
Kids' Prophecy Corner

Revelation 12

Welcome to Kids 'Prophecy Corner.

Today we will look at Revelation 12 through a present truth prophetic lens. This study is the fourth of a series on Daniel and Revelation and their connection with Daniel 11:40.

In Revelation 12 John describes his vision about the woman and the dragon. The dragon is persecuting the woman, and the woman flees for 1260 years in the wilderness.

The dragon is primarily Satan. But secondarily, the dragon can be understood to be Pagan Rome. In Revelation 12 Pagan Rome is persecuting the Church. The Church is given birth to a man child and the woman flees into the wilderness thereafter.

In verses 15 and 16 we are told:

12:15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.

12:16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.

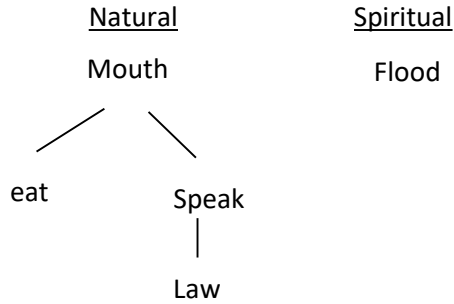
The church went into the wilderness for 1260 years. In 1798, the earth opened its mouth and swallowed the flood.

In the book of Daniel and Revelation, we learn that ***The serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood to carry away the church. By its false doctrines, the papacy had so corrupted all nations as to have control absolutely, for long centuries, of the civil power.*** {1897 UrS, DAR 555.2}

So the woman is the church. And the flood that was cast out of the serpent's mouth represents false doctrines. God used a natural symbol to illustrate the spiritual.

Question: what are the two purposes of a mouth? To eat and to speak.

The action of eating is that of taking food into the body. The action Speaking is formulating words which are spoken from to others. So, when the serpent casts out a flood it is making up false doctrines that are supposed to corrupt the nation.



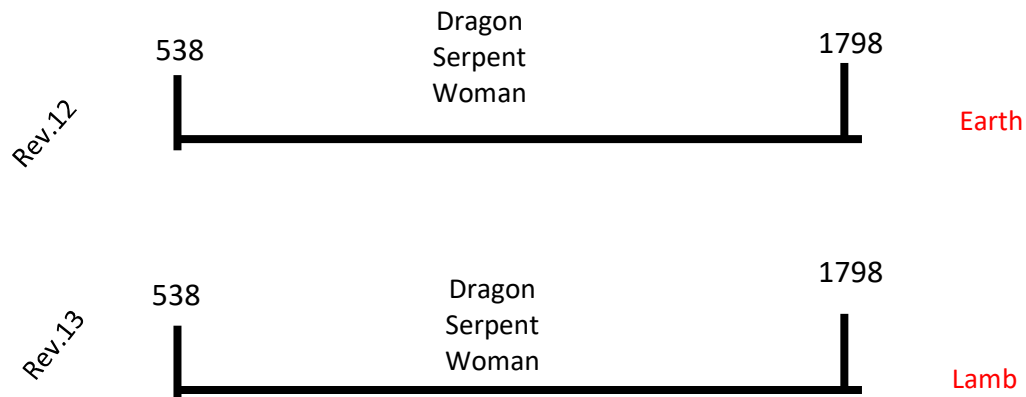
In v.16 as the earth helps the woman it opens its mouth to swallow something. The earth is the United States. It is represented in Revelation 13: 11 as the beast coming out of the earth. The earth swallowed the flood (the false doctrines or false laws) by opening its mouth. This was the putting in place of the constitution. The law/constitution countered the flood of the dragon.

The lamb-beast has two horns: republicanism and Protestantism. They are separated by a wall which is the constitution. This wall protects people's civil and religious liberties. When the lamb-beast is replaced by the dragon-beast the wall of separation – the constitution – will be removed or spiritually destroyed. The United States will profess to uphold it but in reality, they will not practice This will allow it (the USA) to persecute God's people.

Ellen White says the last beast that will persecute the saints is the United States. So from 1798 to the Sunday Law, we see a progressive erosion of the constitution as the constitution is what prevents that countries government from persecuting. Therefore the constitution becomes a prophetic document for us to study at the end of the world. If we do not understand how church and state are separated we will not understand how they will come together.

At this point, we can compare and contrast Revelation 12, Revelation 13, and the line of the USA.

In Revelation 12, we see 3 entities, the dragon, the serpent, and the woman. In Revelation 13, we also see the 3 entities, the dragon, the serpent, and the saints.



In revelation 12:6,14,15 we learn that God fed the woman in the wilderness for a thousand two hundred [and] threescore days which is a time, and times, and half a time. So the wilderness is a symbol of the 1260 years. God nourished His church there but the dragon followed it into the wilderness to persecute it.

12:16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.

The flood is made to carry the woman away. To **carry away** means to destroy. But as the flood is going after the woman, the earth opens its mouth to swallow the flood. God uses two natural entities, the serpent, and the dragon, to illustrate a work that is was done from 538 to 1798. This is the work done by the papacy as the 5th head of Bible prophecy. The 5th head combines Church and State. In Revelation 17:5 it is represented by Mystery Babylon which is papal Rome.

