CREEKSIDE’S TEACHING NOTES for Sunday, December 13, 2015



Revelation 12:1-5

This is the story behind the story.

A great sign appeared in heaven:

Revelation 12:1a

The term “Sign” refers to something that is . . .

⦁ symbolic of something else

⦁ real

⦁ greater than the sign

There are three main characters in the vision:

A WOMAN . . .

: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth.

Revelation 12:1b-2

Israel is often depicted in Scripture as a woman, a pregnant woman in pain, in travail trying to give birth. For centuries and centuries Israel has suffered longing to experience the promises of God.

“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush you head, and you will strike his heel.”

God to the serpent in Genesis 3:15

A DRAGON . . .

Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on its heads. Its tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that it might devour her child the moment he was born.

Revelation 12:3-4

Who is the dragon?

The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray.

Revelation 12:9

The dragon has tried to devour the woman throughout her history and now he is seeking to devour her child. He is trying to stop the coming of the one who will rescue us.

A SON . . .

She gave birth to a son, a male child, who “will rule all the nations with an iron scepter.” And her child was snatched up to God and to  
 his throne.

Revelation 12:5

His INCARNATION . . . a son, a male child

His CORONATION . . . who “will rule all the nations with an iron scepter.”

His EXULTATION . . . snatched up to God and to his throne.

Psalm 2

CHRISTMAS IS . . .

⦁ so much bigger than a baby in a manger

⦁ about a war

⦁ the subversive announcement that a king has been born who will rule over everything

⦁ the arrival of an answer to our deepest need . . . we do not need more government, education, technology, military might etc. . . . we need a baby . . and the baby has come.

