

The Glorious Church

And She Brought Forth... A Man-Child

- There are a total of 22 chapters in the book of Revelation, but by the end of chapter 11 we can say that everything is finished.
 - When the seventh angel sounds his trumpet, everything concerning God's mystery and **everything** related to God is **fully accomplished**.
 - The following 11 chapters serve as a **supplement** to the first 11 chapters.
- The book of Revelation contains many visions, but **two central visions** serve as the basis for all the others.
 - The vision of the **throne** in **Rev. 4:2**
 - All the visions from chapter 4 to chapter 11 are based upon the throne.
 - The vision of the **temple** in **Rev. 11:19**
 - All the visions from chapter 12 to the end of the book are based upon the temple of God.
- The **throne** is something **outward** toward the **world and mankind**, but the **temple** is something for **God Himself**.
 - The **rainbow** around the throne signifies that God will **not** do anything **harmful to man**.
 - The **ark** in the temple signifies that God will **not** do anything that **comes short of Himself**.
- **God's character** is the **basis** upon which God and His Christ will reign forever and ever.

The Woman in the Vision

- **Rev. 12:1** – And a great sign was seen in heaven: a woman **clothed with the sun**, and the **moon underneath her feet**, and on her **head a crown of twelve stars**;
 - The **woman** described here refers to the woman whom **God purposed** in His eternal will.
- The woman clothed with the sun
 - The **sun** refers to the **Lord Jesus**.
 - When the sun shines the brightest, it is **shining upon her**. In this present age, God is **revealing Himself through her**.
- The woman had the moon underneath her feet
 - According to the Greek, this means that **the moon is subject at her feet**.

- Means that **all things pertaining to the law are subordinate to her**.
- The woman had a crown of twelve stars upon her head.
 - Speaks to her **relationship to the age of the patriarchs**.
- The woman includes **all the saints** in the **age of grace**, as well as all the saints from the **ages of the law and the patriarchs**.

The Birth of the Man-Child

- **Rev. 12:2** – And she was with child, and she cried out, travailing in birth and being in pain to bring forth.
 - Being with child is **figurative** and not real.
 - Means that a child is in the mother's womb, and the child and the mother are **united** in one body.
 - The condition of the mother is the condition of the child.
- This child is also **different** from the mother; he is another being.
 - His future is entirely distinct from that of his mother.
 - Immediately after he is delivered, he is **caught up to the throne of God**, while his mother **flees into the wilderness**.
- **Rev 12:3** – And another sign was seen in heaven; and behold, *there was* a great red **dragon**, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems.
 - Originally it was a **serpent**, but now it has been **enlarged** to become a dragon.
 - Reveals **Satan's goal** to gain the crowns, which signify **authority**.
- The woman in creation is **Eve**, the woman in the age of grace is the **Body of Christ**, the woman at the end of the age of grace is **described in Revelation 12**, and the woman in eternity future will be the **New Jerusalem**.
 - The mother is not another being in addition to the children; she is the **summation** of all the children.
- When we look at the **totality** of the people in God's purpose, we see the **woman**; if we look at them **separately**, we see **many sons**.
- The **overcomers** are the instrument that enables God to achieve His purpose.
 - The man-child refers to the overcomers in the church.
- The man-child and the mother are different, and yet they are also one.
 - The overcomers differ from the church, but they are included in the church.

(The Glorious Church – Chapter 4)