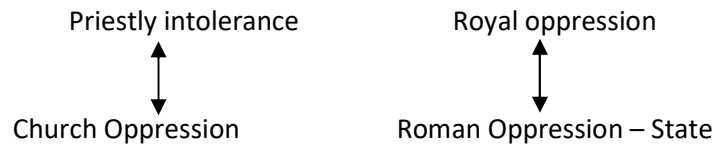
Papal Rome uses two ways to oppress people:

Priestly intolerance - the priests of the catholic church were oppressing people through their religion.

Royal oppression - the oppression established by the State.

So the Christians were searching to run away from royal oppression and priestly intolerance. We saw that the speaking of a nation, its laws, is the

means through which the church and state oppress. Hence the Christians were running away from a union of church and State.



From 1798 to the Sunday Law the United State is a lamb; not a pretend lamb. At the Sunday Law the United States speaks as a dragon by imitating what the dragon did during the 1260 years. So we have a literal 1260 (from 538 - 1798) and a symbolic “1260” (from the Sunday Law onwards). The first beast changed times and laws. Therefore during the history of the Sunday Law the dragon beast will break the constitution.

We saw that the lamb rose progressively. Therefore the dragon will also rise up progressively to be fully ready to do its work at the Sunday Law. When rising of the dragon is described in Revelation 13:3 as the healing of the deadly wound:

13:3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

In 1798 the papacy received a deadly wound. Through the 1260 years the papacy had the dragon as an ally. The dragon is Europe. The nations of Europe also represent the many waters that the papacy sat upon. So when the deadly wound was inflicted this union between church and state was separated.

Revelation 13:10 describes someone being taken into captivity and being killed by a sword. This sword inflicts a deadly wound. In 1798 pope Pius VI was taken into captivity by Napoleon whose general Berthier captured the city of Rome. The pope died in 1799 and this also marks the death of the fifth kingdom. It was France who put the papacy on the throne of the earth and it was France who removed it in 1798.

The deadly wound caused the papacy to lose control over the state which was the power which enabled it to persecute. So for the papacy to

resurrect (or for the wound to be healed) it must regain the control over the state that it had before the deadly wound.

This healing of the deadly wound is also the image of the Beast. The first beast spoke as a dragon and the beast that resurrects at the Sunday law will also speak as a dragon. From the previous lines we saw that the United States will speak as a dragon.

From 1798 to the Sunday law, the USA rules as a lamb (sixth kingdom). And from the Sunday Law to the close of probation the United States rules as a dragon (seventh kingdom). We often say that at the Sunday Law we see the United Nations but through parable teaching we see the United States. The United States will bring church and state together and exercise the power of the first beast which is persecution.

The persecutions that will take place under the seventh kingdom will look different from those of the dark ages. What we will see are restrictions of the civil and religious rights of various minorities - immigrants, people of colour, women, and the LGBTQ community. This will be done by those who profess to uphold the constitution and who profess to believe in and obey God's law. But they do not truly love or obey God's law when they forget that the law teaches to love one's neighbour. 1 John 4: 20 and 21 says the following:

4:20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

4:21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

Their view of God is so narrow that they feel justified in despising their fellow human beings while professing to obey God. They have a misconception of God who they have created a God in their own image. Their oppression will be codified into law by the legislative and judicial branches of the government and it will be thus that the beast will speak as a dragon.

To conclude. Revelation 12 confirms what Revelation 13 and Daniel 2 teach. Those lines relate the history of the king of the north and show how church

and state come together. Today we see the fragility of the United States and its constitution. Donald Trump is using his authority to fulfill his own agenda and work against the needs of the citizens (especially minorities like black Americans and homosexuals). But he is doing this with the help of the protestant churches (white evangelicals) and others who are on his side. And he carries out his affairs with other countries in the same way.

