

"The Return of Jesus Christ"

Part 4

Revelation 19

**Introduction:** Today as we come back to our study of Revelation we are going to pick up where we stopped last week. But before we do I want to review what we have seen in this chapter so far for it is all connected to what we are about to look at.

When this chapter opened we were permitted to listen as the inhabitants of heaven praised God for the events of the previous chapters.

I. **God is praised for salvation.**

This is not just personal salvation but also for the salvation of the earth.

**Revelation 5:1-5**

*And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals.*

<sup>2</sup> *And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?*

<sup>3</sup> *And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon.*

<sup>4</sup> *And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon.*

<sup>5</sup> *And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.*

This book in the hand of God which only Jesus is worthy to open is the TITLE DEED TO THE EARTH. When man was created the earth was entrusted to him but when sin entered the human race man lost the earth and now Satan is said to be the god of this world.

**2 Corinthians 4:4**

<sup>4</sup> *In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.*

As Jesus opens the SEALS on the TITLE DEED the judgments begin, and they serve as a means of purging the earth through the Tribulation and then when Jesus returns the earth will be restored to its Original Owner and Creator. That is the praise for salvation.

II. **God is praised for judgment.**

In chapters 17 and 18 we were able to see the destruction of Babylon. First there was RELIGIOUS Babylon which has existed since the days of Nimrod in Genesis 11. This will be the destruction of all false worship systems. Then there was the destruction of COMMERCIAL Babylon which exists today. In the Tribulation Commercial Babylon will have its headquarters in the city of Babylon and it will be the heart of the Anti-Christ's world empire. Both of these systems will be destroyed for when Jesus returns there will be PURE worship and a PERFECT economic system in the Kingdom.

III. **God is praised because He reigns.**

The Anti-Christ as well as all the corrupt rulers of the world will be gone, and, in the Kingdom, Jesus Christ will sit upon the throne and He will rule and reign in perfect RIGHTEOUSNESS and perfect JUSTICE.

IV. **God is praised for the marriage of the Lamb.**

**Notice Revelation 19:7-9**

This is the praise we focused upon the past two messages from Revelation. The Bride of Christ is complete, she has passed through the Judgment Seat of Christ and her garments have been purified so she is arrayed in snow white garments. The wedding is over and now it is time for the wedding supper or the reception. All the Old Testament Saints and the Tribulation Saints will be at the supper and this will last for a thousand years in the Kingdom. WHAT A TIME THIS WILL BE!!!

This now brings us to where we are today.

I. **"John's Response"**

**Notice Revelation 19:10a**

As John's mind begins to process this prophecy he response was to fall at the feet of the angel and worship him. Now let me just help you with something here. This angel comes to John in chapter 17.

**Revelation 17:1**

*And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters:*

The vision started in chapter 17 where John was permitted to see the destruction of Babylon both RELIGIOUS and COMMERCIAL and has carried on through the marriage and the wedding supper.

It was all of this revelation that caused John to be overwhelmed and fall down to worship the one who had delivered the vision. This helps us to see into the heart of John. We could say that John practiced what he preached because John had no roots in this world but instead he longed for his eternal home and we can see that in his response to the revelation of the destruction of the world's economic system. Let me show you what John wrote in 1 John.

### **1 John 2:15-17**

*<sup>15</sup> Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.*

*<sup>16</sup> For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.*

*<sup>17</sup> And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.*

John did not love the world. He rejoiced in the fact that the false systems of the world were going to be destroyed.

### **Application:**

It is sad but true that John's attitude is not found in many believers today. Many who belong to Jesus Christ are rooted deeply in this world today. They would have a difficult time claiming the words of Paul in Philippians.

### **Philippians 1:21**

*<sup>21</sup> For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*

Much of the church has become so comfortable in this society and so they live for the here and now instead of living for eternity. Let me remind you of what Paul wrote in Romans.

