

### 3. **Jesus' Great Victory Over All the Forces of Evil:**

- a. <sup>19</sup> And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies ~~having~~ assembled [*gathered together*] to make war against ~~Him who sat~~ the One sitting on the horse and against His army. // The forces of evil will anticipate being victorious all the way to the end; nevertheless, *JESUS WILL DEFEAT THEM!*
- b. <sup>20</sup> And the beast [*beast 1*] was seized, and with him the false prophet [*beast 2*] who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived [*led astray*] those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone [*sulphur*]. <sup>21</sup> And the rest were killed with the sword which ~~came~~ was coming from [*out of*] the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh. // Even though the forces of evil may seem strong, *they are nothing in comparison to Jesus – the Son of God!* Therefore, IMMEDIATELY, they will lose; the two beasts will be punished forever, and all who followed them will be killed – *but their death will not be their end!* In chapter 20 they and the devil will join the two beasts in the lake of fire where “they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.” (Rev 20:10 NAU)

**Conclusion:** Now, as we continue to ♦*treasure God's Holy Word and ♦recognize our sin*, let us ever-rejoice in God's free gift of salvation that is ours *through the finished work of Jesus Christ!* And all God's people said: *Amen!*

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## Evil Versus Good; Then Sudden Defeat!

Based on Revelation 19:11-21 NAU

Reformation Day (Observed)

Thursday, 10/27 → 7:00 † Sunday, 10/30 → 8:00 & 10:45

10/27 is the Last Thursday Service in 2011

**Introduction:** Dear friends in Christ, as we come today to the second half of Revelation chapter 19, we also recall – *on this last Sunday of October* – the powerful work of God *through Martin Luther and others* to shine the precious truth of the Bible into our world of sin and death! What is that truth?

- Salvation *is known by God's Word alone*, never by our own human inventions or feelings.
- Salvation *comes by God's grace alone*, never because we deserve it.
- Salvation *is received by God's gift of faith alone*, never by adding our deeds to the finished work of Jesus.

Now, *by God's action for us*, we ♦*believe the Bible*, ♦*know we are sinners*, and ♦*trust in Christ alone as Savior*. God has placed us into a blessed minority – few in number but the ultimate winners in Jesus Christ! Now, in Revelation 19, we *look ahead to Jesus' great victory when He returns!*

### 1. **An Awesome Description of Jesus:**

- a. <sup>11</sup> And I saw heaven ~~opened~~ having been opened, and behold, a white horse, and ~~He who sat~~ the One sitting on it ~~is~~ called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war. // In Revelation chapter 3, *in the 7<sup>th</sup> letter*, Jesus identified

Himself as “The Amen, the faithful and true Witness.” (v. 14) Now, again, He is called “Faithful and True,” in other words, “what he says is true and... what he promises will surely come to pass.” (Becker, 289)

- b. <sup>12</sup> And, His eyes are a flame of fire [seeing and knowing all things], and on His head are many diadems; ~~and He has a name written~~ having been written a name, ~~on Him~~ which no one knows except Himself. // His many diadems or crowns have been accumulated in two ways: (1) the saved have gladly honored Him by giving Him their crowns, while (2) from His conquered enemies He took their crowns!
- c. <sup>13</sup> And, ~~He is clothed~~ having been clothed, with a robe having been, dipped in blood, and His name ~~is~~ has been, called The Word of God. // Based on Isaiah 63:1-6, it seems clear that *the blood* is the blood of His enemies; **read the passage!** Also, Jesus is called “The Word of God” because, in fact, He is (see John 1:1, 14)!
- d. <sup>14</sup> And the armies ~~which are~~ in heaven, having been, clothed in fine linen, white *and* clean, were following Him on white horses. // Those armies are *the holy angels*, but notice that their clothing is clean *because Christ alone has done the work of our salvation!*
- e. <sup>15</sup> And, from His mouth ~~comes~~ goes out, a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. // The sharp sword is “the word of God” (Heb. 4:12) *which goes out of Jesus’ mouth!* Regarding *the sword* and *the rod*, Martin Luther wrote: “Christ’s kingdom is not to be administered

with physical power, with the sword or the rod. It is the province of the parents to wield the rod, and that of government and executioner to use the sword....

**Jesus wields, an oral rod and an oral sword....** He uses ‘the rod of His mouth’ when He judges and punishes the unbelieving world, saying: ‘Whoever does not believe is doomed.’” (Luther’s Works, 22:222)

But TODAY that sharp sword of Jesus’ mouth wants to work on all people in two wonderful ways: to remove the cancer of sin and to impart the gift of salvation; nevertheless, the day is coming when the time of salvation will be past and only wrath will remain!

- f. <sup>16</sup> And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name having been, written, “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.” // **Read Luther’s Works, 12:65-66.**

2. **Preparing for a Great Victory:** <sup>17</sup> And, ~~Then~~ I saw an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds ~~which fly~~ flying, in midheaven, “Come, assemble [gather together] for the great supper of God, <sup>18</sup> so that you may eat *the flesh of kings* and *the flesh of commanders* and *the flesh of mighty men* and *the flesh of horses* and of those who sit on them and *the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great.*” // The angel knows that the great victory belongs to the “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.” He knows that ALL who oppose Him will die; therefore, *he calls the birds to gather and devour!*