

St. Therese Adult Study Series
The Book of Revelation with Father Andrie

Reflection Questions for Chapter 12

For the next session on January 21st, please read Chapter 12, pages 205-220 in *The Revelation* book. Begin with this or another prayer of your choice: "*Jesus, you are both Lord and friend. May all that I say and do today give glory to Your name. Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd. Help me to be more attentive to Your voice when so much around me beckons for my attention. Jesus, you are faithful. I pray that I will not let you down. Jesus, you came as our newborn Savior. May your love renew my spirit. Amen.*"

<https://www.heartofthenation.org/daily-prayers> Your reflections will be shared **January 21st** in your small group. Your group may not get to all the questions. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you to those questions most important for your group.

In this chapter we get a special behind-the-scenes look at the battle between God and Satan that has been raging for a millennium.

The Woman, the Child, and the Dragon (vs. 1-6)

1. Who does the woman in this passage represent? Why? What makes her a sign of Mary? Of the Church?

2. Read Genesis 37:9 to help you interpret Rev. 12:1. (Note: Joseph is the twelfth star) What do the stars represent?

3. (5) Who is the male child that is born? What image connects him with Ps. 2?

4. In the author's Reflection and Application on pgs. 210-211, he asks the question, "How should we approach suffering?" How would you answer this? Do you have any life experiences that you'd like to share? (See also Sirach 38:9-14 and Ps. 34:18; 22:25; 56:9)

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The War and Celebration in Heaven (vs. 7-12)

5. Now war arose in heaven. Some may ask why God doesn't simply banish Satan with a word? Or why He uses angels to fight for Him? We are all called to join in the battle against Satan and his demons. *What good can come out of this fight for us personally? How can this increase our faith and reliance upon the Holy Spirit?*

6. Satan can be called the "accuser of our brothers." He points his finger in accusation toward believers. On pg. 212, the author asks when does the defeat of the devil take place and how? *Which one do you agree with and why?*

The Dragon's Rage (vs. 13-18)

7. "When the dragon saw that it had been thrown down to the earth, it pursued the woman..." He had lost the war in heaven. *What do you think it means that the dragon pursues the woman? Where do you think he will turn his focus to?*

8. "...the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle..." *How will God protect His people during this time? (See also Is. 54:17, Thess 3:3, and Is 41:10)*

What else stood out for you in these chapters?

For your personal prayer:

Consider this week, how does this chapter encourage you and strengthen your faith?