

The Book of Revelation

Chapter 19

Introductory Notes

- We now arrive at the culmination of the Tribulation, as Christ returns to conquer.
- We first see the reaction in Heaven to Christ's impending return, followed by the overwhelming victory of Christ at His return.

Outline

- The Four Alleluias - vs. 1-6
- The Marriage Supper of the Lamb - vs. 7-10
- The Revealing of the Conquering Christ - vs. 11-16
- Armageddon and Aftermath - vs. 17-21

Notes

- vs. 1 - much people – Likely responding to the call to rejoice in 18:20. Likely these are the Tribulation martyrs of 7:9.
- vs. 1 - Alleluia - transliteration of the Hebrew word Hallelujah, meaning “Praise ye the Lord”.
- vs. 2 – His judgments – the answer to the plea of 6:10.
- vs. 3 – for ever and ever – everlasting and complete destruction.
- vs. 4 - We have returned to the Heavenly throne room from Chapters 4-5.
- vs. 5 - voice out of the throne - the use of “our God” is interesting. If it were not coming from the throne, I would say it was an angel. But coming from the throne suggests that it is God. The solution is that this is Christ speaking.
- vs. 6 - great multitude – this is more than the “much people” of vs. 1. I think this could be all of Heaven or even all of Creation praising God for what is to come.
- vs. 7 - marriage - we need to remember that this is a Jewish-style wedding, and is far different from ours. A very basic outline of its events is:
 - A marriage contract is made, and a dowry paid. The couple is legally married though not “cohabiting”. Example: Joseph and Mary in Luke 1:26-27.
 - Bridegroom (and party) goes to retrieve Bride for wedding. Example: Parable of the Ten Virgins in Matthew 25:1-13.
 - Marriage Supper and Celebration. Example: Wedding at Cana in John 2:1-12.
- vs. 7 – The Bride is the Church. See Ephesians 5:25, II Corinthians 11:2.
 - Walvoord: “In the biblical use of the figure of marriage, variations can be observed in both the Old and New Testaments. Frequently in the Old Testament, as for instance in the book of

Hosea, Israel is described as the unfaithful wife of Jehovah to be restored to her position as a faithful wife in the future millennial reign. While marriage is often used as an illustration of various truths, the norm for the doctrine is that Israel is already married to Jehovah and has proved unfaithful to her responsibility as a wife. By contrast, in the New Testament the church is pictured as a virgin waiting for the coming of her bridegroom (2 Cor. 11:2). In this case the wedding union is still future as well as the wedding feast. The dispensational distinction between the saints of the present age belonging to the church, the Body of Christ, and saints of other ages, such as those in the Old Testament or those in the future tribulation, therefore seems to be observed in this passage where the wife is distinguished from the great multitude identified in chapter 7 as martyrs out of the great tribulation. The 'marriage of the Lamb' is properly the marriage supper of the Lamb, the final aspect of the marriage relationship between Christ and His church."

- vs. 8 – white and linen are common symbols of righteousness. See Ephesians 5:25-27.
- vs. 9-10 – This speaker is probably the angel of 17:1, but the identity is not clear.
- vs. 9 – This is #4 of 7 "Beatitudes" in Revelation. Also in 1:3, 14:13, 16:15, 20:6, 22:7, and 22:14.
- vs. 10 - the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy - John Walvoord: "This means that prophecy at its very heart is designed to unfold the beauty and loveliness of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."
- EVERYTHING in Revelation has led us to this moment as Christ is revealed!
- vs. 11 - heaven opened - see Isaiah 64:1-2
- vs. 12 - eyes were as a flame of fire - as in 1:14 and 2:18
- vs. 12 - a name written – a further revelation likely connected to His victory here.
- vs. 13 - vesture dipped in blood – the blood of His enemies. See Isaiah 63:1-4.
- vs. 14 - an army, that we are part of, that will not have to fight. Some compare this to a triumphal procession.
- vs. 15 - sharp sword - see Hebrew 4:12.
- vs. 15 - rod of iron - see Psalm 2:9.
- vs. 15 - winepress - see Isaiah 63:1-6
- vs. 16 – see I Timothy 6:15, Revelation 17:14
- vs. 17-18 – referencing the utter defeat of the Lord's foes.
- vs. 19 - This is the Battle of Armageddon.
 - The Antichrist's armies have assembled – Revelation 16:12-16
 - The Antichrist's armies take Jerusalem – Zechariah 12:1-9, 14:1-2
 - The Antichrist's armies chase the survivors to Bozrah – Isaiah 34:6, 63:1
 - Israel's survivors repent and turn to Christ - Matthew 23:37-39, Zechariah 12:10, Hosea 5:15
 - Christ returns and saves Israel's survivors – 19:11-16; Isaiah 34:1-7, 63:1-7; Habakkuk 3:3; Micah 2:12-13
 - Christ defeats the Antichrist's army throughout the land of Israel - Joel 3:12-13, Zechariah 14:12-15, Revelation 14:19-20
- vs. 20 - note that the Antichrist and False Prophet are taken alive.
- vs. 20 - lake of fire - we'll see this again in 20:15.
- vs. 21 - Absolute and total victory.