

General Church Education



# The Woman Clothed with the Sun

Revelation 12:1-6

## Lesson 35

Jacob's Ladder Religion Lessons

Introductory Level: The Lord Is Our  
Heavenly Father

For ages 5-6 years

## THE WOMAN CLOTHED WITH THE SUN

### Revelation 12:1-6

#### OVERVIEW OF THE STORY

John saw a vision of a Woman clothed with the Sun. She was threatened by a great red dragon. Both the Woman and the Child were saved by the Lord.

#### CONCEPTS FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS

- ❖ This beautiful vision represents the New Church coming into being. The Woman stands for the New Church. Her Child stands for the doctrine or teachings of the New Church.
- ❖ The dragon threatening the Woman pictures evil loves (the love of self and the world) trying to destroy the church in us.
- ❖ The conflict that follows pictures the battle in our minds and hearts as selfish loves try to destroy heavenly ones.
- ❖ Although selfish desires and the false reasonings that accompany them may seem hideous and strong sometimes, the Lord gives us higher, spiritual understanding (wings) to bring us to safety.
- ❖ The great red dragon in Revelation and the beguiling serpent in Genesis are really the same selfish love. It is present in early life and continues through to old age. However, the Lord is with us through the various stages of our lives.
- ❖ If we learn to love the Lord and His commandments, the dragon of selfishness cannot hurt us. The Lord will fight for us and give us the happiness of heaven.

## THE WOMAN CLOTHED WITH THE SUN

### IMPORTANT IDEAS FOR CHILDREN

In this vision the Woman had the Sun around her, the moon at her feet and was about to give birth to a very special Child. This is a picture of the New Church being born. Evil spirits try to destroy what is good, but they cannot.

### LET'S REMEMBER:

- ♦ We have been reading about a vision that was given to someone close to the Lord. What was his name? (John.)
- ♦ Where was he living at this time? (Isle of Patmos.)
- ♦ Who appeared in the first vision and spoke to John? (The Lord.)
- ♦ What was around the Lord? (Seven golden lampstands.)
- ♦ What was in the Lord's right hand? (Seven stars.)



### OUR STORY FOR TODAY:



Read **Revelation 12:1-2**.

John's spiritual eyes were opened again. What did he see in this vision? (A Woman.) What was she wearing? (Clothed with the Sun.) Where was the moon? (Under her feet.) What was on her head? (Garland of twelve stars.) What was she about to do? (Give birth or have a Baby.) This beautiful Woman and her special Child tell about the beginning of the New Christian Church, our church! This vision is filled with light. The light from the sun, moon and stars surrounded the Woman. When we have the light of truth we can see clearly what is the right thing to do.

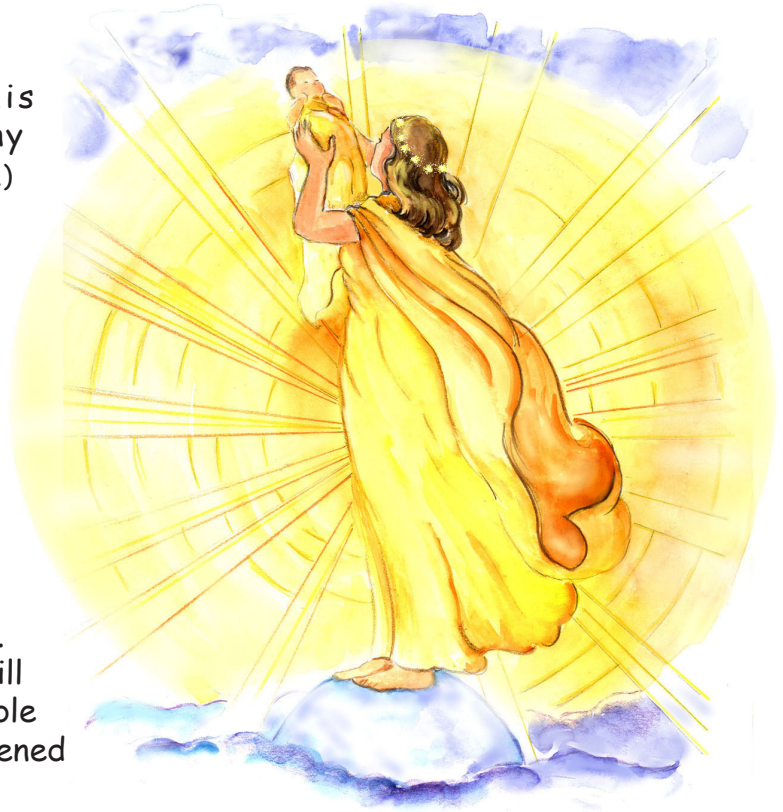
Do you remember another story, all the way back at the beginning of the Word in the Book of Genesis, when the sun, moon and stars appear? In the creation story, the Lord made these lights in the sky on the fourth day. God created them and said that they were good.

