

## REVELATION 12: THE WOMAN AND THE DRAGON

REVELATION 12 IS NOT AN ORIGINAL STORY;  
IT DEPICTS A CONFLICT AS OLD AS CREATION ITSELF.

This conflict appears in myth and legend throughout the histories of many civilizations. John draws from a Greco-Roman rendition found in ancient writings dating back to 1000 B.C. One could surmise the entire chapter is an historical overview of the age old conflict between the Creator and the Dragon.



This particular version goes like this: Zeus has relations with Leto, the goddess of Motherhood, who becomes pregnant with twins—the god Apollo and his sister, the goddess Artemis.

Meanwhile, at the center of the world's power, a great Dragon named Python guards the most sacred shrine, the Oracle at Delphi, where the gods deliver messages to humans. Mythology differs on the reasons, but the gist of the story is that Python pursues

Leto, intending to ravage her and prevent the twins' birth. Leto evades Python long enough to give birth to the twins. Her son, Apollo, then slays the Dragon and claims the Oracle for himself.

The story of Evil versus a Woman and her Savior-Child is alluded to in the story of Genesis 3, between the serpent and Eve, and again in Midrash tales of Moses' mother and Pharaoh. It also appears in the birth narrative of Caesar Augustus and again in Jesus' birth story, marked by Herod's desire to kill the newborn king.

