Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down." (Revelation 12:10)

Sh'ma Yisrael, Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad Baruch Shem k'vod malchutto, l'olam va'ed

Hear, O Israel: the LORD is our God. The LORD is One. Blessed be the name of His glorious kingdom for ever and ever.





#### REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12

- <sup>6</sup> Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.
- <sup>7</sup> And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, <sup>8</sup> but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. <sup>9</sup> So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

#### **REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12**

<sup>10</sup> Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. 11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. <sup>12</sup> Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time."





Revelation 12, Part 1, V.1-5

The Woman, The Child and the Dragon

Historical Israel, Major Concepts NOT Timeline!



"Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down."

"And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death."

"Rejoice, O
Heavens and you
who dwell in
them! Woe to
the inhabitants of
the earth and the
sea!"

"For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time."

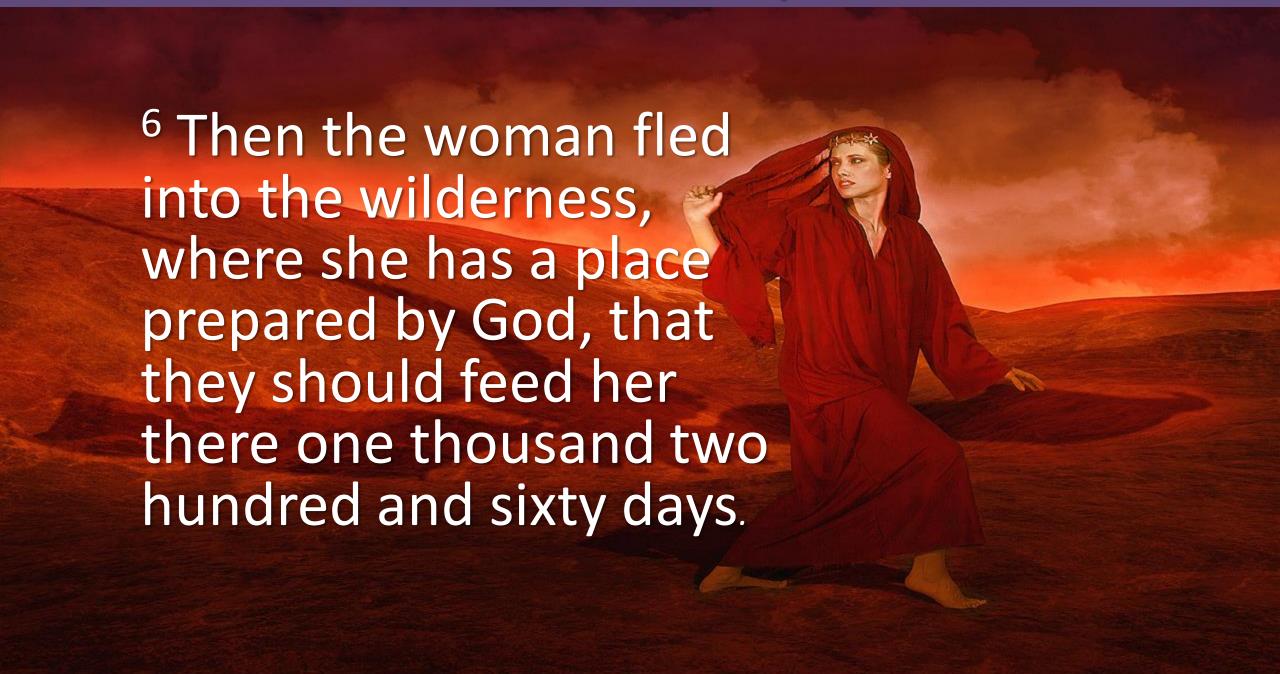






**Revelation 12-2** 

#### **REVELATION FELTBOARD: Chapter 12**



- "the woman fled..." Woman = Israel. National Israel. NO other interpretation will work!
  - --Mary mother of God fleeing into the wilderness?
  - --Church fleeing into wilderness (most likely gone),
  - --a constellation fleeing into the wilderness?
  - All interpretations must be in context with scripture.
- "National" Israel "on the run" from enemy = madder than hell!

#### WHO/WHAT IS NATIONAL ISRAEL?

- Ethic group of people who became a nation in <u>covenant relationship with</u> <u>YHVH</u>. This "Israel" is a group.
- Individual Israelites (Jews) who have made Yeshua their Savior are part of Bride of Messiah today.
- They and we (Gentile believers)
   <u>together are Israel</u>, but *not* national Israel.



- "...into the wilderness..." Literal place? Where? Lots of speculation. As most of Revelation, must determine method of interpretation literal, or symbolic?
- Assuming literal interpretation and literal wilderness place,...where? WE DON'T KNOW!!! Not told. All we know = wilderness.
- Many <u>speculate</u> could be place called Petra, SW Jordan, east of Negev desert, current state of Israel.

