

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

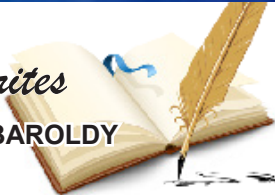
JULY
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Jesus Christ OUR FAITHFUL WARRIOR Part 2

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 our Faithful Warrior, part 2
Rev. 19:11-21, originally given on May 2

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)

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What a joy to
**WELCOME
YOU BACK**
in our Sanctuary!

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.

And I saw the heaven opened, and Behold, a
White Horse, and He who sat on it is called
Faithful and True,
And in righteousness He judges and wages war.
Revelation 19:11

Here, John sees King Jesus sitting on a white horse which means King Jesus is riding into battle.

Again, 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.

Last week, we saw that one of the reasons Jesus Christ wins this battle is he is the Word of God, capital “W.” We looked at the attributes of the Word of God from John 1:1-5.

These verses tell us: Jesus Christ wins the battle because he is eternal God; and Jesus Christ wins the battle because he is the Creator. Jesus Christ created those who are in rebellion against him. He created the angel who became Satan. He created the angels who were thrown down from heaven and became demons. He created those humans who are in rebellion against him.

The Creator always wins the battle against his creation. It is no contest. It is not a battle of equals. The Creator always wins.

Next, Jesus Christ wins the battle because he is the light of humanity, and the Light of the world. King Jesus’ light shines in the darkness of evil and the darkness has not, cannot, and will not overcome it.

And last, we saw that King Jesus’ battle against evil was won at the Cross. The powers of darkness thought they had won when Jesus Christ was crucified and died.

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. King Jesus is our faithful Warrior. And he will ultimately strike down everyone, and everything that stands against him, and everyone and everything that would harm his followers.

Jesus wins because he is Faithful: Now, this morning, we will look at other reasons Jesus wins this battle. I love these verses because they shine a bright light on our Lord Jesus Christ. They reveal to us just how wonderful and powerful King Jesus is.

So, again, Rev. 19:11 says, “*Then I 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, we see King Jesus wins the battle because he is Faithful and True.

Notice, both Faithful and True are capitalized. This means these are titles of Jesus. Just like King Jesus is the Bread of Life, and the Light of the Word, and the Word of God, the One going into battle is Faithful, capital “F.” The One going to war is True, capital “T.” This morning, we will focus on the title “Faithful.”

King Jesus wins the battle against evil because he is Faithful. John calls Jesus the “faithful witness” in Rev. 1:5. And, in Rev. 3:14, Jesus is called the “faithful and true witness.”

“No one has ever seen God; the ONLY God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.”

(John 1:18, ESV)

So, three times in the Revelation, Jesus is called Faithful, or the faithful witness. Again, one of Jesus’ titles is Faithful. Jesus, during his life on earth, was a faithful witness to his Father, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. So, let’s review some of the ways King Jesus is faithful.

First, Jesus is faithful to the mission the Father gave him. As we talked about last week, Jesus was faithful to accomplish his redemptive mission. Jesus died in our place, for our sins, that we might be reconciled to the Father. Jesus was faithful to his mission even unto death.

Next, Jesus is the faithful Word, capital “W.” The gospel of John, chapter 5, tells Jesus only said what he heard the Father saying. And he only did what he saw the Father doing. Jesus is faithful to speak the Father’s word and to do the Father’s word.

Next, Jesus is also faithful to make the Father known to us. John 1:18 says, *“No one has ever seen God; the only God, [Jesus Christ] who is at the Father’s side, he has made him [God] known.”* (John 1:18, ESV)

Part of Jesus’ ministry is to make the Father known to us. To reveal the Father’s heart for us. So, in his earthly ministry, Jesus demonstrated that God the Father is the God who loves us unconditionally.

John 3:16 says, *For God so loved the world [meaning the peoples of the world] he gave his only Son.”* Jesus’ words and actions are meant to convey God’s unconditional love for us.

