Hallelujah!

The Rider on the White Horse

Revelation 19:1-21
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Text:

Revelation 19:1-21,

1. And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:
2. For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand.
3. And again they said, Alleluia And her smoke rose up for ever and ever.
4. And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia.
5. And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great.
6. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.
7. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.
8. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.
9. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.
10. And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have
the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

11. And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

12. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

13. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

14. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

15. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

16. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

17. And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God;

18. That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.

19. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.

20. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.
21. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh. (AKJV)

Introduction:

I. This chapter, is a resumption of what was read in Chapter 16.

II. The seven bowls of wrath have been poured out and now we read (hear) the joy in the mouths of all those in heaven.

Commentary:

Rejoicing In Heaven

Revelation 19:1-10, And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God: For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. And again they said, Alleluia And her smoke rose up for ever and ever. And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia. And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me,
These are the true sayings of God. And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. (AKJV)

I. Praise because the blood of the saints has been avenged.

   A. A great multitude in heaven singing out.

      1. For What Its Worth (FWIW):

         a. George Handel’s (1685-1759) Messiah was inspired by this chapter.

         b. According to Young’s Roper and Vines, this is the only place in the English Bible where this word is found.

      2. Who are they? They are the saints of God whether they have died naturally or violently.

   B. The great prostitute had been judged for two reasons: . . .

      1. She corrupted the earth with her immorality.

         a. The immorality is not exclusively a sexual immortality, but an immortality of all kinds.

         b. It simply means that one refuses to measure up to the standards of what true morality is, hence, immoral.

      2. She has the blood of the saints on her hands.

      3. Interestingly, at the time of this writing, Rome had not been judged, yet the language of Revelation 19:2 is so certain, that Rome has already been actually judged.
4. Roper cites the words of J.W. Roberts about why God’s judgments are always true:

   a. He alone can see the inmost thoughts of man.

   b. He alone has that purity that can judge without prejudice.

C. The twenty-four (24) elders fall down and worship God.

II. Praise because the marriage of the Lamb has come. The church, while on this earth, is betrothed to Christ.

   A. A great multitude sang God’s praise.

   B. Fourth beatitude.

       1. Some dispute regarding whom this includes.

       2. Is it the bride of Christ (the church) or is it more inclusive, like those faithful who died to the Lord before the church began?

       3. It seems to me the context fits better with the premise that it refers to the church, but why would it have to be exclusively the church?

C. John fell down before an angel.

       1. He was admonished not to do that.

           a. Why John fell down to worship him we are not told.

           b. Perhaps John had a memory lapse; whatever the reason, John was told that worship belongs exclusively to God.
c. A point worth reemphasizing (Roper) is that this passage, indirectly, connects the name of Jesus to God. If only God is to be worshipped (not angels and not men) AND Jesus accepted worship while here on this earth, what is the conclusion to this but that Jesus is God?!

2. The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

a. In any case, the NET translates this portion of the verse, “...for the testimony about Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” (AKJV)

D. In other words, relative to the work of Revelation, things mentioned are all related to Jesus!

The White Horse

Revelation 19:11-21, And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the
flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh. (AKJV)

I. The Description.

A. The One sitting on it.

1. Called Faithful and True.

2. Revelation 1:5, And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, (AKJV)

3. Revelation 3:14, And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; (AKJV)

B. In righteousness He Judges and makes war.

1. He came the first time as Savior; now He comes as Judge.

2. The primary application is to Rome, but there can be an extension of the principle that any and all who stand opposed to the Lord, no matter the time or generation, will receive a similar message.
3. 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9, And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; (AKJV)

C. Those who follow Him.

1. Arrayed in fine linen.

   a. If this is parallel with Revelation 19:8, the suggestion would be the bride of Christ (the church).

   b. On the other hand, noting 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 2 Thessalonians 1:7, and Matthew 25:31, some interpret this to be the holy angels of God.

      i. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever
be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words. (AKJV)

ii. 2 Thessalonians 1:7, And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, (AKJV)

iii. Matthew 25:31, 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: (AKJV)

2. The linen is white and pure.

3. They followed Him on white horses. An army it may be, but the battle belongs to the Lord and it will be He (not they) who conquers.