# PETRA interesting place...

- can house ~ 250,000+ people in thousands of apartment-like caves.
- within "God-ordained" boundaries of Israel
- completely inaccessible (very defensible) except through Siq (narrow opening in rocks), or overhead.
- Previously occupied by Edomites, descendents of Esau...
- before built into "red rock" city of hand-carved dwellings by Nabataeans in 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC. (AKA IDUMEA)

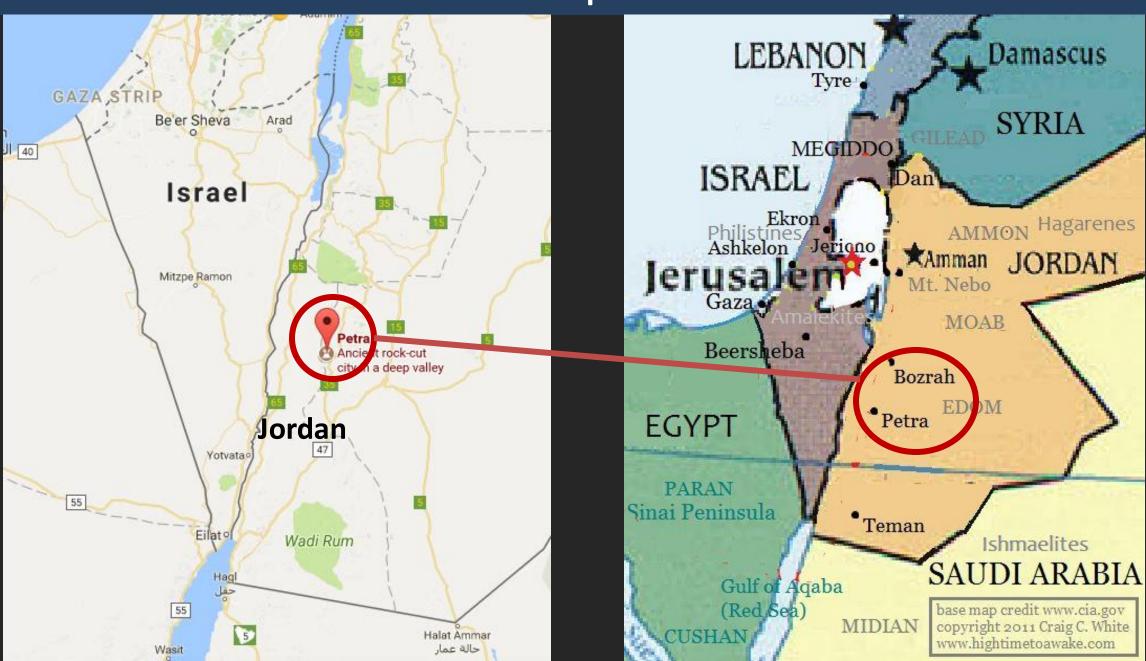
Why Petra (biblically)? Matthew 24:15-16; Isaiah 34 and 63, and Micah 2.

"Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house."

