

***HOW THE
GRINCH
ALMOST STOLE
CHRISTMAS
Revelation
12:1-6***



How the Grinch Almost Stole Christmas

Revelation 12:1-5

The Grinch in the Bible tried to steal Christmas

Pawns

Herod the Great killed babies in Bethlehem

Scribes who told Herod where Jesus would be
born

Innkeeper who turned Joseph and Mary away

The Ultimate Grinch

The director and producer of all other Grinches

Satan; the devil

The Grinch thinks wails will rise because
Christmas was stolen:

"And he puzzled and puzzled, till his puzzler
was sore. Then the Grinch thought of something
he hadn't before, 'Maybe Christmas doesn't
come from a store. Maybe Christmas, perhaps,
means a little bit more.'"

The Ultimate Grinch

Christmas is something that happens in the heart, and you cannot take that away

The devil attacked the One who brings eternal life

John saw "great signs"

The Ultimate Grinch

Μέγα; mega-great

sign: a symbol that points to something else
(e.g., the Grinch points to those who try to steal

The Grinch points to those who try to steal
Christmas

The Dominant Players

The Woman

The Nation of Israel

In the Old Testament, Israel referred to as a woman (wife of God)

Joseph's Dream (See Genesis 37:9-10)

Jacob identifies the stars, sun, and moon as the Nation of Israel

The Dominant Players

Israel is always at the center of God's
redemptive history

"And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall
call His name Jesus, for He will save His people
from their sins." (Matthew 1:21)

The Jewish Nation

The rest of the world

The Child: Jesus

His incarnation: He is born

His ascension: caught up to the throne of God

His coronation: rules the nations with a rod of
iron

Isaiah 9:6-7

"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6-7

. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever.”

"Joy to the World" by Isaac Watts: not looking back to Jesus' birth, but forward to His second coming

The Dragon: the Devil

Hates God

Hates Jesus

Hates all that God loves

Dragon: his personality - fierce, wicked, mean

Seven heads: incredible intelligence

Ten crowns: world authority

Satan hates those God loves and wants to stop them from worshiping God

The Diabolical Plot

Satan wanted to consume the Child, because He would be his undoing

"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."

Genesis 3:15

The Diabolical Plot

Throughout history, Satan tried to destroy the woman (before the Child was born)

Cain killed Abel (destroy the seed that would bring the Promised One) (See Genesis 4)

Satan filled the earth with evil, so God destroyed it with a flood, except the eight people on Noah's ark.

Genesis 6-7

The Diabolical Plot

Pharaoh killed the male Hebrew children

See Exodus 1

Haman plotted to kill all the Jews (See Esther 3)

Herod the great killed the babies

See Matthew 2

The people wanted to throw Jesus over a cliff,
but He walked away unharmed

Luke 4:29-30

The Divine Plan

All Satan's attempts to destroy the Child failed

The cross

The Resurrection: enable Jesus to offer
everlasting life to those who believe

He will come back to rule and reign over the
world

The Divine Plan

The Devil was unable to prevent:

Jesus birth

The redemptive plan

Jesus' rising from the dead

Jesus exaltation in heaven

Jesus return to rule and reign

The Divine Plan

The devil turns against individuals to prevent a right relationship with God

"Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea!

For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time." (Revelation 12:12)

Issue of the heart

The Divine Plan

"Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it
spring the issues of life."

Proverbs 4:23

"That if you confess with your mouth the Lord
Jesus and believe in your heart that God has
raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

Romans 10:9

The Divine Plan

God's intention

The gift of eternal life

Replace your heart of stone with a soft heart
(See Ezekiel 36:26)

Application

Don't let the devil steal the truth that Christmas is about (he wants you to die apart from relationship with God)

God's plan is life forever; receive it!

Receive the Savior, who came into the world as a Baby

He went to the cross as a bleeding Savior

He will come back as King of kings to rule the nations of the world

Suggested Prayer

If you don't find Christmas in your heart with
the relationship with Christ.

You won't find it under a tree

It all begins in here, the heart

Suggested Prayer

Lord I give you my life, I know that I am a sinner please forgive me, I believe that Jesus was born that he died on a cross that he shed his blood for my sin and that He rose from the dead. I turn from my sin I turn to you into your grace and your mercy I receive you as my savior.

Help me to live for you as Lord.

In Jesus name. Amen