



1. [about 5 minutes] What springs to mind when you think of a battle? World War II? World War III? The Last Battle, by C. S. Lewis? Apocalypse Now? World of Warcraft?

2. [about 5 minutes] Read Revelation 19:11–21. It would help to have a change of reader corresponding to the three successive 'visions': 19:11–16, 19:17–18, 19:19–21.

Getting our bearings: Revelation 17:1 to 19:10 focus on Babylon. Rich in poetic detail, laced with warning and lament and woe and rejoicing, this passage outlines Babylon's nature and fall. Then follows Revelation 19:11–21, today's passage. This tells, in the heading of the NTV, that the heavenly warrior defeats the beast. It contains three 'visions'. Further 'visions' follow in Chapter 20.

*the last battle*

# Revelation 19:11–21

Week 7 • Sunday 18 September 2016

[spend about 10 minutes on each topic]

## 1. First vision—the heavenly warrior (19:11–17)

The vision opens with heaven 'open' (19:11). We have met this idea before in 4:1. What, if any, link do you see here? The rider is called 'Faithful and True' (19:11), 'the Word of God' (19:13), 'King of Kings and Lord of Lords' (19:16). Where have you met these phrases before, especially in Revelation, but also elsewhere in the Bible? 'Blazing fire' (19:12), 'sharp sword' (19:15) and 'iron sceptre' (19:15) also echo previous passages in Revelation. Weighing up this evidence, who is the rider?

## 2. Second vision—victory announced (19:17–18)

Who speaks? Where is the speaker standing? What sort of voice does he have? Who does he address? What does he say? What does it signify? Compare with Ezekiel 39:4, 17–20, Matthew 22:2–4, Revelation 19:9.



*fold away here second*

**From there to here** [spend about 10 minutes on this page]

1. Which of the three 'visions' of Revelation 19:11–21 speaks most directly to you?

2. Which of the images in Revelation 19:11–21 are still current today, and which could be updated for a modern audience?

## Worth remembering and even singing (from Revelation 19:6)

'Hallelujah!  
For our Lord God Almighty reigns.  
Let us rejoice and be glad  
and give him glory!

Looking ahead: Next week is Revelation Chapter 20.

*fold away here first*

## 3. Third vision—battle won (19:19–21)

Who are the opposing forces in the battle? (19:19) (Note: the battle itself is not described here!)  
What is the outcome of the battle, and the fate of the vanquished?  
How do the consequences (19:21) tie back to the first and second visions (19:11–16; 19:17–18)?

## 4. Tying it all together

Discuss how all this passage relates to Christ's victory over Satan on the cross (e.g. Colossians 2:15; 1 John 3:8; Hebrews 2:14–15).  
Is the blood in 19:13 the blood Christ, or of his enemies (or perhaps both)?  
In contrast to the robe of their leader (19:13), the armies of heaven are 'dressed in fine linen, white and clean' (19:14). What is the meaning of this? (You may wish to refer to other parts of Revelation.)

