



Connecting People to **Jesus**

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Wednesday, October 26, 2022

Pastor Eric Jay

Prayer: Lord Jesus, long before we were alive, You fought and won the battle for our souls. Through Your death and resurrection, You have conquered our greatest fear; death. Lord, help us each day to fight the good fight of faith in the full assurance that the victory is already won. Amen.

Scripture: Colossians 2:13-15

God made us alive together with Christ, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Devotional – “Har Megiddo”

When I say the word “Armageddon,” what comes to mind? If you’re like most people, you think of an event; something like a major battle or other cataclysmic event that is the beginning of the end of the world. In 1998 a blockbuster hit movie entitled *Armageddon* came out in theatres. The movie tells the fictional story of a giant asteroid headed straight for earth and that would certainly bring about the end of our world if it were not for the heroic and self-sacrificial efforts of a select few who flew out to the asteroid in space to blow it up before it wiped us all out.

The word Armageddon comes from the Bible, most notably in Revelation 16, where the final judgement of God upon the earth is pictured as a great battle. I say “pictured” as a great battle, because the book of Revelation is a unique kind of literature that uses highly symbolic and familiar language to describe what is not familiar to us. There is no cosmic battle on the last day because the battle has already been fought and won by our Lord Jesus on the cross. Through His death and resurrection Christ has defeated sin, death, and the devil. “It’s finished,” just as Jesus said hanging on the cross. Though we do not yet see the fullness of the victory Christ has already won, Scripture is clear that the battle for our souls is over.

- As our text from Colossians 2 says, “He **disarmed** the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by **triumphing over them in him.**”
- Hebrews 2 says, “Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might **destroy the one who has the power of death**, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.”

Contrary to how what most people think Armageddon means, it is not an event. Armageddon is a place. The word Armageddon in your English Bible is a corruption of the Hebrew word "Har Megiddo" which literally means "the mount/mountain of Megiddo."

Armageddon is a place and not an event, however, that hasn't stopped our culture from capitalizing on this misunderstanding.

Whether it's a giant asteroid, a third world-war, or a zombie apocalypse, the biggest battle we need to win is not a battle for the preservation of our flesh and bone that will inevitably die even if somehow world peace is achieved. The battle in which we must be able to claim victory if we hope to truly live both now and forever, is the battle for our eternal soul. This battle we cannot win on our own, not only because we are not good enough, strong enough, or righteous enough, but predominantly because it is a war that Jesus won for us already. As 1 Corinthians 15 says, "I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable... The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Thanks for joining me for another daily devotional in God's Word, and remember, that God has forgiven yesterday, is with you today, and has already taken care of tomorrow. Amen.