

# NOON BIBLE STUDY: REVELATION 19 (PART 2)

REVELATION 19:7-9 REFERENCED THE "MARRIAGE" AND "MARRIAGE SUPPER" OF THE LAMB. AFTER THE JUDGMENT OVER EVIL, THE ANGEL CALLS GOD'S PEOPLE TO JOIN AT THE CELEBRATORY BANQUET OF THE UNION OF THE BRIDE (THE PEOPLE OF GOD) AND THE GROOM (KING JESUS). WEDDINGS ARE TIMES OF CELEBRATION, BOTH THE CEREMONY AND THE RECEPTION WHICH FOLLOWS. HUMANS KNOW WHAT MEALS OF CELEBRATION ARE AND THE INCLUSION OF SUCH LANGUAGE AS WE READ ABOUT THE RETURN OF THE KING IS FITTING AS DESCRIPTIONS OF A CELEBRATORY BANQUET HAS BEEN SPOKEN OF OFTEN IN SCRIPTURE - A GLORIOUS MESSIANIC BANQUET. HERE ARE A FEW REFERENCES:

## MESSIANIC/KINGDOM OF GOD BANQUETS -

ISAIAH 25:6-9 - THE LORD OF HOSTS WILL PREPARE A LAVISH BANQUET FOR ALL PEOPLES ON THIS MOUNTAIN: A BANQUET OF AGED WINE, CHOICE PIECES WITH MARROW, AND REFINED, AGED WINE. 7 AND ON THIS MOUNTAIN HE WILL SWALLOW UP THE COVERING WHICH IS OVER ALL PEOPLES, EVEN THE VEIL WHICH IS STRETCHED OVER ALL NATIONS. 8 HE WILL SWALLOW UP DEATH FOR ALL TIME, AND THE LORD GOD WILL WIPE TEARS AWAY FROM ALL FACES, AND HE WILL REMOVE THE REPROACH OF HIS PEOPLE FROM ALL THE EARTH; FOR THE LORD HAS SPOKEN. 9 AND IT WILL BE SAID IN THAT DAY, "BEHOLD, THIS IS OUR GOD FOR WHOM WE HAVE WAITED THAT HE MIGHT SAVE US. THIS IS THE LORD FOR WHOM WE HAVE WAITED; LET US REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN HIS SALVATION."

MATTHEW 8:11 - "I SAY TO YOU THAT MANY WILL COME FROM EAST AND WEST, AND RECLINE AT THE TABLE WITH ABRAHAM, ISAAC AND JACOB IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN;

LUKE 13:29 - "AND THEY WILL COME FROM EAST AND WEST AND FROM NORTH AND SOUTH, AND WILL RECLINE AT THE TABLE IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

## PARABLES ABOUT WEDDINGS -

MATTHEW 22:1-14

MATTHEW 25:1-13

## THE LORD'S SUPPER -

LUKE 22:15-18 - AND HE SAID TO THEM, "I HAVE EARNESTLY DESIRED TO EAT THIS PASSOVER WITH YOU BEFORE I SUFFER; 16 FOR I SAY TO YOU, I SHALL NEVER AGAIN EAT IT UNTIL IT IS FULFILLED IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD." 17 AND WHEN HE HAD TAKEN A CUP AND GIVEN THANKS, HE SAID, "TAKE THIS AND SHARE IT AMONG YOURSELVES; 18 FOR I SAY TO YOU, I WILL NOT DRINK OF THE FRUIT OF THE VINE FROM NOW ON UNTIL THE KINGDOM OF GOD COMES."

MARK 14:22-25 - WHILE THEY WERE EATING, HE TOOK SOME BREAD, AND AFTER A BLESSING HE BROKE IT, AND GAVE IT TO THEM, AND SAID, "TAKE IT: THIS IS MY BODY." 23 AND WHEN HE HAD TAKEN A CUP AND GIVEN THANKS, HE GAVE IT TO THEM, AND THEY ALL DRANK FROM IT. 24 AND HE SAID TO THEM, "THIS IS MY BLOOD OF THE COVENANT, WHICH IS POURED OUT FOR MANY. 25 "TRULY I SAY TO YOU, I WILL NEVER AGAIN DRINK OF THE FRUIT OF THE VINE UNTIL THAT DAY WHEN I DRINK IT NEW IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD."