Next, at the Father’s direction, Jesus healed people physically, spiritually and emotionally. By these actions, Jesus demonstrated God the Father is the God who wants us to be whole in body, spirit and emotions.

Jesus showed us that God wants us to live in his shalom, his peace. Jesus showed the Father wants us have an abundant life. Not just materially, but in all aspects of our life.

Jesus also delivered people from the powers of darkness that were holding them captive. Here, Jesus made known to us that God wants us to live free from the penalty of sin. And, God wants to release us from the fear of death.

Satan has used sin and the fear of death to hold us captive. The Father sent Jesus to deliver us from sin and the fear of death. This is the Father’s heart for us.

Next, by his words and actions, Jesus demonstrated our God is the God who will never leave us nor forsake us. That through our faith in Jesus, we are secure in God the Father for all eternity. And, nothing can snatch us out of his powerful hands.

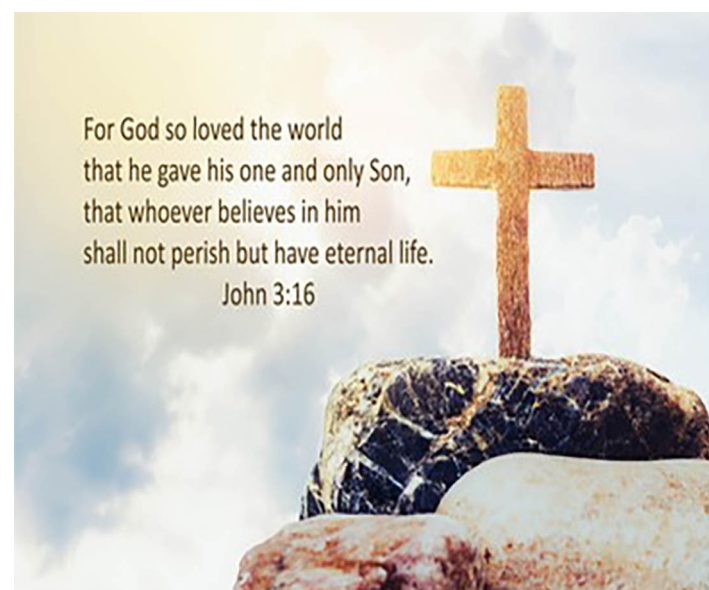
And, again, to accomplish all this, Jesus was faithful to fulfill his mission by willingly going to the Cross. Yes, Jesus’ title is Faithful.

Jesus was the faithful witness during his earthly ministry. And now, the resurrected, glorified King Jesus is the Faithful Warrior who will fully implement his victory over evil; who will fully implement all that he purchased for us through his death and resurrection. Let’s take a moment and praise King Jesus for his faithfulness.

Jesus is our model for remaining faithful: As the One called Faithful, Jesus Christ is our model for how we remain faithful to God the Father. Jesus is our model for how we remain faithful, in spite of the cost, in spite of persecution, in spite of hardships and trials we encounter in life.

Jesus’ modeled God’s unconditional love. And, we remain faithful to God by demonstrating God’s unconditional love to others in our sphere of influence.

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And let's be honest. This does not come natural to us. It is not easy for us. We are not good at unconditional love. Which is why God has given us his Holy Spirit to dwell in us.

It is only through the power of the Holy Spirit that we can model God's unconditional love. So, we need to continually pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help us model God's unconditional love to others.

Along these same lines, we remain a faithful witness to God by speaking God's word and obeying God's commandments. Jesus said in John 14:15, *"If you love me, you will keep my commandments."* (John 14:15, ESV)

Which commandments is Jesus talking about? In the gospel of Matthew, a Pharisee asked Jesus what was the greatest commandment in the Law. Jesus answered him this way. *"And he [Jesus] said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" (Matthew 22:37-39, ESV)*

Jesus summarized all the commandments into two. Love God and love your neighbor. So, how do we remain a faithful witness to God? First, we love the Lord our God with all our being. We make God the center our lives.

We love God by spending time with him. We praise God in our hearts and with our mouths. We thank God daily for all his blessings. We spend time in his word. We spend time in prayer.

