# **UNVELLED!**

# The Ancient Secrets of Daniel & The Revelation of Jesus Christ

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Underscores in the Biblical texts are added for emphasis. Brackets are added outside the text for clarification.

## The Revelation of Jesus Christ

#### **CHAPTER 12**

12 A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars; <sup>2</sup> and she was pregnant and she cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth.

<sup>3</sup> Then another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads *were* seven crowns. <sup>4</sup> And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven and hurled them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her Child.

<sup>5</sup> And she gave birth to a Son, a male, who is going to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her Child was caught up to God and to His throne. <sup>6</sup> Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for 1,260 days.

<sup>7</sup> And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. The dragon and his angels waged war, <sup>8</sup> and they did not prevail, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven. <sup>9</sup> And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. <sup>10</sup> Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying,

"Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers *and sisters* has been thrown down, the one who accuses them before our God day and night. <sup>11</sup> And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life *even* when faced with death. <sup>12</sup> For this reason, rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you with great wrath, knowing that he has *only* a short time."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> And when the dragon saw that he was thrown down to

the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male *Child*. <sup>14</sup> But the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she \*was nourished for a time, times, and half a time, away from the presence of the serpent. <sup>15</sup> And the serpent hurled water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away with the flood. <sup>16</sup> But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river which the dragon had hurled out of his mouth. <sup>17</sup> So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. (Revelation 12:1-17 NASB)

# **Insights**

Listen to the eloquence of their speech as the stars announce the news of their glorious Creator. *Their line* is lyrical:

19 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handiwork.

<sup>2</sup> Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge.

<sup>3</sup> There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.

<sup>4</sup> Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun.

<sup>5</sup> Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race. (Ps. 19:1-5)

Chapter 12 became the study of *The Star of Bethlehem*, an educational video that reveals the stars of the sky on the night the magi visited the village. 114 "Virgo the virgin" was clothed by the sun with the moon at her feet. By the interpretation of Joseph's dream in Genesis 37, the moon is her spiritual mother, Sarah. A great star slipped through the constellation, representing the birth of Messiah by the king planet Jupiter.

The night the magi saw the star over Bethlehem was history to John as it is to us. The sky revealed more than the past; it was a portal to the future—even for today. (Mic. 5:2) The stars retold the story through the ages. It's universal news!

## **Insights: Chapter 12**

And there appeared a great wonder in heaven. (12:1) The night sky surrounded Virgo who labored to deliver a male Child. The Anointed One would rule with a rod of iron but was first taken up to God. The Spirit covered the woman [clothed with the sun] who conceived the Word who'd be the Son of God. (Is. 7:14; Lk. 1:35; Jn. 1:14; cf. Gen. 37:9-10) Israel was set apart for Him.

And the moon under her feet showed a daughter of Sarah by faith for Mary's blessing was greater than hers, but the One who blesses is honored above the one who is blessed. She's compared to Sarah since both had given miraculous births by the promises of God. (Cf. 1 Pet. 3:6; Heb. 7:7) [In chapter 12 the Greek *gune* can be "virgin: but is often "wife" {129x} or "woman" {92x} and is used for its double-meaning. Though the Greek *parthenos* {14x}, or "virgin," is not used, the constellation Virgo reveals the virgin.]

In Is. 7:14 *almah* means "virgin." The woman in chapter 12 must also be a virgin, fulfilling the prophecy. Since its revelation is in the stars, we now know this pertains to the virgin birth by Mary as a descendant of David.

At her birth, Rome was in power, but long before Mary was born, all of the dragon's heads had crowns. This means Israel is also in the vision. A remnant was always true to the faith as the *virgin daughter of Israel (in Jer. 31:4; Am. 5:2)*, preceding Mary.

Before losing any monarchs, the red dragon pursued Israel to prevent the birth of the promised seed, the Child. When famine covered the land, the sons of Israel went to Egypt for grain but were made slaves for centuries. Freed by Moses many perished, but she laboriously cried out to give birth. Israel prevailed in her pains when at last a young Jewish virgin gave birth to the Savior.

Jupiter beside Venus looked like one star. The astronomers were called "magi" who followed its light until it appeared to stop over Bethlehem on December 25, 2 BC, in the documentary that searched the skies. The magi went to their house at night, bearing three gifts "for the young Child." [Gr: paidion is a young child from infant to school age.] (See Mat. 2:9; cf. Mt 18:4)

John looked up and saw twelve stars on the head of Virgo; the twelve tribes of Israel blessed the virgin with a garland. (See Rev. 21:9-12) She wore the crown in the days when Rome was foretold. (cf. Rev. 17) 12:5-6 reveals the flight of believing Israel as the woman after the ascension of Jesus Christ to heaven. (12:5)

Thirty-six years later, Jewish believers were in Jerusalem when armies compassed the city. Josephus wrote of the war, attesting that, for an unknown reason, Roman troops turned back to Rome and later returned to Jerusalem. This allowed time for the congregation to cross the Jordan to Pella in 66 AD. 115

