

THE SEVEN SIGNS

REVELATION 12-15:4

This section provides a group of seven signs that provide further explanation of the details of the previous visions. John see behind all the persecution of the church a cosmic war raging in the heavenly places but manifested here on earth. The Seven Signs tell the story of that comic battle and it's outcome.

THE WOMAN AND THE DRAGON / 12:1-17



John sees a pregnant woman and her son.

They are symbolic of the people of God and the Messiah.

This woman has 12 stars in her crown — 12 tribes.

And Israel's suffering was often compared to a woman in pain.

Then John sees a dragon described much like Jesus in chapter one. The dragon cast 1/3 of the stars to the earth, a symbol of heavenly rebellion. The dragon tries to devour the son (the Messiah) but he is caught up to God.

Then a great war rages in heaven and the dragon is humiliated and defeated. The dragon tries to destroy the woman (the people of God) but she is saved. The dragon becomes furious and tries to destroy her seed (the church).

THE POINT: *There's a heavenly evil behind the church's persecution.*

THE SEA BEAST / 13:1-10



Daniel's beast comes up from the sea and makes war on earth.

It represents military power that serves the purposes of the dragon.

Those who's names are in the Lambs book of Life will overcome.

THE LAND BEAST / 13:11-18

Another beast comes up from the earth and represents the money and propaganda that drives the cause of the dragon.



Those who refuse the mark of the beast (666) will overcome.

THE POINT: *We overcome the beast by resisting it's worldly influence.*

THE ARMY OF THE LAMB / 14:1-5



John sees the 144,000 seals saints again in Zion.
They've been redeemed from exile & sing the Lamb's victory.

They are compared to virgins, a symbol of purity and devotion.
They are blameless with no lie in their mouth, unlike the beastly nations.
They are a first fruits offering to God, a symbol of gratitude and worship.

THE POINT: *The Lamb conquers through the devotion of his people.*

THE THREE ANGELS / 14:6-13

1st—Believe the gospel and worship the Lord of heaven & earth.
2nd—Babylon has fallen, who has lead the nations into rebellion.
3rd—God's wrath is coming for anyone who worships the beast.



THE POINT: *The church endures when we cling to the gospel of Jesus.*

THE HARVEST / 14:14-20



The Son of Man (Jesus) comes to the earth to bring a harvest.
First, there's a good harvest of grain, those who remain faithful.
Then, there's a bad harvest of grapes, "intoxication with evil."

THE POINT: *Jesus will bring final judgement & justice on the earth.*

THE SEVEN PLAGUES / 15:1-4

John sees 7 angels pour out seven plagues (again!) on the earth.
This is a symbol of God's wrath and judgement against evil.
Now we've come to the end (again!) as the church is with God.
And they sing the song of Moses to the Lamb who conquered.



THE POINT: *The church endures when we cling to the gospel of Jesus.*

THE CHOICE: *Follow the conquering Lamb / Follow the defeated beast*