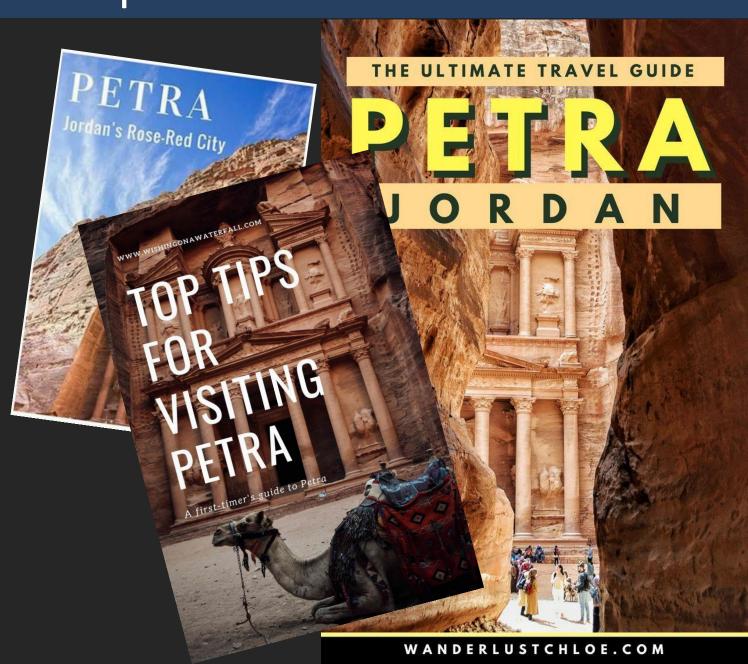
Matthew 24:15-16

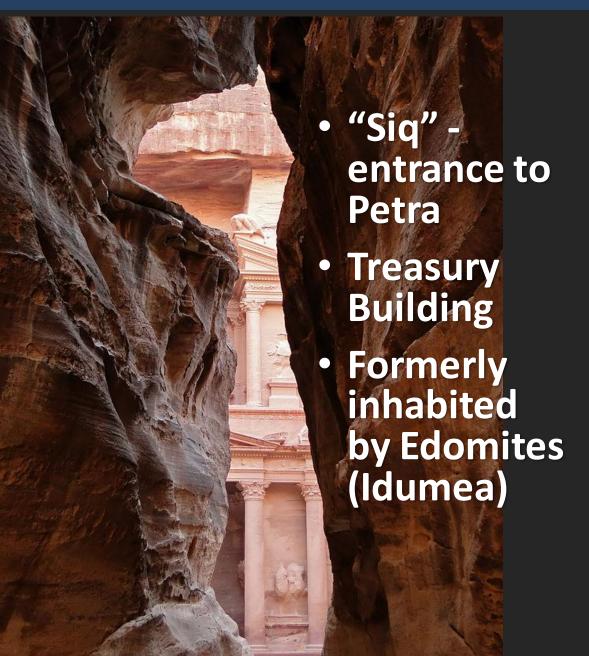
Who is this who comes from Edom, With dyed garments from Bozrah, This One who is glorious in His apparel, Traveling in the greatness of His strength?—"I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save." Isaiah 63:1

I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep of <u>Bozrah</u>, as the flock in the midst of their fold: they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of men. Micah 2:12, KJV



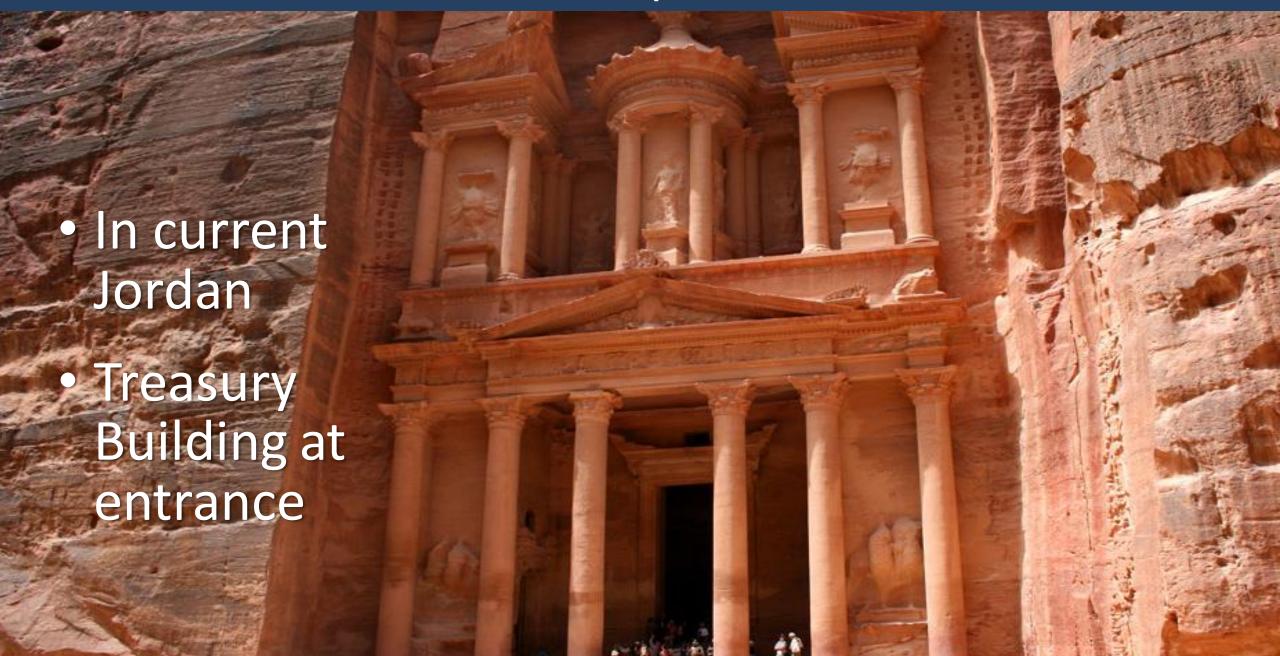
- "Rose City" stone color
- Jordan's most-visited tourist attraction
- "Lost" until 1812, found by Swiss explorer
- 190 miles from Jerusalem (by road)

