



Today's Message

Date: August 17, 2014
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: *A Feast of Death*

Text: Revelation 19:17–21 (ESV)

¹⁷ Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and with a loud voice he called to all the birds that fly directly overhead, “Come, gather for the great supper of God, ¹⁸ to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all men, both free and slave, both small and great.” ¹⁹ And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to make war against him who was sitting on the horse and against his army. ²⁰ And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. ²¹ And the rest were slain by the sword that came from the mouth of him who was sitting on the horse, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh.

Introduction: Last week's sermon text (Revelation 19:11-16) gave a glimpse of the climax of human history: the return of Christ. All that follows in the book of Revelation unpacks the details of that event. Our current text (19:17-21) describes the finale of the conflict between Christ and evil, the battle of Armageddon. The description is brief, as will be the battle. The opening verse makes an intentional contrast between the destinies of those who belong to Christ and those who do not. The former will feast at the marriage supper of the Lamb (19:6-9) while the latter will become

the feast for the birds of prey (21).

I. Description of Armageddon:

- A. An ominous prelude: An angel will summon carrion birds to the battlefield for a feast. 17-18
- B. Preparation for battle: The world will unite to repel the returning Lamb. 19
- C. The outcome of the battle: The Lamb will win a devastating victory. 20-21
 - 1. He will overwhelm and damn the evil “trinity.” 20
 - 2. He will slaughter all their followers without mercy. 21

II. Summary (today’s take-home truth): When the triumphant Lamb returns, his victory of evil will be swift, complete, and final.

III. Implications for today:

- A. Think carefully about the Lamb’s call to persevere for the battle is real.
- B. Take sin seriously—the Lamb certainly does.
- C. Never take for granted the mercy of the Lamb.
- D. Face each difficult day with hope knowing the Lamb will return in triumph.