Revelation 12:1-15:4 (Part 1, ch. 12) Seven Scenes

Thematic and Literary Structure of Revelation

From William Hendriksen

(Conflict on earth)

Section 1: 1:21-3:22 ______ Section 2: 4:1-7:17 ______ Section 3: 8-11

(Conflict in spiritual world)

I'm proposing:

(Remembering it's in letter form with opening and closing)

1-5 Praise to the Lord God Almighty and to the Lamb

(He sees a series of 7 parallel yet progressive sections.)

6-16 The Conflict

6-8:5 7 Seals 8:6-11:19 7 Trumpets 12:1-15:4 7 "Scenes" 15:5-16:21 7 Bowls

17-21 The Victory

Format in both cases:

6:12-17, 8:5, 11:19, 11:19, 14:14-20, 16:18-21, all bring to the brink of the end. The story is being told and retold with increased detail and intensity.

Structure of 12:1-15:4 (7 Scenes)

12	The battle (introduction to section?)
13:1-10	The beast of the sea
13:11-18	The beast of the earth
14:1-5	The 144,000
14:6-13	The three angels
14:14-20	The harvest
15:1-4	Victory song

Beginning Observations

This marks the second half of the book and takes readers to the beginning. The conflict deepens; the intensity increases.

Going behind the scenes into the spiritual realm.

Some see this as a parody of Christ and the Trinity.

Three Basic Approaches to chapter 12

A Dispensational Reading

Believers were removed from the earth in 4:1. So the rest of Revelation has nothing to do with the
The woman is
The time is the beginning of the the final 3.5 years of history. It begins with the war in heaven.
Puzzling (to me):
The Revelation is written to the or the
The message, theme, center is the
The message of the entire (See especially: Gal. 3:26-29, Col. 1:15-18, Eph. 3:6)
Revelation is the story of!
A Symbolic Interpretation
The picture depicted in Revelation 12 is of the battle which lies behind history (Eph. 6:12). It is a of the battle between God and satan. Shows satan as an angry power who then gives an all out assault on the church.
Does not see the birth as the birth of Christ.
Purpose is to show that satan has been

A Recapitulation or Progressive Parallelism Approach

	Takes the reader back t		
	Shows the attack on persecution from the op in conflict with satan and	ening of the NT	
	Christ has already		an. He has already
	Satan is waging war on intensely until the end.	the	and will more
Re-reading Revelation 12	(in light of the three appro	oaches)	
chronologica	es the read to the brink of Ily must take place angel and with more inte	to this.	_
The w	voman and dragon voman is, NT the		In OT
The d	lragon clearly is	(Rev. 2	0:2).
The c	hild (Ps	sm. 2:9, Rev. 2:	27, 19:15).
Dese	rt is the place of God's		(Psm. 55:6-8).
(Dan.	days (Rev. 11:3) = 42 mo 7:25, 12:7, Rev. 12:14). en, if symbolic	Literal or not. I	f literal
12:7-12 The	war in heaven		
Has t	he already be	en fought or is	it?
What	is it that satan is hurled d	own?	

	If not symbolic, still must be connected to
	He no longer can
	The victory is by the
	The conflict on earth is
	See: Col 1:22, 2:13-15, Eph. 2:1-2, 611-12.
	12:13-13:1
	12:13 Satan pursuing the
	12:14 Even as Pharaoh pursued Israel, yet Exodus 19:4. Protection in the wilderness: Deut. 2:7, Hos. 2:14.
	12:15-16 Flood = force, also
	12:17 Who satan is after? (Jn.14:15, 1 Jn. 3:22,24, 5:2,3)
Two Major Th	nemes
	Since the has taken place and believers have Overcome through the blood of the lamb we are already
	A continues, satan
	assaults God's