**FOCUS** in 2020

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**REVELATION**

***The Birth of Our Victory –*** Revelation 12



Do you ever feel like your **situation** is desperate?

*And* ***a great sign appeared in heaven:*** *a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth.* Revelation 12:1–2

*And* ***another sign appeared in heaven****: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child* ***he might devour it****.* Revelation 12:3-4

*“This is an epic pageant of intense, unprotected goodness confronted with a shocking evil that looks powerful, inevitable, devasting.”*  James Hamilton, Revelation

Never **bet** **against** God.

*She gave birth to a male child,* ***one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron****, but her child was* ***caught up to God and to his throne****, and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days.* Revelation 12:5-6

You are **worth** **fighting** for.

***Now war arose in heaven****, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, but* ***he was defeated****, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. And* ***the great dragon was thrown down****, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan,* ***the deceiver of the whole world****—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.* Revelation 12:7-9

He has **conquered** the enemy.

*And* ***I heard a loud voice in heaven****, saying, “****Now the salvation*** *and the* ***power*** *and the* ***kingdom of our God*** *and the* ***authority of his Christ*** *have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.* Revelation 12:10

* **Salvation** is here!
* **Spirit** is here!
* **Kingdom** is here!
* **Authority** is here!

Our enemy is **defeated,** but he is **angry**.

*Therefore,* ***rejoice****, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for* ***the devil has come*** *down to you* ***in great wrath****, because* ***he knows that his time is short****!”* Revelation 12:12

*Be* ***sober-minded****; be* ***watchful****. Your adversary the* ***devil prowls around like a roaring lion****, seeking someone to devour.* ***Resist him****,* ***firm******in your faith****, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while,* ***the God of all grace****, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself* ***restore****,* ***confirm****,* ***strengthen****, and* ***establish*** *you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.* 1 Peter 5:8–11

Our enemy is **defeated,** but he is **persistent**.

*And* ***when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth****, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. But the* ***woman was given the two wings of the great eagle so that she might fly from the serpent into the wilderness****, to the place where she is to be nourished for a time, and times, and half a time. The serpent* ***poured water like a river*** *out of his mouth after the woman, to sweep her away with a flood. But the earth came to the help of the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed the river that the dragon had poured from his mouth.* Revelation 12:13-16

***Have you not known? Have you not heard?*** *The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;* ***they shall mount up with wings like eagles****; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.* Isaiah 40:28-31

Our enemy is **defeated,** but our world is still **deceived**.

*Then* ***the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring****, on* ***those who keep the commandments of God*** *and* ***hold to the testimony of Jesus****. And he stood on the sand of the sea.* Revelation 12:17

The birth of our victory is in Jesus!

* **Salvation** is here!
* **Spirit** is here!
* **Kingdom** is here!
* **Authority** is here!

How do you **defeat** a defeated **enemy**?

*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.* ***Put on the whole armor of God****, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For* ***we do not wrestle against flesh and blood,*** *but against the* ***rulers****, against the* ***authorities****, against the* ***cosmic powers*** *over this* ***present darkness****, against the* ***spiritual forces of evil*** *in the heavenly places.* Ephesians 6:10–12

*And* ***they have conquered him*** *by* ***the blood of the Lamb*** *and by* ***the word of their testimony,*** *for* ***they loved not their lives even unto death****.* Revelation 12:11

* Our **Sacrifice** - The blood of the lamb
* Our **Story** - The word of your testimony
* Our **Surrender** – The letting go of our lives