The Dragon Is Fierce, But He Is Finished

Do Not Be Afraid — Revelation Series
Text: Revelation 12
Supporting Texts: Romans 8:31–39; 1 John 2:1–2; Genesis 3:15; Ephesians 6:10–18

Bottom Line:
The dragon is fierce, but he is finished.

Key Idea:
Revelation 12 pulls back the curtain on the spiritual conflict behind history. The enemy still rages, accuses, deceives, and attacks, but his defeat is already certain because of Jesus. We overcome by living as though the blood of the Lamb is enough, our testimony matters, and allegiance to Jesus is worth more than self-protection.

READ

Read **Revelation 12:1–17** aloud.

John sees a woman, a dragon, and a child. The child is Jesus, the promised King. The dragon is identified as "that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan." He tries to destroy the child, loses the war in heaven, and turns his rage toward the people of God.

But the chapter tells us the ending before the battle feels finished: "They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony."

DISCUSS

1. Revelation 12 shows us the unseen conflict behind visible events. How does that change the way you think about spiritual struggle?
2. The devil is called "the accuser." What makes accusation such an effective weapon?

3. What is the difference between the conviction of the Holy Spirit and the accusation of the enemy?

COME AND SEE

The Dragon Is Real, but Defeated

The dragon is Satan, the ancient serpent from Genesis. His war runs through the story of Scripture, but Revelation shows us he is already a defeated enemy whose "time is short."

See also: **Genesis 3:15; Luke 10:18; Colossians 2:13–15**

The Accuser's Voice Is Not God's Voice

Conviction draws us toward repentance and restoration. Accusation pushes us toward hiding, shame, and despair.

See also: **John 16:8; Romans 8:1; Zechariah 3:1–5**

Jesus Is Our Advocate

The enemy accuses, but Jesus intercedes. Our confidence is not that we never fail, but that Christ has died, risen, and now advocates for us.

See also: **Romans 8:33–34; Hebrews 7:25; 1 John 2:1–2**

FOLLOW ME

1. Learn to Recognize the Accuser's Voice

The enemy often begins with temptation and ends with condemnation.

- Where do you hear accusation most loudly in your life?
- What failure, regret, insecurity, or wound does the enemy repeatedly use against you?

- Does that voice lead you toward Jesus or away from Him? Does it invite repentance, or only shame?

Reflect:
Conviction says, **"This is sin. Bring it into the light. Come home."**
Accusation says, **"You are the problem. Hide. Give up."**

2. Stand on the Blood of the Lamb

Revelation does not say believers overcome because they are strong, flawless, disciplined, or impressive. They overcome "by the blood of the Lamb."

- What would change if you truly believed Jesus' death has answered the charges against you?
- Which sin or failure do you keep treating as though Christ's blood was insufficient for it?

Read **Romans 8:33–34** slowly.

3. Use the Word of Your Testimony

Your testimony is not only the story of how you became a Christian. It is the ongoing declaration of what Jesus has done and who He has been to you.

- Where has God met you, forgiven you, sustained you, or changed you?
- What truth from your story does the enemy most want you to forget?
- Who needs to hear that story?

Practice:

"The enemy says _____, but Jesus says _____."

4. Expose the Enemy's Lies

The sermon names two opposite lies:

"This won't matter."
Then later:
"This is all that matters."

Sin is **minimized** before we fall and **magnified** after we fall.

- Where are you being tempted to treat something destructive as harmless?
- Where are you treating a past failure as though it defines your entire future?

Reflect:
The enemy wants either carelessness or despair. Jesus calls us to repentance and hope.

5. Refuse to Build Your Life Around Self-Protection

Revelation says the saints "did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death."

This does not mean recklessness. It means their allegiance to Jesus was stronger than their instinct for self-preservation.

- Where does fear of loss keep you from obeying Jesus?
- What are you protecting most tightly: reputation, comfort, control, money, approval, safety?
- Where might faithfulness require courage instead of self-protection?

6. Remember That Fury Is Not the Same as Victory

The dragon is furious precisely because he knows his time is short.

- How does knowing the enemy's end change the way you endure the present battle?

GO AND BE

This week, practice replacing accusation with gospel truth.

Name the Lie

Write down one accusation or lie you hear repeatedly.

The enemy says:

Answer with the Blood

Write one truth about what Jesus has done.

Because of Jesus:

Use **Romans 8:33–34** or **1 John 2:1–2** if you need words.

Speak Your Testimony

Tell one trusted person this week one way Jesus has met you in a place of failure, fear, shame, or struggle.

Do not just rehearse what the enemy has done.

Rehearse what Jesus has done.

Take One Courageous Step

"If I were not afraid of losing comfort, approval, or control, what act of obedience would I take?"

Then take one step.

CLOSING PRAYER