

The Parish VISITOR

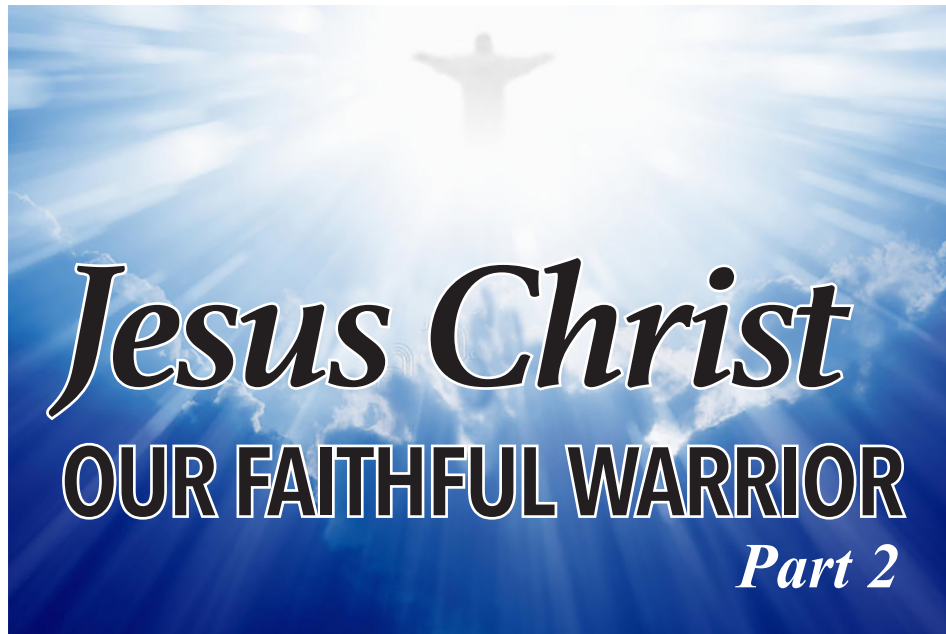


"Be Transformed...By the renewing of your minds."- Romans 12:2 - NIV

Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood
4011 Clinton St., Los Angeles, CA 90004-2298
The REV. STEPHEN M. BAROLDY, Pastor

cpchollywood.org

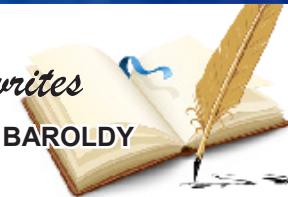
AUGUST
2021
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What a joy to
WELCOME
YOU BACK
in our Sanctuary!

your pastor writes

By REV. STEPHEN M. BAROLDY



Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to all the readers of the *Parish Visitor!*

This month we continue in Revelation, chapter 19. We are discussing Jesus Christ, our Faithful Warrior. I pray this message will be an encouragement for the times in which we live.

*Jesus Christ our Faithful Warrior,
Part 3, Rev 19:11-16, Originally given on
May 9 2021 at CPC*

Introduction: Today, we continue our discussion of Jesus Christ as our faithful warrior. Let me re-read Rev. 19:11. "Then I [John] saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war." (Revelation 19:11, ESV)

Here, John sees King Jesus sitting on a white horse which means King Jesus

Continued next page

In addition to the in-person worship, we continue to stream the service on Zoom for those unable to attend in-person.

The invitation for joining the service can be found at the events page on our website at **cpchollywood.org**.

You can send in your prayer requests PRIOR to the service via email to sbaroldy@gmail.com or text at 323-202-5078.

Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood is an intentional, healing community; proclaiming and demonstrating the wholeness of life offered in JESUS CHRIST.

your pastor writes ...Continued from Page 1

FOR ALL THE PROMISES OF GOD
FIND THEIR YES IN HIM
THAT IS WHY IT IS THROUGH HIM THAT WE UTTER OUR

AMEN

TO GOD FOR HIS GLORY

2 Corinthians 1:20

is riding into battle.

As we have discussed, Pastor Darrell Johnson proposes that John, through the Holy Spirit, is answering two questions in Rev. 19:11-21. First, why does Jesus win the battle spoken of in these verses. And, second, how does Jesus win the battle.¹ This morning we will continue to talk about why Jesus wins the battle.

First, a quick review. Two weeks ago, we saw King Jesus wins the battle because he is the Word of God who became flesh and dwelt among us.

The gospel of John tells us the Word of God, Jesus Christ, is eternal God, and the Word of God is Creator. As God and Creator, King Jesus always wins the battle against his creation. King Jesus always wins the battle against evil. It is just a matter of God's timing.