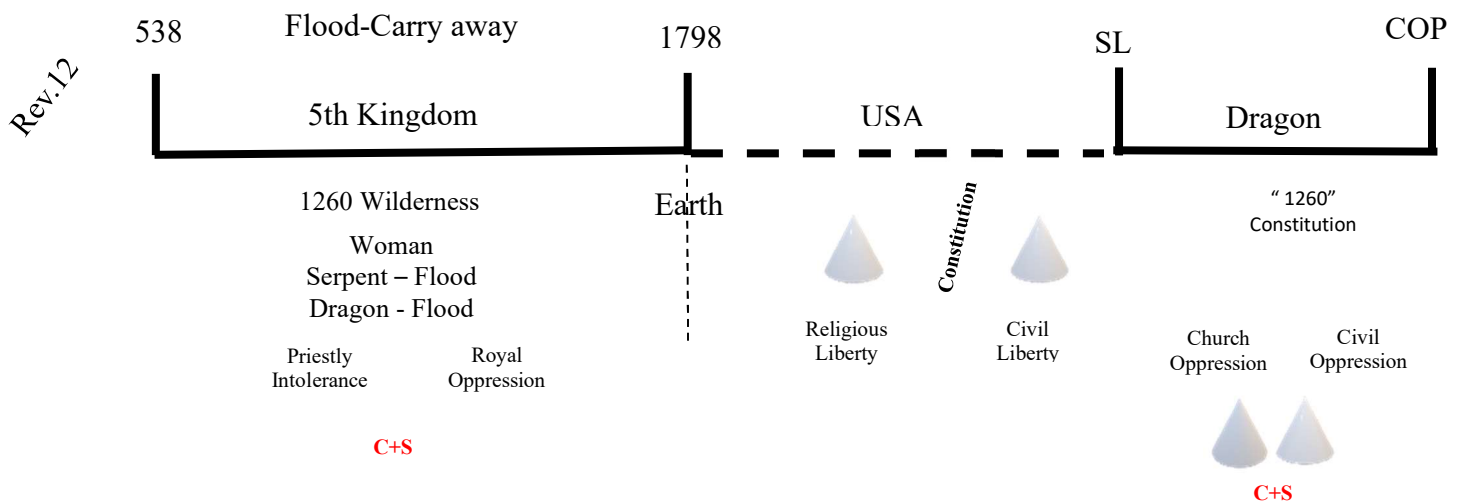
He using his authority to purge the republican party. In 2016, Republican Kelly Ayotte was in a tight Senate re-election race in New Hampshire when she said she wouldn't support Trump. She lost that race. In 2019, Republican senator, Mitt Romney of Utah voted to convict the president for abuse of power during the impeachment process, He has been attacked by Trump since then and is now an outcast in the Republican party. Mitch McConnell, the Senate majority leader helps Trump a lot. He gave Trump paved the way for Trump to appoint judges. A right that he denied Obama over the course of his two terms as president. Since his election Trump has appointed 200 judges. Most are conservative and believe in the seven mountains theology highlighted earlier. By appointing these judges Trump is fulfilling *his promise to the **evangelical Christians**. He promised to appoint judges who are skeptical of environmental regulations, who are not sympathetic to **the civil rights** era and its legacy, who take **a narrow view of a woman's right** to choose on the question of abortion, and who were younger and more ideologically committed and **less diverse** than their peers. Together these judges wield immense power over who gets to vote, who gets to marry, who has access to healthcare, who carries a gun, who is branded a criminal, who may join a union, who is protected from discrimination and who has permission to discriminate against others on religious grounds. See the following quote:*

*“Pervasive influence on the federal judiciary is an immense prize, **with implications spanning generations, given that federal judgeships are lifetime appointments**. And it is a prize, analysts say, that Trump has handed the conservative movement, creating a powerful bulwark for his own political fortunes.”¹*

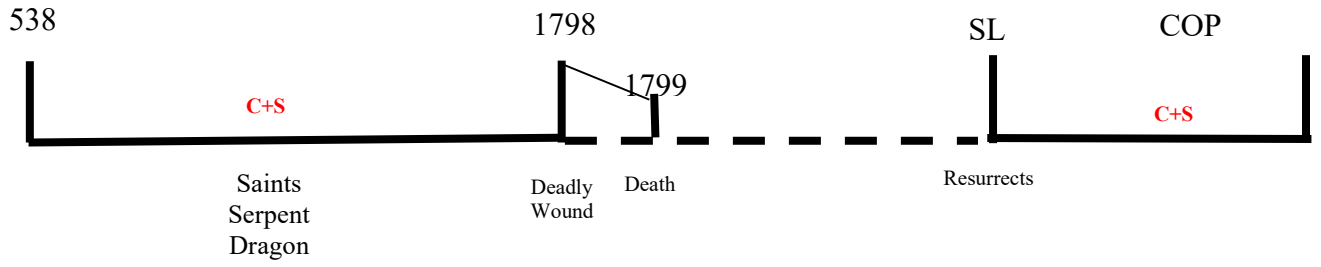
¹ <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/apr/28/explainer-why-has-trump-appointed-so-many-judges>

These judges are reshaping the courts and the country and are paving the way for the dragon to speak. Signs are already emerging of this shift. Rulings have been issued that threaten access to reproductive healthcare. Other rulings have green-lighted the Trump administration’s most reckless attacks on voting rights and on vulnerable populations - from the disabled, to victims of police abuse, and asylum seekers. The supreme court is siding with Trump to create a wealth test for green card applicants, to divert Pentagon funding for a border wall, and to ban transgender individuals from the military and more.

We also see an attack on the free press especially; especially those who expose Trump’s errors and misinformation. Trump wants to destroy them. We see how Trump is becoming more and more authoritarian and how the the constitution and the bill of rights are being eroded. Even if there will be another president, the senate is mainly republican and the courts are now occupied by like-minded conservative Republican judges . This situation will inevitably lead to the speaking as a dragon at the Sunday Law.



Rev.13 : 1-10



Rev.13 : 11

