

Revelation: The Time is Near

## Worship God!

Revelation 19:1-10

### Revelation Review:

- John on Patmos, **revealed** Jesus in glory
- Seven churches **The end of the world (as we know it) - The Great Tribulation**
- **Judgment on the nations and those who follow satan (it's clear)**
- **A last ditch effort to get the world to repent**
  
- **The past, present and future revealed**
- **The END revealed**
- **The CHURCH revealed**
- **HEAVEN revealed**
- **JESUS revealed**

### Previously:

- A world in allegiance with a world leader, with a mark, worship
- Many judgments, plagues, disasters, war, famine, death
- Martyrs
- No repentance from those with the mark
- A world system - corrupted, sexually and spiritually immoral - kings in cahoots, masses enthralled
- Any remaining people of God called out (Trib Saints), Babylon destroyed

*Just a quick note about Babylon before we move on:*

*Read recently about UN, "sanctuary"/meditation room, Lucis Press, New Age enlightenment (age of aquarius) -*

*Wiki - A common position expressed by many astrologers sees the Age of Aquarius as that time when humanity takes control of the Earth and its own destiny as its rightful heritage, with the destiny of humanity being the revelation of truth and the expansion of consciousness, and that some people will experience mental enlightenment in advance of others and therefore be recognized as the new leaders in the world.*

*We've lost the hippy-dippy terms, but it's embedded in society and we miss it. The folks subscribing to this stuff in the sixties eventually became your senators, CEOs, world leaders. Great Reset, New Age, Satanism...all related*

*Story at work about "wedding"*

**Splitting up chapter as I think the second half is not something we want to miss and is a good intro to the following chapter**

## [Pray]

### 19:1-4

#### **After these things**

Said several times throughout Revelation. A signal of a shift of what we're looking at, a shift in time.

We had been looking at the Seven Last Plagues and the Rise and Fall of Babylon Spiritually and Physically

Now we're shifting to the end of that period

Remember: Time is linear to us as we're inside it, Heaven and eternity is outside it

#### **Sound of many people in heaven**

Every tribe, nation and tongue

**Heaven isn't "at capacity" but it is full of people in love with God with all their being**  
*Is that us?*

#### **They were shouting**

*Do we shout for God?*

Not out of control, disruptive, but when worshiping, is it coming from the depths of your being as one might get excited about a sports event, or new blouse, or political argument?

Does it rise from our very core and encompass our entire being when loving God in song?

Are we barely there in worship? Or barely here on earth?

#### **Do our lives shout the truth of God even if we're quiet?**

What we say can be deceiving, both to us and others, what we want others to think

But do the actions of our lives speak the things of God? The truth of his goodness?

Can others tell?

*People commenting on our kids frequently*

Can that be said for us as the children of God?

#### **For true and righteous are his judgments**

Do we believe that? The things God says in his word, the things called out as right, as wrong, as good, as evil, are we 100% on board with it all?

**I think Revelation should put us to the test on that.** Look at all the strange things it says. The future it predicts. If we don't believe every word of this, do we believe any word of it? The Bible?

*Quote from Andy Stanley earlier this year*

*The Christian faith does not rise and fall on the accuracy of 66 ancient documents, It rises and falls on the identity of a single individual: Jesus of Nazareth.*

Yes, True, Jesus is the crux of it all

But...

**[John 1:1-5 NKJV] In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.**

That we can't know for sure who Jesus was unless the scriptures are 100% accurate. Because if they're not accurate we can't trust them. If we can't trust them we can't believe Jesus.

They're one in the same.

**Do we believe it all?**

Do we believe in literal creation in six days?

Jesus did.

Moses did.

**God did -**

**[Exodus 20:8-11 NKJV] "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day [is] the Sabbath of the LORD your God. [In it] you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who [is] within your gates. For [in] six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that [is] in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.**

**His judgments true for these tribulation martyrs:**

**"Because he has judged the great prostitute..." " and has avenged on her the blood of His servants"**

It's complicated and simple at the same time

God protects us, God provides for us

But sometimes God allows great hardships, even persecutions and needs to overtake us...

**For a time**

## **They will be avenged.**

Not all hardship or opposition is persecution. Some is our own fault. We do live in a broken world.

But either way, God hears your cry. He collects your “tears in a bottle”

He will avenge them. “Vengeance is mine, saith the Lord”

**Yet in his wisdom, it doesn't come when we want it sometimes.**

**Do you still believe?**

**Do you still shout?**

**Is your whole being still dedicated?**

Paul's was. The disciples were. The NT saints were. Folks throughout history did.

**Hallelujah - praise the Lord!**

**Her smoke rises forever and ever**

Hell, Gehena, trash heap outside the city.