Last week, we saw King Jesus wins the battle because he is Faithful, capital "F." Jesus Christ is faithful to the redemptive mission for which his Father sent him. Jesus came to die in our place, for our sins, that we might be reconciled to the Father. And Jesus was faithful to that mission even unto death.

And, of most importance, Jesus' death is where the battle is won. King Jesus' battle against evil is won at the Cross. The powers of darkness thought they had won when Jesus Christ was crucified unto death.

Yet, three days later, Jesus Christ rose from the dead breaking the power Satan and death had over creation. King Jesus has won the victory. The outcome is not in question. Here, in Rev. 19:11-21, King Jesus rides into battle to fully implement his victory and remove evil once and for all.

So, with that review, let's move on.

King Jesus wins because he is True: Another reason Jesus

Christ wins the battle against evil is because he is True, capital "T."

Again, Rev. 19:11, *"Then I [John] saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war."* (Revelation 19:11, ESV)

Jesus Christ is called "True", capital T. True is another title for King Jesus. King Jesus is the Word of God. King Jesus is Faithful. And, King Jesus is True. Again, I love how the Revelation presents all these wonderful attributes about King Jesus.

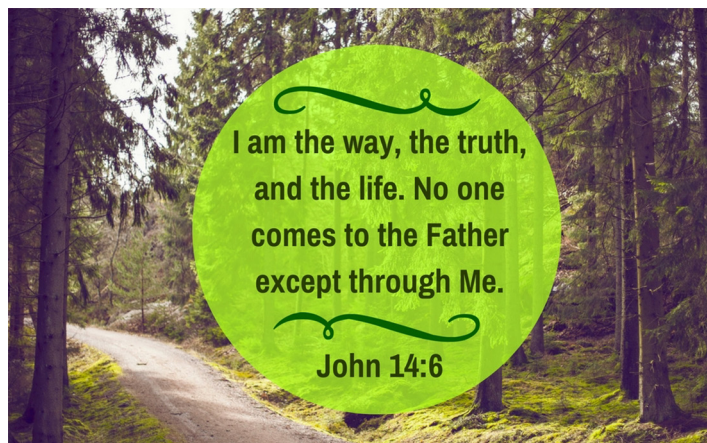
This verse tells us King Jesus is True. The word "True" means genuine or reliable. In other words, King Jesus is not a fake. He is not an imposter. King Jesus is the genuine article.

Jesus Christ is the True Messiah. He is the genuine Son of God. His resurrection from the dead proves he is genuine. And, as the genuine Messiah, King Jesus is reliable. He can be trusted to do what his word says he will do.

The Apostle Paul reaffirms this in 2Cor. 1:20 which says, *"For all the promises of God find their Yes in him [Jesus Christ]. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory."* (2 Corinthians 1:20, ESV)

All of God's promises find their yes in Jesus Christ because he is the true, genuine, reliable Savior of the world. And, throughout the book of the Revelation, God has promised King Jesus will destroy evil.

One such promise is in Revelation, chapter 11, when the seventh angel blows his trumpet. Rev. 11:15-18 says, *"Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, 'The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.'" And the twenty-four*



elders who sit on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying, "We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign. The nations raged, but your wrath came, and the time for the dead to be judged, and for rewarding your servants, the prophets and saints, and those who fear your name, both small and great, and for destroying the destroyers of the earth." (Revelation 11:15–18, ESV)

Here, God promises the kingdom of the world will become the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. And, Lord Jesus shall reign forever and ever.

God also promises the dead will be judged and the destroyers of the earth will be destroyed. This includes Satan, the dragon, the two beasts, and all demonic angels. These promises are yes and amen in Jesus Christ because he is the True Messiah, because he is our faithful and true warrior. King Jesus is True.

And, to drive this point home, Jesus Christ calls himself "the truth" in John 14:6. John 14:6 says, "Jesus said to him [Thomas], "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6, ESV)

Jesus Christ is True and he is the truth. He is the only genuine way to come to the Father. He is the only genuine way to be reconciled to God the Father. This is gospel truth.

Yet, our culture, and the world, says there are many ways to God. Yet, if Jesus Christ is the truth, then the world's proclamation must be a lie. Why? Because Jesus, himself, says "No one comes to the Father except through me."

Jesus' declaration contains a double negative in the original language. It is the strongest negative wording that Jesus could use. Jesus is making a definitive declaration here. There is no moving room in his statement. Jesus says it is not possible to come to the Father anyway but through him. End of story. Case closed.