NOW BACK TO REVELATION 19: WHAT DOES JOHN SEE NEXT? JESUS RETURNING TRIUMPHANTLY! ONE REMINDER AS WE DIVE IN. REVELATION IS NOT IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER. WHILE THERE ARE ELEMENTS WHICH POINT TO A PROGRESSION OF TIME AND ONE THING HAPPENING BEFORE ANOTHER - IF WE'RE LOOKING FOR A SINGLE TIMELINE WHICH COULD BE EASILY DRAWN CHAPTER BY CHAPTER, WE'LL HAVE A HARD TIME. WE HAVE PLACES IN SCRIPTURE WHICH TELL US X IS GOING TO HAPPEN, FOLLOWED BY Y AND THEN Z, BUT MUCH TO OUR SURPRISE PERHAPS AND TO THE CONTRARY OF MUCH POPULAR END TIMES FICTION, REVELATION ISN'T WRITTEN LIKE THAT (MATTHEW 24, LUKE 21, 1 THESSALONIANS 4-5 HAVE SOME OF THAT CHRONOLOGICAL STUFF). SO IF WE'RE LOOKING AT REVELATION 19 WONDERING HOW THIS FITS WITH THE TRUMPETS AND THE LAST "WEEK" OF DANIEL AND THE GREAT TRIBULATION, THERE IS MORE WORK REQUIRED TO FIGURE OUT THE TIMELINE. *WHAT* IS HAPPENING IS THE FIRST POINT TO ACCEPT BEFORE DISCERNING *WHEN*.

THE PURPOSE OF REVELATION ISN'T TIMELINE COMPLETION - IT'S TO PREPARE GOD'S PEOPLE TO BE SHAPED IN HEART AND RESOLUTE IN SOUL. IT'S TO STARKLY CONTRAST GOOD AND EVIL. IT'S TO GIVE WARNING AND TO GIVE HOPE. **AND IT DOES.** AND SO A TAKEAWAY OF OUR CHAPTER TODAY IS THAT JESUS IS RETURNING AS VICTORIOUS KING TO ANNIHILATE EVIL AND SAVE HIS PEOPLE. REVELATION IS THE REVEALING AND UNFOLDING OF PROPHETIC TRUTH WHICH ALL POINT TO THE VICTORY OF GOD.

## REVELATION 19:11-16 - THE RETURN OF THE KING — **WHAT DO YOU SEE FROM THESE THINGS?**

HERE IS A BREAKDOWN OF THE DESCRIPTION OF THE RETURNING KING. THE LANGUAGE IS FILLED WITH IMAGERY, SYMBOLISM AND BIBLICAL ALLUSION:

V. 11 WHITE HORSE - WHITE, ESPECIALLY RELATING TO HORSES, IS THE COLOR OF VICTORY

FAITHFUL AND TRUE - THIS IS ONE OF THE FIRST OF MANY IDENTIFIERS OF THIS RIDER BEING JESUS, MOST OF THEM COMING FROM PREVIOUS REFERENCES IN REVELATION ITSELF (1:5; 3:7 & 14)

IN RIGHTEOUSNESS HE JUDGES AND WAGES WAR - THAT IS THE REASON FOR HIS COMING. NOT TO CAMPAIGN FOR A POSITION OR ON A FACT FINDING MISSION. THE KING HAS RETURNED TO RULE.

V. 12 EYES ARE FLAME OF FIRE - ANOTHER IDENTIFIER THAT THIS IS JESUS. THIS WAS ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS THAT JOHN SAW IN HIS VISION BACK IN REVELATION 1:14.

MANY DIADEMS ON HIS HEAD - REPRESENTING KINGSHIP. NOT MANY HEADS WITH DIADAMS BUT ONE HEAD WITH MANY DIADEMS (HE IS THE KING *OF* KINGS).

NAME WRITTEN ON HIM WHICH ONE ONE KNOWS EXCEPT HIMSELF - WE SAW HOW THOSE THAT OVERCOME WERE GIVEN NEW NAMES WHICH WERE ONLY KNOWN BY THE ONE WHO WAS GIVEN THE NAME (2:17). WE LEARNED THAT THIS SPOKE OF A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE NAME-GIVER AND THE NAMED. IN THIS CASE WE ARE OBSERVERS OF THE INTIMACY THAT JESUS HAS AS THE UNIQUE AND SPECIAL SON OF GOD. EVEN IN ALL THAT HAS BEEN REVEALED TO US ABOUT CHRIST, THERE IS SO MUCH MORE AND A SACRED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN JESUS AND HIS FATHER, KNOWN ONLY TO THEM.

V. 13 WEARING A ROBE DIPPED IN BLOOD - MAYBE AN ALLUSION TO THE SAVING BLOOD OF JESUS OR THAT THIS KING IS ALREADY BATTLE TESTED AND VICTORIOUS, EVIDENCED BY THE BLOOD ON HIS ROBE. (SEE ALSO ISAIAH 63:3)

HIS NAME IS CALLED THE WORD OF GOD - WHAT A MOMENT THIS MUST HAVE BEEN FOR JOHN. JOHN PROCLAIMED TO THE WORLD THAT JESUS CHRIST WAS THE WORD OF GOD MADE FLESH (JOHN 1:14) AS HE WROTE HIS GOSPEL ACCOUNT AND NOW AS HE SEES THE PROPHETIC VISION OF THE CULMINATION OF TIME, THE ONE HE FOLLOWED AND WAS TAUGHT BY AND LOVED AND WAS LOVED BY, IS SHOWN IN HIS GLORY!

