

The Glorious Coming of the Glorious Lamb, 19:1-21

Introduction:

Climax of God's revelation of events

- 1) Climax of the book:
from the somber to a song.
From dark days of judgment to bright days of light.
- 2) Climax of all history (fulfillment of OT prophecy)

Contrast Advents of Jesus Christ

- 1) 1st Advent → rejection, humiliation, suffering, death
- 2) 2nd Advent → triumph, glory, sovereignty, majesty [Again, 2nd Advent is in 2 parts...]

1 A great multitude in heaven rejoiced, 19:1-10

A. The Hallelujahs, 19:1-6 (3 groups)

Word: "Hallelujah" – only 4x in all NT occur here! Greek equivalent of the common word in the Psalms.

1. Group #1 -- Great multitude in heaven rejoiced twice over the destruction of the world system, 19:1-3

1st hallelujah, 19:1-2 ---judgments are true and righteous against Babylon

2nd hallelujah, 19:3

2. Group #2 -- 24 elders & 4 living creatures, 19:4

Representatives of the Church and angels of heaven shouted the **3rd hallelujah**

3. Group #3 -- Great multitude, 19:5-6

a. Voice from the throne: invitation to all bond-servants to praise, 19:5

b. Voice like the thunder to praise God that He now reigns over the earth, 19:6
The thundered the **4th hallelujah** because God, the Almighty reigns.

B. The marriage supper of the Lamb has come, 19:7-9

Culture: 3 stages of a "marriage" – in NT, word "marriage" can be any or all 3 -

1. Betrothal (earth) – 2 individuals legally bound to each other as husband and wife, though never lived together. (Ex. Mary & Joseph) Purpose: purity of virgin; prepare place.
2. Presentation (heaven) – Bridegroom comes for his bride with great pomp and procession; takes her home.

3. Marriage Feast (supper) (earth) – Bridegroom introduces Bride to his family and friends (John 2) cf. John 14:2-3

Contrast: 2 “suppers”:

(v.9) “marriage supper of the Lamb” vs. “great supper of God” (v.17)

Chronology:

When and where – 2 views: (a) during Tribulation (in heaven); (b) during millennium (on earth)

1. Announce: The Bride, 19:7-8 (different from the rest of the great multitude of saints)
 - a. The bride, the Church, is ready, 19:7
KJV “wife” has led to some confusion with Israel. (Isa. 54:5)
 - b. The bride, the Church, clothed herself in her righteous acts, 19:8.
Eph. 5:26-27
2. The blessing is for those invited to the marriage supper, 19:9.
4th beatitude of book
 - a. ”he” is the angel of verse 10.
 - b. On those invited to the supper (cf. v.10) – all the believing dead (cf. John 3:29 – John the Baptist, a friend of the Bridegroom)
3. John's response to worship the angel is rebuked, 19:10.
 - a. When John falls at feet of the angel in worship he is rebuked.
 - b. The angel states that prophecy at its very heart → unfolds beauty of Jesus Christ.

2 Jesus Christ returns with heavenly armies as King and Judge, 19:11-16

Correlate these passages:

Zech. 14:3-9; Mt. 24:27-31 – (Isa. 13:10; Joel 2:31) For a more complete discussion, see JDP, *Things To Come*, chapter XXII.

- A. Heaven opens to reveal Jesus as the powerful Word of God, 19:11-13.
 1. This white horse is in contrast to the rider on a white horse during the 1st seal.
 - a. this Rider, Jesus, is Faithful to His Word and His people, and not a deceiver like Antichrist.
 - b. This Rider, Jesus, is True and not a liar like Antichrist.
 2. He judges and wages war with pure rightness as the One who Rules.
Jude 1:14-15 records that the earliest prophetic word was about this very event, spoken by Enoch (Gen.5) only 7 generations from Adam.

3. He has 3 names:
 - (1) no one knows – eternity,
 - (2) “Word of God” – 1st Advent-incarnation,
 - (3) “King of Kings” – 2nd Advent-sovereign rule (v.16)
4. His robe is "dipped in blood"
 - (1) either sprinkled with blood of Calvary (2) or anticipating the bloodshed to come in judgment.

B. The Coming of the King of Kings to judge the nations, 19:14-16

1. Armies on white horses follow Jesus, 19:14
Includes everyone in heaven – OT saints, Tribulation saints, church saints.

The clothing of the armies is significant. No one appears ready for battle. Why? No member of Christ's army actually does battle. The battle is fought and won by the spoken Word of our Lord!

2. Jesus appears as a powerful Judge and all-powerful King, 19:15-16
 - a. The sharp sword of His Word speaks and strikes down the nations.
 - b. Jesus will rule the nations with a "rod of iron" during His kingdom reign on earth.
See Ps. 2.
 - c. Jesus treads the wine press of God's fierce wrath. See Rev. 14:14-20.
 - d. Jesus is identified as the KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.
See Rev. 17:14b, and also 1 Tim. 6:14-15.

3 Birds are invited to assemble at Armageddon, the Final Showdown, 19:17-21

A. Assembly of the birds, 19:17-18

Angel invites the birds to the “great supper of God” (See Mt. 24:28)

B. Antichrist's armies are assembled to fight against Jesus, 19:19-21

1. Many armies assemble at Armageddon to fight, 19:19
the way they were all gathered to this location was described in Rev. 16:14.
2. The outcome of this final battle is certain for Antichrist and the false prophet, 19:20-21
 - a. Antichrist and his prophet were cast alive into the lake of fire, 19:20
These are the first 2 persons thrown into the lake of fire. Meanwhile unbelievers suffer in a temporary fire of hell until after the great white throne judgment of Rev. 20.

- b. The rest of the beast's armies were also killed, 19:21.
 - 1) They will be resurrected in the resurrection of judgment at end of millennium.
 - 2) This destruction at Armageddon does not involve every living unsaved Gentile. Some will be judged at the end of the Tribulation as the "goats" (Matt. 25), while others will rebel at the end of Jesus' kingdom reign (Rev. 20:7-9).

SUMMARY His coming is more than "it's going to be alright."

- We want to be pleasing to the Lord at the Bema -- "well done" good & faithful servant. We also want to be rewarded & clothed in fine linen.
- With heaven we shout Hallelujah over the idea that the world's system will be destroyed.
- We look forward with eager anticipation to....
 1. being with Jesus when He returns to this earth.
 2. Jesus making everything on this earth clean and pure.
 3. the marriage supper of the Lamb.