



The Book of Revelation: Week 18

Chapters 19-20:

King of Kings

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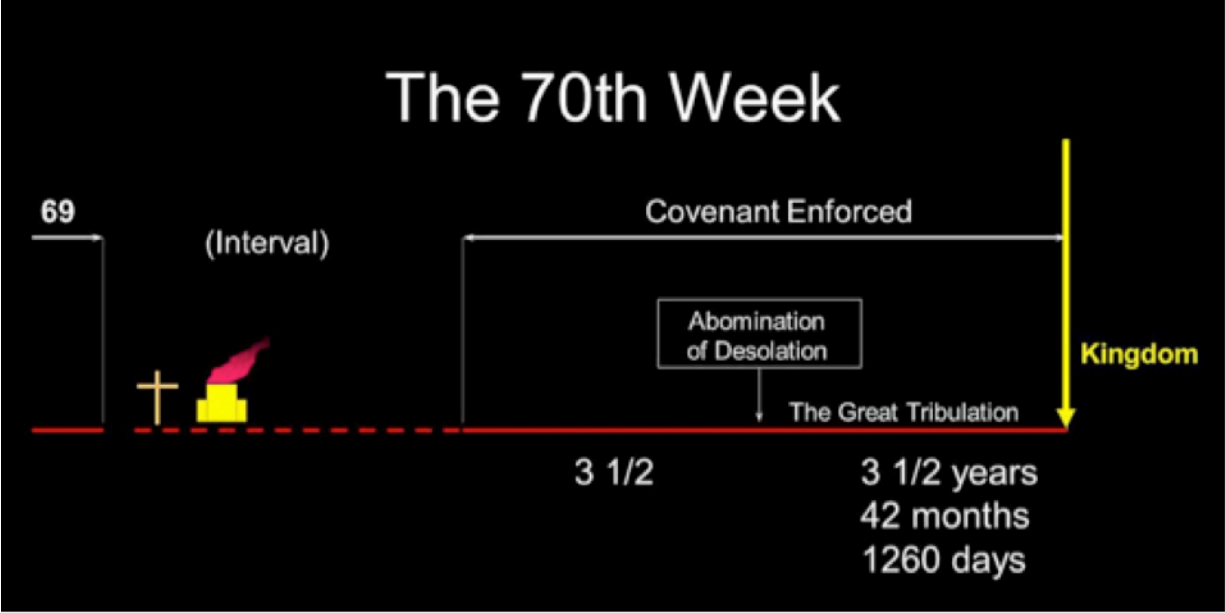
Review

Last time we were together we looked at the destruction of the enemies of the believer.

- The harlot was destroyed by the kings who give their authority to the Antichrist.
- The City of Babylon was destroyed by fire as well, being judged by God.
- God already poured out His bowls of wrath, some directed against the kingdom of Antichrist and those who had worshipped him.

As We Enter Chapter 19...

- Little remains of the empire that united against God.
- Evil spirits have gathered the armies of the world to fight against Christ.
- Recall: most of Revelation takes place during the *70th Week of Daniel* (the 7-year period before the return of Jesus Christ to the Earth). (See chart.)



The 70th Week begins with a strong covenant for seven years. Antichrist will be one of those making the agreement. In the middle of those seven years, he will defile the Temple. At the conclusion of the seven years, Jesus returns physically to this Earth.

Revelation 19:6-10

6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, “Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! 7 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.” 8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

9 Then he said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!’” And he said to me, “These are the true sayings of God.”
10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, “See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

- There is great rejoicing in heaven because the marriage of the Lamb has finally come. The great celebration of Christ and his people is about to take place.
- Christ will be united with all his saints in Heaven, and He will also raise from death the saints who were slain by the Beast.
- The Church has made herself into a beautiful bride with the help of the sanctifying Holy Spirit.
- The angel is emphasizing that we need to think carefully about all the words of warning and judgment we have heard. The world will never warn you about sin!
- John falls to worship the angel, and receives a rebuke.
 - Angels are not superior to us. The angel, like John, is only a servant of God. Prophecy is all about giving testimony and glory to Jesus.
 - All true, Christian, experiences of prophecy are about exalting Jesus Christ and directing our affections towards Him.

11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. 15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

- A beautiful contrast with the wicked rider of the first seal (Rev. 6).
- He is called Faithful and True – He keeps His word. Jesus will be faithful to keep His promises to all, even those who suffer!
- The judgments that He executes are fair, and are done to establish justice.
- His eyes burn with holiness. He wears many crowns because He rules many realms. His new Name... a mystery!
- His robe dipped in blood speaks of the cost of the sacrifice of Himself.
- His Name is called the Word of God. He is everything the Father wants to say.
- In verse 14, the saints in Heaven follow Him out to war.
- Out of His mouth goes a sword, and this is a picture of the Word of God.
- He will rule with a rod of iron. Jesus will not tolerate any war, crime, or injustice.
- He Himself will literally trample the nations in judgment: Isaiah 63:2-3.
- And on His robe and thigh is His title: King of Kings, and Lord of Lords!

17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, “Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, 18 that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of

captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great.”

19 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. 20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. 21 And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.

- Which supper are you going to?
- There’s no description of the battle, and there’s no doubt about the outcome. The Beast and the False Prophet are simply thrown alive into the Lake of Fire.

Chapter 20

1 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; 3 and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.

- Satan will be bound for the entire 1,000-year Kingdom of Christ on the Earth.
- Afterwards, he is briefly released. Why?

- All this reveals that the trouble is in Man's heart!

4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. 5 But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

- Christ and his saints now sit on thrones judging the nations.
- Jesus then raises up the saints who had been beheaded for their testimony.
- Remember that when the Day of the Lord begins, Jesus will gather the saints to Himself, and Paul says we will not all sleep, or die, but we shall all be changed.
- The wicked dead are not raised to life until after the 1000 years.
- This is the first resurrection. There are two: one of life, and one of damnation.
- What is the sequence of the resurrection (when we receive glorified bodies)?
 - The dead in Christ: at the Rapture
 - Those who live until the Day of the Lord: at the Rapture
 - Those faithful unto death after the Rapture = at the coming of Christ
- All of those people experience what is called the first resurrection.

7 Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison 8 and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea. 9 They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. 10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

- To prove mankind again, God will allow men to be tried one last time. Some indeed will rebel against God, but this rebellion does not stand a chance.

11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. 13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. 14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

- After the 1000 year reign comes the Great White Throne judgment. This judgment is the judgment of unbelievers. Death itself and Hell are destroyed and thrown into the lake of fire! Hallelujah!

The Millennial Reign of Christ

And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. (Zechariah 14:16 NKJV)

Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. (Isaiah 2:3-4 NKJV)

Responding to the news of the Coming Kingdom – taking David's advice

1 Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing? 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying, 3 "Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us." 4 He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall hold them in derision. 5 Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure: 6 "Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion." 7 "I will declare the decree: The Lord has said to Me, 'You are My Son, today I have begotten You. 8 Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for Your possession. 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.'" 10 Now therefore, be wise, O kings; be instructed, you judges of the earth. 11 Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. 12 Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him. (Psalms 2:1-12 NKJV)

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