

- Culmination of entire book, what everyone has been waiting for so long.
- Heaven celebrates destruction of the harlot, the wedding of the Lamb, and God's reign at last.
- We hear of a wedding, return of a glorified triumphant King of Kings of the earth, abrupt end of Armageddon, and a huge bird feast.
- Evil destroyed in this chapter.

- This chapter a huge contrast to those before it.
- In chapters 17 and 18 we saw the horrors of the destruction of the harlot.
- Now time for fulfillment of the ages, completion of the plan, and a time of celebration and rejoicing.



After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelu Yah! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God! <sup>2</sup> For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her." <sup>3</sup> Again they said, "Hallelu Yah! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!" Hallelii Yah

<sup>4</sup> And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sat on the throne, saying, "Amen! Hallelu Yah!"

<sup>5</sup> Then a voice came from the throne, saying, "Praise our God, all you His servants and those who

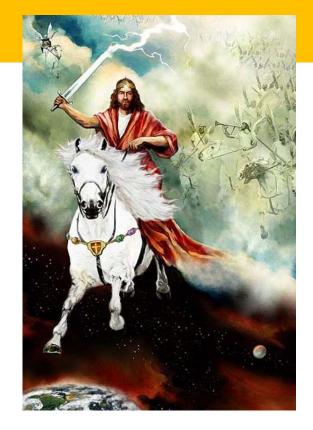
Him, both small and great!" <sup>6</sup> And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Hallelu Yah! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!"

<sup>7</sup>Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." <sup>8</sup> And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

<sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."



<sup>10</sup> And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."



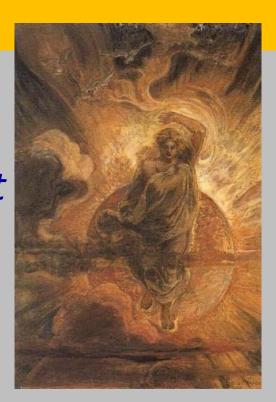
<sup>11</sup> Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

<sup>12</sup> His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. <sup>13</sup> He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. <sup>14</sup> And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.

<sup>15</sup> Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. <sup>16</sup> And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:



<sup>17</sup> Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, 18 that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great."



of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. <sup>20</sup> Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he



deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.

<sup>21</sup> And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.



<sup>1</sup> After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelu YAH! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God! 2 For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her." 3 Again they said, "Hallelu YAH! Her smoke rises up forever and ever

- "Alleluia [Hallelu Yah]! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God!" This is the beginning of the celebration. God has fulfilled His perfect plan in its perfect time.
- Only place in NT that the word
   "alleluia" (Hebrew Hallelu Yah, from "halal,"
   praise Yah, Yahweh) is used. There
   are 4 Hallelu Yah's in this chapter.
- Because it <u>contains the name of God</u>, it is a sacred and holy call to worship

The "Hallelu Yah's" are sung here for three reasons:

- 1) God has judged the Harlot (evil, sin, opposition to Him), and will destroy all evil
- 2) God is reigning (finally!), and
- 3) the marriage of the Bride and the Lamb.

There is **excitement in heaven** because the end of the plan is near. There are thunderings, great noises, voices in praise, **quite a sound!** 