**[Matthew 8:12 NKJV] "But the sons of the kingdom (unbelieving Jews) will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."**

**[Matthew 25:30 NKJV] 'And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'**

Hell and heaven are separate. But I think, somehow, if there is any smoke seen, it doesn't bring dread and sadness or grief or remembrance of the evils we did...but a sign of God's righteousness and victory.

**This is still the feast period**

Babylon destroyed

We're about to see the enemy defeated

Then the earthly reign of christ set up

Then finally, eternal heaven, new heavens and earth

**Satan rebelled from heaven, and I think this is a heavenly reminder of sorts. A heavenly rejoicing in seeing the enemy vanquished**

**Back to the elders, back to the throne, the living creatures**

**AMEN ALLELUIA**

**It's done. It's complete. Praise God.**

**Side note:**

*I think that the principle here is related to that of the closure, absolution and resolve of the death penalty.*

*The victims - perhaps rape, surviving loved ones of a murder victim, etc...seeing the murderer put to death. Knowing they will never be free. Knowing they aren't alive. Knowing they can never be hurt by this person. Knowing this person paid the ultimate price for their crime and sin...while not bringing the loved one back, does put a righteous judgment on them and shows that the victim's life has more worth than the criminal's life.*

*Not that the criminal can't be redeemed, offer a chance at repentance, but their penalty on earth is not being allowed to enjoy another moment, live another day when they took that from someone else.*

*It's a righteous judgment.*

**:5-8****Praise Our God**

From the throne - the trinity calling out worship to the father

**Service and fear**

Respect, authority, like what we talked about in Proverbs

**The sound of all of these people and angels**

It's loud! It's powerful.

**Lord God Omnipotent**

He has all power - can do anything

ALL POWER

Do we believe that?

**Let us be glad and rejoice**

The time for rejoicing has come

The end of Satan and sin's reign has come (not that it ever truly reigned)

**The joy of the weekend****The joy of vacation****The joy of victory****Give him glory**

Song lyric today, Lamb (live from the loft, tiffany hudson)

*May the Lamb receive His reward in me*

*May the Lamb receive all the glory*

**Does he receive that glory from us in song?  
In our very being?**

**Marriage feast is here**

Parable of the wedding feast

Jesus said he wouldn't drink fruit of the vine again until heaven

Notice we don't see the eating yet

Weddings have multiple parts of the ceremony

**Wife/Bride has made herself ready**

The church

Yes, God does it in us...but it's our responsibility to get dressed

Are we spiritually clothed?

[Ephesians 4:21-24 NKJV] if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

Fine linen - garments of priests, not of heavy labor, not of burden and sweat

**How do we view serving God?**

**Is it joyous?**

*It may be sweaty physically, helping a friend build out their church building*

**But is it sweet, and light and a joy to do and have on?**

**Like a bride reveling in her most special dress of her life?**

**Fine linen = righteous deeds of the saints**

**:9-10**

**John commanded to write**

He's supposed to write it all, but be sure not to miss this John

**Blessed are those who are *invited* to the marriage supper of the lamb**

Many are called, few are chosen

Everyone is invited but not all attend

The fact that everyone is given a chance is a blessing from heaven

The fact that any of us are going is a blessing from heaven

**Let's remember that - and rejoice in it.**

### **These are the true sayings of God**

In effect, Revelation is just that - the true sayings of God. What its all leading up to. All revealed. Do we let our lives hinge on the true sayings of God? Or the sayings of a celebrity or politician or parent or ourselves?

### **John got caught up here and lost sight of the fact that as believers we're all servants of Jesus**

There's not one servant greater than another in relation to one another - worthy of more honor than another.

Yet we see that in our own hearts, own lives, own churches...we exalt people unnecessarily. Sometimes, in a sense, we think them worthy of it - they truly serve God. God's hand is clearly on them. **But it's just as much on us.**

*I think the bigger problem today is that we exalt those within the kingdom because of their physical talent - eloquent speaker, amazing voice, for some physical talent... Yet they don't quite have the spiritual quality, the sober love for God that is the true important quality. And with it we idolize them and they exalt things that are less than holy - themselves, some ideology, etc. and it stains the church. Puts a false light on who God is and what he's about.*

### **Worship God**

We are to worship God personally and collectively  
Not each other. Not each other's gifts, talents, possessions.  
Yet we do.  
We need to focus back on Jesus personally and as a church.

*Is that all you want? Building, quaint conversation, motivational speech, nice clothes  
Looking at the NT, that's not what anyone was about, in fact the opposite on all counts*

### **For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy**

Probably could make a whole series just on that line

Jesus is the ultimate prophet - the ultimate voice and word of God, speaking it forth, bringing it to pass, fulfilling it Himself

Prophecy, future events are fun, interesting, exciting, sobering, evidence  
But they're not the end of prophecy - **Jesus is**

**All history and all of the Bible points to Him.**

**He points us to the Father.**

**The Spirit and word give perfect witness.**

**It's true. He's coming back. It will all come to pass.**