

**“A WOMAN, A DRAGON, AND A CHILD:
THE CHRISTMAS STORY”
REVELATION 12:1-6**

I. A DRAGON

A. *Title used only in the book of the Revelation*

B. *His description and appearance*

1. *What he had been - a cherubim from Ezekiel*

2. *What turned him and altered his appearance*

3. *A great fire-colored dragon (perhaps even flaming)*

a. *7 heads with 7 crowns (diadems for royalty)*

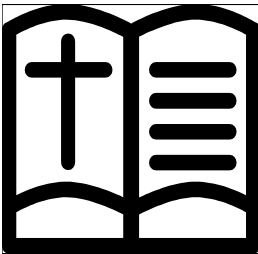
b. *10 horns - representations of might and power - rich imagery in the Old Testament*

When attached, it was a symbol of the beast's power to control

When unattached it was used to muster the crowds to a common assembly

C. *His identity - that old serpent; the devil; the satan; the one who empowers all rebels on earth against God; he has used and still uses the kingdoms of men to do his work of destruction and rebellion*

D. *His action in this passage: to dispatch heavenly beings to earth to prevent the nations of the earth from joining Kingdom of God, the union of heaven and earth under God with righteousness and peace; to destroy personally this king and rule in His place*



II. THE DRAGON: HIS CAREER AND END

- A. He is successful in killing the King of kings but fails to end the King’s authority to restore the Kingdom of God. The redemption of man is completed; now would begin the centuries of restoring the nations to faith and then restoring the earth to the rule of God***
- B. The dragon retains the power of deceit, confusion, intimidation, fear and violence to keep the nations under his rule; he must oppose the gospel’s spread around the world but is failing; but millions die at his “hands”***
- C. Finally, with the success of the “beast out of the sea”, a war breaks out in heaven with him and his angels versus Michael and his angels; the dragon loses. He is cast to earth and, with great wrath, begins his last great slaughter of anything close to God***
- D. The Son of God returns to earth to defeat the beast, his forces, the devil and his forces to set up the last kingdom of earth!***
- E. How did he get it done? How was he effective? He used: natural greed, false religion, ethnic and nationalistic pride, twisting political systems, perverting economic systems, revenge, reason without revelation, propaganda***
- F. How will we win? Faith in Christ, truth, prayer, the Holy Spirit, persistence and sacrifice***