D. Description of His person.

1. His eyes are like a flame of fire. Penetrating eye (omniscience).

   a. Hebrews 4:12, 13, For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do. (AKJV)

2. On His head are many diadems.

3. He has a name written that no one knows but Himself.
4. Clothed in a robe dipped in blood. Whose blood?

a. Some think the blood of martyrs.

b. Some think His own blood.

c. Others think the imagery comes from Isaiah 63:1-3, where the blood is that of the enemies of God.

i. Isaiah 63:1-3, Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. (AKJV)

5. His name is the Word of God.

a. John 1:1-3, 14, In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. (AKJV)

b. John 14:9-11, Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me,
Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father? Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake. (AKJV)

6. From His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword.

7. He will rule with a rod of iron. That is; He will shepherd those who are faithful to Him.

8. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God.

   a. Revelation 14:20, And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs. (AKJV)

9. On His robe and on His thigh is written: King of kings and Lord of lords.

   a. Deuteronomy 10:17, For the LORD your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward: (AKJV)

   b. Daniel 2:47, The king answered unto Daniel, and said, Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldest reveal this secret. (AKJV)
c. 1 Timothy 6:15, Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; (AKJV)

d. Revelation 17:14, These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful. (AKJV)

II. The Defeat of the Beast and False Prophet.

A. The gathering for the great supper of God.

1. An angel calls out to all the birds that fly directly over heaven.

2. Eat the flesh of kings, captains, mighty men, horses and their riders, and men (free/slave and small/great).

B. War against Him who sits on the White Horse.

1. The beast and the kings of the earth. Maybe (probably) this is a continuation of the scene in Revelation 16:14-16.

a. Revelation 16:14-16, For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon. (AKJV)
2. The contrast between two feasts: The marriage of the Lamb and His bride and the great supper of God.

C. The battle is over.

1. The beast and false prophet were captured.

2. These two were thrown into the lake of fire. “In all the above references ‘the lake of fire’ appears as a place of punishment, of perpetual torment, not of annihilation (Revelation 20:10)” (ISBE E-Sword).

   a. Revelation 20:10, And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. (AKJV)

3. All the birds were gorged with their flesh. While the folly of men may look upon this battle as a mighty battle of Armageddon, the Lord looks upon it as a supper for the birds of the air (Roper, p. 290)!
Questions

on

Revelation 19:1-21

1. After this I (John) heard what _________________ like the _________________ of a _________________ in _________________ shouting: “__________________________! __________________________ and __________________________ and __________________________ belong to our ________________. “ (NIV)

2. For __________________________ and __________________________ are his _________________. He has condemned the great __________________________ who __________________________ the __________________________ by her _________________. He has __________________________ on her the __________________________ of his_________________________.” (NIV)

3. And again they shouted: “_________________________! The ________________ from her goes up for ever and ever.” (NIV)

4. The ________________-_________________________ ________________ and the ________________ ____________________ ________________ fell down and __________________________ _________________, who was __________________________ on the ________________. And they cried: “________________________, __________________________!” (NIV)

5. Then a _________________ came from the _________________, saying: “_________________________ our _________________, all you his __________________________, you who __________________________ him, both __________________________ and __________________________!” (NIV)
6. Then I (___________________) heard what sounded like a great
__________________________, like the __________________ of
___________________________ __________________________ and like
___________________________ __________________________ of ________________:
Our “Lord God Almighty reigns.” (NIV)

7. Let us __________________ and be _______________ __ and give
him __________________! For the _________________ _ of the
________________ has come, and his _________________ has made
herself ready. (NIV)