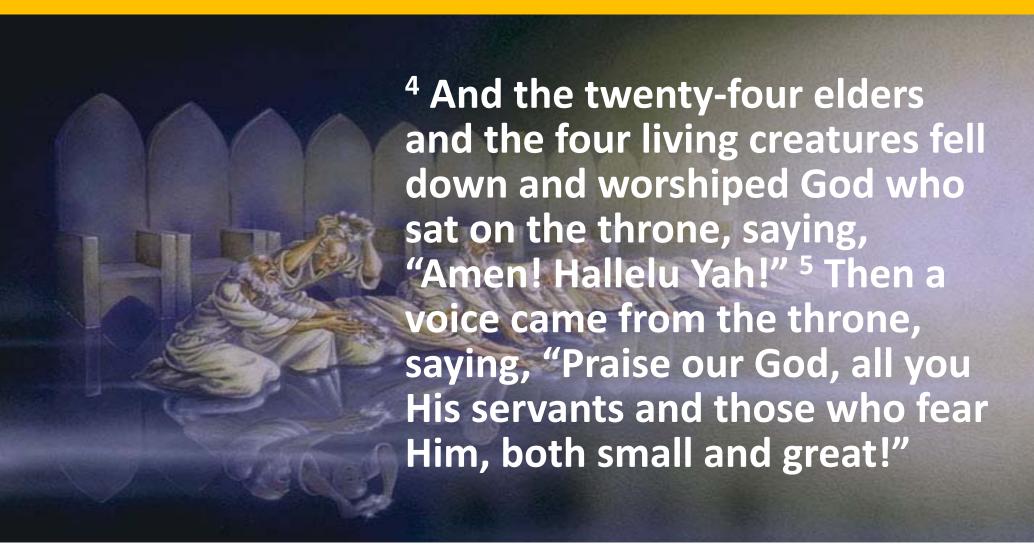


- A reminder of something in Genesis 18, immediately before the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah as Abraham "bargained" with God. He also said "...Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" (Genesis 18:25)
- We are reminded again that <u>God's judgments</u> are <u>ALWAYS right</u>.

- "The great harlot who corrupted the earth..."

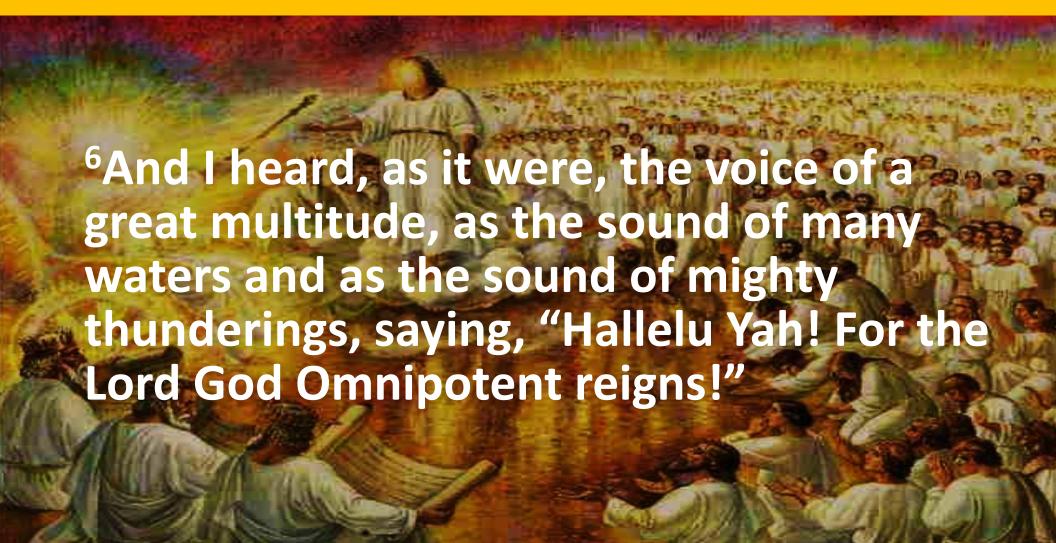
  Babylon represents all evil, everything (not just false religion) in opposition to God. Chapters 17 and 18 discussed the destruction of Babylon, this Harlot. This is necessary before the Holy One can take His throne.
- "...her smoke rises up forever" means she <u>isn't</u> coming back! Opposition to God, all evil, all sin, has been destroyed, for good, never to return.

 That is a great comfort to us, and something prophesied from thousands of years before: "For it is the day of the LORD's vengeance, The year of recompense for the cause of Zion. Its streams shall be turned into pitch, And its dust into brimstone; Its land shall become burning pitch. It shall not be quenched night or day; Its smoke shall ascend forever. From generation to generation it shall lie waste; No one shall pass through it forever and ever." (Isaiah 34:8-10)





- The 24 elders and the living creatures are once again praising God. This is <u>ceaseless</u> for them, and will be for us.
- This is their <u>last appearance</u> in this book *as the 24 elders*.
- They represent the redeemed, who now have become the Wife of Messiah.



- We then hear from "the great multitude" which are the "servants and those who fear Him, both small and great!" who are also praising God. EVERYONE is praising!
- First 5 verses of this chapter are a <u>call for ALL of the</u> redeemed to praise God. It is a **universal summons** to praise and a <u>progression of response</u>.
- You can feel this wave of praise grow it as you read it. The excitement is building.

