

**GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH SUNDAY MORNING PROGRAM**

**Primary Lessons: Phase 2, Lesson 29**

**The Woman Clothed with the Sun, Michael and the Dragon (Rev. 12:1-9,  
13-17)**

**I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher**

- A. The book of Revelation is a prophetic vision of what would happen in the first Christian Church—of how it would gradually become perverted, as all the churches before it had been, through the selfishness and worldliness of its members, and of how it would finally be judged and brought to its end and a new church raised up to take its place.
- B. The great red dragon of materialism is always present, testing our sincerity by trying to get us to ignore divine truth.
- C. If we study our doctrines and remain true to them in our daily life, the dragon cannot harm us.
- D. Even the New Church is not free from the temptation to live by the doctrine of faith alone.
- E. Basic correspondences:
  - 1. The woman = The New Church
  - 2. The Child = Its doctrine
  - 3. The dragon = Love of world
  - 4. Wings = Spiritual understanding
  - 5. The flood = False reasonings

**II. Story Circle**

- A. Introduction
  - 1. Who can tell me what book of the Word we've been studying? (Revelation)
  - 2. Do you remember who wrote down this book? (John, the apostle [disciple] whom the Lord loved most when He was in the world.)
  - 3. Each week we've learned about a different vision in the spiritual world, which the Lord showed to John by opening his spiritual eyes and ears. And we've talked a little about the inner meanings of these visions.
  - 4. Our lesson today tells of the beginning of the New Church, and it's a story many of you may have heard before.

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B. Tell/Read the Story

1. Read Revelation 12:1-9, 13-17 in its entirety

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C. Ideas to Discuss

1. What was the great sign that John saw first?  
(Woman clothed with sun, moon under feet, garland of 12 stars on head)
2. What was the other sign? (Great, fiery red dragon) How many heads did it have? (7) How many horns? (10) And how many diadems, or crowns? (7)
3. What did its tail do? (Drew 1/3 of the stars of heaven and threw them to earth)
4. What was the dragon waiting to do? (Devour [eat up] the woman's Child as soon as it was born) How was the Child saved? (The Lord took him up to heaven.)
5. Where did the woman go? (Wilderness)
6. Who fought against the dragon? (Michael and his angels) What happened? (Michael and his angels won, so the dragon was cast out of heaven and down to the earth.)
7. How did the woman escape the dragon again? (She was given two wings like an eagle so she could fly into the wilderness.)
8. How did the dragon try to destroy her? (By spewing water out of his mouth like a flood to carry her away.)
9. How did the earth help her? (Opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood.)

D. Further Ideas

1. This vision is a parable about the beginning of the Lord's New Christian Church, or the New Church.
2. The New Church is seen in heaven as a beautiful woman; her dress shines with the sun; under her feet is the moon; and around her head is a garland of twelve stars. Her baby is like the wonderful truths of the Lord's new Word, which we call the Writings.
3. The angels and good men and women are very happy about the Divine birth, but evil spirits and bad people are not. The terrible red dragon, who represents these bad people and spirits, tries to kill the beautiful woman and her child.
4. But the Lord sends Michael and warrior angels to fight the dragon. They win and drive the dragon away. The new baby is lifted into heaven and

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taken care of there while the woman is given wings like an eagle to fly away to a safe place.

5. So does the Lord guard His Church and keep it safe until people are ready to accept it into their hearts. Even as a child you can learn to love the Lord's New Church, and you can help to protect it and keep it safe, like a mother protects her baby, or like a warrior angel fighting for the Lord.
6. How can you protect the New Church and keep it safe? By obeying the Lord's commandments, even when you don't feel like it, even when other people make fun of you. Then you are keeping your good thoughts and good feelings safe and alive within you. These good thoughts and good feelings are from the Lord, and they are like the New Church inside of you!

### III. Enrichment Activities

#### A. Music

1. "Revelation," LORI'S SONGS FROM THE WORD II, Side 2, first song. (Words attached to Lesson #1.)

#### B. Activities

1. Use flannel board to tell the story, or have children set up the scenes as the teacher narrates by reading the verses.

#### C. Project: Transfer Cloth Drawing

1. Materials: sandpaper (expensive), artist's quality parchment tracing paper (more reasonable), or other non-absorbent paper; cloth (sheeting or muslin works well); protective paper; crayons; iron and ironing board
2. Preparation: Sandpaper or other paper and a piece of cloth (cut with linking shears to prevent fraying) for each student.
3. Steps
  - a. Draw a picture on non-absorbent paper with crayon.
  - b. Place protective paper on ironing board. (Don't use newspaper; print will transfer to cloth.)
  - c. Place cloth on protective paper.

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- d. Place picture, crayon side down, on cloth, and iron slowly over back of picture.
  - e. If desired, staple or glue cloth to a strip of wood and attach yarn or string to make a wall hanging.
4. Guiding the Students
- a. Children should choose one scene from the story to illustrate:
    - Woman clothed w/sun, moon under feet, garland of 12 stars
    - Fiery red dragon, 7 heads, 7 crowns, 10 horns
    - Perhaps Michael fighting the dragon
  - b. Fine detail is nearly impossible with crayon. Encourage children to go for the effect rather than concentrating on details.
  - c. Bright colors will produce a more effective result.
  - d. Encourage children to apply crayon thickly for best results.

**IV. Teaching Aids**

- A. Flannel board and felt New Church Day figures
- B. Pictures of woman, dragon, and earth swallowing up water from Revelation coloring book.

**V. Further Reading for the Teacher**

- A. Dole's *Bible Study Notes*, Vol. 6, "The Woman and the Dragon," (Rev. 12), pp. 257-271.
- B. *John in the Isle of Patmos* by Rev. George de Charms, "The Woman Clothed with the Sun," (Rev. 12), pp. 95-99.
- C. *Apocalypse Revealed* 532-565.