# The birth of The Revelation Apocalipsis 12 // Serie de Navidad 2018

<u>Welcome</u>: **Hi**, **my name is** J.D. Greear, / I've gained a few pounds, / got a tan, / and all of the sudden I have an English accent & learned Spanish ©

- We are on a Christmas series in Revelations (and I'm not sure who's idea was it to preach REV@Xmas [blessed J.D. Greear] but I love it).
- All kidding aside, we really need to pray....
- Por favor abra su Biblia conmigo al libro de Apocalipsis, capitulo 12

#### Introduction:

There is an **<u>un</u>-talked** about character in the nativity scene that I'm pretty sure many of you have not heard about...

- When you think of the nativity scene, you think of shepherds, & HM precious moments looking angels, and all is peaceful and calm and snuggly.... In the words of d great Will Ferrell: "sweet lavender Jesus".
- However, Revelation describes the birth of Jesus way different. And yes, the birth of Jesus is found in the book of Revelation.
- It's actually a rather dark passage; but <u>is no lesser truth</u> than the account of Jesus' birth described in the gospels....

The un-talked about character in the nativity in Revelation 12 is a Red **Dragon**. And though I've never watched any Harry Potter movies before, I'm pretty sure this passage beats them all. Revelation 12, verse 1: 1 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. 2 She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth.

3 And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. 4 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.

5 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,

6 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.

7 Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, 8 but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. 9 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.

10 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. 11 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.

12 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!"

13 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. 14 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.

15 The serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, to sweep her away with a flood. 16 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.

17 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. REV. 12 - This is The Word of The Lord. Although this passage is really dense, and deep, and dark, <u>bear with me</u>, <u>you are going to want to stay awake</u> for there is **great news for you and I here...**.

First, we see the reality of 2 kingdoms, and that:

1) Satan's kingdom is real and powerful. And one that is little talked about (that's why people steer away from Apocalipsis/from Rev); the temporary rule of satan and his kingdom is a topic some avoid <u>But life is & has always being affected by an *age old battle...* and Christians tend to cave into two extremes here: One extreme is that *"everything is satan..."* (for example: *Mic stops working and someone says, "oh it's a demon"*, no is not, the mic ran out of batteries... // or, You don't have a parking spot at the mall. *"Must be Satan."* (No is not, it's just the week before Christmas). So, not everything is satan; but,</u>

- the other extreme (and the one I think our church is most tempted with) is that, nothing is Satan... that it is all and only the heart (and we all due respect to my hyper reformed friends; yes, the heart is wicked and deceitful, but it didn't become that way by itself / Adam and Eve were not deceived by themselves). So for some "nothing is satan", or too little importance is given to the real and active work of satan. Satan's kingdom is real!
- In the words of Lewis: "There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They (the demons) themselves are equally pleased by both errors...." C.S. Lewis

Revelation reveals a battle that happened way before you and I existed: A battle between two kingdoms; the Kingdom of God, and the kingdom of <u>a jealous foe who has always wanted to be the God of the universe</u> <u>but is not, and can't be</u>

How did this battle began? A beautiful angel of light called lucifer rebelled against God in the heavenly Kingdom... > the result was that (as we read in verses 8 and 9)God kicked out lucifer and all of the angels he had deceived and threw them down to planet earth,

- AND GUESS WHO LIVES TODAY IN A PLACE CALLED PLANET EARTH? You and I.
- The story of humanity only really makes sense at the light of the story of the Bible (in all the many years that I sat under atheist

teaching, <u>I never had the assurance nor the logic that The Bible gives</u> to our existence, I also realized that, <u>rather than atheist I was really</u> just blind because not even the demos are atheists). Satan **was** thrown down to this earth, Jesus Himself said in Luke 10:18 "*I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.*"

 Lucifer was given a new name after his rebellion towards God that properly identifies who he is, he went from being lucifer (angel of light) to satan (adversary of God); and he surely is powerful, <u>but he is</u> <u>NOT almighty</u> (only one is that; namely, God)