- The 4th "Hallelu Yah" says "For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!" Finally, and with no opposition!
- First verses should sound familiar.
   Word for word in Handel's Messiah.
   All from scripture.
- LORD GOD OMNIPOTENT = "kurios theos, pantokrator" pantokrator means ALL RULING, absolute and universal ruler, omnipotent, or almighty.
   This is the El Shaddai of the Old Testament.



<sup>7</sup> Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." <sup>8</sup> And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. <sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."

- Now we come to mention of the marriage of the Lamb.
   An interesting passage. Greek used indicates has already happened, not happening here.
- Also <u>indicates a marriage</u>, not a betrothal, which is how the New Testament commonly refers to it.
- We are now (currently) betrothed to Him, called the Bride (intended wife) of the Messiah.
- In this verse, we are <u>already married</u>, called the wife of the Lamb.
- "The marriage supper of the Lamb" is the concluding wedding feast after the actual marriage.

- Phrase "His wife has made herself ready" does not mean ready for the marriage already happened.
- Means she is now ready to be presented to the "general public." Actual marriage feast does not happen here. Here the "Bride" is already the wife.
- This is the grand "unveiling" of the Bride. Jewish bride veiled during wedding ceremony, not unveiled until after consummation at the final wedding feast. After time secreted away, she is officially presented to the guests, unveiled.



(this part of the lesson is not included in these slides, but available as a separate piece in the XTRA listings.

- Back to verse 8: And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.
- "The fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints" –
  Often misinterpreted, misleading in English. Does
  NOT mean we earn our pure clothing with good
  deeds or "righteous acts."
- Translated literally = "the fine linen is the legal right of the saints." Believers have the RIGHT (authority) to wear clothing of the redeemed, but we did not earn it in any way.

- Notice also, "granted." A right given, not earned.
- Should recall parable Jesus told of the man not dressed properly for a wedding, who was thrown out (Matt. 22:1-14). The proper dress for the Bride is the "fine linen" clean and pure that we are granted by our belief in our Husband, Jesus.
- This garment covers our sins, and is given to us, not earned.

- 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" Who are these called to the marriage supper? Are these guests, or are these the Bride? Much speculation about this.
- If they are guests, then they are not the Bride.
   Some suggest they may be OT saints, or even tribulation saints, or both.
- Likely actual <u>feast</u> (always followed wedding ceremony, usually by as much as a week) <u>does not</u> happen here, during return of Jesus and the saints.

 Some believe the marriage feast happens after He takes His throne, in the Millennium. Scriptures in Isaiah suggest this. Fact is, we just don't know now.

# 7 "Beatitudes"

- This is the fourth of seven "beatitudes" (blessings) in this book. BLESSED = makarios (Greek), fortunate, happy, supremely well off; barak/baruch (Hebrew)
- 1. 1:3 Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

# 7 "Beatitudes"

- 2. 14:13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."
- **3. 16:15** "Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame."
- **4. 19:9** Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."

# 7 "Beatitudes"

- **5. 20:6** Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.
- **6. 22:7** "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."
- 7. 22:14 Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.

And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

- John overwhelmed and "fell at his feet to worship him" (speaker). Speaker protested, told John not to do that, indicated he was a "fellow servant."
- Don't know the identity of this "person." Could be an angel, but description could also be one of the elders, even one of the redeemed (since he has the "testimony of Jesus.")
- Good reminder we never worship angels or anything or anyone except God alone. John so amazed couldn't help himself, had to be reminded.

- "The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy" —
  Simple and profound statement that Jesus is the
  very life, breath, essence, spirit and fulfillment of all
  prophecy. All prophecy relates to Him.
- All prophecy is <u>about Him</u>. This book is about Him. The entire Word of God is about Him. *Our salvation* is from Him, and our eternity is with Him.
- And now follows the great climax of this book, of this world.

  Yeshua = "Salvation"

<sup>11</sup> Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.

### THE MAIN EVENT! FINALLY!!!!

- Purpose of His first coming was to pay price for our sins, to save us. Purpose of His second coming is to judge, and take His throne.
- "now I saw heaven opened, and behold...."
   Now we see what is referred to as the "second coming of Jesus." He is not named, but the rider of this white horse can be no other by His description.

