

**Text: Rev 19.1-21**

## Outline of Revelation:

1. The things you have seen (the vision of Christ) Rev 1
2. The things which are (the letters to the churches) Rev 2-3
3. The things which must come after these things (Rev 4-22)
  - a. The overture: the scene in heaven (Rev 4-5)
  - b. The seal judgements begin (Rev 6)
    - c. (Parenthesis): the believers of the Tribulation (Rev 7)
  - d. The seventh seal which reveals the seven trumpets (four in chapter 8)
  - e. The fifth and sixth trumpets (Rev 9)
    - f. (Parenthesis): Voices in heaven (Rev 10)
    - g. (Parenthesis): The Two Witnesses | the seventh trumpet (Rev 11)
    - h. (Parenthesis): The Long War Against God<sup>1</sup> (Rev 12)
    - i. (Parenthesis): The Beasts (Rev 13)
    - j. (Parenthesis): Triumph of the Saints foreseen (Rev 14)
  - k. (Prelude): Another Sign in Heaven (Rev 15)
- l. The bowl judgements (Rev 16)
  - m. (Parenthesis): Fall of Religious Babylon (Rev 17)
  - n. (Parenthesis): Fall of Political Babylon (Rev 18)

**o. The Second Coming (Rev 19)**

Revelation 19 is the climax of the book of Revelation, the second coming of Christ. It is one of the grandest chapters in the Bible.

- It is the conclusion of the fall of Babylon, which is to say, the fall of the kingdom of men in rebellion against God.
- It is the commencement of rejoicing in the reign of the True King – and the beginning of that reign.

**I. The Four Hallelujahs****A. The Hallelujah of Redemption (1)<sup>2</sup>****1. John hears a loud voice in heaven**

- a. The loud voice is the shout of ‘a great multitude’

<sup>1</sup> I borrow the title of Henry Morris' book of this same name for our chapter heading here.

<sup>2</sup> The names of the first two Hallelujah's are from an outline by the late Jesse Boyd, former pastor of Mount Calvary Baptist Church, Greenville, SC. Taken from classroom notes in New Testament Prophecy class, Bob Jones University, spring 1976.

- b. The term “great multitude” is also used in Rev 7.9, of the martyred dead of the tribulation
- c. It may also include all those in heaven, the redeemed awaiting resurrection, but see v. 4
- d. Their shout is “after these things” — the fall of Babylon (17-18)

## 2. The word Hallelujah

- a. Lit., “Praise the Lord”
- b. Only occurrences in the NT are here
- c. Often occurs in the Psalms, often in connection with punishment of the ungodly, as here

## 3. Here proclaims praise to the worthy God of heaven (1b)

- a. Salvation – the song of redemption
- b. Glory – the song of worth
- c. Power – the song of might

## 4. Verse 2 gives the reason for the shout

- a. Because of God’s character: true and righteous
- b. Because of God’s judgement (of the harlot) (see 17.1, 4)
- c. Because God avenged the blood of his faithful martyrs (see 17.6)

## B. The Hallelujah of Retribution (3)

1. The same group shouts a second Hallelujah
2. Here they rejoice at the final, permanent, and eternal destruction of the harlot

## C. The Hallelujah of Reflection (4)

1. The leading figures of our vision (see Rev 4.4, 6-7) offer their assent: Amen! Hallelujah!
2. These figures represent the raptured church (the twenty-four elders) and the angels (the four living creatures)
3. They fall before the throne again in worship to God

## D. The Hallelujah of Rejoicing (5-8)

1. The call to worship (5)
  - a. The voice is not identified
  - b. The voice calls “all” believers, of every age, to praise our God
2. The rising voice of the great multitude and many voices – both tribulation saints, the raptured church, and the angels respond (6)
3. This Hallelujah rejoices for the inauguration of the kingdom (6b-8)
  - a. The reign of God that has never ceased (6b)
  - b. But now the marriage supper of the Lamb has come (7)
  - c. The Lamb’s bride (the saints) is ready, clothed in righteousness (8)

“There were three main events involved in a marriage. First, the parents chose a bride for the groom. This takes place presently as the Holy Spirit calls the elect out of the world to be Christ’s bride through regeneration.

