

Revelation 19

Read Revelation 19:1-10: Revelation is a split screen documentary between heaven and earth. Once again we go back to a scene in heaven. Babylon has been destroyed. The response to destroying the anti-God and anti-Christian headquarters on earth is met with exuberance and praise and yelling and cheers. The saints and angels take turns with their expressions of gratitude and joy. The saints who begin the praise over the fall of Babylon are probably those who experienced it as martyrs. We know nothing of this New Babylon. Those saints who experienced this hardship are encouraging other saints in heaven top join in the celebration.

Some people wonder if those in heaven can see things on earth. They can. I assume that we will be pretty focused on Jesus and the Father, and each other.

How can we have knowledge of the status of things on earth; and there still be no crying in heaven?

And Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.” (Luke 23:43)

We know that once the new heavens and earth come, there will be no more crying. We will see that God is dealing righteously with all matters. We will see that everyone is given a chance to be saved.

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.” (Revelation 21:4)

It is reassuring that the angels' interests are similar to ours. They are praising God for doing good things for us.

Now comes the Wedding Feast of the Lamb. This wedding feast does not take place at the beginning or middle of the tribulation. It is also not a seven year feast as some teach. It comes just before Christ returns to earth at the end of the tribulation. The wedding garments of the saints are white linen. This white linen is the righteousness of Christ. We do not really have any righteousness within us until Christ is in us. He is our righteousness.

For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.” (Romans 1:17)

The angel talking to John stops John from worshipping him. Even John could be confused as to who is who in heaven; and how to treat the angels. We are not to worship angels. The angel tells him to worship God. Elsewhere we are told not to worship any fellow saints.

Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; ² and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. ³ And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. ⁴ Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!” (Matthew 17:1-5)

Read Revelation 19:11-16: Jesus returns on a white horse and so do we, at the second coming. What are these horses? Zechariah saw horses of different colors that were spirits that made war and to impact men on earth.

I saw by night, and behold, a man riding on a red horse, and it stood among the myrtle trees in the hollow; and behind him were horses: red, sorrel, and white. ² Then I said, “My lord, what are these?” So the angel who talked with me said to me, “I will show you what they are.” ³ And the man who stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, “These are the ones whom the LORD has sent to walk to and fro throughout the earth.” So they answered the Angel of the LORD, who stood among the myrtle trees, and said, “We have walked to and fro throughout the earth, and behold, all the earth is resting quietly.” (Zechariah 1:7-11)

Horses are known for speed, being high-spirited and servants. Horses have been associated with war in the middle east. These could be a type of angelic being.

Men have reached the end of their dreams. Unfortunately the dream is just an illusion of our lusts and imaginations. The earth was given to men to rule. Men cut corners and take advantage of each other. If you let that scenario play out; this is your result...destruction and terror and anarchy. One reason that God has given us his word is that he knows our ways; and where our dreams actually end up. Those in power care nothing about the populations; as long as they get what they want.

What is Jesus doing by returning? He is stopping Satan's control and oppression of men. The world armies are on the verge of mutual destruction. The earth has

become controlled by men with animalistic hunger for power. Men in power are claiming to be God. They are also proclaiming lies about God.

Read Revelation 19:17-21: Jesus casts the Beast, the False Prophet into the Lake of Fire for eternity. The armies were killed, and the wild animals picked apart at their carcasses. When an unbeliever dies he goes to hell. After the thousand-year millennium all of those in hell and all remaining unbelievers stand before the throne of God. This is called the Great White Throne Judgement. Every man will have the books recording their acts opened; and be found to come short of righteousness. Every thought and act will be brought forth. They will only their acts of obedience to try to make it; since they are not accounted righteous by faith.

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,²⁴ being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,²⁵ whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,²⁶ to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. (Romans 3:23-26)

Every knee will bow and confess that Jesus is LORD. All of them will proceed to the Lake of Fire for eternity. Fortunately those having faith in Christ will not have to go be judged at the Great White Throne judgement.

It is interesting that John records here in Revelation that the armies at the Valley of Armageddon are fighting God. Daniel tells us why they were originally gathered for war with each other before the second coming. It began as the king of the south and the north and the anti-Christ will have a head-on clash in Israel.

"At the time of the end the king of the South shall attack him; and the king of the North shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter the countries, overwhelm them, and pass through.⁴¹ He shall also enter the Glorious Land, and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon.⁴² He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape.⁴³ He shall have power over the treasures of gold and silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt; also the Libyans and Ethiopians shall follow at his heels.⁴⁴ But news from the east and the north shall trouble him; therefore he shall go out with great fury to destroy and annihilate many.⁴⁵ And he shall plant the tents of his palace between the seas and the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and no one will help him. (Daniel 11:40-45)