

# The Mighty Spiritual Struggle Behind the Great Tribulation

## Revelation 12: 06–17

### 1 *The woman flees for her life*

- a. To a place prepared by God
- b. For three and one half years

### 2 *The great war over Israel and God's people is fought in heaven*

- a. The forces
  - 1) Michael and his angels
  - 2) Satan and his angels
- b. The outcome
  - 1) Satan will be defeated
  - 2) Satan will be barred from heaven
  - 3) Satan and his angels will be cast out of heaven

### 3 *The glorious victory and salvation are won*

- a. The victory:  
Salvation
- b. The result:  
Satan can no longer accuse believers before God
- c. The weapons used
  - 1) The Lamb's blood
  - 2) The believers' testimony
  - 3) The believers' loyalty

### 4 *The warning to earth is given*

- a. Because the devil is angered over his defeat
- b. Because the devil has not yet been destroyed;  
he has a little time left

6 The woman fled into the desert to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days.

7 And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back.

8 But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven.

9 The great dragon was hurled down — that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: “Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.

11 They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.

12 Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short.”

**5 *The dragon launches  
an attack upon the woman***

- a. The severe persecution
  
- b. The startling deliverance  
by the wings of a powerful eagle
  - 1) To her place of safety
  - 2) Kept for three and one half years
  
- c. The serpent's attempt  
to flood the woman:  
Uses every means
  
- d. The earth's enormous help
  
- e. The open attack  
upon the remaining seed

13 When the dragon saw  
that he had been hurled to the earth,  
he pursued the woman  
who had given birth to the male child.

14 The woman was given  
the two wings of a great eagle,  
so that she might fly to the place  
prepared for her in the desert,  
where she would be taken care of for a time,  
times and half a time, out of the serpent's reach.

15 Then from his mouth  
the serpent spewed water like a river,  
to overtake the woman  
and sweep her away with the torrent.

16 But the earth helped the woman  
by opening its mouth and swallowing the river  
that the dragon had spewed out of his mouth.

17 Then the dragon was enraged at the woman  
and went off to make war  
against the rest of her offspring —  
those who obey God's commandments  
and hold to the testimony of Jesus.