

THE COMING WORLDWIDE ANTISEMITISM

The Jews even now are preparing to rebuild the Jewish Temple. The focal point of Jewish worship was the TEMPLE. But ever since it was destroyed (70 A.D.) the Jews have been at a loss as to how to properly worship. For pious Jews it has been their passion to restore the TEMPLE. Finally, in conjunction with the 70th week of Daniel (the 7-year Tribulation Period – Dan. 9:27) the Jews will be able to once again worship in relation to their rebuilt Temple. The book of Revelation intersects with this coming reality!

Revelation 11:2–3 (NKJV)

2 But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for **forty-two months**.

3 And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy **one thousand two hundred and sixty days**, clothed in sackcloth.”

This reference of 42 months and the reference of one thousand two hundred sixty days both refer to a period of 3 and ½ years. The measuring of the temple in Rev. 11:1 signifies a measure of protection for the first half of the Tribulation Period. Two things will assure a measure of protection for Israel for the first 3 and ½ years of the 7-year Tribulation Period: 1) Their covenant with Antichrist, and 2) the powerful ministry of the 2 witnesses who cannot be harmed during this time (Rev. 11).

Apparently, while Israel will have special temple liberties during the first half of the Tribulation, the OUTER court area surrounding the temple will not enjoy these same privileges. Israel will still be experiencing the oppressive Times of the Gentiles, and as such, the Gentiles will still dominate Jerusalem until Christ comes (cf. Lk. 21:24).

Evidently, under Antichrist an arrangement will be reached where the Jews will have freedom to worship in their rebuilt temple. This they will do for the first half of the Tribulation.

The remainder of the city will evidently still be under Gentile domination even during the first half of the Tribulation, with it being **“tread under foot”** in climactic fashion during the last half of the Tribulation. When Antichrist breaks his covenant with the Jews, then the Jews in Jerusalem will receive brutal treatment at the hands of the Gentiles, and that is why Christ warns them to flee at this point, as seen in Matt. 24 (cf. Mt. 24:15-16).

Revelation 12:6 (NKJV)

6 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**.

Revelation 12:14 (NKJV)

14 But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for **a time and times and half a time**, from the presence of the serpent.

Revelation 12:1-5 gives a broad overview of Messiah's relationship with Israel. We see that Israel was the woman who brought forth the Messiah. Satan, the dragon, through Herod tried to destroy the Child as soon as He was born, as recorded in Matt. 2.

Mention is made of Christ's birth and then His ascension, bypassing His entire life and death.

The reason for this is because the point of the passage is that Satan's intention to destroy Christ failed. This is seen in the foiled attempt of Herod to murder Him as an infant, and again to stop Him at the crucifixion. The ascension is proof of Satan's failure and of Christ's victory. The text then skips ahead to a future time when Satan will intensely try to destroy Israel in the last half of the Tribulation Period.

But, Israel will flee into the wilderness to a special place prepared by God where He will care for her for one thousand two hundred and sixty days, which is to say 3 and ½ years.

In Revelation 12:9, we see that Satan is confined to the earth, no longer having access to heaven. He is enraged and takes it out on Israel, as seen in Revelation 12:13.

The devil hates Israel because this is God's chosen people. The devil's real problem is with God, but since he can't get directly to God, he goes after God's people who have a very specific prophetic destiny (cf. Rev. 12:1).

The way the devil does this is through HUMAN INSTRUMENTS, whether it be Pharaoh, Haman, Antiochus Epiphanes, Herod, Hitler, or Antichrist. If you try to analyze the world's attitude and treatment of Israel on a purely rational plane, you will never make sense of it. There is a spiritual component and there are spiritual realities that are behind all that is happening.

The world is in rebellion towards God and that is demonstrated in its treatment of Israel. This reality will come to a climax under Antichrist, the supreme instrument of Satan in persecuting Israel.

The devil has a real problem with Jesus Christ and at core, his animosity towards Israel relates back to her connection with the Christ. He hates Israel for producing the Christ. What is pictured in Rev. 12 is the last and greatest wave of antisemitism in the history of the world.

This is the devil's last stand. With all the wrath he can muster, he goes against Israel. This is the time of Jacob's trouble (cf. Jer. 30:7).

SPOILER ALERT! He will not succeed! We have God's Word on it!