THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Bereans Adult Bible Fellowship Placerita Baptist Church

www.drbarrick.org
RSS feed

- 1 After these things I heard something like a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven saying,
 - "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God;
- 2 BECAUSE HIS JUDGMENTS ARE TRUE AND RIGHTEOUS; for He has judged the great harlot who was corrupting the earth with her immoraglity, and HE HAS AVENGED THE BLOOD OF HIS BOND SERVANTS ON HER."

- 3 And a second time they said, "Hallelujah! HER SMOKE RISES UP FOR EVER AND EVER."
- 4 And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sits on the throne saying, "Amen. Hallelujah!"
- 5 And a voice came from the throne saying, "Give praise to our God, all you His bondservants, you who fear Him, the small and the great."

- Then I heard something like the voice of a great multitude and like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder saying,
 - "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns.
- 7 "Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready."

- 8 It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.
- The he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb."

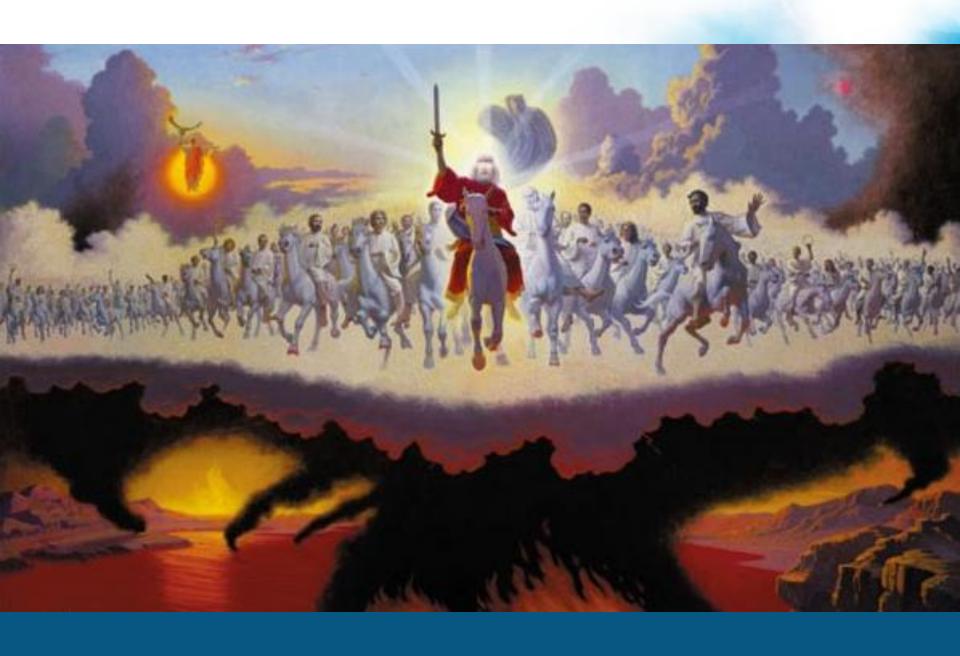
And he said to me, "These are true words of God."

- 10 Then I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold 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 who sat on it *is* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war.

- 12 His eyes *are* a flame of fire, and on His head *are* many diadems; and He has a name written *on Him* which no one knows except Himself.
- 13 *He is* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.
- 14 And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white *and* clean, were following Him on white horses.

- 15 From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.
- 16 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."





Place in the Book of Revelation

- III. What will take place after these things (Rev 4–22).
 - **A.** The Seven Seals (4:1–8:1)
 - B. The Seven Trumpets (8:2–11:19)
 - C. The Unholy Trinity (12:1–14:20)
 - D. The Seven Bowls (15:1–16:21)
 - **E.** The Great Harlot (17:1–18)
 - F. The Judgment of Babylon (18:1–24)
 - G. The Rejoicing in Heaven (19:1–8)

Question for Discussion

How can Christians rejoice over the deaths involved in Babylon's destruction?

How blessed will be the one Who seizes and dashes your little ones Against the rock.

- First, the issue within Ps 137:
 - Verse 7: judicial setting, the Lord provides justice.
 - Verses 7–8 indicate Israel had been victims of the same violence.
 - The psalmist is not taking vengeance into his own hands.

- First, the issue within Ps 137:
 - Only those who have not sinned against their enemies can leave the matter of righteous vengeance to God.
 - The psalmist's curse falls on himself (vv. 5–6).
 - Both he and Israel are unworthy of taking vengeance or of receiving justice.

Second, the issue within the OT:

Exodus 21

23 But if there is *any further* injury, then you shall appoint *as a penalty* life for life, 24 eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, 25 burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise.

Isaiah 13:16

Their little ones also will be dashed to pieces Before their eyes;

Their houses will be plundered And their wives ravished.

See Deuteronomy 28:25–68

Jeremiah 51:56

For the destroyer is coming against her, against Babylon,
And her mighty men will be captured,
Their bows are shattered;
For the LORD is a God of recompense,
He will fully repay.

2 Kings 8:12

Hazael said, "Why does my lord weep?"

Then he answered, "Because I know the evil that you will do to the sons of Israel: their strongholds you will set on fire, and their young men you will kill with the sword, and their little ones you will dash in pieces, and their women with child you will rip up."

