

More Than a Manger
The Dragon
Jack Doney // December 10, 2023
Revelation 12:3-4, 7-9

Big Idea: The Christmas story can heal the pride within us.

The Christmas season can reveal the pride within us.

The Christmas story can heal the pride within us.

An apocalypse is an unveiling of the spiritual reality behind what can be seen and observed.

Revelation 12:3-4, 7-9
Isaiah 27:1

The Way of the Dragon

- **The Dragon is powerful**
Revelation 12:3-4a
- **The Dragon is a murderer**
Revelation 12:3a, 4b
- **The Dragon is a liar**
Revelation 12:9
John 8:44
Revelation 12:7-8

The Fall of the Dragon

Ezekiel 28:17

- **Pride Blinds Us**
- **Pride Isolates Us**
- **Pride Destroys Us**
James 4:6
Revelation 12:11

The Way of the Lamb

Philippians 2:5

How is pride harming the relationships in my life?

Follow the way of the Lamb, not the way of the Dragon.

Message Questions

In Revelation, God reveals to us the spiritual reality behind his grand plan for all of creation. And right in the middle of that book is a Christmas story – but not a Christmas story like any you have heard before. This is the cosmic story of Christmas—the story of a woman, a dragon, and a child. And through it, God is telling us how underneath all the familiar aspects of Christmas, it is actually the beginning of the end of God’s epic war against the forces of evil and the hope for all creation. This week we will be in **Revelation 12:3-4, 7-9**. The big idea is: The Christmas story can heal the pride within us.

Use these questions to discuss the message from Sunday, focusing on how you can **grow** as an everyday follower of Jesus and how you can **go** accomplish what Jesus calls you to do.

1. Read **Revelation 12:1-9**. Have you heard this nativity story before? What stood out to from this week’s message?
2. Read **Revelation 12:3-4** again. How is the dragon described in this passage? Where did the dragon stand and how did he use his tail? Have someone read **Isaiah 27:1**. What powerful symbols do you notice?
3. Have someone **Revelation 12:7-9**. What is the ancient serpent’s name and how is he described? What does the ancient serpent do? How did the war end? Have someone else read **Ezekiel 28:17** to help better understand the dragon.

4. Pastor Jack shared that pride blinds, isolates, and destroys us. Which one of these is showing up in your heart this Christmas season? How is this area affecting your **growth** in your relationship with Jesus?
5. The Christmas story can reveal and heal the pride within us. How does the imagery of a dragon and a lamb give you confidence to **go** to the relationships around you with the message of Christmas? Who are you bringing with you to Christmas at Alderwood? Spend a few minutes praying for the people God is putting on your mind.