion like a woman in
travail for now shall you go forth out
of the city and you shall dwell in the
field and you shall go even to Babylon
there you shall be delivered there the
Lord shall redeem you from the hand of
your enemy so again understood that the
woman is Israel and weakened in Micah
again now also many nations are gathered
against you that say let her be defiled
and let our I look upon Zion so she's
the woman that is persecuted by the
nation's continuing in Revelation 12 and
there appeared another wonder in heaven
behold a great red dragon and this this
language is kind is quite interesting ii
wonder is a great red dragon
so the first wonder was a woman but it
was a great wonder the second is just a
wonder but it's a great dragon but the
first is a great wonder so this woman is
is sort of that the thing that really
caught John's attention it was a great

wonder and then there was another wonder
what was the other wonder it was a great
red dragon so this great red dragon
having seven heads and ten horns and
seven Crown's upon his heads so this
dragon is is a ruler it's got seven
heads and every head has a crown and
it's a it's a great dragon and his tail
drew the third part of the stars of
heaven again this is obviously symbolic
language we're not it's not saying that
literally a third of the stars of heaven
were drawn he's using symbolic language
so he says it drew a third part of the
star
of heaven and did cast them to the earth
so the Stars didn't come to the earth
but these are angels that he was
successful in capturing a third part of
the angels to follow him and they've
come to earth and the dragon this dragon
stood before the woman which was ready
to be delivered for to devour her child
as soon as it was born and again we have
to ask the question who is this child
who is this woman
now those who are proposing or are
trying to propagate this notion that
they have a special ticket to the place
of safety they want to argue that the
woman is the church because when the
woman is persecuted by the dragon the
woman is taken to a place of safety but
the woman gave birth to the child that
child is Jesus Christ and the church did
not exist before Jesus Christ's
incarnation in a sense Christ gave birth
to the church the church didn't give
birth to Christ because he came and was
successful that's how the church was
launched on Pentecost so the church
comes after Christ but Christ comes
after the woman the woman has to precede
Christ in order to give birth to him

so very clearly if we're following the Scriptures responsibly the woman is Israel and Israel gives birth to Christ Israel gives birth to the church and so it says that the dragon now stands John sees the Dragons standing before the woman and she's ready to be delivered and when she's delivered what does he want to do he wants to devour the child as soon as it was born and we actually saw this fulfilled when we look at Matthew chapter 2 when we see here Satan working through Herod then Herod when he saw that he was mocked of the wise man so it's all about Herod Herod is all about himself not realizing he's being a tool of the devil this is really about the devil but he's being a tool of the devil then Herod when he saw that he was mocked of the wise man was exceedingly angry and so we got we have to watch anger anger is a tool of the devil and when we are exceedingly angry the scripture says be angry but sin not and don't let the Sun go down on your wrath why because Satan uses wrath and so here we saw the nations were angry here we see Herod is angry we have to watch this he was exceedingly angry and he sent forth and he slew all the children that were in Bethlehem imagine that and in all the coasts they're often delay this child from two years old and under according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men then was fulfilled that which was spoken of Jeremiah the Prophet saying in Ramah was there a voice heard lamentation and weeping and great mourning Rachel weeping for her children and would not be comforted because they are not again Israel is the woman weeping for her children continuing revelation 12 and

she that's Israel brought forth a man
child that's Christ who was to rule all
nations with a rod of iron and her child
was caught up unto God and to his throne
so we know that's exactly what happened
Israel specifically Judah gave birth to
this child but a child
conquered the devil and then ascended to
heaven to God's throne and now he sits
on God's throne and again in Isaiah 9
for unto us us is not mankind it's not
unto mankind in general a child is born
this is Israel