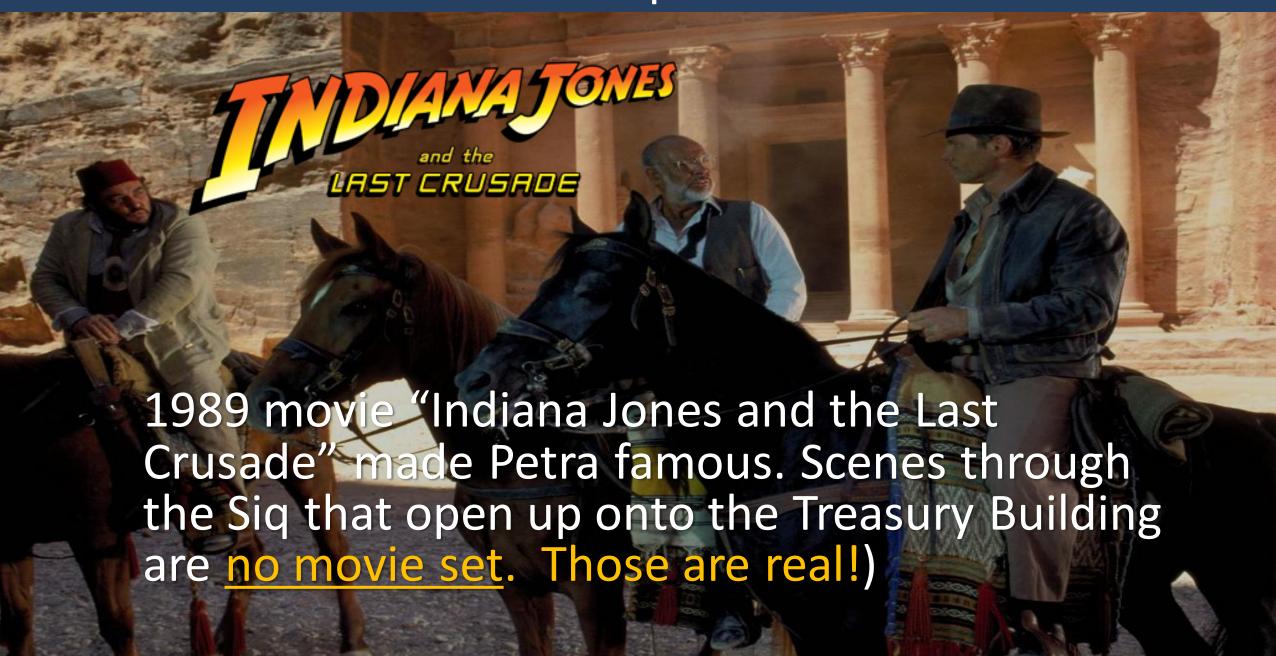


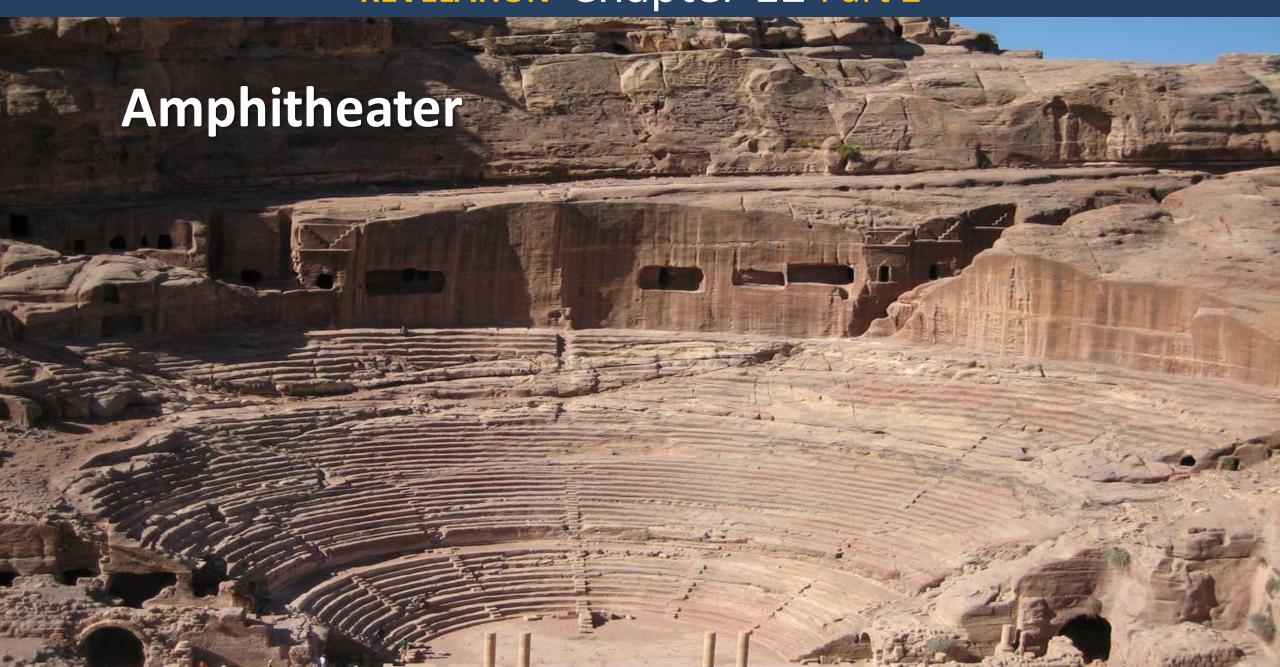


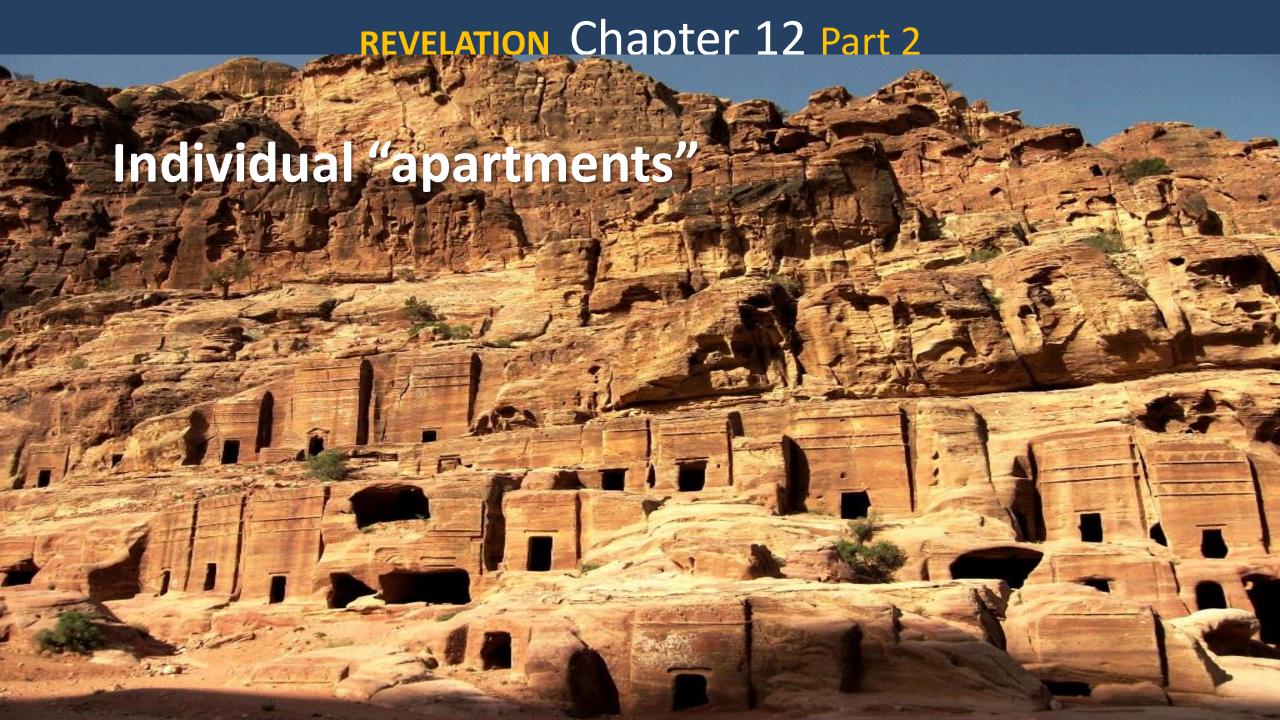
# **Prophecy Against Edom**

"Behold, I will make you small among the nations; You shall be greatly despised. <sup>3</sup> The pride of your heart has deceived you, You who dwell in the clefts of the rock, Whose habitation is high; You who say in your heart, 'Who will bring me down to the ground?' 4 Though you ascend as high as the eagle, And though you set your nest among the stars, From there I will bring you down," says the LORD. (Obadiah 1-4)











- Speculation Bozrah (= "sheep pen") site of Jesus' 2nd coming, before He comes to Jerusalem. Isaiah 34/63, Micah 2 support.
- Whether Petra = ancient fortress for Israel in last days or not remains to be seen. Seems likely, but...
- Regardless of where it is, God will divinely care for His people during "Time of Jacob's Trouble" last 3 ½ years of tribulation as they flee from persecution.

