

INTRO

- What's one "end-times" prediction you remember hearing about? Did it have any impact on you or your faith?

At Christ's return, every form of evil is reckoned with and removed so that all things can be restored.

READ

Revelation 19:11–20:15*

[Leaders: Use the questions below as a guide, not a checklist]

** 20:1-6 mentions the millennium, a thousand-year period of Satan's binding. Interpretations of this puzzling passage differ; however, all agree on this: Jesus returns, evil is judged, and the faithful are vindicated. Keep the main thing the main thing.*

REFLECT & RESPOND

Revelation brings the biblical story full circle. There is a comic showdown between good and evil, Jesus and Satan.

Jesus as Warrior-King

Q: In 19:11-16, how is Jesus described? How does this compare with how we normally picture Him? What comfort or challenge does this picture of Jesus bring to you personally?

Jesus rides into the final battle not with brute force or bloodthirsty vengeance. In fact, the battle is a non-starter. Jesus' robe is already dipped in blood—His own—and his weapon comes from his mouth. Truth triumphs over deception, condemning the Beast, the False Prophet, and Satan forever. With Satan and evil vanquished, the vision turns to every human life.

The Final Judgment

In Rev 20:11-15, two sets of books are mentioned: books of deeds and the Book of Life.

Q: Why do our deeds and our relationship to Jesus matter?

Q: How does this picture hold together God's justice and mercy?

In the end, the real fear or danger isn't some looming "Battle of Armageddon." The real danger is ignoring or downplaying the cosmic conflict altogether.

Q: What are some ways today we can ignore or minimize spiritual warfare?

Q: What are some ways we can fixate on spiritual warfare and neglect Christ's authority?

Given the reality and certainty of Jesus' victory now, and his ultimate victory upon his return, how can that shape the way you:

- Endure hardship?
- Pray for others and the world?
- Witness to Jesus in your words and lifestyle?

Are you certain your name is in the Lamb's Book of Life? If yes, how are you living like it this week? If unsure, what's holding you back?

"Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb." (Rev 19:9)

PRAY

- Thank God for the victory of Jesus—past, present, future.
- Lift up those who need to turn to Christ and have their names written in the Book of Life.
- Ask for joy in the mission and faithfulness until the end.