2 Kings 25:7

They slaughtered the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, then put out the eyes of Zedekiah and bound him with bronze fetters and brought him to Babylon.

Hosea 10:14

Therefore a tumult will arise among your people,

And all your fortresses will be destroyed,

As Shalman destroyed Beth-arbel on the day of battle,

When mothers were dashed in pieces with their children.

Hosea 13:16

Samaria will be held guilty,
For she has rebelled against her God.
They will fall by the sword,
Their little ones will be dashed in pieces,
And their pregnant women will be ripped open.

Nahum 3:10

Yet she became an exile,

She went into captivity;

Also her small children were dashed to pieces

At the head of every street;

They cast lots for her honorable men,

And all her great men were bound with fetters.

- Third, the issue within the NT:
 - Matthew 23:13-38

1 Corinthians 16:22

If anyone does not love the Lord, he is to be accursed.

Maranatha.

Galatians 1

8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed! 9 As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed!

Revelation 6:10

and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

Revelation 18:20

"Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, because God has pronounced judgment for you against her."

And a second time they said,
"Hallelujah!
HER SMOKE RISES UP
FOREVER AND EVER."

- Prayer can provide a means for relinquishing rage — giving it to God and letting go of it.
- "[I]t is an act of profound faith to entrust one's most precious hatreds to God, knowing they will be taken seriously."

 Walter Brueggemann

G. The Rejoicing in Heaven (19:1–8)

- 1. 1st Hallelujah Chorus (19:1–3)
 - a. Cf. 7:9-12.
 - b. Proclaim a twofold "Hallelujah" (1, 3).
 - c. Verse 2 answers prayer of 6:10.
 - d. They praise God for the character of His judgments.
 - e. Smoke (v. 3) appears to be evidence of torment (cf. 14:11).

G. The Rejoicing in Heaven (19:1–8)

- 2. 2nd Hallelujah Chorus (19:4)
 - a. Last mention of 24 elders.
 - b. "Amen" affirms the 1st Hallelujah chorus.
- 3. A Call to Praise (19:5)
 - Angel, rather than God:
 - (a) Compare 21:6.
 - (b) "our," "His," "Him."

G. The Rejoicing in Heaven (19:1–8)

- 4. 3rd Hallelujah Chorus (19:6–8)
 - a. Cf. Ephesians 5:23–32.
 - b. "His bride" (v. 7) = the Lamb's bride = the church.
 - c. The great multitude does not include the church (cf. Heb 12:22–23).
 - d. "Fine linen" symbolizes "the righteous acts" of true believers.

H. The Recommissioning of John (19:9–10)

- 1. Guests at the Marriage Supper (19:9a)
- The True Words of God (19:9b)
- 3. Mistaken Worship of the Angel (19:10a)
- 4. The Spirit of Prophecy (19:10b)
 - a. Content of the "testimony."
 - b. Source of the "testimony."
 - c. Jesus is the focal point of prophecy—climactic fulfillment later in this chapter.

Question for Discussion

What does 19:10 indicate about the occurrence, content, and purpose of prophecy?

Jesus, the spirit of prophecy

- As with many occurrences of divine revelation in the Old Testament, the 2nd Person of the Godhead appeared in person.
- The Scriptures speak of Christ, His birth, His sacrificial death, His resurrection, and His reign.
- God's purpose in prophecy is to reveal His program for His kingdom and His program of redemption from sin.

I. The Return of Jesus Christ (19:11–20:6)

The 2nd Advent of Christ (19:11–16)
 a. Christ's Appearance

Daniel 2

- "You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and crushed them.
- 35 "Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

I. The Return of Jesus Christ (19:11–20:6)

- 1. The 2nd Advent of Christ (19:11–16)
 - a. Christ's Appearance
 - He rides a white horse (v. 11).
 - His eyes are a flame of fire (v. 12a).
 - He wears many diadems (v. 12b).
 - He possesses an unknown written name (v. 12c).
 - He wears a bloodied garment (v. 13).

I. The Return of Jesus Christ (19:11–20:6)

- The 2nd Advent of Christ (19:11–16)
 b. Christ's Titles
 - "Faithful and True" (v. 11).
 - An unknown name (v. 12).
 - The Word of God (v. 13).
 - King of kings and Lord of lords (v. 16).

Daniel 2:37

"You, O king, are the king of kings, to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, the strength and the glory."

Deuteronomy 10:17

For the LORD your God is the God of gods and the Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God who does not show partiality nor take a bribe.

I. The Return of Jesus Christ (19:11–20:6)

- 1. The 2nd Advent of Christ (19:11–16)
 - c. Christ's Purpose
 - To wage war in righteous judgment (v. 11).
 - To lead His armies (v. 14).
 - To smite the nations with the sword of His mouth (v. 15a).
 - To rule the nations with a rod of iron (v. 15b).
 - To tread the wine press of God's fierce wrath (v. 15c).



Implications Regarding Jesus Christ

- Jesus judges Babylon.
- Jesus will reign.
- Jesus will come for His bride.
- Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.
- Jesus is Faithful and True.
- Jesus wages righteous warfare.
- Jesus has a hidden name.
- Jesus is the living Word of God.

Implications Regarding Jesus Christ

- Jesus will slay with the word of His mouth.
- Jesus will rule with a rod of iron.
- Jesus will tread the wine press of divine wrath.
- Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords.