

## Traditional Restoration Interpretation of Book of Revelation

All page numbers refer to *Restoration: A Study in Prophecy* by Elbert A. Smith (Herald Publishing House, Independence, MO, 1945)

And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars:	Revelation 12:1	Woman = Church, Sun = light from Heaven, Moon = Mosaic Law Twelve Stars = Tribes of Israel
She being with child, cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.	12:2	Child = work of the Church
...a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.	12:3	Dragon = Pagan Rome, 7 Heads = 7 Hills upon which Rome built
...dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.	12:13	Christians = persecuted by Pagan Rome
And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.  And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.	12:6  12:14	True church was hid from humankind for 1260 years...a period of apostasy  “time, times, and half a time” = 3 ½ years = 1260 days = 1260 years Two wings of an eagle = America?
And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.	12:17	Satan/Pagan Rome went to war against Christians. Ten great persecutions of Christians in first 300 years, estimated 3 million died. From Nero and Domitian onward.
...and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.	16:3	Woman = Church, Beast = Temporal power, wealth & honor. Emperor Constantine declared Christianity the state religion.
And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication:	16:4	Woman (Church) transformed into worldly dominion (Roman Catholic church)
...the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and	16:6	Inquisition began in 1179 to implement the infallibility

with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus		doctrine of the church. <sup>i</sup> During Spanish Inquisition alone (1481-1808), historians estimate that 341,000 people were burned to death in the name of Christ. “The church itself...became the persecutor and destroyed those who differed with the church.” <sup>iii</sup> Torture was condoned. <sup>iii</sup>
And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.	14:6-7	Latter Day Saint Movement belongs neither to Catholicism (claims succession back to Peter) or Protestant (rest their claims on the Reformation). “our position is...Restoration.” As evidenced by the Angel’s message in Revelation. <sup>iv</sup>

## Dates, Times & Dispensations

**Mosaic Dispensation:** flourished under remarkable culture of Egypt (page 82)

**Christian Dispensation:** “Coming of Christ was preceded and accompanied by...the Greek and Roman cultures” (page 82)

AD 570 Roman Church apostasy, based on *The Independence of the Holy See* by Cardinal Manning, Elbert A. Smith wrote, “the ending of civil rule in Rome and the beginning of the rise of the pope to temporal as well as spiritual power has been determined by some writers to have been in the year A.D. 570.” Cardinal Manning states that the pope took over when the Lombards “extinguished the last vestiges of the Roman Empire in Italy.”

AD 1820 “First revelation given to the modern prophet of this last dispensation” (Spring). (Page 81)<sup>v</sup>

AD 1829 Priesthood restored, Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery ordained by

**Dispensation of the Fullness of Times** (D&C 26:3) See John Fiske quote, page 83.

AD 1830 (1260 years latter) RLDS Church organized (April 6). (Page 81)

AD 1835 Process of reorganization continues until (page 81)

John 5:28-29 “Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

Second death D&C 76:4a-e

Glories D&C 76

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<sup>i</sup> Page 56.

<sup>ii</sup> Page 43.

<sup>iii</sup> Page 57. "Torture was first authorized by the papal bull of Pope Innocent IV, May 15, 1252. Its use was confirmed by Pope Alexander IV in 1259 and Pope Clement IV in 1265."

<sup>iv</sup> Page 79-80.

<sup>v</sup> For the Restoration Movement, 1820 to 1835 was considered the "era of preparation and organization....During that period the church (the woman seen in John's vision of Revelation 12) was by divine order brought forth from her long stay in the wilderness where John saw that she was kept for 1,260 days, which stood for prophetic years." Page 81.