V. 14 FOLLOWING HIM: HEAVENLY ARMIES, CLOTHED IN FINE LINEN (WHITE AND CLEAN), ALSO ON WHITE HORSES - JESUS ISN'T ALONE IN HIS CONQUEST. SCRIPTURE POINTS TO ANGELS AND ALSO THE SAINTS THEMSELVES BEING GATHERED WITH JESUS AS HE RETURNS. (ANGELS: MATTHEW 25:31, MARK 8:38, 2 THESS. 1:7. SAINTS: 1 THESS 3:13; 1 THESS. 4:16-17; JUDE 1:14)

V. 15 A SHARP SWORD COMES FROM HIS MOUTH (CP. REV. 1:16):

- WITH THIS SWORD HE WILL STRIKE DOWN THE NATIONS (ISAIAH 11:4)
- HE WILL RULE THE NATIONS WITH A ROD OF IRON (PSALM 2:9)
- HE TREADS THE WINEPRESS OF THE FIERCE WRATH OF GOD, THE ALMIGHTY (JOEL 3:13; REVELATION 14:19-20)

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF BIBLICAL REFERENCES IN THESE DESCRIPTIONS WHICH SPEAK TO THE FULFILLMENT OF THE WORDS, PROMISES AND PROPHECIES = OF GOD IN JESUS CHRIST. THE SWORD COMING OUT OF HIS MOUTH REPRESENTS THE POWER OF HIS WORDS. HIS WORDS ARE SO POWERFUL, WHEN HE SAYS OR DECREES SOMETHING, IT WILL BE DONE.

V. 16 ON HIS ROBE AND HIS THIGH HE HAS A NAME WRITTEN "KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS" - THOUGH HE HAS A NAME ONLY KNOWN TO HIMSELF, HE ALSO HAS A VERY CLEAR IDENTIFYING MONIKER. IT'S ON HIS ROBE AND HIS THIGH - KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF JESUS BEING THE ONE THROUGH WHOM GOD'S JUDGMENT AND WRATH COMES. HE HAS THE AUTHORITATIVE WORDS WHICH WILL DETERMINE JUDGMENT ON THE NATIONS. HE IS THE ONE WHO WILL RULE AND HE IS THE ONE WHO WILL PRESS THE GRAPES OF WRATH WHICH FROM REVELATION 14 SYMBOLIZED GOD'S JUDGMENT UPON THE EARTH.

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS FOR A MOMENT - JESUS THE MESSIAH CAME TO SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST. HE CAME TO SHOW AND BE THE WAY TO, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE OF GOD. IN HIS MINISTRY HE LOVED, HEALED, AND SERVED - PERSONIFYING AND EMBODYING THE LOVE AND GOODNESS OF GOD. THROUGH HIS MINISTRY, HE IS REJECTED BY THE PEOPLE THAT CLAIMED TO BE THE STEWARDS OF GOD'S WORD AND COVENANTS. HE IS IGNORED AND OVERLOOKED BY THE ROMAN EMPIRE, THE AUTHORITY OF THE DAY. AND AT THE END OF HIS MINISTRY, HE IS ARRESTED, JUDGED AND EXECUTED BY THE LEADING RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL BODIES OF THE TIME. FOR A MOMENT HE APPEARS TO BE A FRAUD, FAILURE AND INSIGNIFICANT. THE HIGH PRIESTS SEEM TO HAVE WON. CAESAR AND HEROD AND PILATE SEEM TO HAVE WON. AND YET, AFTER A WEEKEND OF DARKNESS AND SUPPOSED CLOSURE ON THIS PEST, ON THE THIRD DAY, GOD RAISED JESUS FROM THE DEAD! THE WORLD IS FOREVER CHANGED - HE IS NOT A FRAUD, HE IS VINDICATED. HE IS NOT A FAILURE, HE IS A VICTOR. HE IS NOT INSIGNIFICANT, HE IS THE CORNERSTONE OF SALVATION, THE CENTERPIECE OF REDEMPTION AND THE STAR OF THE AGES. NO DONKEY RIDE THIS TIME, THE KING ARRIVES ON A WHITE HORSE.

AND IN THE END, WHEN GOD, THE ALMIGHTY COMPLETES HIS PLAN AND BRINGS EXACT AND COMPLETE JUSTICE TO THE UNIVERSE, INCLUDING THE ENACTING OF HIS FIERCE AND RIGHT WRATH, WHO WILL STEP ON THE GRAPES? JESUS WILL. WHO WILL HAVE THE FRONT LINE VIEW OF GOD MAKING ALL THINGS RIGHT? JESUS WILL. WHO WILL SEE FIRST HAND ALMIGHTY GOD FULFILL HIS LONG AWAITED PROMISE "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY"? JESUS WILL.