- He is called "faithful and true" (Revelation 1:5, 3:14), righteous, and judge.
- Description very similar to what is in the beginning of Revelation, in His first appearance to John.
- Other identifiers include his **robe "dipped in blood,"** His <u>name "The Word of God"</u> (John 1, the "Word"), in command of the armies of heaven, name on His thigh <u>King of Kings and Lord of Lords</u>.

### Can only be Jesus.

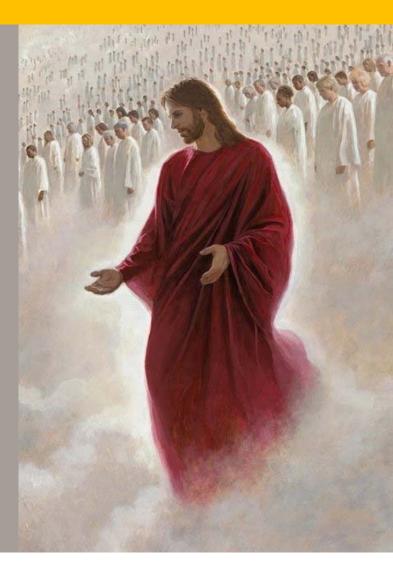
- "...a white horse..." A white horse is the horse of the conqueror. NOT the same horse as found in Revelation 6:2 (ridden by final world ruler).
- "...Faithful and True." In contrast to the lying, deceiving enemy, and the murderous harlot. The One here is genuine, the real thing.
- "...eyes like a flame of fire..." Penetrating, intelligent, righteous anger (see Rev. 1:14, 2:18)

- "On His head were many crowns..." crown = "diadema" = crown of authority, royalty, kingship. The crown of the King, not the crown of the overcomer or victor (stephanos crown of believer.) These (not just one, but many!) are the crowns of THE ultimate authority.
- "...name no one knew except Himself." Scriptures indicate no one can understand or really know the name of God. His name is a mystery to us, we are told it is "wonderful" beyond our understanding (Judges 13:17-18)

17 Then Manoah said to the Angel of the LORD, "What is Your name, that when Your words come to pass we may honor You?" 18 And the Angel of the LORD said to him, "Why do you ask My name, seeing it is wonderful?" (Joshua 13:17-18)

- WONDERFUL = "piliy" = remarkable, secret, wonderful
- For this reason Orthodox Jews never write or say the "name" of God.

<sup>13</sup> He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.



- "...clothed with a robe dipped in blood..." This One is now the Slayer, instead of the Slain. His robes are stained in the winepress of God's wrath.
- Some say Yeshua goes to Petra first (Bozrah) to meet the Jews who are preserved in the wilderness (chapter 12) and His robes are stained here, as He encounters the armies of the evil one there and does a little "house cleaning." (Isaiah 63:1-6)

Who is this who comes from Edom,
With dyed garments from Bozrah,
This One who is glorious in His apparel,
Traveling in the greatness of His strength?—
"I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save."

<sup>2</sup> Why is Your apparel red,
And Your garments like one who treads in the winepress?

<sup>3</sup> "I have trodden the winepress alone, And from the peoples no one was with Me. For I have trodden them in My anger, And trampled them in My fury; Their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, And I have stained all My robes. <sup>4</sup> For the day of vengeance is in My heart, And the year of My redeemed has come.

<sup>5</sup> I looked, but there was no one to help, And I wondered That there was no one to uphold; Therefore My own arm brought salvation for Me; And My own fury, it sustained Me. <sup>6</sup> I have trodden down the peoples in My anger, Made them drunk in My fury, And brought down their strength to the earth."

- Jesus ascended from the Mount of Olives (Acts 1:9-12) and He will return to the Mount of Olives (Zechariah 14:3-5), but that may be after visiting Petra (Bozrah, Edom).
- Note, better translation of English word "dipped" is actually "sprinkled." Aligns with Isaiah 63.
- "...His name is called The Word of God."
   Confirmation of Gospel of John opening (John 1:1) statement: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

- Greek word is LOGOS. Means more than we can understand in English. The embodiment of something, it's character and nature.
- When John referred to Jesus as the LOGOS, or <u>Word</u> of God, it was to indicate Jesus is the embodiment of God, He has His nature, His character, His power, His authority His everything. In every way, He was and is God. He is the physical, tangible way God communicated Himself to us. He is God The Father in the flesh.