I heard a great definition of prayer the other day. Prayer is praying God's word back to God. Spending time in God's word and praying God's word go hand in glove.

We love God by asking the Holy Spirit to fill us afresh each and every day. Seeking the refreshment of the Holy Spirit, praising and thanking God, reading God's word and praying God's word, this is how we love God with our whole being. When we do these things, our love of God increases. Our love of God will radiate from our spirits.

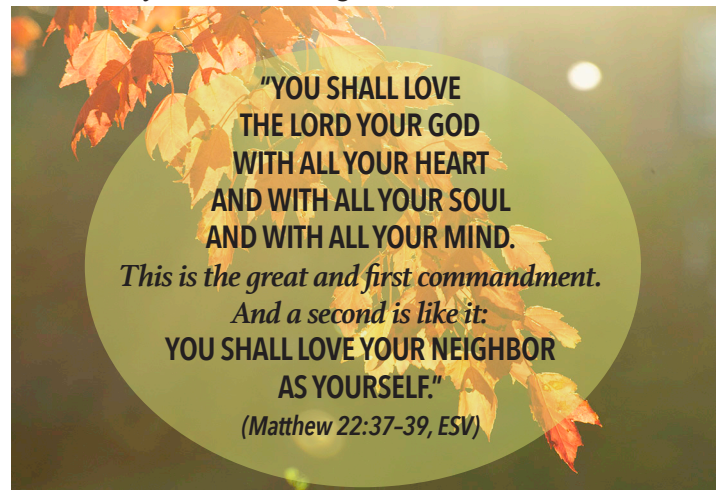
And this helps us to love our neighbors as ourselves. We remain a faithful witness by loving our neighbors as ourselves. So, how? How do we love our neighbors as ourselves? Here are a few thoughts.

To begin, we don't lie to them. Our neighbors need to know we are people of truth. So, we always speak truth to them. Next, we don't try to take advantage of them in any

way. We don't use them for our own benefit.

Also, we treat our neighbors with kindness, dignity and respect, even when they don't deserve it. We let our neighbors know, through our words and actions, that God loves them and that we value them. That we want what is best for them. We help them when we are able.

And, we share the gospel with them. We share the good news of Jesus Christ with them. We pray for them as need arises. We pray for their healing when they are sick. We pray for their struggles at work. We pray when there are problems with their children or grandchildren. There are a thousand different ways to love our neighbors as ourselves.



Do you realize we win the battle against evil when we love God with all our being, and when we love our neighbors as ourselves? Can you think of one way, right now, to love one of your neighbors?

King Jesus wins the battle against evil because he is the Faithful warrior. Jesus is Faithful and he calls us to be faithful witnesses against evil in our spheres of influence. When our time on earth is done, and we meet King Jesus, will Jesus be able to call us faithful? 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*

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.

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



Join us in
Worship
 SUNDAYS at 11:00 A.M.

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)

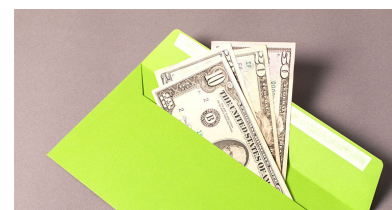
FINANCIAL REPORT

JUNE
 2021



	<u>JULY 2021</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Receipts	\$ 10,148	\$ 76,102
Disbursements	\$ 11,211	\$ 85,237
Increase (Deficit)	(\$ 1,063)	(\$ 9,135)

Gifts & Offering



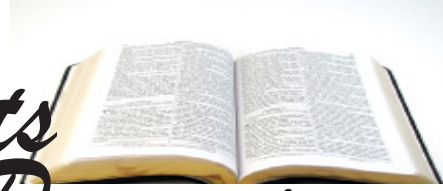
The Covid-19 pandemic continues to impact our lives. Amidst all the challenges, CPC is doing all we can to serve our church, to connect people to one another, and to connect all of us to God through our online worship.

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

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