Israel is speaking unto us the chosen
covenant people of God a child is born
the woman gives birth to the child and
he's to rule all nations until us a son
is given and the government shall be
upon his shoulder he is to rule all
nations and his name shall be called
wonderful counsellor the mighty God the
everlasting father the Prince of Peace
so this woman this woman that gave birth
to a child can't just make things up
it's a symbol of Israel this woman that
gave birth to the child that's gonna
rule all nations this is the woman that
fled into the wilderness where she has a
place prepared of God that they should
feed her there a thousand two hundred
and threescore days three and a half
years so for three and a half years the
woman is is looked after in this
wilderness which again is all symbolic
language now we have people who take all
of this literally and they will try to
propose that they have the ticket to the
place of safety and the place of safety
is a place called Petra because there
are these natural caves that are in this
rocks rock city it's all naturally
formed and there's different dugouts
that have been created there as well
that people can live there and so this

is the place of safety and when the tribulation comes then the church if you're in my church will give you the signal and you buy your airplane ticket and we all fly to Petra and then we just follow the leader into this place of safety which is really quite ludicrous and when you think of you know really just by being here where were safe when today we have nuclear technology and and Satan hates this this woman and he wants to destroy us that you know with chemical warfare and nuclear warfare can we be safe just physically being in this place just it just doesn't make sense but really why it doesn't make sense is the woman is not the church the church did not give birth to Christ Israel gave birth to Christ and John is borrowing here language from the Old Testament it's symbolic language so here they were departed from resident and were come to the desert of Sinai and had pitched in the wilderness and their Israel camped before the Mount so Israel was taken into the wilderness not on eagle's wings but that that's the symbolism here in a Hosea therefore behold I will allure her who's heard the woman who's the woman Israel I will alert Israel and bring her into the wilderness this is what God says he will do to Israel I will bring Israel into the wilderness and speak comfortably unto her so God has a covenant with Israel and Satan wants to destroy Israel so that he can destroy make God a liar but God is going to do what he said he's going to do and all those promises that are outstanding to Judah and all those promises that are outstanding to Israel God is going to fulfill every single one of them so Israel cannot be destroyed

Judah cannot be destroyed because if Israel and Judah are destroyed God is a liar so God is going to save these people and he's going to take them to the wilderness to ensure that they are not destroyed I will bring her into the wilderness and speak comfortably unto her this is prophecy continuing now in revelation 12 and verse 7 there was war in heaven and Michael and his angels fought against the dragon so there's this great war in heaven now Michael stands up and he fights against the Dragon and the dragon fought and his angels he's got a third of the stars that's a third of the Angels are in his army and they're fighting now against Michael and his angels and prevailed not Michael McDowell is powerful this is a powerful Archangel and he and his angels overcome the dragon and his angels so that the dragon prevailed not not only did he not prevail neither was their place found any more in heaven meaning there's place until this happens even though Satan's primary focuses on earth until this war takes place he still has access to heaven and we see that in Joel now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord and Satan came also among them so Satan's right there in heaven even those focused on the earth he has access to heaven and the Lord said unto Satan where did you come from and Satan as the Lord said from going to and fro in the earth that's his focus why cuz the image of God is on earth that the future kings the future priests are an earth man made in the image of God is on earth that's why Satan's focus is Earth and so easy walking up and down in the earth and walking up and down in it and here

we see again it's not new that Michael battles with Satan in Daniel the Prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me that is Satan for twenty-one days but lo Michael one of the chief Prince's came to help me and I remained there with the king of Persia so this mecca L is a very powerful very very powerful angel and in Daniels prophecy is understood that at the end time which we are just reading about now in Chapter 12 at that time shall Michael stand up the Great Prince which stands for the children of your people that's Israel so Michael is very much focused on Israel and there shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time and at that time your people shall be delivered every one that shall be found written in the book continuing in Chapter 12 so this focus this is a great wonder that John saw in heaven what was it Israel he saw the Ark of the Covenant and then Israel God has not forgotten his covenant with Israel and Satan is going to do everything he can to destroy this covenant but he cannot why because Michaels going to overpower him and then God's going to ensure that the the Covenant people are preserved even though Satan will do much destruction but there will be a covenant remnant and the Great Dragon was cast out that old serpent that just so Jonathan wants us to be clear who he's talking about he's talking about the ancient serpent called the devil and Satan which deceives the whole world now we often will quote this phrase just to show that Satan is a deceiver that the world is deceived but in context what

