

LEARNING TO INTERPRET REVELATION

Rev. 19

Revelation 19:1 *After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God!"*

1 After these things – What things?

- The pouring out of the seven bowls of the _____ of God upon an unrepentant world
- The destruction of the Great Harlot, the apostate, idolatrous " _____ " of the tribulation
- The annihilation of Babylon the Great, the rebuilt _____ which has been the capitol of the empire of the antichrist

Revelation 19:2–7 *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, "Alleluia! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!" 4 And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sat on the throne, saying, "Amen! Alleluia!" 5 Then a voice came from the throne, saying, "Praise our God, all you His servants and those who fear Him, both small and great!" 6 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, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! 7 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."*

Why is the great multitude in heaven praising God with alleluias (alleluia means " _____ the Lord)? Find the word "for" and understand that it means " _____ " to discover three reasons for their abounding praise.

1. God has _____ sin (v. 1-4).
2. God is reigning (v. 5-6).
3. The _____ of the Lamb is come (v.7-9).

Revelation 19:8–9 *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. 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."*

The primary question is "Who is the wife of the Lamb?"

The text tells us she is clothed in fine linen which is the "righteous _____" or literally "righteousnesses" of the saints. Like the great multitude of chapter 7 whose robes had been made white by the _____ of the Lamb, they have been given the righteousness of Christ when they trusted Him and were saved. But Ephesians 2:10 tells us that the saved are the workmanship of God, created for good _____. Therefore the fine linen of the redeemed pictures not only the righteousness of _____ Himself given to us but the resulting _____ of righteousness produced by His saving and transforming us.

Back to the primary question, "Who is the wife of the Lamb? While many of us have a quick answer (myself included), finding this answer in Scripture is not an easy task. To be thorough,

we would have to search on each of the following words in Scripture: _____, bride, husband, marry, marries, married, marriage, _____, espoused, betroth, betroths, betrothed, _____, wedding, _____, and probably some other words related to marriage. This will mean at least a casual review of hundreds of passages, some of which can be dismissed quickly as being just an ordinary reference to a wife in a human marriage. However, it may be surprising that there are a number of references in both Old and New Testaments that refer to redeemed _____ as the wife of God and the _____ as the bride of Christ. Here is a sampling, but it is far from complete:

Isaiah 54:5 For your Maker is your husband, The LORD of hosts is His name; And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel; He is called the God of the whole earth.

Jeremiah 31:31–32 31 “Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— 32 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD.

Hosea 2:19–20 19 “I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me in righteousness and justice, In lovingkindness and mercy; 20 I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness, And you shall know the LORD.

Romans 7:4 Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.

2 Corinthians 11:2 For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

Ephesians 5:25–32 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. 28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. 30 For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. 31 “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

I have in the past made a clear distinction between Israel being the wife of God (the _____) and the church being the wife or bride of _____. Studying the multitude of passages on this topic has caused me to question whether such a distinction will be _____ in the New Heaven and New Earth, particularly,

Revelation 21:2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

As we will see in the rest of Rev. 21 when we get there in a few weeks, the _____ of the New Jerusalem is called the _____ of Christ and there is every indication that it is the eternal

home of all of the _____, OT saints, NT believers, those saved during the Tribulation, and those saved during the Millennium.

Revelation 19:10 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."

Clearly an _____ said these words to John because he prevents John from worshipping him.

Revelation 19:11–16 11 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. 13 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. 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.

This passage is a parallel of Rev. 14:17-20 and 16:12-21. Rather than being labeled a _____, perhaps it should be called a _____ culminating in a final battle. Rev. 16:12 ff told us that God makes it possible for the kings of the East to move toward Israel, and demonic spirits summon the kings and armies of the world. They all gather at the _____ of Megiddo (Armageddon) which towers above the Plain of Esdraelon in Palestine. They have come to fight God in Israel and Jerusalem on what Napoleon called "the most natural battlefield in the world." Then will come the hour Jesus described in

Matt. 24:29-31 29 "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 30 Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Seeing the _____ of the Son of Man in the darkened sky, the armies of men turn to fight the Son of God. Each soldier bears the mark of the beast. King Jesus comes on a white horse with a blood stained robe, followed by His armies of angels and saints. (Notice they came from _____, not from the earth, because they had previously been _____.)

Revelation 19:17–21 17 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."

19 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. 21 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.

In this, which is truly the Mother of All Battles, The King of Kings and Lord of Lords slays the soldiers with the Word that goes forth from His _____ as He "treads the wine press of the fury of the _____ of God the Almighty."

Zechariah 14:12 ... Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, Their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, And their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.

Rev. 14:20 says that the blood flows to the depth of a horse's bridle for a distance of _____ miles.

The Antichrist and the False Prophet are captured and cast alive into the Lake of Fire that burns with _____. These two are the first to be thrown into this place which is similar to hell but worse. They will dwell there with only each other for the next _____ years.

Also of great interest is what Ezekiel and Zechariah saw about this day _____ years ago.

The siege of Jerusalem will provide the final purging of rebellious _____ from Israel in preparation for Christ's return. Ezekiel 20:33-38 33 "As I live," says the Lord GOD, "... 34 I will bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you are scattered, with a mighty hand, with an outstretched arm, and with fury poured out. 35 And I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and there I will plead My case with you face to face. 36 Just as I pleaded My case with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will plead My case with you," says the Lord GOD. 37 "I will make you pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant; 38 I will purge the rebels from among you, and those who transgress against Me; I will bring them out of the country where they dwell, but they shall not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I *am* the LORD.

Two-thirds of the Jews left in Israel will _____ in or before the siege. Zechariah 13:8-9 8 And it shall come to pass in all the land," Says the LORD, "That two-thirds in it shall be cut off *and* die, But *one*-third shall be left in it: 9 I will bring the *one*-third through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will answer them. I will say, 'This *is* My people'; And each one will say, 'The LORD *is* my God.' "

The _____ of Israel that survives the tribulation will _____ believe and trust Christ as their Lord and Savior. Zechariah 12:10 "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for *his* only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

Zechariah 13:1 "In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness.

Then the words of the Holy Spirit through Paul shall be fulfilled: Romans 11:26 "And so all _____ will be saved..."