These two kingdoms cannot be any more different:

- One is the Kingdom of God / of Heaven / of Light / of Life; the other is the kingdom of satan / of this earth / of darkness / and of death
- One is of eternal life, the other is of **an** eternal righteous sentence for rebelling against a Holy and perfect God, who has made everything that is good for us.
- And if we now know that this earth <u>is the playground of the</u> <u>kingdom of darkness, that gives a lot of sense to our suffering</u>!
- *Illus*: To use a fictional illustration to help the point: If someone is going crazy because they are Spinning around, but you go and tell them <u>it's because they are stock in a washing machine</u>, in one sense just telling them doesn't necessarily make the suffering go away, <u>but is does help because it does give it a bit of sense and you know is at least temporary (you hang on for dear life 'cause you know the wash cycle will be over soon). (Well, this washing machine called earth ain't gonna spin forever <u>in this fallen condition</u>; Jesus will return, and with Him He brings back Peace and Paradise).
  </u>
- But suffering in this earth is inevitable, this is, for some time satan's playground (never more than 100 years for anyone though). / But we live in a war zone! And as soon as you realize that life is a spiritual war for your soul & eternity, it completely changes your expectations. You may still experience joys along the way, but you won't be shocked and surprised when suffering comes.
- <u>*Illus*</u>: Imagine two people staying in a dingy hotel room for a couple nights.
  - The first person thought he was going on an all-expenses paid vacation.
  - The second person thought he was going to jail.

- Their experience of that dingy hotel room is going to be very different, isn't it? To the first, it'll be a huge disappointment. But to the second, it'll seem like an upgrade!
- The reality church is that we will suffer afflictions in this life <u>because</u> <u>before you and I resided here, satan and his demons did...</u>. This ain't home yet, and that helps because it delivers us from false expectations.

Now, bad news / good news game: <u>The bad news</u>, earth is for now the place satan has limited dominion over. <u>Good news</u>: *†*Jesus decided to come down and be born <u>here on earth</u>! that changes everything. What we celebrate at Christmas isn't a sweet defend-less baby Jesus, but GOD IN THE MANGER. <u>We celebrate at Christmas an invasion and entrance</u> <u>of a Holy God right smack in the middle of enemy territory</u>, that in Him your eternity and my eternity may be very different than our short years here if we trust our lives to Him. Christmas is the day we stop to commemorate when Jesus responded to God alone, in coming down and crushing the serpent's head and the darkness here. Christmas is more like D-Day than Silent Night.

- Jesus came to the devil's playground to show who really has power. <u>Yes, satan is real, is horrifying, and is at work</u>, and you would be a fool to understate your enemy; <u>but God is greater</u>!
- That's why, Revelation 6:2 says about Jesus, that: "...he came out conquering, and to conquer." Revelation 6:2b listen; Jesus doesn't even know what defeat is... the passage doesn't say that "he came out hoping to get the victory"; it also doesn't say that Jesus came out "that he may possibly win", no, the passage says, Jesus "came out already CONQUERING, AND TO CONQUER"; He has never known defeat, AND He never will.
- So the bad news is, this world is satan's playground, <u>the good news is</u> <u>JESUS came to conquer again</u>; and Jesus offers HIS VICTORY to anyone who repents <u>of their indifference towards God</u> and Godless/prayer-less life, and trusts Him as Lord and Savior. Don't forget church, #weainthomeyet

The true story continues: Rev 12 reveals that <u>satan hated the fact Jesus</u> <u>came down from heaven to born on earth</u>. You see satan knows how to read; he knows what's in The Bible, and he had heard the prophets foretelling of the coming / the birth of The Savior.

