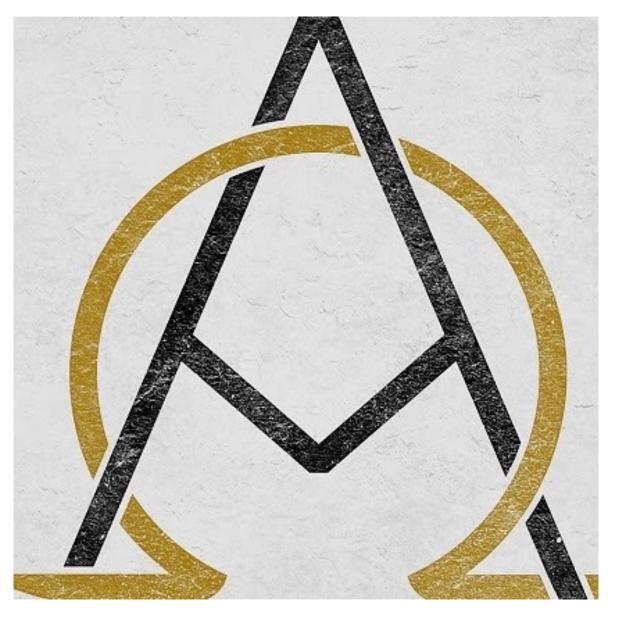
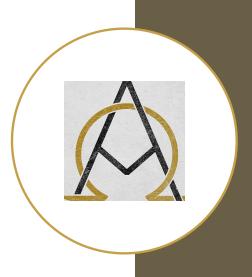


The Cast of Characters



- •The Woman = Israel God's Virgin Bride
- •Red Dragon = The Devil
- •Stars = Angelic Beings
- •Male child = seed of the Woman/Messiah/Jesus
- •Rest of her offspring = Christian witnesses





Great Red Dragon



Revelation 12



The One, True... SUPERHERO!



"And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. 2She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. 3And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems."

[Revelation 12:1-3]

"His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. 5She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, 6 and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days."

[Revelation 12:4-6]

"Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, **8**but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him."

[Rev 12:7-9]

And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. 11 And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death."

[Rev 12:10-11]

"Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!" 13And when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child.

[Rev 12:12-13]

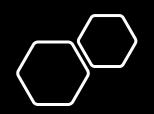
"But the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle so that she might fly from the serpent into the wilderness, to the place where she is to be nourished for a time, and times, and half a time. 15The serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, to sweep her away with a flood. <u>16</u>But the earth came to the help of the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed the river that the dragon had poured from his mouth."

[Rev 12:14-16]

"Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. And he stood on the sand of the sea."

[Rev 12:17]

THE LAST ADAM



Jesus had to be a human hero – born of a woman – in order to reverse the curse of Adam.

"Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned ... Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come ... as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

[Romans 5:12, 14, 21]

"For as by a man came death, **by a man** has come also the resurrection of the dead. **22**For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive."

[1 Corinthians 15:21-22]

Thus it is written, "The first man Adam became a living soul"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. 46But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. 47The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven.

[1 Corinthians 15:45-47]

"As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. 49Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven." [1 Corinthians 15:48-49]

A D A TIME

Authority over all creation

Tempted and failed

Caused all mankind to be infected with sin

Disobedience to God leads to death

Gave authority to Satan

JESUS

Authority over all creation

•Tempted and passed (Hebrews 4:15)

 Gave all mankind the opportunity to be forgiven of sin (Romans 5:12, 15)

Obedience to God leads to life (John 10:10)

Took authority back from Satan

For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. It has been testified somewhere,

"What is man, that you are mindful of him, or the son of man, that you care for him?

ZYou made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honor, 8 putting everything in subjection under his feet."

[Hebrews 2:5-8a]

"Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. 9But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, **namely Jesus**, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of **God he might taste death for** everyone."

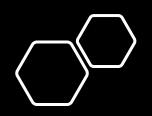
[Hebrews 2:8b-9]

"Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. 16For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham."

[Hebrews 2:14-16]

"Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted." [Hebrews 2:17-18]





Jesus is the most humble hero in the universe - coming to serve and sacrifice his own life for sinners.

And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. 43But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. 45 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

[Mark 10:42-45]

"But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. 8 None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory." [1 Corinthians 2:7-8]

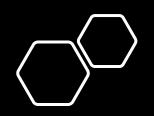
And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, 10 and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.

[Revelation 5:9-10]

"Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, Zbut emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.8And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross."

