

PASTOR: Kip McCormick

DATE: October 13, 2024

SERIES: Rev'd Up

SERMON: No Fear

MAIN SCRIPTURE: Revelation 12:1-17 (NASB)

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE / FURTHER READING: Genesis 37:9-11; Psalm 2; Acts 1:9; Revelation 22:1; John 7:37-39; Matthew 5:6; Luke 22:31-32; Ephesians 6:12-13; 2 Timothy 1:7; James 4:7-8; 1 Peter 5:8-10; 1 John 4:4; Joshua 1:9; Psalm 23:4; Isaiah 41:10



MESSAGE TAKEAWAY: The presence of darkness can never overtake the power of Jesus.

SUPPORTING THOUGHTS:

- A main theme of Revelation: God's redemptive plan for Israel and the earth.
- The woman represents the righteous remnant of Israel who will accept the Messiah, not *all* ethnic Israel.
- The child is Jesus Christ, the Messiah.
- The iron rod pictures Jesus as the ultimate warrior.
- The dragon is Satan.
- Heads, horns, crowns symbolize Satan's power of the kingdoms of the world.
- Since the fall of man, we've seen Satan use people and systems to further his agenda.
- Satan still uses people to do his bidding, especially when it comes to dividing and deconstructing the faith of the Church.
- The woman fleeing to the wilderness represents God's people escaping to a place of protection.
- These symbols can be interpreted multiple ways. What's important is to remember that God will care for His people during the entire time when evil is in control in the world. The presence of darkness can never overtake the power of Jesus.
- Michael the archangel: He's always fighting or standing up against evil spirits. In Daniel he's called the great prince that protects God's people. He has authority in the spiritual realm. He protects Israel and submissively serves God in a cosmic battle with Satan.
- God allows Satan to work in the world, forcing us to choose whom we'll serve. Yet God is still in control.

(OVER)

- The “hymn” of Revelation 12 says 3 things:
 - Verse 10. Proclaims the victory of God’s kingdom and Christ’s authority
 - Verse 11. Describes the victory of believers who chose death vs. compromise.
 - Verse 12 Because of Jesus’s death, burial and resurrection, Satan’s defeated.
- Flood symbolizes evil. It could represent the lies and the deception that Satan will flood God’s people with during the last days.
- Obedience matters.
- There will be suffering in our lives in ways we can’t understand.
 - Sometimes that suffering happens because of bad decisions we make.
 - Other times it happens because of bad decisions others make.
 - Many times, we suffer because we live in a fallen world.
- Satan is seeking to hurt God by hurting us, His creation. That Cosmic War between God and evil affects us.
- In times of suffering, our job is not to walk away from God but to draw near to Him.
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CHALLENGE: Resistance training: Scripture memorization, putting it to practice.

- Luke 22:31-32 Ephesians 6:12-13 2 Timothy 1:7; James 4:7-8; 1 Peter 5:8-10; 1 John 4:4; Joshua 1:9; Psalm 23:4; Romans 8:28; Isaiah 41:10

“Do not fear, for I am with you. Do not be dismayed for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will uphold you with my righteous right hand...” Isaiah 41:10 (1984 NIV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What was the most difficult thing for you to grasp in today’s teaching?
- What was the number one takeaway for you in today’s teaching?
- Kip spent a significant amount of time on things that can be good that Satan twists so that we’re deceived...and destroyed (sex, internet, people, government, political systems, structures) Discuss those things and add to that other things you see him involved in that steal, kill and destroy.
- Kip said, “In times of suffering, our job is to not walk away from God but draw near to Him.” Describe a time in which you did that and the results of that. Describe a time in which you didn’t do that and the results from that.
- How do we guard ourselves against Satan and his demonic forces? (Read Ephesians 6:10-18).
- Read 2 Timothy 3:16 and Hebrews 4:12. How is today’s challenge related to these two passages?
- Discuss with the group the concept of scripture memorization. Do you struggle with this? If so, how? What is a next step to help you get God’s word in your mind...and your heart?

Sources: Jason Dexter (Study and Obey on-line Bible Study, Revelation, with excellent discussion questions and commentary); Eliyahu Lizorkin-Eyzenberg, Israel Bible Center (multiple books and commentaries); Gotquestions.org; Gary Hamrick (Cornerstone Chapel, Revelation Series); Michael Heiser (Naked Bible Podcast; *Unseen Realm* and multiple books); Life Application Study Bible Commentary, Revelation; John MacArthur (multiple books, sermons, study bible; Grace to You Ministries); Chuck Swindoll (New Testament Commentary – Revelation); **Through the Word Bible App**; **YouVersion Bible App**.

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