8. Fine _______________________, __________________ ______, and
___________________, was given her to _____________ ___.” (Fine
stands for the _________________ __________________  of the
____________________.) (NIV)

9. When will the Lamb be married? Who is the Lamb and who is his
bride? ____________________________________________ _________
___________________________________________________ _______
___________________________________________________ _______
___________________________________________________ _______
___________________________________________________ _______
___________________________________________________ _______
___________________________________________________ _______
___________________________________________________ _______

10. Then the __________________ said to me (___________),
“Write: ‘________________ are those who are _____________ to the
________________________ ______________ of the ________________!’”
And he added, “These are the __________________ ________________
of ______________________.” (NIV)
11. Who will be invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb? _______

12. At this (__________________ __________________) at his (__________________) _____________________ to ________________ him. But he said to me, “Do ______________ do it! I am a ______________ with you and with your ______________ who hold to the ______________ of ______________. ______________ ______________! For the ______________ of ______________ is the ______________ of ______________.” (NIV)

13. Is it right to worship angels, the Saints, Mary the mother of Jesus, et. al.? Explain your answer. ________________________ ______________

14. I (______________________) saw ________________ standing ________________ and there before me was a ________________ ________________, whose ________________ is called ________________ and ________________. With ________________ he ________________ and ________________ _________________. (NIV)
15. Who is the rider on the white horse? Give reasons for your answer.
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

16. His ______________________ are like ______________________
____________________________________, and on his ________________ are
many __________________. He has a __________________
____________________ on him that no one ________________ but he
________________________. (NIV)

17. He is ________________ in a _________________ ____________
in ______________________, and his ______________________ is the
________________________ of ______________________. (NIV)

18. The ______________________ of ______________________ were
____________________ to ________________ on
____________________ ________________ and __________________
in ______________________ ________________ ________________
________________________________________________________.

19. Out of his ________________ comes a ____________________
____________________ with which to __________________
____________________ the ________________________.” He will
____________________ them with an __________________ ____________.”
He treads the __________________ of the __________________ of the
________________________ of __________________ ________________
(NIV)
20. What is the significance of ruling the nations with an iron scepter?

21. On his ___________ and on his ______________ he has this ________________ written: _________________ of __________________ and ______________ of __________________. (NIV)

22. And I (______________) saw an _______________ standing in the ________________, who cried in a _________________ to all the _______________ in ________________, “Come, gather together for the _______________ of ________________, so that you may _______________ the _______________ of ________________, ________________, and _______________ ________________, of ________________ and their ________________, and the _______________ of all ________________, ________________ and ________________, ________________ and ________________.” (NIV)

23. What will be served at the great supper of God and who will be invited to partake?
24. Then I (____________________) saw the ______________ and
the ______________ of the ______________ and their
______________ gathered together to make ______________ against
the _________________ on the _________________ and
his _________________. (NIV)

25. The _________________ was ___________________, and
with him the _________________ _________________ who had
performed the _________________ _________________ on his behal. (NIV)

26. Who are the beast and the false prophet? Identify them. __________

27. With these _________________ he (____________________)
had _________________ those who had ______________ the
______________ of the ________________ and
_______________ his _________________. (NIV)

28. What does the image of the beast look like? ________________
29. The two of them, the __________ and __________ _______ __________, were thrown __________ into the __________ __________ of __________ _______. (NIV)

30. What is this lake of fire elsewhere called? Will those thrown into the lake of fire be annihilated? Give reasons for your answers.

31. The __________ of them were ______________ with the __________ that came out of the __________ on the __________ on the __________, and all the __________ __________ themselves of their _________________. (NIV)

32. Will these killed by the sword cease to exist? Give reasons for your answer. Who are the rest of them? ______________________________________________

33. Why, according to J.W. Roberts, can it be said that God’s judgments are always true? ______________________________________________
34. In whose blood was the robe worn by the rider on the white horse dipped? ___________________________________________ 

35. The battle is over! Who won? What does this mean for you? ___________________________________________