Archeologists recently discovered caves near the town where believers allegedly hid during the siege. 116 (12:16) Wherever it was, they hid for forty-two months, according to the prophecy: And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days. (Rev. 12:6)

Jesus had warned the church to flee at Jerusalem's siege. (Lk. 21:21) As He'd foretold, its temple was razed with not a stone on another when God scattered the Jews to all nations. (Lk. 21:20-24)

Josephus cited history to mark time. Though scholars say the Bethlehem star never existed, they also believe Herod died in 3 BC and ruled from 37-3 BC. They search the sky from 5-7 BC. The Bible corrects the date of Herod's death. If we believe the scholars, we might not believe God inspired its writings, but they rely on writings of historians, which are not infallible.

Unless Kepler or the astronomical software is wrong, Jupiter joined Venus in 2 BC, one year after Herod supposedly died. According to Larson's research, Josephus' earliest writings attest to Herod's death in 1 BC, which should make sense to everyone.

<sup>10</sup> And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come <u>salvation</u>, and <u>strength</u>, and <u>the kingdom</u> of our God, <u>and the power</u> of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. (Rev. 12:10)

The Word of God offered salvation to the Hebrews since Yeshua gave His life as the sacrificial Lamb of the new covenant for the renewal of their hearts and lives. By faith in His blood, our slavery to sin is abolished. We were set free to live in His strength. He sent His Spirit to establish His Kingdom and power forever. The events are in their historical order.

**Salvation**: The Great Awakening was an ongoing work of the Holy Spirit, beginning with Waldo in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and Wycliffe and Hus in the 14<sup>th</sup>, who respected the Bible above church dogma. John Wycliffe corrected the Latin Vulgate in his

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Greek translation; then, translated an English version of the Bible. In the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the movable type press printed translations for the public, and the gospel spread. In the 16<sup>th</sup> Tyndale, Erasmus, Luther, and Calvin impacted Christian theology. They had seen the truth in part, but the church was just beginning its restoration. In the 17<sup>th</sup> King James called for an *Authorized Version of the Holy Bible*, mostly Tyndale's translation. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, a Great Awakening brought the gospel to the world as missionaries went forth with its wonderful news. We were making our way through the darkness by the light we had.

**Strength**: In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the abolition of slavery came as the Holiness Movement stirred the evangelical cause in then non-denominational churches. Finney, Palmer, Booth, Moody, Smith, and Wesley were among many others who led revivals.

The **Kingdom and the power**: In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Welsh and Azusa Street revival reintroduced Pentecost to the church. <sup>118</sup> In the fullness of time, in 1948 Israel became a nation in a day. In 1967 the Jews regained ancient Jerusalem, and the Holy Spirit revisited the nations with the gifts manifested in the early days. Its latter rain was foretold in Joel 2:28-3:2 when He returns the captives to Judah and Jerusalem, which had recently occurred.

Satan has stalked the sons of Israel, spewing out accusations like a flood. (12:13-15) The earth swallows up his words since God doesn't renege His promises; the Word never fail; what He says He does. He sent an eagle to return His people to their land:

<sup>14</sup> But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. (Rev. 12:14 NKJV)

In 70 AD the Jews fled a fruitful land for the wilderness of the nations. Languishing in the absence of her people, her nation became a barren wasteland until Israel was *given two wings of a great eagle that she might fly into the wilderness to her place*. The words, *time, times, and half a time* is not quantified here. The eagle's wings were pulled off a lion's back in Daniel 7 as an independent nation rose to become Israel's great ally, America.

Prophecy can appear, shift, and resettle like the *abomination* of desolation in Daniel 8, 11, and 12. The kings are supernatural,

reappearing centuries later. Unlike Rev. 12:6, in 12:14 she flies *into the wilderness to <u>her place</u>* by the *wings of a great eagle*. She returns to her homeland, a desolated Israel. (ZGE, YLT agree)

Since the Jews' return, she's been unconquerable, frustrating far more powerful enemies who want to eliminate her. The Jews are the main focus in the spiritual war, wittingly, willingly, or not, they were chosen by God to prove His faithfulness:

<sup>34</sup> And the land that was desolate shall be tilled, instead of being the desolation that it was in the sight of all who passed by. <sup>35</sup> And they will say, 'This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden, and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are <u>now fortified</u> and inhabited.' (Ezk. 36:34-35 ESV) ['Have strong defense']

#### The Night the Stars Fell

From as early as 902, a phenomenon has recurred in the sky. The Leonid showers appeared as tens of thousands of meteors fell toward the earth and lit up the black sky in 1833. The stars poured like rain for three nights. People thought it was the end of the world. A hundred years later, the little horn in Daniel 7:8 rose after ten others.