it's really talking about is this battle where Satan is trying to overcome God's throne and he's been defeated and he is very angry and he now because he could not overcome the throne now he wants to destroy the people of the throne and so in this context he's deceiving the whole world to turn the whole world against the covenant people that's there that's why the nations are angry and so you know by reading revelation really the purpose of this book is to encourage us to give us conviction no matter what no matter what we're going to be faithful to the end no matter what and then what God tells us is the walked you know we say no matter what Christ says here's here's what here's what's what and so weak see worst-case scenario and we see it and we say yeah no matter what we will do what we have to do because it's all very short when all of this happens gonna it's all gonna be over really in three-and-a-half years that's a really short period of time and so no matter what so this is a book about endurance but what we come to understand in studying the text is you know what they don't hate me they're acting like they hate me they're angry with me and they're angry with you and they're acting like they hate you before we begin to realize we shouldn't take this personally this is the devil as we understand what's really happening as we sort of bomb it's like a zoom lens that then starts to pan out and at first all we could see as ourselves but then as it starts to pan out we get to see oh wow oh wow here's what's really going on and what's really going on is Satan hates Jesus Christ he hates Christ with a passion his whole hatred is spewing out to Christ and

since he can't access Christ he goes
after us he goes after the covenant
people and so that's what this is about
and so the reason the nations are angry
is because he deceives the whole world
and he just the same way he deceived
Herod and Herod was angry and did his
bidding when the world is angry they
become puppets of the devil that's why
anger is so dangerous we can become
puppets of the devil
so Satan which deceives the whole world
he was cast out into the earth and his
angels were cast out with him so now
they no longer have access
to heaven now his entire focus is the
earth
he knows he's lost and now it's about as
doing as much damage as he possibly can
taking out as many people as he as he
can with him and and this now when when
John refers to him is the ancient
serpent as that old serpent he's
pointing all the way back to the
beginning he's going all the way back to
Genesis that now the serpent that was in
the Garden of Eden this is the same
serpent that ancient serpent it's going
all the way back to the beginning now
and again we read in job that there was
a day when the sons of God presented
themselves before the Lord and Satan
came as well now that's over Satan no
longer has this access and then he says
verse 10 and I heard a loud voice in
heaven saying now is come salvation so a
very loud voice there's excitement in
heaven now is come salvation and
strength and the Kingdom of our God and
the power of his Christ for the accuser
of our brethren is cast down so again
that something that we have to really be
clear about when we're busy accusing the
Brethren this is not the Spirit of God

it's actually the spirit of the devil so
the devil is the accuser so he says the
the accuser of our brethren is cast down
which accused them before our God day
and night that's so constantly going
back and forth to heaven and just
accusing them accusing them that's
always accusing us and we get a glimpse
of that again in job when Satan answered
the Lord and said does God fear does job
fear God for nothing
haven't you put a hedge around him and
about his house and about all that he
has on every side and you blessed the
work of his hands and his substance is
increased in the land but put forth your
hand now and touch all that he has and
he will curse you to your face he's no
better than me you're just putting a
hedge around him
try taking all that away and you'll see
the real job and you can imagine what
he's saying about all of us so he's that
this is what he does night and day night
and day here he says you know skin for
skin all that a man has he will give for
his life and that's what that's what
he's banking on he's hoping that we are
like this that we are like him that were
just so self-absorbed that we'll give
anything for our life and that's what
that's how he'll get brother to betray
brother because we care so much about
our life we will give anything even our
brothers will even betray the body of
Christ in order to stay alive so but you
put forth your hand now and touch his
bone in his flesh and he'll curse you to
your face so we know what Satan is like
and we know that these are the kinds of
accusations that he levels against God's
people so no doubt as he accused Joe
he's accusing us that he's saying to God
look all that a man has he'll give for

