

"The Return of Jesus Christ"

Part 5

Revelation 19

Introduction: Today in our study of Revelation we have finally arrived at the pinnacle of this letter. Today we shall see the earthly return of Jesus Christ at the end of the 7 years of Tribulation. Last week in our study we looked at John's response to the second coming of Jesus Christ and we saw that he was so overwhelmed he fell down to worship the angel who had given him the message.

The event which we are about to look at today is one that we should all be looking forward to. When Jesus Christ returns to the earth the world will never again be the same. Some people proclaim that things are going to get better and they certainly will when Jesus returns but before He returns they will continue to get worse until the pinnacle of evil is reached under the control of the anti-Christ. But when Jesus returns and establishes His Kingdom evil will be destroyed and justice, righteousness and peace will fill the world.

The return of Jesus Christ is an event that the Bible points to thousands of times throughout the Scriptures. Twenty three of the twenty-seven books of the New Testament specifically reference the second coming. Jesus referenced His second coming about twenty times and He exhorted His followers to live in expectancy about 50 times.

HE WILL RETURN SUDDENLY

Now it is very important to know that the event of the return of Jesus Christ will be a sudden event at the end of the Tribulation. I say this because there are people who believe this world is slowly going to get better until righteousness will prevail. There are those who believe that the Kingdom age will gradually over take this present world. One of these groups is known as **reconstructionists**. They believe that over time the church will reconstruct society through the preaching of the Gospel.

But the Bible does not teach that this is a gradual event, but the Bible teaches it will be sudden.

Matthew 24:29-31

²⁹ Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

³⁰ *And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.*

³¹ *And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.*

The darkness here is most likely from the judgment of the 5th Bowl.

Revelation 16:10-11

¹⁰ *And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain,*

¹¹ *And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds.*

Getting back to the suddenness, Jesus taught that His return will be so sudden that many will be caught completely off guard.

Matthew 24:36-42

³⁶ *But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.*

³⁷ *But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.*

³⁸ *For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,*

³⁹ *And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.*

⁴⁰ *Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.*

⁴¹ *Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.*

⁴² *Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.*

This is not the rapture as many teach! The people who are taken in this text are taken away in judgment. He points to those in Noah's day who were not prepared for the flood and the flood took every one of them away. They were the unsaved who died and went to hell.

Therefore, the event recorded here in Revelation 19 is one that will come upon the world suddenly. Many people of the Tribulation will be truly shocked when the sky breaks open and Jesus Christ appears.

This event by the way is the event which Satan has been doing his best to stop. The return of Jesus Christ and the establishment of the Kingdom is the fulfillment of God's promises to Israel and Satan will do all he can to stop this hoping that Jesus will not return, and he then will inherit the earth and rule over the world. The return of Jesus Christ will be hated by many on the earth. John recorded a summation of the event in Revelation 1.

Revelation 1:7

⁷ Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

Let us now get to our text.

I. **The Coming of the King**

A. **The King's Nature**

Notice Revelation 19:11

This is the second time that heaven is opened. The first time was in chapter 4 and that was to allow us to see in.

Revelation 4:1

After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

Now, here in Revelation 19 it is opened to allow Jesus and His armies to come out.

Jesus comes out of heaven riding a white horse. We saw a rider on a white horse back in chapter 6.

Revelation 6:1-2

And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see.

² And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.

This was the anti-Christ and it should not surprise us that he too is on a white horse for he is a counterfeit of Jesus Christ.

Here in this verse we see three points pertaining to the nature of Jesus Christ.

1. **He is Faithful and True.**

The Words of Jesus Christ will all be fulfilled. He is God and our God is faithful to His Word.

Matthew 5:17-18

¹⁷ *Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.*

¹⁸ *For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.*

Psalms 119:90

⁹⁰ *Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth.*

Lamentations 3:22-23

²² *It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.*

²³ *They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.*

2. **He is Righteous.**

It will be in righteousness that He will judge and make war. Most of the wars that have been fought have been fought over foolish objectives. But when Jesus Christ returns and engages in the campaign of Armageddon He will bring judgment and war out of righteousness. Jesus will fight for the glory of God. He will destroy the anti-Christ as well as all who are not saved when He returns. He will finish what the JUDGMENTS of the Tribulation did not do. Armageddon will be the final "MOP UP" of the earth before the establishment of the Kingdom.