- Humanity's hope is in the savior, in the Old Testament their hope was in the savior to come (that's how the O.T. finishes Malachi 4), in the New Testament (us) our hope is in the savior that came and will return (that's how the N.T. finishes; Revelations 22 ends with "surely I am coming soon")
- Guess who too was awaiting the birth of Jesus? Satan; but for the wrong reasons; as a matter of fact, to try to STOP the birth and the Child....
- Revelation 12 tells of the birth of Jesus from an angle that's often missing... a horrifying one... here the account of Christ's birth is not the one you read your kids in bed a night to calm them down:

4b And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. He was waiting for Jesus alright, but to try and literally devour Him

- When Jesus was born an army of soldiers was deployed to kill every baby boy under 2 years old, it was a horrible massacre as satan tried to get to Jesus.... <u>Satan hates God, and God's people</u>.
- <u>Illus</u>: When my son Chris was 5 years old, he asked me as we prayed together in his room; he said, "Dad, can God forgive satan?", the questions some 5 year olds can make are amazing.... I said, "Son, satan does not want to be forgiven, he will never repent, he hates God, and the idea of repentance lashes out his fury even more; he hates God to the point he doesn't want forgiveness, he wants to be God." (I almost read Revelation 12 to him... he was 5 / knightmares)
- Church, satan HATES God, <u>but if he couldn't touch Jesus as a baby</u>, <u>isn't that enough for you to trust the Jesus that is NOW SEATED ON</u> <u>THRONE</u>? You go about life as if "you got this", you got nothing...

The birth of Jesus <u>enraged</u> satan, because the new birth of Christ in a soul that believes and trusts in God <u>is the freedom, forgiveness, hope, and secure future for and of that soul</u>.

• And this dragon ain't playing, this is not a fairytale. You may be playing with sin but satan and sin are not playing with you, they will kill you.... Parents satan ain't playing w/ you kids either... teach them The Word

↓Satan is described in Rev 12 as a red dragon, scarlet red, with seven heads and horns... <mark>3 And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a</mark>

great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. or crowns....

BUT one of the things I see in Rev 12 is what I call

## 2) "*The copy-catness of satan*": Satan's kingdom is just a copy-cat kingdom

He is a counterfeit God wanna be.... Yes he is the opposite of God, but he masquerades as an angel of light.... What I mean by that, is that, satan has always wanted to be God and therefore loves to falsify and try to copy attributes of God that only God has that he does NOT have. (5)

- <u>God is Omnipresent</u> (meaning He is everywhere), **satan is not**; satan cannot be in two places at the same time like God can.
  - Now, why does it feel like satan is everywhere? because remember the earth is his playground for now, and he has many associates, called demons but only God is Omnipresent, and satan wants to be omnipresent...
- <u>God is Omniscient</u> (meaning He knows everything, past and future), satan does not.
  - Satan only knows the past; the only future he knows is what he reads in Revelation (that's in great part <u>the reason of his</u> rage, satan knows his time is short, is exactly what verse 12 here says "12b ...the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!").
- And Satan only knows the past, that's why a sorcerer can tell you everything that happened yesterday, <u>but cannot give you a single</u> <u>assurance about the future</u>, nor tell you the winning lottery numbers that will be drawn next week....
- <u>God is Omnípotent</u> (He can do all things, **is there anything too hard for The Lord**? He is almighty), **satan is not**, and he tries to copy that.

Notice he tries to copy Jesus, he is described in v.3 with "*seven heads* and seven diadems or crowns" (the first week of the series, we saw the description of Jesus Christ in chapter 1 of Rev, which said that Jesus, "had seven stars in his right hand" Revelation 1:16)

 Verse 3 of chapter 12 here also describes the dragon with 10 horns; in Revelation 5, we see a description of Jesus with 7 horns (...horns symbolize Kingdom, and Reign in apocalyptic language); satan has always desired to reign over the only one who is perfect and Holy, over God); and as a defeated enemy of God he is enraged against God and those who follow God; but the only thing he can do against

### God <u>is to try</u> to falsify the attributes that only God has <u>in order to</u> <u>deceive you and others and bring as many as possible down w/ him</u> in other words church:

# The copycat, can't win!

The dragon in Rev 12 is the same one in Psalm 74:14 describes as "*leviathan*" (meaning, satanic dragon), and Psalm 74 which is a messianic Psalm that predicts the coming / the birth of Christ and His victory, says, "You [meaning Jesus] crushed the heads of Leviathan and gave it for food to the packs of the desert." Psalm 74:14 Glory God!

