

# Revelation

(A Chapter-by-Chapter Overview of God's Picture Book)

## Lesson #18: Revelation Chapter 19

### Review

#### **Act I: Understanding the Relationship with Christ (Revelation 1-3)**

A glorified Jesus who is "standing among the lampstands" (in the midst of the church), sends letters of encouragement, exhortation, and correction to seven in Asia Minor.

#### **Act II: Understanding the Judgment from God (Revelation 4-11)**

Chapters 4 & 5 - Heaven, the Scroll, the Lamb

Chapter 6 – Opening of the First Six Seals

Chapter 7 – An Interlude

Chapters 8 & 9 -Opening of Seventh Seal, The First Six Trumpets

Chapters 10 & 11 -Interlude, Seventh Trumpet

#### **Act III: Understanding Why There is Opposition (Revelation 12-14)**

Featured in Chapter 12:

The Woman and the Dragon

The Background of Opposition

Featured in Chapter 13:

The Beast of the Sea

The Beast of the Land (666)

Featured in Chapter 14:

The victory experienced by those who overcome

The judgment experienced by those who oppose God

#### **Act IV: Understanding God's Wrath and God's Righteousness (Revelation 15-22)**

Chapters 15 & 16 - The Sevenfold Wrath of God

God's wrath is pictured as seven bowls being poured out by angels on the wicked. The wrath of God is sure. The wrath of God is terrible. The wrath of God is only for the wicked.

Chapter 17 & 18 – The Doom of 'Babylon'

Babylon - The term Babylon sometimes used in Scripture as a symbol of a seemingly overwhelming power causing harm to the people of God.

Babylon is described figuratively as a 'great prostitute', worthy of judgment. Those who seduced by and benefited from the 'great prostitute' mourn her demise. (Kings of the Earth, Merchants, Sea Captains)

Chapter 18 shows the fall of Babylon from a different perspective.

### Revelation 19:1-21 Victory for the King of Kings

#### **The Hallelujah Hymn**

#### **First Stanza, Avenged Blood**

#### Verses 1-2

*after this* - What we see here is a response to what has happened before.

*great multitude in heaven* - This is reminiscent of Hebrews 12:1.

*Hallelujah; Salvation, and glory...* - The response is to offer a 'Hallelujah Hymn'.

*avenged... the blood of his servants* - Once again answering the cry of the 'saints under the altar' in Revelation 6:10.

## **Second Stanza, Praise from all God's Servants**

### Verse 3

*smoke goes up forever* - rising up as evidence of destruction below.

### Verses 4-5

*twenty-four elders, four living creatures* - We first met them in the throne room scene of chapter 4.

*all you his servants* - This 'Hallelujah Hymn' can be sung even when a person is suffering if he understands the true nature of his relationship with Christ.

## **Third Stanza, Climax of Faithfulness**

### Verses 6-8

*great multitude/rushing waters/thunder* - an impressive powerful response of praise

*God Almighty reigns* - There is such an overwhelming sound that the reader cannot hear nor think about anything else. The Lord reigns!

*the wedding of the Lamb* - This imagery was drawn from a Jewish wedding.

### Three Phases of a Jewish Wedding

\_\_\_\_\_ - When the terms of the marriage were accepted. From this moment, the two were legally husband and wife.

\_\_\_\_\_ - During this time the groom paid the dowry to the father of the bride and would prepare a home. At a time decided by the groom, there would be a procession of the wedding party. They would assemble at the house of the groom and proceed to the house of the bride.

\_\_\_\_\_ - The formal ceremony completed the marriage.

*fine linen, bright and clean* - This is a symbol of the purity of the faithful.

### Verse 9

*blessed are those who are invited* - Building on the symbolism of the wedding. Those who are faithful to Christ will be part of this event.

### Verse 10

*I am a fellow servant with you* - The angel makes it clear that John's worship is not to be directed toward him.

## **The Heavenly Warrior Defeats the Beast**

### Verse 11

*heaven standing open* - Another victory scene is unfolded.

*white horse* - This is a different 'white horse' than the one seen in Revelation 6:2.

*Rider is called Faithful and True* - These names offer a clue as to the identity of the rider.

*with justice he judges and wages war* - The only thing this white horse and rider have in common with the one in chapter 6 is that they are both warriors.

### Verses 12-14

*blazing fire/many crowns* - associated with God.

*robe dipped in blood* - having suffered, yet victorious

*name Word of God* - Reminiscent of John 1:1-5

*the armies of heaven were following him* - These too are victorious because of their faithfulness.

### Verses 15-16

*sharp sword (out of his mouth)* - It is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the rider that brings judgment to the enemies of the people of God.

*rule them with an iron scepter* - This refers to a prophecy about Jesus found in Psalm 2:9.

*robe/thigh: King of kings/Lord of lords* - There is no mistaking who this rider is.

### Verses 17-18

*gather for the great supper* - This is not to be confused with the wedding feast of the Lamb.

*birds...eating the flesh...* - This is similar to a scene of destruction described in Ezekiel 39:17-18.

### Verse 19

*gathered together to make war* - Yet another depiction of the futile attempt of the wicked (beast and kings of the earth) to oppose God.

### Verses 20-21

*thrown into the fiery lake* - Whether their doom is pictured as food for the birds or fuel for the lake of fire, the result is the same, eternal destruction—ruin forever.