They are good in this vision also. What a happy thing to see: a beautiful Woman, surrounded by lovely light and about to have a Baby. Then something else appeared in the vision.



Read **Revelation 12:3-4**.

What color was this dragon? (Red.) How many heads did it have? (Seven.) How many horns? (Ten.) How many diadems or crowns did it have? (Seven.) The dragon is evil. It threw some stars to earth with its tail. Now there would be less light. The dragon was making it harder to see, wasn't it? Then it stood in front of the Woman threatening to devour or destroy her Child. This is a frightening scene. Do you think the dragon will be allowed to do this terrible thing? Listen to what happened next.



Read **Revelation 12:5-6**.

Do you know what a male child is? (A boy.) This was a very special Child who would rule over all the nations. This Child was caught up to God and to His throne.

He was saved so the dragon could not hurt Him. Then the Woman was saved when she fled or went away to a place that had been prepared for her. Where did the Woman go? (To the wilderness.)



What do you think is stronger, good or evil? (Good.) Sometimes evil or bad things seem very strong and frightening. They are like dragons! In this vision, the Lord is telling us that He always protects what is good. That is why the Lord brought the New Christian Church into the world.



When people were struggling with evil and did not know how to live a good life once again, the Lord gave the teachings of the New Church. The Woman clothed with the Sun and Her very special Baby picture the beginning of the New Church. You remember that the Lord told Emanuel Swedenborg what to write in the books we call the Heavenly Doctrines or the Writings. This was the Lord's way of coming to people once again when they needed Him.



When Swedenborg finished his writing for the Lord, something very wonderful happened in the spiritual world. We learn about it at the end of the book True Christian Religion. Listen to what the Lord wanted everyone to know.



Read **True Christian Religion 791:**

**After this work was finished the Lord called together His twelve disciples who followed Him in the world; and the next day He sent them all forth throughout the whole spiritual world to preach the Gospel that the Lord God Jesus Christ reigns, whose kingdom shall be for ages and ages.... This took place on the nineteenth day of June, 1770.**

Who was going to reign as our King for ages and ages? (The Lord God Jesus Christ.) This happened on June 19<sup>th</sup> in the year 1770. This is the birthday of the New Church and is known as "New Church Day." Every year on June 19<sup>th</sup> the church celebrates this birthday and the good news that the Lord has revealed Himself. Now we can clearly see and choose the life of heaven.

## WHAT DID WE LEARN TODAY?

- ♦ **What was the Woman wearing in this vision?** (Clothed with the Sun.)
- ♦ **Where was the moon?** (Under her feet.)
- ♦ **What was on her head?** (Garland of twelve stars.)
- ♦ **What did the dragon look like?** (Red with 7 heads, 10 horns and 7 crowns.)
- ♦ **What happened to save the Woman and her Child?** (The Child was caught up to heaven and the Woman found a safe place in the wilderness.)
- ♦ **What do we celebrate on June 19<sup>th</sup>?** (The birthday of the New Church.)

