

The Book Of Revelation - Chapters Nineteen & Twenty

CHAPTER NINETEEN

And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God: 2 For true and righteous [are] his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. 3 And again they said, Alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever. 4 And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia.

5 And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. 6 And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. 7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. 8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. 9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed [are] they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God. 10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See [thou do it] not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him [was] called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. 12 His eyes [were] as a flame of fire, and on his head [were] many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. 13 And he [was] clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies [which were] in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And he hath on [his] vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. 17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God: 18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all [men, both] free and bond, both small and great. 19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. 20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. 21 And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which [sword] proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

- this chapter contains Heaven's response to the command given in Rev. 18:20 - "Rejoice over her!"
- "Alleluia" is the Greek form of the Hebrew "Hallelujah" (HALEL - "praise" ... U - "ye" ... JAH - "the Lord")
- The "Hallelujah Chorus" is sung in Heaven because:
 1. GOD HAS JUDGED THE HARLOT CHURCH
 - her judgment is "righteous" (deserved!) and "for ever"
 - the false church will spend eternity in the lake of fire!
 2. GOD IS REIGNING
 - v.6 - literally "has reigned," has demonstrated his reign
 - God is love, but His holiness will bring about judgment
 3. THE BRIDE IS NOW READY
 - "24 elders" not seen past v.4 - now known as the Bride
 - the Bride is the church (2 Cor. 11:2, Eph. 5:22-23)
 - Jesus Christ, the Lamb, is the Bridegroom (John 3:29)
 - at this wedding, the BRIDEGROOM gets the attention!
 - v.7 - "made herself ready" - judgment seat of Christ
 - v.8 - "righteous acts of the saints" - our wedding dress!
 - v.9 - "they" - Bride not invited to her own wedding; this must be saints from the OT and the Tribulation
 - THIS WEDDING IS FUTURE; WE ARE ENGAGED TO THE LORD (in eastern culture, engagements made when children young; any unfaithfulness during the engagement considered adultery)
 - the Lord had a choice between the harlot (church) and the virgin (church); HE CHOSE A PURE BRIDE!
- v.10 - John was so overwhelmed by these visions that he fell down twice to worship the angel who delivers them (Revelation 19:10, 22:8-9)
- only false angels (ie: Lucifer) will receive worship!
- immediately following the MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB, we see the BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON
- Christ's coming has two phases: He comes first in the air FOR His church (1 Thess. 4:13-18) and now He comes to the earth WITH His church (Rev. 19:14-15)
- Armageddon is the last event of the Tribulation period; it occurs when the world's nations under Antichrist make war against Israel (Joel 3:9-17) ... and God intervenes!
- notice the emphasis on Christ's names (v.11 - Faithful and True; v. 13 - Word of God; v.16 - King of Kings and Lord of Lords; v. 12 - a secret name, for even in Heaven we will learn new things about our Savior! - Rev. 3:12)
- could Christ's "many crowns" (v. 12) be given to Him by the church? (see Revelation 4:10)
- His vesture is "dipped in blood" (v. 13) due to the fact that He "treadeth the winepress" (v. 15) - see Isaiah 63:1-4 and Revelation 14:20
- "rod of iron" (v. 15) - looking ahead to Millennial Reign
- the redeemed follow Him, but He wins the battle alone!
- two suppers in one chapter: Marriage Supper of the Lamb (v. 9) and Supper of the Great God (v. 17)

- the beast and false prophet are the first to be cast into the lake of fire (Rev. 19:20) - they are not even given the formality of judgment; they are followed in 1000 years by the devil (Rev. 20:10) and sinners (Rev. 20:15)

CHAPTER TWENTY

And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. 4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and [I saw] the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received [his] mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. 5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This [is] the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy [is] he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. 7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, 8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom [is] as the sand of the sea. 9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. 10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet [are], and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is [the book] of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. 14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And whosoever was not found

written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

- "bottomless pit" (v. 1) is not hell, but the abyss mentioned in Rev. 9:1-2,11; 11:7; 17:8
- Satan is not cast into hell yet - he has one more task to perform at end of Millennium
- Satan is not bound today (1 Peter 5:8)
- Millennium (Latin: mille-thousand, annum-year)
- Christ and the church will be reigning from the New Jerusalem (Rev. 21:2), but the church is not mentioned definitely in this passage
- Tribulation martyrs will also rule, but on the earth (see v. 4 & 6); these people are "priests" (offering worship), while those in church are "kings and priests" (Rev. 1:6, 5:10)
- the Millennium is not designed for the church, but for those living on earth who are given a chance to live under God's rule for 1000 years
- Israel and saved Gentiles enjoy God's blessing
- two resurrections: 1st, of the saved BEFORE Millennium; 2nd, of the lost AFTER Millennium (some scholars include the Rapture as the "first stage," 7 years earlier, of the first resurrection)
- Satan is loosed after 1000 years and is able to gather an army of rebels, because a perfect environment cannot produce a perfect heart!
- they war against God's people in Jerusalem at the Battle of Gog and Magog (not the battle of Ezekiel 38-39, for this army gathers from the four quarters of earth, not just from the north)
- the devil is now cast into the Lake of Fire, v. 10
- "BOOKS" OF REVELATION 20:12 ...
 1. God's Word (John 12:48)
 2. Book of Works (to determine degree of punishment in hell - Matthew 11:20-24)
 3. Lamb's Book of Life (Phil. 4:3, Rev. 21:27)
- the Lake of Fire is the Second Death (v. 14); two births = one death, one birth = two deaths

FOUR DISTINCT JUDGMENTS

- 1. JUDGMENT OF THE CHURCH (see 2 Corinthians 5:10-11)**
 - occurs after Rapture, before Marriage Supper
 - no one will be lost at this judgment; called "Judgment Seat of Christ"
- 2. JUDGMENT OF INDIVIDUAL GENTILES (see Matthew 25:32)**
 - occurs after the Tribulation, before Millennium
 - division between sheep and goats; righteous enter Millennial Kingdom, not part of church!
- 3. JUDGMENT OF ISRAEL (see Ezekiel 20:33-38)**
 - occurs after the Tribulation, before Millennium
 - Christ first delivers the nation at Armageddon, then He separates the individuals; righteous enter Millennial Kingdom, not part of church!

4. JUDGMENT OF THE WICKED (see Revelation 20:11-15)

- occurs after the Millennium
- no one will be saved at this judgment