Now there will be another Judgment that will happen apart from Armageddon.

Matthew 25:31-34, 41, 46

³¹ *When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:*

³² *And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:*

³³ *And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.*

³⁴ Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

⁴¹ Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

⁴⁶ And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

B. The King's Appearance.

Notice Revelation 19:12-13

1. His eyes were as a flame of fire.

This speaks of Jesus' ability to discern what is in the hearts of men.

Romans 2:2-4, 6-9, 16

² But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.

³ And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?

⁶ Who will render to every man according to his deeds:

⁷ To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:

⁸ But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,

⁹ Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;

¹⁶ In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

2. He wears many crowns.

He no longer wears the crown of thorns. He will be crowned with glory and honor.

The multiple crowns speak of the many facets of the character of His rule. He will wear many crowns because He is KING OF KINGS and LORD of LORDS.

The world today is made up of many kingdoms but when Christ returns the world will be one Kingdom under His rule and so all the previous kingdoms will come under His reign therefore He wears many crowns because of all He will conquer.

3. **His robe is dipped in blood.**

This is the blood of His enemies and speaks of the judgment to come during the campaign of Armageddon.

C. **The King's Names**

We see that our Lord has 3 names in this text.

1. **He has a name of Mystery.**

Notice Revelation 19:12

Agur, one of the writers of Proverbs made mention of this also.

Proverbs 30:2-4

² *Surely I am more brutish than any man, and have not the understanding of a man.*

³ *I neither learned wisdom, nor have the knowledge of the holy.*

⁴ *Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell?*

Listen to the words of one writer;

"To this we could add the words of Jesus, "no one knows the Son except the Father" (Mat. 11:27; Luke 10:22). We believe the mysterious name of Jesus is a secret shared between only He and the Father and is intended to indicate their personal unity. God only shares His secrets with those who have intimacy with Him. The secret name of Jesus will not be revealed until He and the Father choose to do so, possibly at His Second Coming. Whatever the name is, it will undoubtedly reveal some splendor concerning His character, like His many other names."

There is so much that we do not even know about God. It will take all eternity to learn of the depths of our Lord. After we have been in heaven for 10,000 years there will still be more to learn.

2. **He has a name of Ministry.**

Notice Revelation 19:13

Jesus is called the **Word of God** because He is the expression of God's nature in understandable terms.

3. **He has a name of Majesty.**

Notice Revelation 19:16

He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

D. The King's Armies.

Notice Revelation 19:14

There are two armies that are with the Lord when He returns.

1. **Angels**

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9

⁷ *And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,*

⁸ *In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:*

⁹ *Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;*

2. **The Church**

Jude 1:14-15

¹⁴ *And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,*

¹⁵ *To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.*

We will be with Him when He returns. This is the manifestation of the bride of Jesus Christ.

Romans 8:19

¹⁹ *For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.*

E. The King's Armament

Notice Revelation 19:15

He will be armed only with the Word of God and it will be with His Word that He will destroy the armies of the world in the campaign of Armageddon.

Conclusion:

Isaiah 11:4

⁴ But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

2 Thessalonians 2:8

⁸ And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

Those who are alive and unsaved at the end of the Tribulation will not stand a chance. They will be slain by the Word of God. God is so powerful that all He will need to do is speak and they will be slain.

Jesus came the first time as a Lamb. When He returns He will come as the Lion of the tribe of Judah and He will judge, and He will damn those who have rejected Him.

In the days before the return of Christ people will die of fear and I believe they will die of fear when the sky breaks open and they see Him coming.

Luke 21:25-27

²⁵ And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;

²⁶ Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

²⁷ And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

To the unsaved this will be a terrifying sight. But to the believers it will be a great time of rejoicing as we watch the establishment of the Kingdom.