

Wings in the Wilderness

She was pregnant and she cried out in her birth pangs, in the anguish of her delivery. Revelation 12:2

This chapter prophetically describes the environment you are in right now. This woman here is the church, or you and me. It is an environment of great intensity. It is an environment full of many distractions it is easy to put our focus and blame for things on people in this time period. It is very important we understand and interpret what is happening around us in this end time hour in order to fight correctly, and to walk in a conquering peace and strength. Look at verse **three and four of Rev. Chapter 12.**

Then another ominous sign (wonder) was seen in heaven: Behold, a huge, fiery-red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and seven kingly crowns (diadems) upon his heads. [4] His tail swept across the sky and dragged down a third of the stars and flung them to the earth.

And the dragon stationed himself in front of the woman who was about to be delivered, so that he might devour her child as soon as she brought it forth.

Where did the dragon station himself in front of? The woman. And who is the woman? Us you and me, the church! So the real resistance of lawlessness.....oppression.....the increase of distractions..... And spiritual exhaustion is deriving from this stationing of evil.

And it is against what you and I are seeking to accomplish for both our families and the Kingdom growing of Jesus Christ. This pregnancy here is a spiritual birthing of new direction, new souls. It is a birthing of something going on in your ministry, in your family and marriage. It is a birthing of a fresh break through God has in store.

Verse five says-***And she brought forth a male Child, One Who is destined to shepherd (rule) all the nations with an iron staff (scepter), and her Child was caught up to God and to His throne.***

This right here is our real issue. The devil is after the focus of our worship. He wants your confidence in God. He is after your peace and strength, because you are pregnant with something he wants to stop from happening. You here this preacher tonight. The devil doesn't want us building the KCC here at POW. So by sending enough distractions and disappointments we take our focus off of God's power and love in worship. We focus on the floods or the things that are draining our time.

6] And the woman herself fled into the desert (wilderness), where she has a retreat prepared for her by God, in which she is to be fed and kept safe for 1,260 days (42 months; three and one-half years).

- ✘ Here is the key to all of this I want you to see. This woman goes from heaven descending to earth in order to have her baby. The woman descended in order to deliver her baby.
- ✘ This means in order for us to see God manifest answers we must be willing to descend and submit with joy in our circumstances.
- ✘ The ministries and vision and souls we are fighting for, will come forth if we choose to humble ourselves in our self-centered will.
- ✘ We too must humble ourselves, bring our thinking under focus from continual distractions, in order that what God is birthing in us, will live.

- ✘ Descending means giving up what is rightfully mine in order to see God's Kingdom advance through me for others. For my spouse and children.
- ✘ To descend is like the woman with the pot of oil in 2 Kings 4, where as long as there were empty vessels the oil would keep pouring. This oil is the Holy Ghost. You, I, and people are the vessels. And when they ran out of empty vessels the oil stopped. These vessels are new people, that when we quit reaching for them God's oil stops flowing like it should in our lives.
- ✘ But when the oil flows from an empty vessel of worship God will pay our debts by His forgiving mercies. The debtors can be paid when the oil pours. God will give us power to forgive. He gives mercy for debts we cannot pay, but He needs an empty vessel.

So this woman goes to the wilderness meaning she is alone like some of you tonight.

- ✘ What we feel, can feel like a wilderness. A place that is dry.
- ✘ A place where we don't feel God like we want to.
- ✘ A place where we feel we are lacking.
- ✘ You see it's only in the wilderness can we really appreciate God's rescuing power.
- ✘ Especially when He is trying to get us refocused on the worship the enemy is trying to devalue right now.
- ✘ Let me ask you a question, if you spend \$50 dollars at a restaurant to enjoy a meal. You don't think twice about the time on the job you spent to be able to afford the meal. You never quit the job because of that one hour you enjoyed eating, cost you several hours of work. Yet, we don't see prayer and worship this way. You may spend 30 minutes or one hour or two hours praying and only feel God for ten minutes, but your flesh says it wasn't worth the time spent seeking after God in the wilderness.
- ✘ The wilderness teaches us how to value those moments God does and will move.
- ✘ In the wilderness God wants to teach you submission with joy.
- ✘ This starts with the worship Satan is trying to distract you from. So you can say it's not worth pursuing God because I am too tired or whatever. So you won't have peace or strength for fighting. So you lose the will to war.
- ✘ God wants to show you there is a seriousness and urgency to everything we do. Read verse 7.

7] Then war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels went forth to battle with the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought. [8] But they were defeated, and there was no room found for them in heaven any longer. [9] And the huge dragon was cast down and out--that age-old serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, he who is the seducer (deceiver) of all humanity the world over; he was forced out and down to the earth, and his angels were flung out along with him. [10] Then I heard a strong (loud) voice in heaven, saying, Now it has come--the salvation and the power and the kingdom (the dominion, the reign) of our God, and the power (the sovereignty, the authority) of His Christ (the Messiah); for the accuser of our brethren, he who keeps bringing before our God charges against them day and night, has been cast out! [11] And they have overcome (conquered) him by means of the blood of the Lamb and by the utterance of their testimony, for they did not love and cling to life even when faced with death holding their lives cheap till they had to die for their witnessing. [12] Therefore be glad (exult), O heavens and you that dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in fierce anger (fury), because he knows that he has only a short time left! [13] And when the dragon saw that he was cast down to the earth, he went in pursuit of the woman who had given birth to the male Child

You see what Satan really wants. He is after your joy, your worship, your pregnancy. He is after your seed and the purpose of what you are standing for. We must see our current events from this perspective.

But here is the focus of these verses we want to release our faith in tonight:

[14] But the woman was supplied with the two wings of a giant eagle, so that she might fly from the presence of the serpent into the desert (wilderness), to the retreat where she is to be kept safe and fed for a time, and times, and half a time (three and one-half years, or 1,260 days). [15]

These wings is God's Spirit making His presence tangible by submission worship to you in the wilderness. These wings are not for what you would like them for in running away. They are God's grace sustaining you from this dragon who thinks he has you cornered. For they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up wings as what? As eagles that when you run you shall not be weary and when you run you shall not faint. Then out of his mouth the serpent spouted forth water like a flood after the woman that she might be carried off with the torrent. These are the floods of distractions. It understand why they are coming. They are after the child in you. Like the floods in my basement. It started because of a failed sub pump. A failed sub pump is failing worship that cannot pump the floods of distractions out of your mind to focus on God. We cannot humanize these floods in what people are doing to us. God wants us to embrace His prophetic Word through the wings of prayer and worship. Now the dragon cannot touch you. But you got to get the sub pump of worship going.

Look what happens in verse 16

16] But the earth came to the rescue of the woman, and the ground opened its mouth and swallowed up the stream of water which the dragon had spouted from his mouth. This is what submission worship does.

This is why the Bible says now may the Lord of peace Himself grant you His peace (the peace of His Kingdom) at all times and in all ways under all circumstances and conditions, whatever comes. The Lord be with you all. Now the devil is mans in **Rev. 12: 17**

17] So then the dragon was furious (enraged) at the woman, and he went away to wage war on the remainder of her descendants--on those who obey God's commandments and who have the testimony of Jesus Christ and adhere to it and bear witness to Him.

Despite Satan's fury God prevails in every battle. But we must acknowledge His prophetic Word and the wings He has provides us for the birthing. This is where our praise and our worship and intercession come in. We start by releasing our faith in His love through worship and praise. We give Him all of our brokenness with transparent praise. I'd like our men to come out of their pews and to come up front and lead us with wings into the wilderness. Let's get our sub pumps out. We are birthing something bigger than ourselves tonight.

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