- "they should feed" all one word, trepho (Greek).
   Literally = to cherish with food, pamper, lovingly care for. "They" not in original manuscript.
- Complete Jewish Bible states, "...and she fled into the desert, where she has a place prepared by God so that she can be taken care of for 1,260 days."
- God will *lovingly care for His people*, not merely feed them.

- "one thousand two hundred and sixty days" again. Literal time, 3½ years (360-day years), last ½ of trib.
- Bible seems to indicate areas of old Edom, Moab, and **Ammon escape** from control of final world ruler: "He [the king of the North, identified as the final world ruler] shall also enter the Glorious Land [Israel], and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon. He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape." (Daniel 11:41-42) Petra located in this region (modern day Jordan).

- Daniel 12 continues OT passage: "At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, Such as never was since there was a nation, Even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, Every one who is found written in the book." (Daniel 12:1)
- Again, scripture best commentary on scripture.
- Last passage in Revelation ch 12 <u>relates also to war</u> between Michael and Satan. Passages may correlate.

<sup>7</sup> And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, 8 but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. 9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

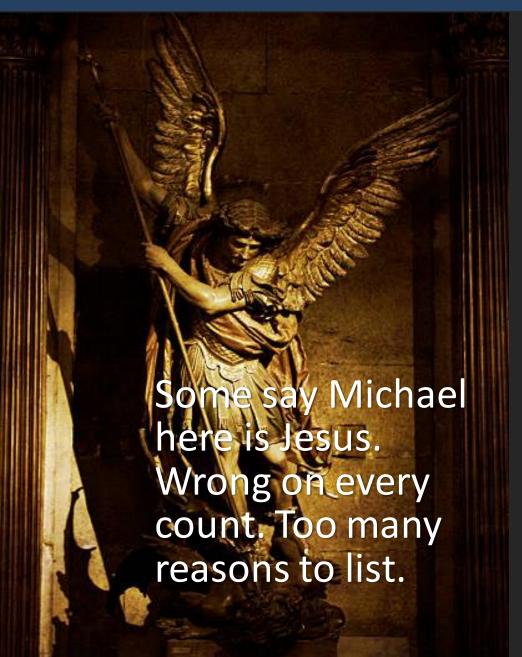






- Scene change from earth back to heaven. Now war in heaven.
- TIMELINE???? (???!!!) TWO REFERENCES TO BEING CAST OUT! Original (12:4) and real time (12:9)?
- Continuation of age-old warfare God/Enemy, truth/lies, comes to major battle in heavenlies.

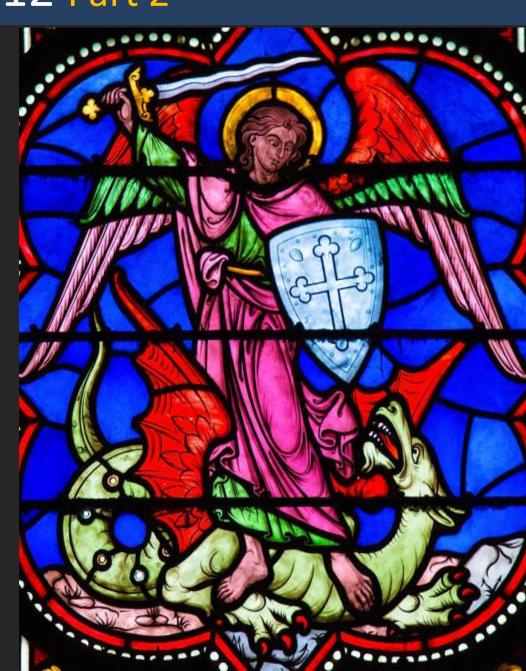




- "Michael..." identified as one of "chief princes" in Daniel 10, and warrior for Israel.
- Called "archangel" by Jude.
- Apparently charged with protection of God's people, Israel.
- Zechariah 14, Numbers 21 fights wars for God.

**COMMENTARY:** Who fights in this battle? This is truly a battle between equals. The dragon represents Satan (Revelation 12:9), and Satan is not the counterpart of God - God has no counterpart. If anyone, Satan is the counterpart of Michael, who seems to be the chief angel opposite this chief of fallen angels.

(Guzik)



- "...but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer." Some interpret as original "casting out" of Satan from heaven beginning of time.
- Satan ( "accuser") has <u>had access to heaven</u>, and throne of God, all along... until now.
- Seen in Job, Zechariah, Daniel, Luke, Jude and other places. Accusing God's people from beginning, playing role of prosecutor before bench of Almighty Judge.