AS HE SHOULD.

JESUS WAS CERTAINLY SATISFIED WHEN HE COMPLETED THE WORK HIS FATHER GAVE HIM TO DO ON THE EARTH. JESUS WAS CERTAINLY SATISFIED WHEN WHAT HE SAID CAME TO PASS. JESUS WAS CERTAINLY SATISFIED WHEN HE SAW YOU AND I AND COUNTLESS OTHERS BELIEVE IN HIM AND

CONFESS HIM AS LORD. JESUS WAS CERTAINLY SATISFIED AS HE SAW THE CHURCH, THROUGH HIS POWER, OVERCOME IN THE EVIL DAY. AND JESUS WILL BE SATISFIED WHEN HE SEES HIS ENEMIES AND THE ARROGANT AND THE PRIDEFUL AND THE SCOFFERS BE DESTROYED.

## REVELATION 19:17-18 - A SECOND SUPPER IS BEING PREPARED

AS WE STARTED TODAY, WE LOOKED AT THE MARRIAGE SUPPER AND THE GREAT EVENT THAT WILL BE. REVELATION 19:17-18 REFERENCES A SECOND "SUPPER" THAT IS NOT APPETIZING FOR US, BUT WOULD BE A GLORIOUS FEAST FOR SCAVENGERS BIRDS OF THE EARTH. AS THE KING RETURNS, THERE IS A GATHERING OF ARMIES IN HAR MEGIDDO (REFERENCED IN REVELATION 16:12-16 AND 17:14), DEMONICALLY INFLUENCED ARMIES THAT HAVE UNITED AGAINST GOD AND HIS CHRIST. AS THE KING RETURNS AND ENTERS THE BATTLEFIELD, AN ANGEL CALLS THE SCAVENGER BIRDS OF THE EARTH TO ASSEMBLE BECAUSE THERE WILL BE A FEAST OF FLESH AS THE HEAVENLY ARMY APPROACHES THEIR FOE.

## REVELATION 19:19-21 - THE BATTLE

THE BATTLE PLANS OF THE BEAST ARE FUTILE. BEFORE THEY CAN MAKE A MOVE, THE BEAST AND THE FALSE PROPHET ARE SEIZED. THEY ARE BOTH THROWN ALIVE INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE. THE PEOPLE WHO HAD ALIGNED WITH THE BEAST ARE ALL DESTROYED, THROUGH THE POWER OF THE KING'S (S)WORD. AND THE BIRDS WILL HAVE MEAL PREPS COVERED FOR QUITE SOME TIME.

AT LAST, THE BEAST IS SLAUGHTERED AND THE FALSE PROPHET IS ETERNALLY SILENCED. THE REBELLIOUS NATIONS CRUSHED. AT LAST! THE PEOPLE OF GOD WILL REJOICE IN THAT DAY AND TODAY CAN BE EMBOLDENED IN OUR FAITH, KNOWING THAT IF WE SEE THE FINAL BEAST AND FALSE PROPHET IN OUR GENERATION, EVEN WITH ALL THEIR POWER AND FEROCIOUSNESS, THEIR REIGN WILL BE BUT A VAPOR AND THEY WILL NOT WIN. HALLELUJAH!

AS WE CONCLUDE REVELATION 19 FOR NOW, WE HAVE A LOT TO REJOICE IN. THE HARLOT IS JUDGED, THE BEAST IS DESTROYED. THE KING IS RETURNING IN POWER AND OUR GLORIOUS AND LOVING REUNION WITH HIM WILL BE A DAY TO CELEBRATE - AND THAT CELEBRATION WILL ONLY BE THE BEGINNING OF OUR JOY.

BUT, AN ENEMY REMAINS. THE BEAST AND FALSE PROPHET TERRORIZED THE EARTH AND AFFLICTED THE SAINTS, BUT THEY WERE ONLY PAWNS OF THE REAL ADVERSARY. OUR CHIEF FOE AND NEMESIS *MUST* BE DEALT WITH AND UNTIL HE DOES, HIS CORRUPTING INFLUENCE AND MANIPULATION UPON THE CREATION REMAINS. AND THAT IS WHERE WE WILL TURN OUR ATTENTION TO NEXT. AT LAST, WHEN CHRIST COMES, THE GREAT DRAGON, THE SERPENT OF OLD, THE ONE WE KNOW AS THE DEVIL AND SATAN, WHO HAS DECEIVED THE WHOLE WORLD, WILL BE ARRESTED, TRIED, JUDGED AND SENTENCED TO DEATH - AND OUR GREATEST AND FINAL ENEMY WILL BE NO MORE.