

Christmas 2.0 – The Return of the King

December 23, 2018



Open: What is one of your favorite movie scenes in which a hero enters and saves the day?

Read: Revelation 19:11-16

Discuss:

1. What characteristics do we discover about Jesus within this passage? In what ways do these characteristics reflect or differ from the way Jesus tends to be thought of by Christians? What aspects of this portrait are different from the way the world typically thinks about Jesus?
2. How does Jesus' entrance as described here address the brokenness in our world? How does it encourage you to know that Jesus will ultimately come in this fashion? How does it cause any sense of trepidation?
3. Jesus is pictured in this passage as the Sovereign Mighty Warrior. What other passages in the New Testament also reflect a similar picture of Jesus? How should this depiction shape our worship of Him? How should it shape our daily lives?
4. The description of Jesus in verse 13 is particularly appropriate for the role He has taken in history. What makes the blood of Jesus a significant descriptor of His first advent?
5. According to verse 15, a sword comes from the mouth of Jesus. What do you think this imagery signifies about the power of Jesus' words? (*See Isaiah 11:4 and 2 Thessalonians 2:8.*) In what ways do you most often tend to think about the power of Jesus' words?
6. No matter how powerful or ominous our foes, they will be judged and they will fall. How does this help you to better manage your daily life as a Christian?

Apply: How can you be better prepared in your faith and practice for the return of the King?

Pray: Ask God to help us prepare for His coming by being faithful to share the Gospel and by walking in righteousness before Him. (*If your group is meeting before Christmas, spend some time praying for our Christmas Eve service—and for services of other churches nearby and around the world. If your group is meeting after Christmas, spend some time praying for all those who heard the Gospel over Christmas.*)

Revelation 19:11–16

^[11] Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. ^[12] His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. ^[13] He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. ^[14] And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. ^[15] From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. ^[16] On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

(ESV)