

Title: TO THE RESCUE, REVELATION 19:11-16  
(Chatham, NJ; 05/05/13, AM) [D – Topical]

Theme: Though it seems the enemy triumphs, he is being conquered by the power of Christ.

Purpose: To remind us that Jesus has conquered, Babylon has fallen, and Christ will ultimately win the war against evil.

Introduction:

1. The saints are called to endure as God confronts and conquers the forces of evil.
2. The images remind us what we are up against.
3. The battle reminds us that we need God's power to conquer.

## I. The Enemy

### A. The serpent, the beasts, and the prostitute

1. The serpent or dragon (Satan) fights against the saints (12:9, 17)
2. He is thrown into the bottomless pit and ultimately into the lake of fire (21:10)
3. The beasts of chap. 13: the first utters blasphemies (5); the second makes the earth worship the first (12)
4. The second beast is 666: Nero and a representative of all godless rulers
5. 1 John 4:3 says the spirit of the antichrist is already in the world
6. Babylon the Great, mother of prostitutes (17:5): all dominions controlled by worldly ideas
7. The world is 1 John 2:15-17

### B. What we are up against

1. Our battle is not against flesh and blood, Eph. 6:12
2. "Rulers...authorities...cosmic powers...present darkness...spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places"
3. Revelation's image of battle fits this
4. The importance of battle armor also fits: truth, righteousness, the gospel of peace, faith, salvation, the word of God
5. Above all, prayer, which rises like incense to the throne of God

## II. Babylon, the Enemy, Has Fallen

### A. Babylon was Rome

1. 1 Peter 5:13 refers to "she who is at Babylon"
2. Rev. 17 describes her as a woman sitting on seven hills and who "has dominion over the kings of the earth" (17:18)
3. The would almost certainly refer to Rome and the Roman empire
4. Babylon, the world against God, did not disappear when Rome fell
5. The record of godless nations proves their inherent evil as well as Christianity's superiority: (D. D'Souza, copy)
6. The bloodshed perpetrated by these regimes can only be attributed to an ideology utterly devoid of God

### B. Babylon has fallen

1. Christ has begun to reign, 11:15-18
2. These are two nations in conflict
3. Herod's jealousy of the new king represents the world power
4. His grandson's pride and pomp caused his downfall, Acts 12:21-24
5. The heavenly multitude rejoices at Babylon's destruction, 19:1-5

## III. Calvary (not cavalry) to the Rescue

- A. The rider on a white horse is...(19:11-16)
1. "Faithful and true" who judges and makes war in righteousness
  2. "The Word of God" clothed in a robe dipped in blood
  3. "King of kings and Lord of lords" who is followed by the armies of heaven
  4. He wears many crowns on his head

- B. What he does
1. Judges and makes war, 11
  2. Leads an army, 14
  3. Strikes down the nations with the sword of his mouth, 15
  4. He satisfies the wrath of God, 15
  5. He captures the beast, kings, and the false prophet, 19-20
  6. He slays the rest, 21

Conclusion:

1. We live in the midst of this cosmic battle.
2. When we refuse to take part in the ways of the world, we are vilified (1 Peter 4:3-5)
3. Babylon has already fallen though she fights on like some cornered wild beast.
4. The rider will be victorious; don't break ranks but keep following him.
5. Our faith is our victory, 1 John 5:4-5.