

# Celebrating New Church Day



Revelation 12  
Illustrated by Leah Smith

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Long ago John lived alone on the Isle of Patmos. The Lord showed him things that were happening in heaven and John wrote down what he saw.



John saw a woman clothed with the golden rays of the sun standing on the moon. She had a crown with stars on her head and she was about to give birth to a baby.

Suddenly a dragon appeared! It was fiery red and had seven heads and ten horns, with a crown on each head. It wanted to hurt the baby.



The Lord protected the baby when he was born and carried far away from the dragon.

The woman was also saved from the dragon. She ran away to a place in the wilderness. The dragon could not chase her because the Lord sent an army of angels. They fought and fought the dragon. They were stronger than the dragon!



But again the dragon tried to hurt the woman! So the Lord gave the woman two wings to fly far away from the dragon.



The dragon was very stubborn. He tried to hurt the woman again! He spat lot's of water from his mouth trying to drown her.



Happily the earth helped the woman. A big crack opened in the earth and it swallowed up all the water and the angels stopped the dragon.

The woman was safe and her baby was safe in heaven because the Lord was taking care of them.

When the dragon was defeated, John heard a loud voice in heaven saying, "... Rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them!"

(Revelation 12:10, 12).



On June nineteenth, on New Church Day, we rejoice too, celebrating the birth of the New Church. The Lord showed this vision to John to tell people about the New Church. The beautiful woman represents the New Church. Her baby boy stands for the truths or teachings of the church. The dragon stands for the evil spirits who want to destroy the church and make us disobey the Lord. The angels are warriors for the Lord who fight against everything that is evil and false. John's visions shows that the Lord will protect us.

**HAPPY NEW CHURCH DAY!**