his life you take that hedge away from them and they will curse you to your face and this is what's so dangerous and so insidious about this place of safety doctrine but the whole book of Revelation the whole purpose of the book of Revelation is to encourage us and it's to say skin for skin don't worry about it because no matter what happens our citizenship is in heaven it's with Christ and we have to be overcomers and so no matter what is put in our path as long as we remain true and faithful and we overcome whatever is put in our path we will sit on Christ Rome but now along come these shysters and they say hey you stay in my church and I'll give you a ticket to the place of safety and and so now what we become is concerned about our skin and it's now all about my life and I become nervous about suffering because I feel I'm assured that I'm gonna go the place of safety this is like Satan getting in the middle here we have to be people who are like you know what skin for skin my skin doesn't matter what matters is the glory of Jesus Christ and as long as I can have the glory of Christ on my lips I really don't care because this is this world is not about me it's about Christ and everything was created for Christ and I am heartbroken that the world is not praising Christ and I want to do my part in bringing the world to Christ and so and if I have to lose my life in the process oh well it's just a physical life anyway and I'm gonna lose it anyway I want to take hold of eternal life and so you can't threaten me with death I've already died when I was baptized I died so you can't threaten me with death and so this is how we become overcomers when we've died

in Christ if we are trying to hold on to our life and hoping for this place of safety we're going to become betrayers because what's top of mind for us is staying alive and that's what Satan is banking on continuing in verse 11 they overcame him how did we overcome the devil by hoping we would escape no we overcame this sly subtle mastermind by the blood of the Lamb what that's telling us coming up to Passover soon and we're gonna show the Lord's death by rehearsing the symbolism of Passover and we show the Lord's death until he comes by doing this but it's important for us to understand the Lord's death the Lord's death conquered the devil now when the devil through the full force of his hatred and the full force of his temptation as Christ Christ loved Israel to the death he came to redeem Israel and that love that he had for Israel was so profound that there is nothing the devil could throw at him that would shake that love in fact when the devil threw every Christ conquered the devil because of that love so when we understand the blood of the Lamb and we die with the Lamb we overcome the devil it's not this hoping to go to the place of safety that makes us overcomers it's you know what I've already died in Christ I'm good I'm a piece I'm a piece whatever the Lord the Lord has the hairs of my head are numbered whatever the Lord wills for me I'm a piece as long as Christ is glorified and the word of their testimony and they loved not their lives unto the death the people who are anxious oh I hope I go to the place of safety they don't fit this category they don't love not their lives unto the death

those who truly understand the Passover
who truly understand the blood of the
Lamb which is the love of the Lamb then
you know I think what John wrote in in
his first epistle we love him why do we
love him because he first loved us it's
because of that profound love that God
had for Israel that now we who are
Israel we return the love in the same
way that he conquered the devil with his
love we now conquer the devil with his
love this this is how we become
overcomers and the book of Revelation is
all about overcoming that's what it's
about and so Christ just tells us
beforehand look this is what you might
have to overcome are you in or are you
out and we say Lord were in counter sin
counter sin and he says here when he
when we studied Luke whoever will save
his life shall lose it if you're all
about your life you've lost you have
lost this what's coming at us is so
profound it's so powerful and it's so
subtle it's a more dealing with a master
deceiver that the way that he deceived
Eve was to get her to focus on her life
the way that he conquered Adam was to
get him to focus on his life
the way that he has worked he's not
creative but he's effective and what he
always does skin for skin all that a man
has he'll give for his life
and so the threat of death is what he
hangs over our head and enslaves us with
and the pass over understanding and the
blood of the Lamb frees us from the
devil's influence were no longer seduced
by the devil's influence because we're
not about ourselves and so now he has no
power over us and it doesn't matter what
he throws at us it just doesn't work and
so Christ warns us whoever will save his
life will lose it but whosoever will