 COMMENTARY: To the Jews, "the spoken Word in Hebrew was fearfully alive. It was not merely a vocable or sound dropped heedlessly from unthinking lips. It was a unit of energy charged with power." (J. Patterson). Reading Psalm 29 here about the thundering power of the voice of God is helpful. Jesus, "the Word of God" IS this thundering power.

Give unto YHWH, O you mighty ones, Give unto YHWH glory and strength. <sup>2</sup> Give unto YHWH the glory due to His name; Worship YHWH in the beauty of holiness. <sup>3</sup> The voice of YHWH is over the waters;

The God of glory thunders;
YHWH is over many waters.

<sup>4</sup> The voice of YHWH is powerful; The voice of YHWH is full of majesty. What, or WHO is the "VOICE of YHWH?"
Yeshua!

<sup>5</sup> The voice of YHWH breaks the cedars, Yes, YHWH splinters the cedars of Lebanon. <sup>6</sup> He makes them also skip like a calf, Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox. <sup>7</sup> The voice of YHWH divides the flames of fire. <sup>8</sup> The voice of YHWH shakes the wilderness; YHWH shakes the Wilderness of Kadesh.

<sup>9</sup> The voice of YHWH makes the deer give birth, And strips the forests bare; And in His temple everyone says, "Glory!"

<sup>10</sup> YHWH sat enthroned at the Flood, And YHWH sits as King forever.

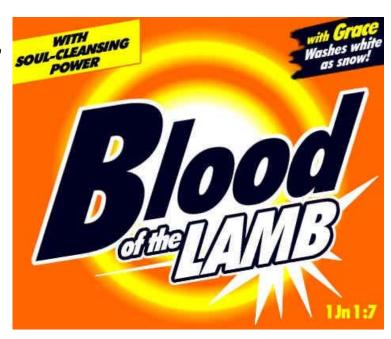
<sup>11</sup> YHWH will give strength to His people; YHWH will bless His people with peace.



- "And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses." Who are these armies? We have the answer in Jude 14-15: "Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."
- It is also likely this army includes the host of heaven.

- Also in Zechariah 14:5b: "Thus the LORD my God will come, And all the saints with You." Jude and Zechariah call these armies "the saints."
- Who are the saints? In scripture, all believers are referred to as saints. That could mean both Old and New Testament believers. Most likely it includes the Bride (now "wife"), the true "Church," but could also include Old Testament saints, as well as tribulation saints. This includes ALL believers, indeed a mighty army.

- **SAINT** = hagios (Greek) = Sacred, physically chaste, clean, pure, morally blameless, ceremonially consecrated (set apart)
- Now how does anything or anyone become this?



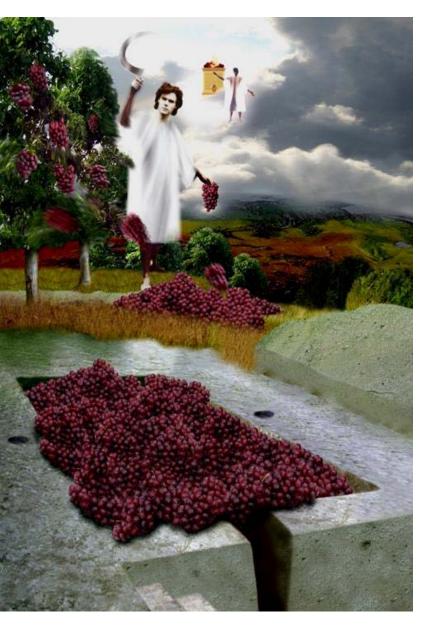
# ONLY BY THE CLEANSING BLOOD OF THE LAMB! These are redeemed believers!

15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

 "Out of His mouth goes a sharp sword..." The only weapon needed here, previewed in Hebrews: 4:12-13: "For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account."



- "...He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron." Definite reference to Psalm 2. "Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession. You shall break [rule] them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel." (2:8-9)
- Reminder the Millennium is an "enforced" rule.
- "He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God." We saw this event as a preview in 14:17-20



<sup>18</sup> And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe." 19 So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. <sup>20</sup> And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs. (14:18-20)

- Also reference to Isaiah 63. This is a holy and righteous God in judgment. He is fierce in His anger against sin and rebellion to Him.
- "On his robe and on His thigh a name written KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS." A number of possibilities for where this name appears. Could refer to a sword, His robe, or His actual thigh. It really doesn't matter where it is written. It is the name that matters.