- (BTW did you notice the Psalm says "the heads" in plural? exact same as the description of the dragon in Revelation 12, oh brethren, how beautiful, true, and accurate is the Word of God! It is reliable; trust it.
- But the point is that satan has been defeated, and was thrown down to earth, for a temporary rule here, and even here, Christ came and was born, to make the Statement that <u>He is Lord over all, the first</u> and the last, that He came out conquering, and to conquer. And He shares His Victory with every person, who trusts and believes in Him
- You and I live between two kingdoms / between two zip-codes, trust in Jesus gets you home / this ain't home yet.
- Christ was born (His birth was foretold numerous times in the O.T. / evident in the N.T. / and that victorious birth is mentioned in the end times in Revelation 12), the baby was nothing less than GOD in the manger: He put on flesh, that in Him you and I may put on divinity and be with God forever. AND HE WINS.
  - You know how I know Jesus walks with me through the valley of shadow and death? Because He came and made Himself a cradle in the valley of shadow and death...
  - And then at the cross, when satan thought it was all over, Jesus rose taking the keys of life and death, there is power in the name of Jesus!
  - Remember that when they came for Him to arrest Him, and the Roman army asked if He was Jesus, when he responded "I am" the entire army fell to the ground... **There's power in the name of Jesus!**
  - And thank God that when Jesus raised Lazarus, thank God that He specifically said "Lazarus come forward" or everyone that has ever died would have come out of the grave as if

nothing ever happened to them! There is power in The Lord Jesus Christ!

- Satan is a defeated foe... In Christ we **don't** approach this life as <u>"potential winners"</u>, but as victors....
  - Soccer Illus: I know a lot of you don't play soccer 'cause is not very popular here in U.S., but bear with me a minute... in a soccer match, if the game is 7-0, is won. In fact, there is a mercy rule in High School, that if a team is winning 7-0 in the first half, they end the game early not to humiliate the opposite team. I know that because my oldest son's team has done that a lot to many teams this year, my son is really good, now honestly, I can care less about soccer, but I encourage my son because I ain't paying for College... (a) anything for that scholarship.
  - But listen, when it's 7-0 in a soccer match, <u>you don't have to</u> <u>come out the second half to win the game</u>, <u>it's already won</u>, all you gotta do is <u>protect the victory</u>.
  - In Christ, the game is 7-0 in the first half (shoot, it's 70-0, Christ scored all the goals) and now all you do is protect the victory He has already won in your life/Christ has defeated satan.

↓Also beloved church, don't be spooked out by the language in Revelation. This language and imagery for satan is not that strange.... Jesus calls satan in John 8:44 "*a murderer from the beginning*"; in other words: satan's end is the spiritual assassination of your soul <u>by</u> <u>deceiving you</u> to think that God and His Word are not true and real. 2x

- That's why Jesus also calls satan, "the father of lies", and when Jesus talks about the end times in Matthew 24, His command over and over is "do not be deceived", in addition, Jesus also said, "And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold."; the only reason there isn't a line of people outside of a biblical church waiting for the doors to open to gather as the people of God, is because the love of many has grown cold... / they've been deceived thinking there is more pleasure in things created than in the Creator;
- Oh buy I pray for a fresh move of God in our church, which always starts with conviction of sin, that we may see the day where there

are lines of people outside waiting for each service to start to the glory of God and the joy of His people;

- *îîAnd I'm not talking a line for Christmas at DPAC, but a line for our prayer nights as we seek the face of God!*
- Él es Digno. Él es a quien el viento y la mar le obedecen, Jesus alfa y la omega (*adora a Dios, declara Sus maravillas...*).

↓This language in Revelation is not strange; remember also <u>Daniel 7</u>; this beast, this dragon in Rev. 12 is the same one in Daniel 7, v.7, his 4th vision....

