



Once Upon a Time

The Story God is Telling and How You Fit

Pastor Toby Locke
Week 10- November 19, 2017

The Last Battle

(Revelation 19:11-21)

Introduction: This is a very sobering, NON-warm-fuzzy picture of Jesus.

The Story Reminds us that Dark Spiritual Forces...

- Run the World.
 - Both structures (1 Jn 5:19, Mk 4:5-7) and people (Eph. 2:2).
 - Their Goals:
 - Devour people (1 Peter 5:8).
 - Destroy whatever they can (John 10:10, 8:44).
 - Separate people from God forever (Luke 8:12, 2 Cor. 4:4).
- Were Defeated at the Cross (Col. 2:13-14, 1 Jn. 3:8, Heb. 2:14).
- Oppose those who Bear Witness to God's Victory (Ephesians 6:12, 1 Thessalonians 2:18, Revelation 2:8-10).
- Will be Destroyed by Jesus Himself (Rev. 19:11-21).
 - His battle is just and righteous (19:11).
 - His targets are those who align with Satan (19:19-21).
 - This battle will establish his rule over the world (19:15).
 - This battle will finish Satan once and for all (20:1-3, 7-10).

Conclusion: This battle is a rescue, a liberating invasion like D-Day.



Icebreakers:

1. Who is a famous military figure that intrigues you and why?
2. Did you ever get in a fight when you were a kid? How'd it turn out?

Sermon Summary: Before God's happy ending for the world can come, the current dark spiritual forces that run the world must be dealt with. The Story tells us that Jesus will return to our earth to do just that, justly making war with these forces and defeating them forever so that He can establish God's rule over the whole world.

Discussion Questions:

1. Is it disturbing or comforting to think of Jesus as a warrior? Why?
- * *Dark spiritual forces run the world.*** (Read Mark 4:5-7 & Eph. 2:2.)
2. How can we see Satan's influence on the "structures" of the world?
 3. What does it look like for Satan to "devour" people (1 Pet. 5:8)?
- * *These dark spiritual forces were defeated at the Cross.***
(Read Colossians 2:13-14, 1 John 3:8, Hebrews 2:14.)
4. Based on these passages, WHY did the Cross defeat Satan? If it did, then why hasn't Satan already relinquished control of the world?
- * *These dark spiritual forces oppose those who bear witness.***
(Read Ephesians 6:12, 1 Thessalonians 2:18, Revelation 2:8-10.)
5. How do Satan and his minions "oppose" those who bear witness?
 6. Have you ever experienced this kind of opposition? How did you respond to it?
- * *These dark spiritual forces will be destroyed by Jesus Himself.***
(Read Rev. 19:11-21.)
7. How can Jesus claim that his war is "righteous"? Isn't it just him using his power like a bully to get rid of people he doesn't like?
 8. What would it mean for the Happy Ending if these dark spiritual forces are never destroyed?
 9. Imagine with your group what the world will look like without Satan.