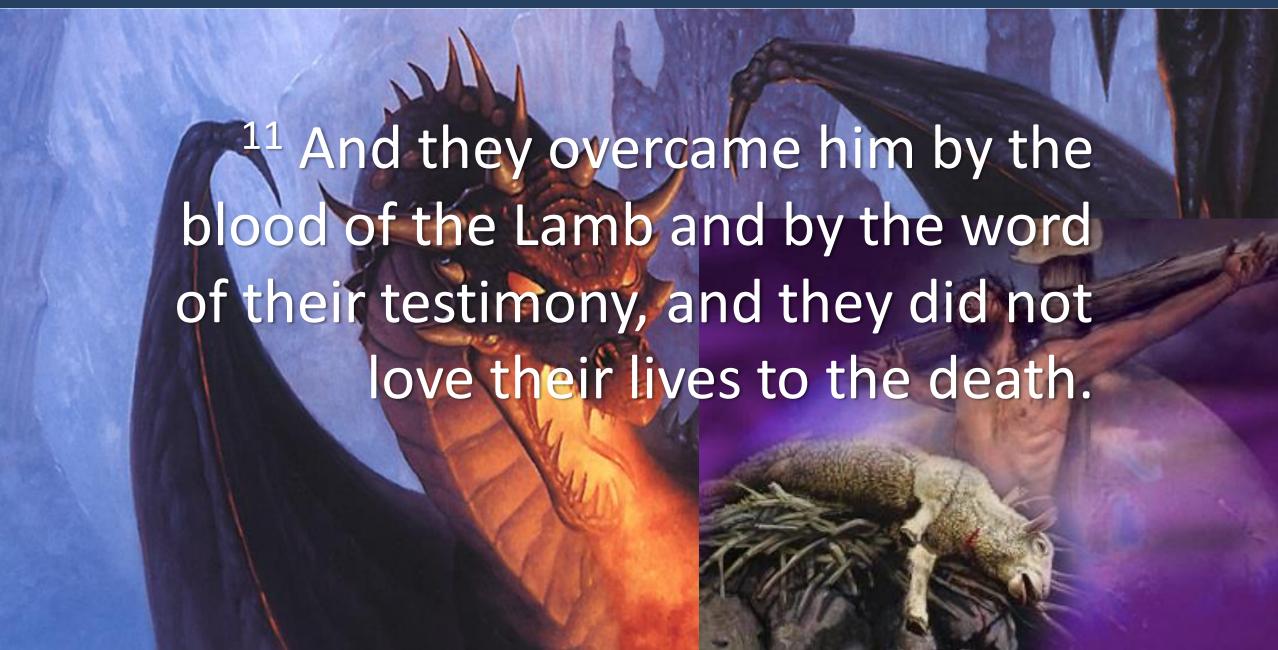
- HaSatan = The Accuser soon to be banished from heaven, <u>loses ability</u> <u>to accuse God's people</u>. He + supporters cast out, no more access.
- God has determined <u>no more place</u> for these enemies any longer. (See Luke 10:18, John 16:11; 12:31)
- The accuser responds in anger in next verses.

- "So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world;..." No doubt on identity of dragon.
- "The serpent of old" = teller of lies in the garden.
- Name = Devil ("slanderer") and Satan ("accuser") and he deceives whole world. NO ONE else fits this.
- God always ensures <u>we understand important points</u> <u>of scripture</u>. Not open to human interpretation!

<sup>10</sup> Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

- Another unidentified loud voice from heaven: <u>time</u> for the salvation, strength and kingdom of God to be proclaimed, and all promises to be fulfilled.
- TIME FOR MESSIAH TO TAKE HIS THRONE...very soon.
- Why? The one who accused believers before the throne of God can no longer do so.
- Righteousness of God covers believers for all eternity

- Whose voice? WE DON'T KNOW. Not God. representative of human race redeemed ("accuser of our brethren")
- Some speculate voice actually VOICES, believers who have gone on to heaven before these martyrs as they make reference to "our brethren."
- Angels would not speak of earthly believers like this.



"They" = believers. <u>How do all believers overcome</u> the enemy and this world? Verse provides the 3 ways to do this (ONLY WAYS!): <u>It's all about Jesus</u>...

These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)





- Blood of Jesus shed for us as <u>payment for our sins</u>, for "eternal redemption"
- "...he entered the Holiest Place once and for all. And he entered not by means of the blood of goats and calves, but by means of his own blood, thus setting people free forever." (Hebrews 9:12) (His work, not ours).
- His blood <u>covers us permanently</u>; nothing more we can be accused of before God…ever.