- And yes, it's a scary powerful beast, but <u>there is an awesome pattern</u> in God's Word when satan is mentioned, and that is, that it doesn't fail to mention that God defeated him, and that you and I (the church) are victors over him....
- Daniel describes the horror of the beast, but also describes one, which is the same description of the Christ in Revelation 1, <u>and then</u> <u>says that He killed the beast, butchered it and threw the pieces into</u> <u>the blazing fire...</u> (Hell was made for satan and his demons)
- And Daniel in the midst of describing this horrific beast, **also reveals** who gets the victory at the end due to Christ:

Daniel 7:18 But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, forever and ever.

Daniel 7:27 And the kingdom and the dominion

and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High; his kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom,

and all dominions shall serve and obey him.' All because Christ came to this world (blessed Christmas), He lived the perfect life that you and I CANNOT live / took the punishment of our sins on the cross / resurrected overcoming death / ascended to heaven from where He came from / and will come again; tattooed on his thigh, Kings of kings and Lord of lords....

Satan tried to eliminate Jesus from his birth... **AND HE COULD NOT** Then tried to tempt Jesus to commit suicide, <u>trying to deceive Him to</u> <u>jump out of the rock in the desert</u> when satan tempted him... **AND HE COULD NOT DECEIVE HIM**  Then satan tried to tempt Jesus influencing Peter's thoughts to tell Jesus not go to the Cross ... ↑BUT HE COULD NOT; TRUTH DOESN'T BUDGE, and Jesus is the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE

And in the end, satan thought that the cross was going to be the end of Jesus... **†BUT NOT EVEN DEATH COULD DO A THING TO JESUS!** 

And now satan wants to drag you to hell with him, influencing you not to surrender / not trust your life to Jesus Christ, <u>so that you do NOT receive</u> the victory of Christ but his own defeat; **don't side with a defeated loser** 

• <u>Why wait to think about your death and the afterlife only when you</u> <u>go to a funeral</u>? <del>Death is sure, Christ the cure</del>. Come to Christ this

Christmas; surrender to Him, HE IS WORTHY AND HE IS VICTORIOUS Revelation 12 has showed us that #1 Satan's kingdom is real and powerful. / That #2 Satan is a copycat, and his kingdom is just a copycat kingdom / That #3 The copy cat cannot win; and my last point today is, that:

#### 4) We can't win either, except in Christ

Chapter 12 reveals clearly, not only the means of our victory, but the GROUND of our victory; John describes it in v.10 here:

10 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.

Ok Jesus defeated him, but how do WE defeat him? Next verse:

11 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. ↓The literary construction of the original language here in this verse, doesn't treat the blood of the Lamb as the means, **but as the ground**.

- It's not just *how* we overcome Satan—as if it's a special tool or method we use. It's also *why* we're able to overcome Satan at all. His blood is the basis of victory. / We overcome on the ground of the blood of Jesus/the Lamb
- We appeal to the blood of the Lion who is the Lamb that destroyed the accusations of the accuser towards us (is not that satan was wrong about all of our indictment [surely we have ignored God, / surely we have wanted to be indifferent to God's good authority over our lives], so is not that we weren't guilty, is that Jesus Christ, the perfect Son of God, did the unthinkable, the perfect one took

the place of the guilty that we may be reconciled to God, have freedom, and life with Him forever); it's exactly what Colossians says:

- 9 For in *Christ* the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, 10 and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.
- 12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.
- 13 And you, who were dead in your trespasses... God made alive together with Christ, having forgiven us all our trespasses, how? 14 by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. 15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him. – Colossians 2:9-10, 12-15
  - The Act that caused our freedom from sin in Rev chapter 1:5, and gave us the right to reign with Christ in Rev chapter 5:9, is now also the Act that enables us to withstand all the accusations of satan
  - All blessings come to us because of the cross / the blood of Jesus
    - The gift of the Spirit // The fellowship of the saints // The communion of all of God's people gathered now finally all together in harmony and unity around the New Jerusalem // It's all ours! All secure because of the blood of the lamb shed for us, to the glory of God!
    - Yes, (as Luther said) <u>it's true that when I look within me,</u> there is no way I can see how I can be saved; but when I look at Christ, there is no way I can see how I would end up lost in Him. FOR HE HAS WON!
    - There is power in the blood of JESUS! Riff about it! It reaches to the highest mountain, flows to the lowest valley, it will never lose its power!

