Revelation 12:1-6: Parallels & Meaning

The Difference Between Myths, Folklore and Meaning

Revelation 12:1-6	Solar myths Greece	Egypt	Rome	John of Patmos' critique and response
Woman/Mother	Leto	Isis	"Mother Goddess" cults THEAN ROMEN* (Roma, the goddess)	False queen/"Jezebel" (Rev. 18:7) vs. **Mother of Messiah/Mary/ Messianic Community**
Dragon	**Dragon of darkness** Python	Set the Red Dragon	"Not-Rome"	Satan/Accuser/Beelzebub Apollyon/Belial
Child/Prince	**Sun god** Apollo, Newborn son of Zeus	Horus	AUGUSTUS Imperial Caesar (xref. Luke 2:1-14)	Emperor as one of the dragon's underlings vs. **Messiah and Messiah's Children/Church**
Notes	*Coin of Pergamum; Coins as universal form of propaganda; coins stamped with emperor's head irradiate, "light" to the world, "victory" of light over darkness; eternal cosmic struggle **Astrology and Astronomy** 12 stars — zodiac 1/3 stars Daniel 8:10 — angelic representations of pagan power ("thrown down" and "trampled") **OT xrefs** •"birth pangs" Isa. 66:7-9 (Mother Zion) • "iron bar" Ps. 2:7-9 •desert/*eremon* — Day of Atonement, "scapegoat" •offspring/seed — Gen. 3:15			How does John appropriate "currency" of myth for gospel purposes? For John, "birth" = the cross. (Dragon defeated by death of Son. Overturns the "myths" of salvation. Escape to the *eremon*