[Philippians 2:5-8]





Jesus now is the most highly exalted hero in heaven, having sat down at the right hand of the Father.

"His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. 5She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, 6 and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days."

[Revelation 12:4-6]

"Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

[Philippians 2:9-10]

"What is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might 20that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places," [Ephesians 1:19-20]

"Far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. 22And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all."

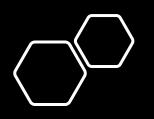
[Ephesians 1:21-23]

"For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. 23But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ." [1 Corinthians 15:22-23]

"Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. 25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. 26The last enemy to be destroyed is death."

[1 Corinthians 15:24-26]





Jesus is coming soon as the great **head**crushing hero who will remove all evil and rule the nations with a rod of iron.

"The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you."

[1 Corinthians 16:20]

But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" 62And Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." [Mark 14:61-62]

"As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill. 71 will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you. **8**Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. 9You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

[Psalm 2:6-9]

"Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. 12 His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. 13He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God."

[Revelation 19:11-13]

"And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. 15 From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. 16On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords."

[Revelation 19:11-14]

"I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth." [Numbers 24:17]

This is the blessing with which Moses the man of God blessed the people of Israel before his death. **2**He said,

"The LORD came from Sinai and dawned from Seir upon us; he shone forth from Mount Paran; he came from the ten thousands of holy ones, with flaming fire at his right hand." [Deuteronomy 33:1-2]

"O LORD, I have heard the report of you, and your work, O LORD, do I fear. In the midst of the years revive it; in the midst of the years make it known; in wrath remember mercy. 3God came from Teman, and the Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah His splendor covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise. 4His brightness was like the light; rays flashed from his hand; and there he veiled his power." [Habbakkuk 3:2-4]

"Before him went pestilence, and plague followed at his heels. 6He stood and measured the earth; he looked and shook the nations: then the eternal mountains were scattered; the everlasting hills sank low. His were the everlasting ways."

[Habbakkuk 3:5-6]

"The sun and moon stood still in their place at the light of your arrows as they sped, at the flash of your glittering spear.

12 You marched through the earth in fury; you threshed the nations in anger.

13 You went out for the salvation of your people, for the salvation of your anointed.

You crushed the head of the house of the wicked,

laying him bare from thigh to neck."

[Habbakkuk 3:11-13]

"Then the LORD will appear over them, and his arrow will go forth like lightning; the Lord GOD will sound the trumpet and will march forth in the whirlwinds of the south. 15 The LORD of hosts will protect them, and they shall devour, and tread down the sling stones ..."

[Zechariah 9:14-15]

"O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness, 8the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain, before God, the One of Sinai, before God, the God of Israel ... Our God is a God of salvation, and to GOD, the Lord, belong deliverances from death. 21But God will strike the heads of his enemies, the hairy crown of him who walks in his guilty ways." [Psalm 68:7-8, 20-21]

"The Lord is at your right hand. He will shatter many kings on the day of His wrath. 6He will punish the nations and fill their lands with corpses; he will shatter heads over the whole earth.

[Psalm 110:5-6]

The Revelation of Jesus Christ "Who is this who comes from Edom, in crimsoned garments from Bozrah, he who is splendid in his apparel, marching in the greatness of his strength? "It is I, speaking in righteousness, mighty to save."

2Why is your apparel red, and your garments like his who treads in the winepress?"

[Isaiah 63:1-2]

"I have trodden the winepress alone, and from the peoples no one was with me; I trod them in my anger and trampled them in my wrath; their lifeblood spattered on my garments, and stained all my apparel. 4For the day of vengeance was in my heart, and my year of redemption had come."

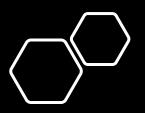
[Isaiah 63:3-4]

"And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the peoples that wage war against Jerusalem: their flesh will rot while they are still standing on their feet, their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongues will rot in their mouths. 13And on that day a great panic from the LORD shall fall on them, so that each will seize the hand of another, and the hand of the one will be raised against the hand of the other."

[Zechariah 14:12-13]

"And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and **bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming**."

[2 Thessalonians 2:8]



When Jesus our Hero

<u>appears</u> – all who
<u>believe</u> in Him will
become <u>just like</u> Him!

Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is."

[1 John 3:2]

APPLICATION



Put your trust in Christ today and be set free from the curse of Adam and receive forgiveness and the free gift of everlasting life!

To be first in God's kingdom, we must humble ourselves before God, deny ourselves and serve others in the love of Christ.