So-called "falling stars" are signs in the heavens. In John's time, men called the sky's shining objects "stars." Angels also fall, appearing like stars. In 12:4 stars were angels who followed the dragon and were swept out of heaven. (Cf. Jude)

Though devils have tempted and accused us, we have a Savior who forgives and cleanses us, and we have a cross to own. When we're in Christ, confessing our sins to God and our offenses to each other, we are washed, and we wash each other's feet. If we are clean, we should not return to sin. (Jas. 3:13-18)

12:5-6 refers to the congregation that fled to Pella for safety during the siege of Jerusalem by the Romans. In the holocaust, Jews hid in caves again. A remnant escaped Europe's genocide by hiding in homes of sympathetic citizens. Others found forests or hid in holes. Satan sent a flood, but *the land helped* her.

When they saw the star, the magi knew the King was born. Finding the babe in Bethlehem, they returned to the East. No one could have predicted the astronomy of the skies in those days. Its mathematics were discovered in the 17<sup>th</sup> century when Johannes

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Kepler wrote the Three Laws of Planetary Motion. <sup>120</sup> Now its software uses his calculations, and we can watch the reruns.

One night nearly two thousand years ago, the stars revealed the birth of the King, and the magi rejoiced. It wasn't a bad omen, but a wonderful sign when again the stars spoke of a different birth. Their signal appeared in the Days of Awe in the seventieth year after the Jews returned to their land.

Revelation displays the ancient sky that alerts us to observe the stars. The constellations reappeared recently as they were in chapter 12, but not exactly the same as at the holy birth. There was an interesting variation. <sup>121</sup>

September 23, 2017, was Tishrei 3, 5778, in Israel; the third day of the seventh month. After Rosh Hashanah, the civil New Year, the sign reappeared for the first time in two thousand years during the Days of Awe. (Lev. 23:23-32) It was clear to all Israel and to most of the world. Though we shouldn't look for signs, when God sends them, we should recognize them. Revelation 12 reveals the sign that marks the season of His return.

The Savior's birth is related to the rebirth of Jerusalem. In ancient days, the stars had spoken, but how did they know Israel would be pregnant again? Rather than the star of Bethlehem, in 2017, Mercury, Mars, Venus, and Regulus formed a straight line through Leo the lion's feet, His rod of iron! (12: 5)

Mercury and Mars spell imminent war. Regulus and Venus, the kingly star and the virgin, refer to a royal marriage. The first event makes way for the second. The tribulation precedes them.

On May 14, 2018, Jerusalem welcomed the U.S. Embassy when America was the first to recognize Israel's capital after her two thousand year absence. It was the seventieth anniversary of the day President Truman first recognized the nation of Israel at her rebirth. (See Ps. 48:1-2; Mat. 5:34-35; Lk. 21:24)

#### **About Words**

People who aspire to lead others bear the onus of their words. We all do, but those of us who affect many lives have a greater responsibility. The serpent saw a subtle chance to influence the leaders in WW2. Their conversations left lasting effects on the world since that time. Now we see they weren't alone, but powerful, invisible forces were present with them.

Words are like seeds planted in hearts; once rooted, they produce fruit. We saw the fruit of a man's speech in Germany when crowds took an oath of allegiance to the dragon that spoke, but *the beast was slain* by a mortal wound and went to perdition. How many itching ears did the adversary attract before his head was wounded?

God used Russia as a weapon to bruise the serpent's head, Babylon, but in Berlin. Then He chose America, Great Britain, France, and the Allies to heal it. It seems strange that the Allies healed the dragon's head. Who are htesebeasts?

At the end of the war, the devil's body was burned, and he went to perdition while the Judge gave the saints the Kingdom. Even so, he returns as another beast, *diverse from the first*.

Invisible words are powerful enough to overthrow kings and empires. Words command nations and alter the course of history. The words we speak by faith can change our destiny. A personal conversation can make a difference forever; so can a prayer.

In meetings, Churchill was slighted by the president's cold shoulder. They'd been advocates of freedom and close friends, but Roosevelt was drawn to Stalin's charisma. Though he was a great leader, Stalin was a destroyer. Churchill believed his friend had chosen their enemy above him. <sup>123</sup> And he had.

F.D.R. died a few months before the war ended, and Vice President Harry Truman took the oath to replace him. Truman's former business partner and close friend was a Jew, and he felt honored to help Israel though it's unlikely the former president would have come to her aid. Churchill and Truman would share a kindred bond by supporting the Jews in their time of need.

After the war Churchill was voted from office but became a great statesman, and America remained an ally to Israel. Truman figured he was "God's Cyrus." He believed he was made president by Providence to help the Jews defend their land as Persia's King Cyrus had done five hundred years before Christ. He wasn't a saintly man, but loved Israel because his Christian parents taught him to respect the people who gave us the Bible.

If we're tempted to judge our leaders, we'd better beware: self-righteousness is among the worst sins; it's quick to condemn and slow to forgive. Yeshua said, ... wisdom is justified of her children (in Mat. 11:19).