The Book of

Visions of the Holy War

INTRO:

Ch 12 gives us understanding to both history and prophecy.

The spiritual world is one we need to be very aware of.

A sign is something that points to a reality.

Revelation is a book of signs and symbols.

I. This Conflict Involves a Nation

In ch 12 John see many things as great, either in size or significance.

There are several reasons the woman represents Israel:

- 1. Joseph's dream in Gen. 37,
- 2. Israel often depicted as a woman in OT,
- 3. The Old and New Testament show Israel plays a significant role in end times prophecy.

II. It Includes a Perpetrator

The identity of the red dragon is given in Rev. 12:9

- John's description of Satan is not a physical one but a moral one.
- An understanding of his character is given in Jn. 8:44.
- His 7 heads is an indication of his extreme intelligence His 10 horns show his vast strength.
- Satan is not one to be messed with in the flesh However, he is defeated! 1 Jn. 4:4.

III. It Includes a Pursuit

It's important to understand the enmity between the dragon and the woman.

It is all about the child, as he was poised to take away Satan's rule and authority on earth.

Satan attempted to:

- 1. Interrupt the godly line of accession;
- 2. Have Christ killed;
- **3.** Persecute the church;
- 4. Destroy the nation of inheritance, Israel.

IV. It Ends In Victory

As Israel wandered in the wilderness at her beginning she now goes back to the wilderness at the end of time.

Satan and his army are vanquished and conquered.

Satan couldn't stop:

- 1. The birth of the Savior;
- 2. Jesus enacting His redemption;
- **3.** Ascending to the Father;
- 4. His eternal rule and reign forever!

Although the dragon is terrifying, vicious and relentless in his attempts to decieve us, He is non the less defeated. Be aware of him, but don't fear him.