

THE STORY WE FIND OURSELVES IN

(Chapters 3-4)

- Chapter 1—Camaraderie: the heroic fellowship of the Trinity
- Chapter 2—Villainy—the fall and fury of the devil and his angels (demons)

Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to wage war against the rest of her offspring—those who keep God’s commands and hold fast their testimony about Jesus.

(Rev 12:17)

- **Chapter 3—Humanity**

God created mankind in his own image...male and female to...be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature. (Genesis 1:27-28)

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners (Isaiah 61:1)

“Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” (Luke 4:21)

A young girl gives birth to a tiny baby in a despised little town in an oppressed little country under the heel of the greatest superpower in history. And that little baby becomes a young man who by the time he is thirty-three has undermined the superpower and injected into human culture an inextinguishable hope in the form of good news. He single-handedly releases the ring of power through the cross and defeats the darkness that was afoot in all humanity. (Brian McLaren, *The Story We Find Ourselves In*)

- **Chapter 4—Finale**

I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. “He will rule them with an iron scepter.” He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

(Rev 19:11-16)