lose his life for my sake the same shall
save it so it's actually paradoxical the
more you focus on saving your life the
more you've lost the more you just die
and it's not about your life anymore and
you love not your life to the death you
just it's all about Christ and loving
Christ you're going to save your life
you're going to endure to the end and
Christ promised us here to him that
conquers the book of Revelation is about
conquest it's all about conquest it's
about how Christ conquers the devil and
it's about how those in Christ
conquered the devil and conquer the
Beast and there's part where it looks
like the beast is actually conquering us
but the same way it looked like Satan
conquered the Christ but actually in
that apparent conquest was Christ
victory is the same way when it looks
like the Beast is conquering God's
people in that apparent conquest is our
victory why because the same way that
Christ loved Israel to the death we love
Christ to the death and it's this love
it's true this love that we conquered to
him that conquers will I grant to sit
with me in my throne even as I also
conquered and I'm sat down with my
father in his throne revelation 12 verse
12 so the devil's come down to earth and
the scripture says therefore rejoice you
heavens and you that dwell in them so
Satan's gone from the heavens now he no
longer has access rejoice you heavens
and you that dwell on them and now
here's the third woe to the
inhabiters of the earth and of the sea
so it's the earth and the sea and
remember what we'll talk about this next
week when we get into chapter 13 but
remember the angel stood on the earth
and the sea saying with the little book

saying that the kingdom of God was going to be victorious but woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea for the devil has come down on to you so we'll talk about that next week and and why why is this such a great wall because he's come down having great wrath and this is what Christ you know this is awesome symbolic but if Christ wants us to understand what's going on that the devil has great wrath he's now locked out of heaven remember that his desire was to be not just like the Most High - that meant - he wants to be the Most High so he wanted to be in heaven he wanted to be God and now that's over that that dream that vision that he had no way there's he's just he was no match you know it's not even that God Father Micah fought him off and now he's locked out and now he's furious this is it so now he can't get what he wants he wants to make sure that nobody gets what they want and he's gonna try to take on as many people as he can so now he has great wrath because he knows that he has a short time so it's it's intense now and this is what revelation helps us to understand that we wrestled not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers and we need to understand we need to see things spiritually and when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth and now he has no longer access to heaven and no longer access to Christ when he hates what does he do he persecuted the woman which the woman which brought forth the manchild so what we're going to see now and we know we're so wrapped up in ourselves that we put ourselves everywhere but this is not about the church this is about the woman which

brought forth the manchild so when he sees that he no longer has access to heaven and that time is running out now his agenda is to destroy Israel that the promises that God has made to Israel his desire is to destroy Israel so that God becomes a liar and God is unable to fulfill these promises in Nehemiah and were just to help you know the nations are angry just to give you an example here it came to pass in Nehemiah that when Sanballat and Tobiah and the Arabians and the ammonites and the ashe nights heard that the walls of jerusalem were made up so they were rebuilding jerusalem and that the breaches began to be stopped then they were very angry so Satan is stirring up the nation's here to be angry about the rebuilding of Jerusalem and it's just quite interesting here that we see even anciently the Arabians were the enemies of the people of God of the covenant people but it says here they were very angry and this is how Satan works he stirs up anger and when the people are stirred up with anger and they're all outraged this is when Satan used them like puppets and so the nations are angry so when Satan comes to the earth and he's going to persecute the woman he's going to use nations that are overwhelmed with anger and and they will do his bidding verse 14 and to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle so again we have to be careful that this is all symbolic language and we get carried away you know it does this mean that an eagle is actually gonna come to earth and carry the woman away it's all symbolism so to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle what how or for our purpose that she might fly into the

wilderness into her place where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time so there's that time frame again of three and a half years one time two times and a half a time so three and a half years from the face of the serpent so so the serpent is not directly attacking the woman he's stirring up the nations to attack the woman and wings are given to the woman so that she can flee into the wilderness and the woman is Israel specifically Judah and this matches the prophecy that we see in Matthew 24 where Christ says this when you he's speaking to Judah when you therefore shall see the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet and again that little book has to do with Daniels prophecies so the angel comes in the little book is now opened meaning Daniels prophecies are now unfolding when you therefore shall see the abomination of desolation all these prophecies through at the endtime spoken of by Daniel the prophet stand in the Holy Place making the holy place defiled whoso reads let him understand make sure you go back to the prophecies of daniel and you understand what's there and pastor watson is going to be starting a series a Bible study series on Tuesday evenings on the Book of Daniel and we have to understand Daniel and revelation together these two prophets John and Daniel go hand-in-hand then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains are we in Judea were not in Judea it says let them which be in Judea flee to the mountains so these are the wings that are given to the woman who brought forth the child the man child so Judah brought forth the man child and these are wings now that are being given to the woman to flee