# 2

## By the "Word of their testimony"

- Not just verbal testimony.
- Backed up with whole life lived for Jesus observable testimony in action.
- Spoken and lived



**COMMENTARY:** There is something strengthening in giving a testimony. Don't misunderstand me—some of the testimonies given today are pretty shallow. Some of them are given by those who ought not to be giving a testimony, because the people close to them know their shoddy living, and it makes them rather cynical and skeptical. The place to give a testimony is not at a nice, well-fed church banquet where all the saints say amen to everything you say. If you have a life to back it up, the place to give your testimony is out yonder in the world, when you are up against that godless, blaspheming crowd. Let them know that you belong to Christ and that you are in Christ. (McGee)



# By *Loving God more* than our corrupt lives on earth.

- Did this "to the death," died as result of steadfast witness. But overcame enemy to be victors in Jesus.
- May apply to tribulation saints, but also gives us life application. *Life priorities!*

### We overcome enemy/world

- 1) by blood of Jesus
- 2) by living a life that witnesses of our belonging to Him
- 3) by not loving this life, but yearning for Him.

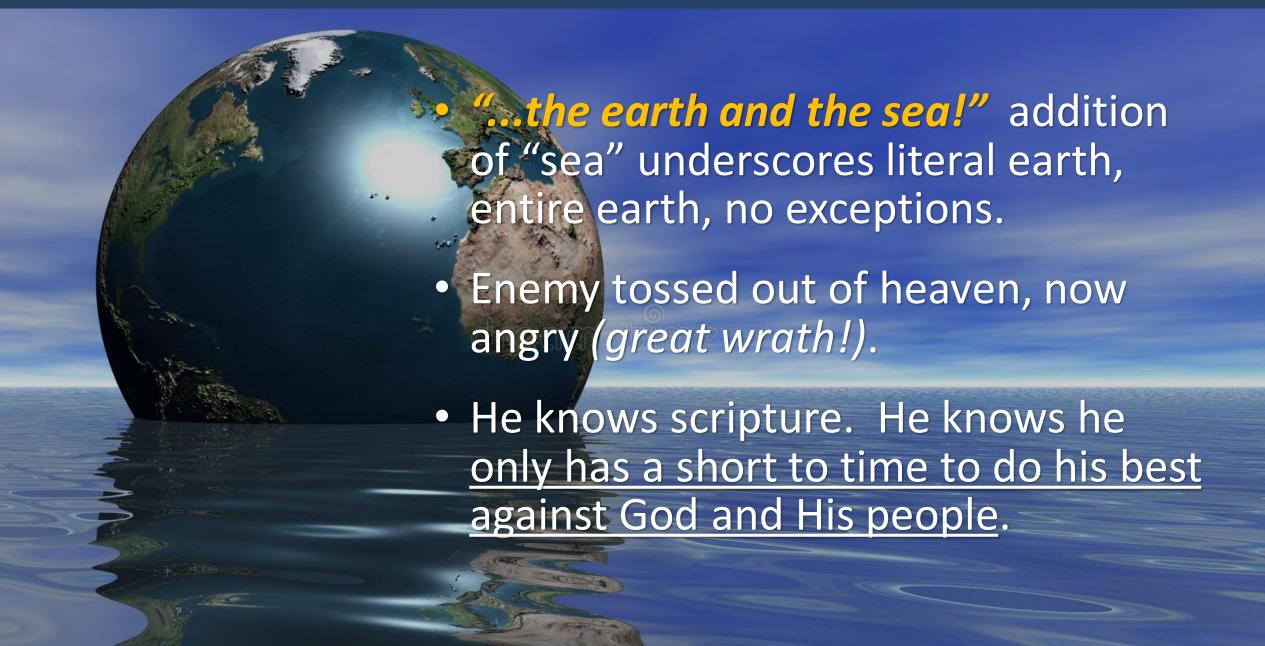
#### Remember Revelation 2:10

"...Be faithful even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life."

12 Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time."

- Messages to 2 different "dwellers:"
  - 1) "dwellers of heaven" applies to <u>saints</u> already in heaven and those still on earth, believers who consider earth a place of sojourn, not home. Home is heaven, even if we haven't gotten there yet!) and to entire heavenly host
  - 2) "inhabitants of the earth" phrase used over 20 X = reference to <u>unbelievers</u>, those who value earthly lives more than anything else (citizenship earth, not heaven).

- Cause for <u>rejoicing in heaven</u>, and <u>woe on earth</u>.
- MESSAGE? It's almost over, best news to first group, worst news to latter group.
- This WOE = third woe from Revelation 11. 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet has blown, 7 plagues ready to be poured out (3<sup>rd</sup> set of judgments) and then it's all over.
- Wrath and judgment upon on earth, and those who oppose Elohim, will be complete.
- In God's economy and plan, it is already complete at this point. HE INHABITS ETERNITY!



Evil coming on earth will be greater than at any other time in history.

HaSatan cannot accuse anymore, but can still wreak havoc on earth.



### Yevarekh-kha Adonai veyishmerekha May the LORD bless you and keep you

Ya'er Adonai panav elekha viḥunneka

May the LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you

Yissa Adonai panav elekha viyasem lekha shalom.

May the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