# THE WOMAN CLOTHED WITH THE SUN

## ACTIVITIES



**Recitation:** Learn the recitation by heart and earn an award. Awards are on the last page of this lesson.

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.



### Project choices:

Revelation 21:1-2

*Woman Clothed with the Sun* project

Color a picture of the Woman Clothed with the Sun



### Songs:

*Lo! the Clouds Have Burst Asunder*—Listen or download at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-lo-the-clouds-have-burst-asunder/>

*Jerusalem, the Golden*—Listen or download at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-jerusalem-the-golden/>

*Behold, the Great Red Dragon*—Listen or download at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-behold-the-great-red-dragon/>



### Additional Activities:

- ❖ Make a garland with twelve stars. Use stick-on gold stars and pipe cleaners or other materials.
- ❖ Make figures of the Woman and the dragon from play dough, clay or beeswax, then act out the story.
- ❖ Make *Woman Clothed with the Sun Stained Glass Window*. Directions online at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/file/project-woman-clothed-with-sun-stained-glass-window-revelation12.pdf>
- ❖ Make a *Sun Cake*. Directions online at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/file/project-make-a-sun-cake-revelation12.pdf>
- ❖ Read *The Birthday of the New Church*. Purchase online at [http://www.newchristianresources.org/The-Birthday-of-the-New-Church\\_p\\_141.html](http://www.newchristianresources.org/The-Birthday-of-the-New-Church_p_141.html) (Delivery may take up to 3 weeks.)
- ❖ Watch *The Woman Clothed with the Sun*. Online at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/video-the-woman-clothed-with-the-sun/>

## Woman Clothed with the Sun

Make a project of the Woman clothed with the Sun in John's vision.