into the wilderness let let him which is on the housetop not come down to take anything out of his house neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes so Christ's advice to those that are in Judea the Covenant people is that when you see the abomination of desolation setup run for your life and run into the wilderness and woe unto them that are with child and to them that give suck in those days but pray you that your flight be not in the winter that's gonna be horrible for you neither on the Sabbath day so these are Sabbath keeping people still pray that for then it says when is all this gonna happen in the time of Great Tribulation about three and a half years for then shall be Great Tribulation such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time no nor ever shall be so Satan has an agenda to destroy the covenant people and God is going to ensure that the covenant people are not fully destroyed and in Exodus 19 we see the same language you have seen what I did unto the egyptians and how I bear you on eagle's wings did God actually bear them on eagle's wings no it's a symbolic language that he gave them a way of escape and brought you unto myself and again in Deuteronomy we see that for the Lord's portion is his people Israel is God's portion Jacob is the lot of his inheritance so he is not going to allow Satan to destroy Jacob he found him in a desert land and in the waste howling wilderness he led him about he instructed him he kept him as the apple of his eye so John is borrowing this language to say that the this angel I'm sorry this eagle is going to take the people of God into the wilderness he's going to

instruct them he's going to alert her
there he's going to look after her there
as an eagle stirs up her nest flutters
over her young spreads abroad her wings
takes them bares them on her wings in
Hosea therefore behold I will allure her
again Hosea 2:14 and bring her into the
wilderness God is not unfaithful he has
not forgotten his people his people may
have forgotten him his people may be
unfaithful but he is going to carry out
this promise that he made to Abraham and
he's going to speak comfortably to her
in verse 15 and the serpent cast out the
the serpent cast out of his mouth water
as a flood after the woman so water is
very very powerful water water will
destroy water will you know god forbid
that we should ever get caught up in in
a flood because of the power that water
has and so he cast out of his mouth
water as a flood after the woman that he
might cause her to be carried away of
the flood

so is this an actual flood that he sends
after the woman so it is a real equal
come and take the woman and then you
know water goes after the woman it's all
symbolic language so he sends a flood
after the woman and the flood is really
a flood of people it's an army as human
beings that go after the woman but
notice where the flood comes from the
serpent cast out of his mouth water as a
flood so there's something in the
Serpent's mind that he's able to speak
there's some sort of doctrine that he's
able to put into the minds of men that
stirs up hatred against the woman and
they all agree to go after the woman and
so this is why you see Jerusalem
surrounded by armies because of it comes
out of the saint man's mouth out of his
mind out of his mouth into the minds of

men

and they are caught up with this anger and hatred and they go after the woman and here in second Samuel we see when the waves of death compassed me the floods of the ungodly men made me afraid so the flood our ungodly men it's really an army of men that go after the woman and the earth helped the woman and the earth opened her mouth is all symbolic language that John remember this is a apocalyptic literature so it's meant to be visionary it's meant to be symbolic what we have to do is sort of take in all the symbols that John saw and then understand what do these symbols point to they're not the actual thing there are signs that point us to the thing and the earth helped the woman and the earth opened her mouth and swallowed up the flood which the Dragon cast out of his mouth in numbers we see with Moses that the earth opened her mouth and swallowed them up these were the rebels against Moses they were rebelling against God's government and their houses and all the men that pertained unto Korah and all their goods so we see what happened there there was this earthquake swallowed up the people so it looks like that's what's gonna happen that they're gonna go people physically chasing the Covenant people going after them they're running for their lives and it looks like all hope is lost but we call it because God is committed to protecting the covenant people so that he can fulfill his promise in them there's gonna be this massive earthquake that swallows those people up and allows the woman to escape and the dragon was angry with the woman so he is just full of hate filled wrath with the woman and he went to make war with the remnant of her