So, if there are many ways to God, then, Jesus is a liar. If there are many ways to God, Jesus is not True, and he is not "the

truth." He is an imposter.

Rev. 19:11 says King Jesus' title is True, capital "T." We either believe Jesus is True or we don't. We either believe Jesus is the truth, or we don't. If we believe Jesus is "the truth", and the bible, his word, is true, then, we don't have a choice. We must stand on the truth of the word of God.

Jesus Christ proclaims he is the only way to come to the Father. Jesus declares salvation, reconciliation with the Father, the forgiveness of our sins, eternal life with Jesus Christ in heaven when we die, is only possible through him.

Now, we may not understand all the ways to go through Jesus, but it must be through him. Jesus said, "No one, no how, no way, comes to the Father except through me."

Illustration of entering: Let me give you an illustration of this. When I was taking Greek in seminary, our Greek teacher illustrated this verse for us. He asked two students to come up front and form an arch with their hands. He then asked each of us students to walk forward and literally walk through the arch.

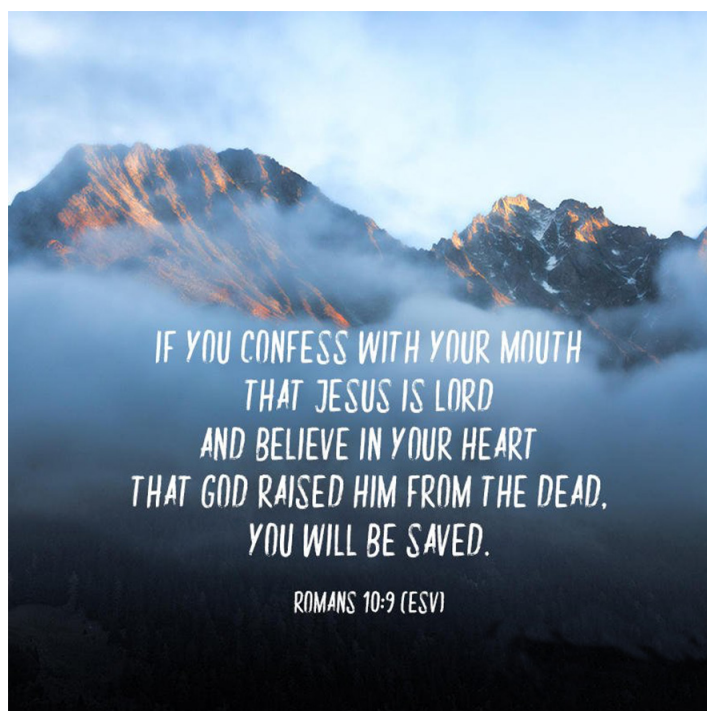
He said this is what the Greek is saying in this verse. To come to the Father, we must go through Jesus Christ. We must go through the person of Jesus. We must repent of our sins and put our faith in Jesus' substitutionary death for our sins.

Jesus says the same thing in John 10:9. Jesus says, "I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture." (John 10:9, ESV) We come to the Father through Jesus, and only through Jesus.

All of God's promises are yes and amen through Jesus. This is gospel truth. We cannot compromise this gospel truth even if it means persecution. Even if the world calls it hate speech. This is gospel truth on which we stand.

An Illustration of the battle against the Truth: The devil, the great dragon of the Revelation, hates this truth. And the dragon will do everything he can to keep people away from this
Continued next page





truth. So, the dragon creates a lot of deception, He sends many lying spirits into the world to lead humanity astray.

Here's another illustration. There was a young woman who came to the church two weeks ago to talk to me about using the church address as her return address. She wanted to write letters to prisoners.

And, for safety reasons, the organization she was working with recommended she use a church address as her return address. After I agreed she could use our address, I prayed for her and when I ended the prayer I saw her make the sign of the Cross. That led to a discussion about her faith. I found out she was raised Catholic.

I asked if she had a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. She said, "oh, I believe in God." I said, "no," that wasn't enough.

I quoted Rom. 10:9. Rom. 10:9 says, "*If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*" (Romans 10:9, ESV)

I told her the only way to know she was right with God was to repent of her sins, and accept Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior by faith. She proceeded to tell me that she was okay because Jesus had spoken to her through a psychic. It turns out her mom uses a psychic, who is a family friend, so she went to the psychic.

And the psychic told this young woman that Jesus was speaking to the young woman, through her, the psychic. And, that Jesus, speaking through the psychic, told this young woman she was good, that everything was okay. That her relationship

with God was okay.