“Second, when the time for marriage had come, the groom would leave His home with His friends, go to the home of the bride, and escort her from her home to his. The bride did not know when this would occur. This will take place when Christ comes to take His bride to heaven at the Rapture (cf. John 14:1–2).

“Third, the groom provided a feast for his bride and his friends at his home that lasted several days. This will take place on earth either at the beginning of the Millennium, throughout the Millennium, or beginning with the Millennium and continuing throughout eternity (cf. 21:2, 9).”<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>3</sup> Tom Constable, *Tom Constable’s Expository Notes on the Bible* (Galaxie Software, 2003), Rev 19.7.

## II. True Worship (9-10)

- A. John's guide: an angel, perhaps the same who invited him to write in 14.13
- B. His message: a blessing to those invited to the marriage supper (9)
  - 1. A look forward to a gathering of OT saints, the Church, the tribulation martyrs, and the tribulation survivors
  - 2. This is a motivation for tribulation saints to maintain their testimony
  - 3. Note that there are believers who are invited to the marriage supper who are not the Bride
  - 4. Notice also that the wedding supper (the completion of the metaphor) has not yet occurred — there are guests yet to gather: the saints surviving the tribulation
- C. The prophet mistakenly falls at the angel's feet (10)
  - 1. The angel rebukes him, pointing him to worship God
  - 2. The "testimony of Jesus" is the "spirit of prophesy" — given as a reason for the correction

Walvoord: "the very nature or purpose of prophecy is to testify of Jesus Christ and to bring glory to Him"<sup>4</sup>

I take this to mean that the focus of prophecy is Christ alone, not Christ's servants.

## III. The Return of the King (11-21)

The chronological sequence of Revelation resumes from 16.21...

- A. The king (11-16)
  - 1. His appearance (11-13)
    - a. Seated on a white horse [sign of conquering]
    - b. Called Faithful and True, he acts in righteousness
    - c. The eyes as of a flame of fire (see 1.14)

<sup>4</sup> John F. Walvoord, "Revelation," in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1983), 975.

- d. He is crowned with many diadems ('King of kings')
- e. He has a unique name [may refer to his unique power to command himself]
- f. Clothed with a robe dipped in blood [either his own (Calvary) or his enemies (the armies of the Beast)]
- g. His name is The Word of God (see Jn 1.1-4)

"It was customary for a triumphant Roman general to parade on the Via Sacra, a main thoroughfare of Rome, followed by evidences of His victory in the form of booty and captives (cf. 2 Cor. 2:14). The white horse is thus a symbol of Christ's triumph over the forces of wickedness in the world."<sup>5</sup>

## 2. His company (14)

- a. Not angels
- b. Their clothing identifies them as saints (the Church)

## 3. His armament (15-16)

- a. The sharp sword of His word alone
- b. With it he will strike down the power of the nations and rule the people who remain
- c. A final name: King of kings and Lord of Lords – embroidered on his robe: he wears a robe, he needs no armor

## B. The final battle (17-21)

### 1. An invitation to the birds (17-18)

- a. The invitation is to the culmination of the battle of Armageddon, already in progress as the nations of the world attack Israel (see 16.13-16 and Zech 14.2)
- b. The whole world was gathered against God's people and against the Lamb at Armageddon

---

<sup>5</sup> Walvoord, 976.

- c. The Lord will defeat them with his word and with his word calls the scavengers to scour the battlefield [described as if already completed]
2. The armies of the beast and of men stand in rebellion to God and the Lamb (19)
3. The Beast (Antichrist) and the False Prophet are captured and punished with the lake of fire (20)
  - a. The wicked dead await the judgement (Rev 20) in Hades
  - b. These two are cast immediately into the lake of fire, the final place of judgement, created for the devil and his angels (see also 20.14-15)
4. The rest of the armies of men are killed by the sword of the Word (21)

**Conclusion:**

By this event, the Church, the OT saints, the Tribulation martyrs, and the Tribulation survivors are united for the Marriage Supper of the Lamb and the inauguration of the Kingdom, coming in Rev 20.