- Our Savior's mightiest title. He is the King of all Kings, the ultimate authority for everyone and everything. He is the Lord of all Lords, the mightiest and highest Master.
- There are <u>differences between Savior, King and Lord</u>. Jesus is all these things, but we need to differentiate the "Lord" title (kurios in Greek, meaning "Master.") He is to be our Master, as well as our Savior and our King. We are not in control, He is!

Yeshua is...

Our Savior

Our Master

**Our King** 

- NOTICE <u>no mention</u> of the "catching away" (rapture) or the resurrection here. These are two events that are distinctly different, and differently prophesied.
- Possibly another argument for pre-trib removal of saints. In fact, this event <u>CONTRASTS the</u> <u>removal</u>. We're headed in the wrong direction! In the catching away we go from earth to heaven. Here, in the return, we accompany Jesus from heaven to earth. Had to have been there already!

- This event, the return of the Messiah with His redeemed saints, the armies of heaven, is in preparation for the event being prepared on earth called Armageddon, the final battle before the Messiah takes His throne.
- Will be the "face-off" between the King of Kings and the armies of heaven, against the Prince of the air and the armies of earth and the pit of hell.

## No contest!

<sup>17</sup> Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, 18 that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great."

- "...an angel "standing in the sun" visible and evident to ALL, a great call to the scavenger birds for another feast.
- Note the word "flesh" appears 6 times in these verses. Those who followed desires of the flesh will have their flesh consumed. No exceptions.
- Notice <u>two opposing feasts</u> in this chapter. Begin with marriage feast of the Lamb, and end with the bird feast to cleanse the land.

- "Carrion" birds created to clean up the garbage.
  They are classified as "unclean" in scripture.
  Here they are commanded to converge in the
  place of the final battle, Armageddon (Har
  Megiddo), where they will cleanse the land of all
  those slain here.
- This is the call for the birds to get ready.

<sup>19</sup>And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. 20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.

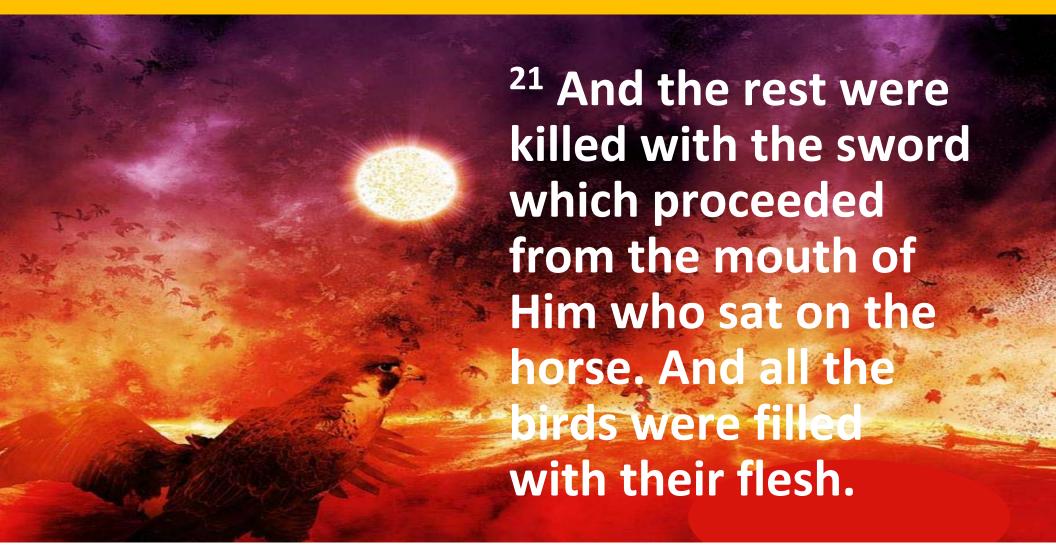
- Now comes the big battle Armageddon.
   Antichrist and kings of the earth gather together "to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army..."
- Talk about stupid! There never was a more "vain thing" than to go to war against God. (Read Psalm 2 to see what God thinks of this!)
- Commentary: "This is the incurable insanity of sin, which wars away in spite of defeat after defeat, against a holy God." (Newell)

- Notice in verse 20 there is no battle mentioned!
   All of a sudden the "battle" is over!
- Verse in 2 Thessalonians 2:8 gives a clue: "And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of his mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming."
- The war is over even before it begins. All it takes is one word from Yeshua, and the staggering view of His glory. There is no contest here.

