



The Lamb will Conquer

PART 36

Introductions

Let's get started by sharing our names and answering this question: [*Choose your own question*].

Songs of Praise

Let's begin our time singing to the Lord. [*Sing additional songs if you prefer. Contact the church office for copies of our church songbooks.*]

O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer

O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer
 Greatest treasure of my longing soul
 My God, like You there is no other
 True delight is found in You alone
 Your grace, a well too deep to fathom
 Your love exceeds the Heavens' reach
 Your truth, a fount of perfect wisdom
 My highest good and my unending need

O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer
 Strong defender of my weary heart
 My sword to fight the cruel deceiver
 And my shield against his hateful darts
 My song when enemies surround me
 My hope when tides of sorrow rise

My joy when trials are abounding
 Your faithfulness, my refuge in the night

O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer
 Gracious Savior of my ruined life
 My guilt and cross laid on Your shoulders
 In my place, You suffered bled and died
 You rose, the grave and death are conquered
 You broke my bonds of sin and shame
 O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer
 May all my days bring glory to Your name
 May all my days bring glory to Your name

Nathan Stiff, 2017

Church News

- Share any news for your own group at this time.
- Pray for City on the Hill: Wisdom for leadership, financial stewardship, and generosity in our giving.
- Men's Pig Roast Cornhole Tournament, May 2, 11:30AM

Study

[*This guide utilizes the Sunday sermon notes, please [click this link](#) to access them.*]

Q: Would someone open us in prayer?

Q: Would someone read aloud Revelation 17:1-18?

Let's look at the first six verses and ask a few questions. An angel comes to John and prophesizes about the destruction of Babylon.

Q: We learned about Babylon weeks ago, but what is Babylon symbolic for?

Q: How is Babylon's idolatry portrayed in this chapter? What is her appearance, and what sins are highlighted?¹

Q: Where do we see similar sins today?

Now consider verses 6 to the end of the chapter.

Q: How does John respond to this vision of Babylon? (see verse 6c)

John marvels at what he sees (literally, “I marveled a great marvel”). His wonder is likely a mixture of fear and confusion.

Q: Why would you think John is mixed with fear and confusion?

Q: Is that something you experience at times? Can you share a time when this was the case?

As we have learned before in this series, and again on Sunday, Satan’s tactic is counterfeit.

Q: How do the words in verse eight, “was, and is not, and is about to rise from the bottomless pit” depict Satan as a counterfeit?²

Q: Is the beast (Satan) rising from the sea because he is victorious? What is the purpose, and why is this important to remember?

The symbolism of the heads (mountains) and horns (kings) highlights the temporary but formative influence of worldly, idolatrous power and influence. It is not necessarily fixed on singular events or persons, but patterns experienced regularly until the return of Christ. That influence is great, and Dennis Johnson comments, “The one king who ‘has not yet come’ and must ‘remain a little while’ shows that, though the dragon has been decisively defeated by the blood of the Lamb and therefore ‘has only a short time,’ (Rev 12:11-12) nevertheless the church must be prepared to endure further suffering...”

Q: Where do we see the language in this passage of God’s people enduring further suffering?

Notes...

¹ Dennis Johnson comments that these details “provide a preview of the precious imports by which Rome enriches the merchants of the ancient world (Rev. 18:12). Her appetite for the finer things of life is voracious, so her fall will plunge the world’s entrepreneurs into mourning for a once-thriving and insatiable consumer economy, now crashing all around them (18:11-17).” (Johnson, *Triumph of the Lamb*)

² See Revelation 1:4.

Q: Where do we see the suffering of Christians today?

Q: In this same passage, what is the comfort in light of the war waged against Christ and his church?

Q: In what way(s) is Christ’s victory an encouragement to you?

Q: Are there other comments or questions you have?

Prayer

[Take time to pray - men with men, and women with women.]