### **Romans 12:1-2**

*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

<sup>2</sup> *And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

The word "THEREFORE" in verse 1 refers to the previous chapters. In those previous chapters Paul told of the lost condition of all mankind. He told of man's inability to redeem himself. He told of the love of God and how Jesus Christ died to justify us and to set us free from the power of sin. Based upon all of that Paul exhorts his readers to separate from the world and become living sacrifice for the cause of Jesus Christ. Moses is a great example for us.

**Hebrews 11:24-29**

<sup>24</sup> *By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;*

<sup>25</sup> *Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;*

<sup>26</sup> *Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.*

<sup>27</sup> *By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.*

<sup>28</sup> *Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.*

<sup>29</sup> *By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.*

Moses was being groomed to be the next Pharaoh, so he had the wealth of Egypt at his fingertips. He walked away from all the riches of Egypt because he ESTEEMED the reproach of Christ to be greater than the treasures in Egypt. This means that he viewed the sufferings of living for the Messiah far greater than living for the wealth of Egypt.

When the writer says that he had respect unto the recompence of the reward it simply means that he lived for eternal wealth and not worldly wealth. Moses knew that the wealth of this world would all perish and so he, like John, longed for what God has for His people.

Let me remind you of the words of Peter.

**2 Peter 3:10-14**

<sup>10</sup> *But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.*

<sup>11</sup> *Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,*

<sup>12</sup> *Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?*

<sup>13</sup> *Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.*

<sup>14</sup> *Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.*

Notice the words of Solomon.

#### **Ecclesiastes 2:16-19**

<sup>16</sup> *For there is no remembrance of the wise more than of the fool for ever; seeing that which now is in the days to come shall all be forgotten. And how dieth the wise man? as the fool.*

<sup>17</sup> *Therefore I hated life; because the work that is wrought under the sun is grievous unto me: for all is vanity and vexation of spirit.*

<sup>18</sup> *Yea, I hated all my labour which I had taken under the sun: because I should leave it unto the man that shall be after me.*

<sup>19</sup> *And who knoweth whether he shall be a wise man or a fool? yet shall he have rule over all my labour wherein I have laboured, and wherein I have shewed myself wise under the sun. This is also vanity.*

Getting back to our text again, John was not sad to know the world's economic system and the world's riches were going to be destroyed but he rejoiced because he knew God had something far greater that awaited him. He is the opposite of the earth dwellers.

#### **Revelation 18:15-20**

<sup>15</sup> *The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing,*

*<sup>16</sup> And saying, Alas, alas that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls!*

*<sup>17</sup> For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off,*

*<sup>18</sup> And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city!*

*<sup>19</sup> And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate.*

*<sup>20</sup> Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her.*

## II. The Angels Rebuke

**Notice Revelation 19:10 again.**

The angel immediately stopped John from worshipping him. He then explained to John that he too was a servant and was just proclaiming a Truth that had been entrusted to him. This angel knew he was not worthy of worship.

### **Application:**

Today we live in a world where this is a fascination with angels and this often turns into angel worship. Angel worship is sin and is a perversion of what true worship is. Let me show you something from the earthly life of Jesus Christ.

We are told in Matthew 4 that Jesus was faced with three temptations from the Devil. Let me show you one of those temptations.

### **Matthew 4:8-9**

*<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;*

*<sup>9</sup> And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.*

This is by the way the very deal that the Anti-Christ will accept. He will worship Satan in a trade for the kingdoms of this world.

But what I want you to see here is that Satan wanted Jesus to worship him. This would have been so perverse for that would be the Creator worshipping the created.

Let us understand that it is God and only God who is worthy of worship and anything else is sin.

**Romans 1:21-26**

<sup>21</sup> *Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.*

<sup>22</sup> *Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,*

<sup>23</sup> *And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.*

<sup>24</sup> *Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:*

<sup>25</sup> *Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.*

<sup>26</sup> *For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections:*

Creature worship is the result of sinking into spiritual darkness.

**Conclusion:**

What does all this mean to me?

Let us learn to live for eternity. We will never be disappointed. God knows every sacrifice we make and every work we do, and He will be faithful to reward us.

**Hebrews 6:10**

<sup>10</sup> *For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.*

**Revelation 22:12**

<sup>12</sup> *And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.*