<u>Listen church</u>: If you were 100 times worse than you are, all of your sins put together <u>would be NO MATCH</u> FOR THE BLOOD OF JESUS!!! 2x

If you really knew yourself, you wouldn't be proud; you would trust Jesus

On the other hand, <u>neither would you be self-pitying</u>. You wouldn't be thinking about yourself at all! If you knew your true condition, and knew what Jesus did for you, all of your focus would be **consumed** with Christ.

• The serpent bit humanity, and we died. The serpent bit Jesus, and the serpent died; and now Christ offers you life....

And as far as suffering in this earth; what else can you expect? We live in satan's playground for now, but remember, in the words of the puritan: "Jesus, our HEAD, is in Heaven. And if the head is above water, the body cannot drown." John Flavel

And REMEMBER the last WORDS OF THE BOOK: I AM SURELY COMING VERY SOON! We'll be home soon, you hang in there, Christ was born, and defeated the dragon, forever, and ever. Trust Him and you'll reign with Him....

The woman is Revelation 12 is THE CHURCH (you and I). The entire book of Revelation is about the triumph of Jesus, and chapter 12 is about the triumph of the church (Jesus followers, you and I).

• WE WIN, BECAUSE SAVIOR WAS BORN. AND CONQUERED.

Fear not, #thisaintmyhome

- God is Holy, God is Love—and God is light. There is no one like Him. There is no other God but He who is reveal in the revelation of the Scriptures, / His mighty acts in history, and in the incarnation of His Son and the coming of the Holy Spirit. / Who will return. Unfathomable love story above all stories.
- DO NOT END THE YEAR WITHOUT SURRENDERING AND TRUSTING IN HIM. HIS IS THE VICTORY, FOREVER. AMEN. Let us pray. \*\*\*END\*\*\*

#### Notes:

• We are living at the shadow of a real spiritual reality

- If Jesus whooped Satan when Jesus was a baby; can you not trust today a Jesus who is back seated on His throne in heavenly places?
- To use a fictional illustration to help the point: If someone is going crazy because they are Spinning around, but you go and tell them it's because they are stock in a washing machine, that doesn't make the suffering any better, but is does give it a bit of sense, and you know is temp. (Well, this washing machine called earth ain't gonna spin forever in this condition; Jesus will return, and with Him He brings back Eden/Paradise)
- <u>To wage war against God is to wage God against everything perfect</u>, holy, and good.
- I'm so sick of this world... so sick of the harshness, and scarcity, and suffering... // pero que es lo peor que nos pueda pasar en Cristo? Perder la casa? Los carros? La muerte? Y que? En cristo siempre ganamos....
- We see a few major characters on Revelation 12, the dragon, the woman, and the child
- Satan is a defeated foe... In Christ we don't approach this life as potential winners, but as victors.
  - Soccer Illus: I know a lot of you don't play soccer 'cause is not too popular here in U.S., but bear with me a minute... in a soccer match, if the game is 7-0, is won. In fact, there is a mercy rule in High School, that if a team is winning 7-0 in the first half, they end the game not to humiliate the opposite team. I know that because my oldest son's team has done that a lot to many teams this year, my son is really good, now honestly, I can care less about soccer, but I encourage my son because I ain't paying for College... (a) anything for that scholarship.
  - But listen, when it's 7-0 in a soccer match, you don't have to come out the second half to win the game, all you gotta do is come out and protect the victory.
  - In Christ, the game is 7-0 in the first half, Christ scored all the goal; and now all you do is play protecting the victory in your life / Christ has defeated satan.

● ↓↑