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Church of the Lord

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오늘의 말씀

“The Final Victory”

[Revelation 19:11~14]

Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse.
And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in
righteousness He judges and makes war. (12) His eyes were
like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He
had a name written that no one knew except Himself. (13) He
was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is
called The Word of God. (14) And the armies in heaven,
clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white
horses.

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Introduction ~ We Fight Knowing How the Story Ends

Dear brothers and sisters, We have finally reached the last message in our Spiritual War-fare Series. Over the past several weeks, we have seen the reality of spiritual warfare. We have put on the whole armor of God. We have learned to pray. We have learned to fight together as a community. Today, however, God reveals one final and most important truth: "The out-come of this war has already been written." The people of this world live without knowing the future. But believers are different. We know how the story ends.

This World Cup was the first tournament in which all four of the top-ranked FIFA teams advanced to the semifinals. In particular, the semifinal match between Argentina and Germany became an unforgettable classic. England was leading 1–0 until the eighty-sixth minute. Yet in the final ten minutes, including injury time, the entire match was turned around. Through Messi's brilliant performance, Argentina came from behind to win 2–1. Our spiritual battle will be like that. Matches like these unfold like a great drama. Imagine watching a recording of such a game while already knowing the final score. Even if your team is still trailing 1–0 near the end, you do not become anxious. Why? Because you already know the outcome. Our faith is the same. We are people who read Revelation. We know the final chapter of history. There-fore, we can endure every spiritual battle we face today.

Exposition of the Text

Jesus Comes as the King Who Has Already Won the Victory

[Revelation 19:11] Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

John first sees heaven opened before he sees Jesus coming forth to wage war. Why? Because our victory does not begin on earth. It begins in heaven.

Jesus comes riding a white horse. In the Roman world, the white horse was reserved for a victorious general returning from battle in triumph. Jesus does not appear as a king departing in search of

victory. He appears as the King who has already conquered.

Jesus first came to die an atoning death upon the cross. He lived without even a place to lay His head. But at His Second Coming, He will return as Judge and victorious King. You may remember Psalm 45, a Maskil of the sons of Korah, which portrays this glorious royal scene.

[Psalm 45:1~3] My heart is overflowing with a good theme; I recite my composition concerning the King; My tongue is the pen of a ready writer. (2) You are fairer than the sons of men; Grace is poured upon Your lips; Therefore God has blessed You forever. (3) Gird Your sword upon Your thigh, O Mighty One, With Your glory and Your majesty.

[Psalm 45:5~6] Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the King's enemies; The peoples fall under You. (6) Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

The Names Given to Jesus in This Passage Proclaim His Victory. John gives Jesus three names: "Faithful and True; The Word of God; King of kings and Lord of lords."

[Revelation 19:11] Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

The first name is "Faithful and True." He is faithful. He is the One who never abandons us. He was faithful at the cross. At every moment of our Christian life, our victory depends entirely upon the faithfulness of the One who never gives up on us. And He will finally return as the King of complete victory.

The second name is "The Word of God."

[Revelation 19:13] He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

The word used here is λόγος (Logos). Throughout this series, we have spoken often about Rhema. But in the final message, we return to Logos, because every Rhema comes from the eternal Logos. Jesus Himself is the eternal Word of God.

The third name is "King of kings and Lord of lords(Rev. 19:16)." He is not merely one king among many. He is the King above

every power. In Ephesians 6, we saw the ranks of spiritual beings: rulers, authorities, the powers of this dark world, and spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Jesus Christ is the King above every one of those ranks. Above the entire pyramid of spiritual powers described by Paul stands one Person alone—our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Satan's Defeat in This War Has Already Been Decided.

Many believers think too highly of Satan's power. Yet Revelation speaks of him with remarkable calmness. Satan is not God's rival. He is a creature. He is simply a created being who departed from God's purpose, fell into corruption, and attempted rebellion.

Revelation 20 shows us Satan's final end. He is thrown into the lake of fire that never goes out. This is eternal judgment. That is the end of everything concerning him.

Here we remember once again the words of Colossians 2.

[Colossians 2:15] Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

At the cross, Jesus already disarmed the rulers and authorities. The Greek word translated "disarmed" is ἀπεκδυσάμενος (apekdysamenos), meaning "to strip away the weapons" or "to disarm completely."

Revelation is the completion of that victory. The victory that began at the cross will be brought to its eternal and perfect fulfillment.

Here We Become Certain That Our Position Will Never Change

Do you remember the second message in our Spiritual Warfare Series? It was "Condition vs. Position." Our condition still changes. It changes greatly. There is illness. There are tears. There are failures. But our Position does not change.

Revelation explains this through the Book of Life.

[Revelation 21:26~27] And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. (27) But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of

Life.

Our names were already written there when we believed in Jesus. God does not wait to see how well we perform before deciding whether to record our names. When we re-ceive Jesus Christ, our names are written. Therefore, our final victory has already been secured.

Jesus also told His disciples:

[Luke 10:20] "Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

At that time, the disciples were not yet fully mature. Later they would betray Jesus, abandon Him, and experience many failures. Yet Jesus said, "Rejoice because your names are already written in heaven." This is exactly what we have called our Position.

Therefore, Be Faithful Until the End

Jesus says to the church in Smyrna:

[Revelation 2:10] "Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."

The word translated "faithful" is πιστός (pistos). It means faithful or trustworthy. Inter-estingly, the first name proclaimed for Jesus in today's passage is also Faithful. Jesus is Faithful, and He calls His people to be faithful as well. He calls us to become faithful soldiers who follow the Faithful King.

At the end of his life, Paul made the same confession. This is what the faithfulness of soldiers in the army of the Faithful King looks like.

[II Timothy 4:7] I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

Is this not amazing? Paul says that he fought the good fight. This is spiritual warfare. Paul fought that battle all the way to the end, and he kept the faith until the end.

Christian history is filled with faithful soldiers of Christ who fought this good fight to the finish. Why did the martyrs of the early church hold on to their faith until the end? It was not because they loved death. It was because they knew how the story ended. As they entered arenas filled with wild beasts and walked toward the flames, they did not walk as defeated people. They walked as conquerors. They believed that death was not the final chapter. For them, martyrdom was not defeat. It was the doorway through which they would meet their King.

Conclusion

Dear brothers and sisters, When we began this series, we learned that spiritual warfare is real. We fastened the belt of truth. We put on the breastplate of righteousness. We wore the shoes of the gospel of peace. We lifted the shield of faith. We placed the helmet of salvation upon our heads. We took up the sword of the Spirit. We learned how to pray. We also learned how to become soldiers who fight together. And now God gives us His final word: "Do not be afraid. The outcome of the war has already been written."

Dear brothers and sisters, we are not people fighting in order to obtain victory. We are people who faithfully follow the King who has already won. Therefore, do not lose heart. Do not give up. Today's tears are not the final chapter. Today's battle is not the end of the story. Our final chapter is the victory of the Lamb, the new heaven and the new earth, and the glory of dwelling with God forever.

Hallelujah!

Today's Prayer Points

- A. Lord, help us not to lose heart, but to keep our eyes upon the final outcome of the battle.
- B. Help us trust until the end in Christ, who has already won the victory.
- C. In every circumstance, help us live as faithful soldiers who follow our Faithful King.

D. Fill us with the hope of the new heaven and the new earth, and help us walk boldly in victory today.