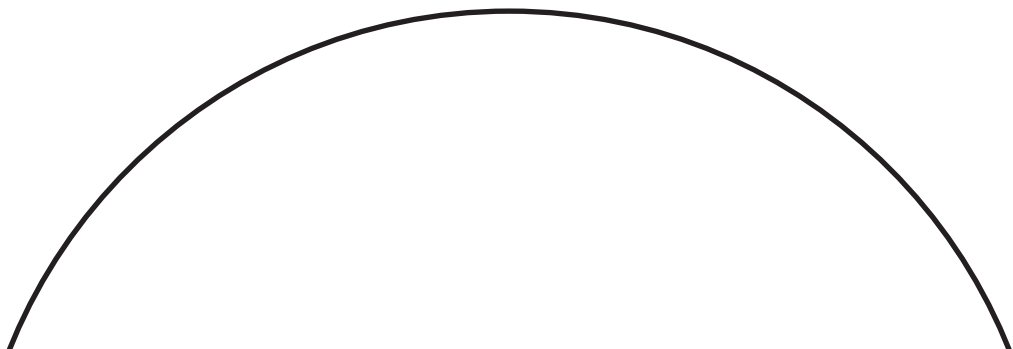
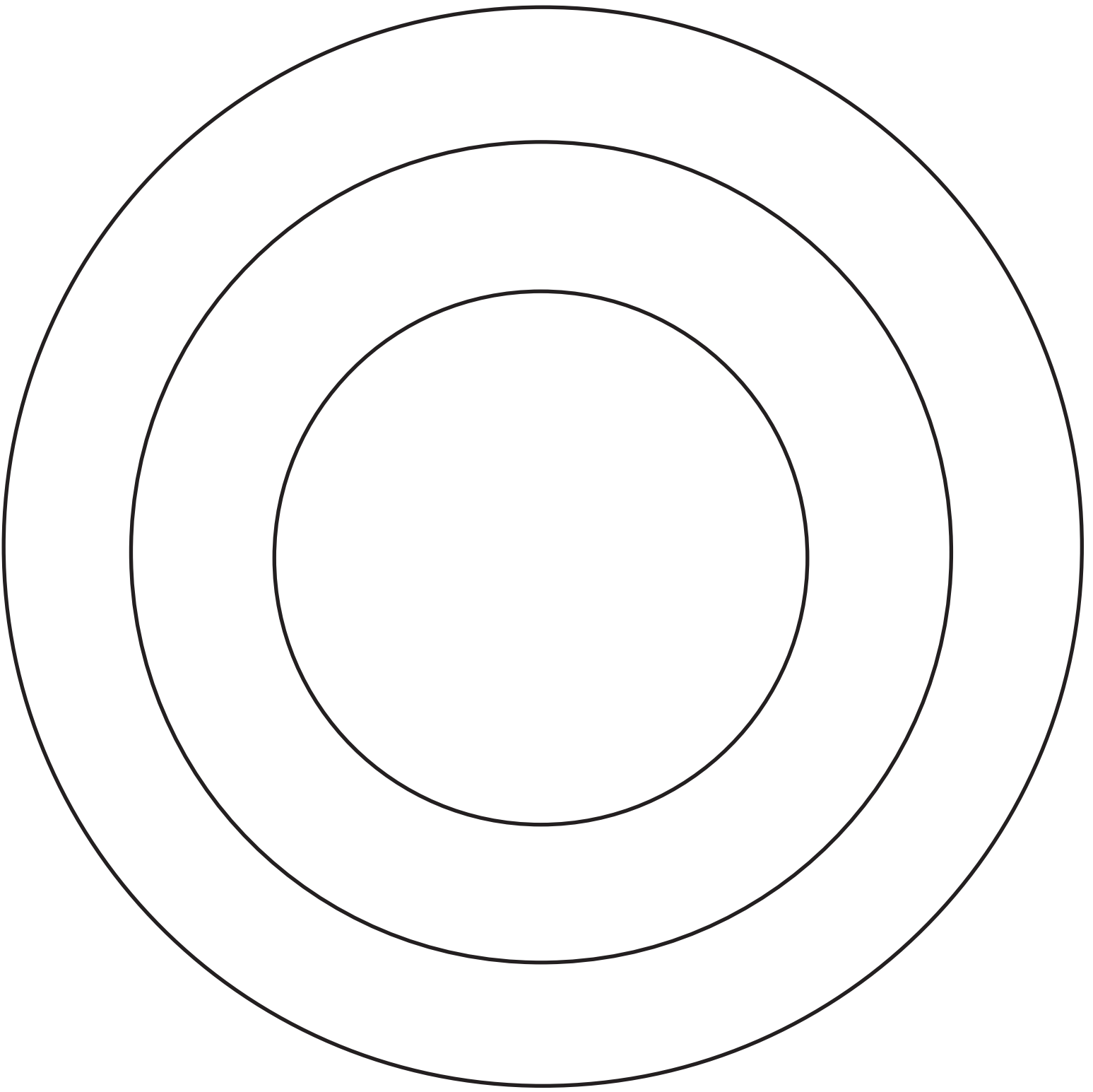
### Supplies:

2 printed pages  
crayons  
oil pastels  
watercolor paints  
paint brush  
1 piece of yellow paper glue  
scissors

### Project instructions:

1. Color the picture of the Woman clothed with the Sun using crayons. Use shades of yellow and orange for her dress and hair and for the stars.
2. On the other printed page, color the half circle at the bottom of the page gray or silver. This is the moon.
3. Using watercolor paints color the rest of the page with bright sun colors. You might want to start with red in the center-most circle and work out with orange and then yellow. Let the page dry.
4. Cut out around the figure of the Woman Clothed with the Sun. Glue the figure to the center of the page with the moon and sun on it. Make sure the Woman's feet are resting on the moon.
5. Glue the page to the center of the yellow construction paper to form a frame.
5. You may want to hang this picture in a window or near the Word in your home as you prepare to celebrate New Church Day.











## Recitation Award: The Woman Clothed with the Sun

Purchase a wide colorful ribbon. Attach each recitation award to the ribbon as it is learned. Multiple copies of the award are provided for classes.