seed so he couldn't get after the covenant people
he couldn't get after the woman Judah who gave birth to the manchild that was his primary focus but because he couldn't get her he now pivots and he goes to make war
with the rest of her seed who are the rest of her seed which keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ this now is the rest of the church that the people who have been grafted into Judah that keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ so the place of safety has nothing to do with the church it has to do with the people in Judea who Christ instructed them when you see the abomination of desolation setup we're entering into a three and a half year period of great tribulation run for your life and run into the wilderness and then these people are going to chase you but an earthquake is going to swallow them up and you'll be in the wilderness and because now Satan is unsuccessful in going after you he's gonna take his armies and he's gonna turn on the rest of the remnant of her seed and who are they the ones who keep the commandments of God and who have the testimony of Jesus Christ and this is you know in Romans 11 it tells us clearly that all Gentiles in the church and even Israelites in the church because the Covenant remained with Judah nor the northern tribes were divorced so the way that God gets Israel back into the Covenant is they have to come in with the Gentiles and they need to be grafted into the Covenant with Judah and so even the Gentiles now are grafted in and he is a Jew who is one inwardly so these are the this is the rest of the of

the seed and that actually is language
that points us back to Genesis that
there's going to be hostility between
Satan and Eve and between Eve's st. Lucy
and Eve seed and so the seed obviously
is Christ but all of us all of us who
are in Christ there's hostility now
between us and the devil and so this is
the the anger that he has to those in
I'm gonna end now with a passage from
Hanna in First Samuel and again the book
of Revelation is all about encouragement
stay faithful Satan is already conquered
love God and understand that he has
already won the kingdom of God has
already been announced it's just a
matter of time a very short time for it
to be ushered in so I love what Ana
Hannah has written here and I think
we'll just conclude with this and then a
final passage that we've read already in
first John there is none holy as the
Lord for there is none beside you
neither is there any rock like our God
talk no more so exceeding proudly some
people they just talk so proudly stop it
let not arrogancy come out of your mouth
for the Lord is a God of knowledge and
by him actions are weighed the bows of
the mighty men are broken so we saw that
white Horseman with a bow and a crown
forth to conquer well you know what the
bows of the mighty men are broken and
they that stumbled are girded with
strength they that were full have hired
out themselves for bread and they that
were hungry ceased so that the barren
has born 7 and she that has had many
children is waxed feeble this great
reversal that hannah sees the Lord kills
and makes alive he brings down to the
grave and brings up the Lord makes poor
and makes rich he brings low and lifts
up he raises up the poor out of the dust

and lifts up the beggar from the
dunghill to set them among princes
and to make them inherit the throne of
glory for The Pillars of the Earth are
the Lord's and he has set the world upon
them he will keep the feet of his Saints
and this is the whole point of the book
of Revelation that as bad as it's gonna
get

he will keep the feet of his Saints and
the wicked shall be silent in darkness
for by strength shall no man prevail the
adversaries of the Lord shall be broken
to pieces out of heaven shall he Thunder
upon them and the Lord shall judge the
ends of the earth and he shall give
strength unto his king and exalt the
Horn of his anointed amen and then I
just wanted to just conclude we'll go
back to first John

first John 4:19 we love him and let's
not forget this we love him why do we
love him because he first loved us and
so this book of Revelation that we're
working our way through we see just how
much Christ loves us and how wicked and
evil the devil is and his hatred for
Christ and because he cannot get at
Christ he goes after the woman and
because he can't get the woman he comes
after the church and he's a deceiver so
he deceives the whole world so that the
whole world is in unison with this
hatred towards God's people and we now
are so filled with love for Christ that
no matter what happens we will be
faithful to the end and his praises will
continually be upon our lips Jesus
Christ is so wonderful and this book of
Revelation is just helping us understand
how glorious he is and we're going to
fight till the end to be faithful so
that we hear from him well done thou
good and faithful service Jesus Christ

is Lord let's praise Him forever