

## The Dragon Tries to Devour the Child (Revelation 12:1-6)

- I. Introduction (**1-4**; Gen. 3:15)
  
- II. The **Woman**
  - a. Who Is She? (**1-2, 17**; Gen. 15:5; Gal. 4:26; Rev. 17)
  
  - b. What Is She Doing? (**5**; Gen. 3:15)
  
  - c. How Is She Described? (**1**; Isa. 60:19-20)
  
- III. The **Dragon**
  - a. Who Is He? (**3-4**; Rev. 20:2; Dan. 7:24; Jn. 8:44)
  
  - b. What Is He Doing? (**4b**)
  
- IV. The **Child** (**5, 12**; Rom. 8:28)
  
  
- V. The **Wilderness** (**6**; Col. 2:15; Dt. 8:15-16; Rev. 11:3; 1 Cor. 1:25)

### Questions for Family Discussion

- What do the **woman**, the **dragon**, and the **child** symbolically represent? Identify some truths God is communicating in this passage. Why do you think He chose to teach His people using such dramatic imagery?
- How does verse 5 describe the victory of the woman's seed? How does this compare with Luke 10:18?
- According to Deuteronomy 8:15-16 and Revelation 11:3, what is the purpose of our time in the wilderness? Why doesn't God just teleport His people straight to heaven?
- Do the various ways we celebrate advent and Christmas show an appropriate recognition of the reason Christ came into our world: i.e., to conquer the devil ("D-Day") and reign as King forever and ever? Why or why not?

## What Is Your Response to the Newborn King? (Matthew 2:1-12)

- I. God Gets the Wise Men's Attention (**1-3**; Jer. 10:1; Dt. 4:19)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- II. Herod & Jerusalem Are Troubled by the News! (**3**)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- III. Herod Calls a Theological Council (**4-6**; Jn. 1:11)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- IV. Herod's Deception and Trickery (**7-9a**)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- V. The Wise Men Worship Jesus (**9b-11**; Ps. 2:10-12)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- VI. Encouragement for Joseph and Mary (**11**; Mt. 1:20-21; Lk. 1:30-33)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- VII. God Remains Completely in Control (**12**)

### Questions for Family Discussion

- Consider the response of Jerusalem and its religious leaders to the news of Christ's birth. Which is more offensive: them being troubled by how this could completely change their lives, or their indifference toward Him and refusal to search for Him? Are modern church members ever guilty of such things? How so?
- Explain why the wise men falling down to worship Christ is such a remarkable demonstration of faith.
- While God can use anything to lead people to Christ, (e.g., a star) how does God **ordinarily** lead us to Him? (v. 6)
- Did God make a mistake in leading the magi to Jesus by way of King Herod? Name some things in your life that look like "*complications*" to God's plan. Are they **actually** complications? Think: how might God use them *for good*?