I explained to the young woman that it wasn't Jesus who was speaking to her. Jesus doesn't speak through psychics. I told her it was actually a demonic power speaking to her through the psychic.

She became afraid, and after more discussion, she repented and prayed to receive Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. Please pray for her. Her name is Jamie. I tell you this story to illustrate there are a lot of counterfeits in this world. There are people, and philosophies, and other religions that claim they are the truth, that they are the way, or another way of salvation. This cannot be true if Jesus Christ is True and the truth.

Jesus wins the battle against evil because he is "the truth," and always speaks the truth. Jesus wins the battle against evil because he fulfills all of God's promises, including God's promise to destroy evil.

We win our battle against evil by speaking the truth of God's word. Especially the truth that Jesus Christ is the only way to come to the Father. And, faith in Jesus Christ is the only way to avoid the coming judgement.

The True One judges in righteousness. Now, one last point. Rev. 19:11 tells us King Jesus is "*called Faithful and True and in righteousness he judges and makes war.*"

Because King Jesus is Faithful and True, he judges the world in righteousness. Jesus' judgements are true. Jesus' judgements are faithful. They are made in accordance with God's standards.

We can rest in the knowledge King Jesus makes no mistakes. We can feel secure he judges justly.

Notice, judgement and war are linked. The text says, "*in righteousness [or according to God's standards] he judges and makes war.*" Jesus makes war against those he judges. Jesus makes war against those who deserve judgement.

What is happening here in Revelation, chapter 19, is not arbitrary. It is completely fair and just. Those not in Jesus Christ will be judged. This is why we must proclaim the truth there is only one True Savior. And, his name is Jesus Christ. Amen!

See you next month,

Pastor Steve

¹. This line of reasoning is laid out by Darrell Johnson in his book, "Discipleship on the Edge, (Vancouver, B.C., Regent College Publishing, 2004). p. 324ff

IN MEMORY....



In The Garden

I come to the garden alone
While the dew is still on the roses
And the voice I hear falling on my ear
The Son of God discloses.

Refrain

And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own;
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.

Words: Charles Austin Miles (1912)

*And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you,
This poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box.*

Mark 12:43 (ESV)

SONOMA, California ---In Memory of Charles (Charlie) Gayle Avery, U.S. Navy Lieutenant Commander (retired), 94, who passed away on August 12, 2021. Charlie was the father of Denise Albriton.

Charlie served our country from 1943 to 1971, a war veteran of WWII, Korea and Vietnam.

Charlie was preceded in death by his wife Eleanor

(Parkes) Avery 2007 and daughter Terry Avery in 1979.

Graveside service with Military Honors at Mountain Cemetery in Sonoma, took place on Tuesday, August 31.

May God be with daughter Denise and Brian Albriton, son Chuck, daughter Cathy Thomas and grandson Joshua Houchin.

Denise & Brian Albriton

By Thomas Chinen

I first wrote an article about Denise when she first came to CPC of Hollywood in 2015, that was 6 years ago. Just to let people know that Brian and Denise are both blind, but please don't call them handicapped. They both are so independent. They catch Uber to come to church. They call the driver when church services are over to be picked up. Since they are so familiar with our church they don't ask for help to go to use the rest room, they go by themselves. Amazing!!

Both Brian and Denise have volunteered to do praise time. Denise is so talented she plays the guitar, auto-harp, ukulele and the harmonica. Brian also plays the guitar and ukulele. Both also sing as a duet every Sunday. I am impressed with their ability to make our praise time so de-

lightful with their enthusiasm and ability. We have learned quite a few new songs that they introduced to us including their theme song, "Expect a miracle every day".

We are so blessed to experience the faith these two followers of Christ have. Denise suffers from Diabetes and other illnesses, Brian had surgery for cancer in his nostrils. I have never heard one complaint from these two regarding their health. Their faith is encouraging to me. Our church is blessed that they chose our church to settle in.

In Matthew chapter 15 Jesus was teaching his disciples about the Pharisees misleading the apostles with their teachings. Jesus said to steer clear of those Pharisee's teachings. Then he used the term, "they are blind guides". If the blind

lead the blind both will fall into a pit. It was their interpretation that Jesus did not agree with. But can Jesus have been wrong about his interpretation of the blind leading the blind? I have watched Denise leading Brian walking from the cab on the sidewalk to our church without anyone sighted helping them. I can only believe that this is a miracle given by Jesus. Jesus did not say anything about the lame leading the blind. I rarely volunteer to help Brian and Denise because I have trouble with my balance so I use a cane. Should I stumble and fall I would take Brian and Denise down with me and we all would get hurt.