- Antichrist (beast from the sea) and false prophet (beast from the land) captured and thrown into the lake of fire (alive!)
- "...lake of fire burning with brimstone." There are only two places for eternal destination: heaven (with God) or hell (known by many names – apart from God). The final "hell" is this lake of fire.



- Outside of Jerusalem there was a physical "lake of burning sulfur." It was called *Gehenna* (Gehinnom). It was originally the site of a cultic shrine of human sacrifice, and became a perpetually burning city dump.
- This was also where they threw corpses that had no one to properly bury them. It burned 24/7.
- This actual place became a <u>symbol of the place of</u> final judgment, the lake of fire.



- The "rest were killed with the sword." This indicates everyone else involved in the great rebellion at Armageddon will die.
- Perhaps some battle ensues, but not for long. This is great news for us. The final world ruler and his henchman are tossed into the lake of fire. No one returns from the lake of fire. Those who die here (at Armageddon) are later thrown in the lake of fire to keep the Antichrist and false prophet company (Revelation 20:15).

- There is some question as to what "the rest"
   means. The rest of those at Armageddon, or the
   rest of those in opposition to God, whether at
   Armageddon or elsewhere?
- Most interpret the rest to mean ALL of God's opposition whether physically at Armageddon or somewhere else.
- This is why most believe that the Millennium will initially be populated only with believers.

- The enemy can't bother God and His people anymore. Those who shared the *mark* of the beast will also share the *doom* of the beast.
- Some say this is truly the end of the age of Gentiles, and it isn't over until this point.
- And the birds finally have their fill. God even cleans up the land from this mess!

**COMMENTARY:** "...as the closing scene...behold the millions upon millions of flesh-eating birds clearing away the carcasses of the rebels against God and against Christ! One vulture or two feeding on some fallen creature is a hideous sight to our eyes. What, then, will be this awful line of corpses, of two hundred miles, covered with countless hosts of scavengers! Reflect anew on what sin brings! This scene will come to pass!" ..... Don't' cringe or despair!

### **COMMENTARY: (cont.)**

This passage should remind you of how faithful God is to his Word – He is completing the clean-up of sin from the world FOR US! ... No interpretation is possible for this passage but the literal one: anything else is unbelievable, fantastic. And when we accept it as literal we see the necessity of it. God will not allow His Son's kingdom to begin with a plague, caused by the festering carcasses of slain multitudes." (Newell)

- Note there is no resurrection here. The "second resurrection" does not happen until 1,000 years later, after the Millennium.
- When unbelievers die, they go to Hades, temporary "holding" place for the dead. Believers go immediately into the Lord's presence (Luke 23:43, Philippians 1:19-23, 2 Corinthians 5:6-8). Hades is emptied of its dead in Revelation 20:13, in time for the Great White Throne Judgment (end of ch 20).
- Now time for Jesus to take His Throne! (next chapter)

### **SUMMARY: Revelation 19**

- The 4 Hallelu Yahs Solemn command to worship, proclamation of God's faithfulness, He has done just what He said He would do, and has finally destroyed the harlot. He is in final and full command now, and will be always.
- Presentation of the Wife of the Lamb (already married!)
- Blessings for invited wedding guests
- Announcement of wedding feast (perhaps at later time, in Millennial Kingdom)
- Glorious Appearing coming of Yeshua to earth, with His Saints, in judgment, to make war

### **SUMMARY: Revelation 19**

- Angel calls/prepares birds of earth for a later feast
- Armageddon finally occurs, over "with a breath"
- Capture of beast and false prophet
- Beast and false prophet thrown alive into lake of fire (burning sulfur)
- All others, in opposition to God, killed by sword from His mouth
- Birds feast on flesh, clean the land

# Coming up next.... The Millennial Kingdom!