

“The Reality of the Dragon” (Revelation 12:7-12, 17)

On www.biblegateway.com, there is a free *Asbury Bible Commentary* that would be a good companion to your Scripture Readings.

Keep reading the scriptures out loud as John intended for us (Rev. 1:3).

Monday - Revelation 12:7-12

The Dragon will be with us throughout most of the rest of Revelation as John helps enable the church to understand how Satan operates and how his power can and must be overthrown.

Tuesday - Revelation 12:13-18

Chapter 12 is a re-visioning of the Christmas story, but unlike any other Christmas pageant or cantata. The child (Jesus) is pursued and opposed by the Dragon (Satan) at every turn - yet Satan cannot win.

Wednesday - Revelation 13:1-10

The two beasts in chapter 13 are the outworking of Satan’s rebellious order.

Thursday - Revelation 13:11-18

The mark of the beast is not about government installing microchips in our heads, but about how the Dragon’s systems of rebellion completely mark our thinking (forehead) and action (right hand). The Asbury Commentary explains “666” well.

The three visions we just read through of Dragon, sea beast, and land beast show the power and limits of evil. Over the next three days, we’ll read how they are “matched by three visions that show the forces of salvation at work behind the scenes on our behalf.”

Friday - Revelation 14:1-5

Worship is “the act in which we find our fragmented lives corrected and arranged into a whole and perfect offering to God”

Saturday - Revelation 14:6-13

Listening to the Word of God proclaimed from three angel preachers gives us not just information, but commands, promises, and help for the “moral and spiritual contest in which we are embattled.”

Sunday - Revelation 14:14-20

Our words and actions bear fruit: either a harvest of holiness or a vintage of wrath. The practice of holy living plant seeds in our lives and world that blossom into Kingdom produce.

* Quotes come from Eugene Peterson’s book “*Reversed Thunder*”.

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Sunday, October 25, 2020

*¹¹ Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all **strategies of the devil**. ¹² For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 6:11-12 NLT)*

One Truth: His *Time* Is Short (Revelation 12:12)

Three Strategies of the Dragon:

1) Deceives (Revelation 12:9)

John 8:44

2 Corinthians 11:14

2) Accuses (Revelation 12:10)

Isaiah 54:17

Romans 8:1

3) Destroys (Revelation 12:17)

1 Peter 5:8

James 4:6-8, 10

“Who can wage war against [Satan]?” (Revelation 13:4)