Come get to know Brian and Denise and you will be greatly rewarded in encouraging experiences.



at CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOLLYWOOD

Worship Service: Sunday morning worship begins at 11:00am and ends around 12:30pm.

Our Sunday morning worship services are structured to facilitate an encounter with the presence of God.

We believe everyone who has confessed Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior is indwelt by God, the Holy Spirit. So, the Holy Spirit is always present with us in our worship services. Yet, we believe scripture teaches that there are varying degrees of the manifest presence of God. So, as we begin each worship service, we intentionally invite the Holy Spirit to come upon us (Acts 1:8) and to manifest in us and through us in any way the Holy Spirit so desires. And, then, we sit quietly for a minute to give the Holy Spirit a chance to respond.

At the end of this time of silence, we often have a "word" from the Lord to encourage us and build us up. Sometimes the

Holy Spirit will move us off our scheduled liturgy. And we simply follow where the Holy Spirit is leading.

We also have an extended time of prayer during the worship service. We are small enough to take individual prayer requests and we pray for each individual request. We believe God heals today through the power of the Holy Spirit, so we regularly pray for physical, emotional, and spiritual healing for individuals. We have seen God answer these prayers in marvelous ways.

The message each Sunday is taken directly from the word of God. We believe Isa. 55:11 which says, "so shall my word [God's word] be that goes out from my mouth, it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it." (Isa. 55:11, ESV) The preaching of the word of God is a central focus in our worship service.

PRAYER Request

If you have prayer requests, you can send them via email or text PRIOR to our service each Sunday. My email is sbaroldy@gmail.com. You can text me at 323-202-5078.



Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/384758031?pwd=ZnEySIBjL1VkuMhiTWRCREdmZVhJZz09>

Meeting ID: 384 758 031

Password: 351955

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,384758031# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,384758031# US (Houston)

FINANCIAL REPORT

AUGUST 2021



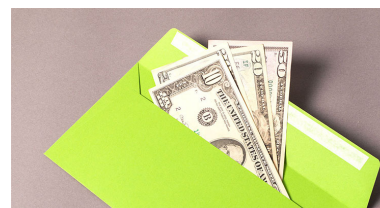
	<u>AUG. 2021</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Receipts	\$ 9,672	\$ 85,775
Disbursements	\$ 12,797	\$ 98,034
Increase (Deficit)	(\$ 3,124)	(\$ 12,259)

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father,
 Who art in Heaven,
 Hallowed be thy Name.
 Thy Kingdom come,
 Thy Will be done,
 On earth as it is in Heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread.
 And forgive us our debts,
 As we forgive our debtors.
 And lead us not into temptation,
 But deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the Kingdom and
 the Power and the Glory forever.

Amen

Gifts & Offering



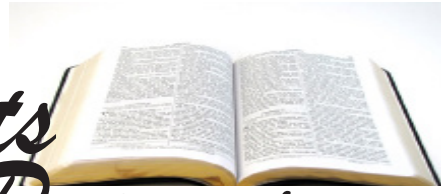
The Covid-19 pandemic continues to impact our lives. Amidst all the challenges, CPC is doing all we can to serve our church, to connect people to one another, and to connect all of us to God through our online worship.

We are grateful for your continued generosity in supporting our mission and NOW more than ever we need your help for us to continue to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and give hope to others.

Please consider sending a gift or donation to:

Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood
 4011 Clinton Street, Los Angeles, CA 90004

In Our Thoughts & Prayers



Let us remember to keep in our prayers the church family and friends who are in need of God's healing touch: overall healing for Kimi Fujitani, Charles Ingram, Janet Nozaki, Frank Morimoto, Stella Kenner, Karen Koranye, Lashman Johal, Pastor Steve, Martin; healing of knee and wrist of Maria Cardenas and prayers for Marley, Hunter, Cousin Dari, and Aunt Laley; overall healing for Ron Jung; healing and God's blessings for Harumi Mayeda; strength to care for her Mom for Irene Mayeda; overall healing for Joan Janecek; healing of legs of Sherri Esaki; healing of back and leg pain for Yuri Sangen; healing of left foot and diabetes for Denise Albriton; overall healing and healing of cancer in nostril of Brian Albriton; prayers for Pastor Steve, his wife Simone and their daughters Nicole and Noelle and David and Alice; revival for CPC and neighborhood, our elders, Faro de Luz Church, outreach to community, unsaved relatives and friends, and protection against major disaster.

"Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood is an intentional healing community; proclaiming and demonstrating the wholeness of life offered by Jesus Christ."

DATED MATERIAL

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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