

Chapter 19: The Return of the King (19:1-21)

The Marriage Supper of the Lamb comes first. (vs. 1-9) Upon the announcement of the destruction of Babylon, praise erupts forth from Heaven. As the Lamb of God, Jesus and the bride (believers) prepare for the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. The earth and those left on her are suffering under the final wrath of God and the Battle of Armageddon. This is the culmination of human history-the judgement of those who ultimately reject Christ and the wedding of the Lamb to his bride, the Church, those faithful believers from all time. There are several theories as to when this will occur but for arguments sake, we will only bring up two.

In Jewish culture, the groom (Jesus) would receive or go get his bride and bring her to his father's house, where the groom had prepared a place for them to live together forever. The wedding would last a whole week. Under Moses' Law, the newlyweds were given year's rest without work and the husband was not required to go to war. Under the Sabbath Law of rest, humanity worked for 6 days and rested the 7th. Hebrews 4:9 reads, "There remains, then a Sabbath rest for the people of God;" This is the eternal rest of all believers. The Greek word here is the word _____, referring to that rest.

Using the Sabbath as our pattern of our eternal rest in heaven, its possible that the destruction of Mystery Babylon takes place in the end of the Sixth year of the Tribulation and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb occurs in the final and seventh year and lasts all year. Another theory places the Marriage Supper of the Lamb at the end of the seventh year, after the Great Tribulation and Armageddon are over, and after the Dragon, the Beast and the False Prophet have all been judged and thrown into the Lake of Fire. (Revelation 20)

In verse 10, John leaves us with the identity of the "angel" in question. It's thought the "angel" in question is an angel identifying himself as just a fellow servant and not worthy of worship. In Revelation 22:9, the angel further identifies himself as "one of the _____". John has been escorted and shown these thing by one of the prophets and its possible that the angels who have

poured out the judgements are also the prophets pouring out what they prophesied!

The Return of the King: (vs. 11-21)

John sees Jesus this time completely different than before. He sees a white horse and a rider he calls "Faithful and True." His eyes like blazing fire and on his head are many "crowns". He has a name written no one knows but Him. He is dressed in a robe dripped in blood and His name is the WORD OF GOD. He is accompanied by the armies of Heaven also riding on white horses and dressed in white, fine linen. Out of His mouth comes a sharp 2 edged sword to strike the nations. On His robe and on His thigh He has this name written: THE KING OF KINGS AND LORD LORDS.

John saw the Lamb and now he sees the Warrior King, The Lion of the Tribe of Judah riding on a white horse. It's a stark contrast to the last rider we saw on a white horse, conquering, bringing false peace worshipping a pretender to the throne, the Dragon. Here comes the True King, bringing an end to the judgement, bringing real peace as the real King. John notes many crowns. There are 5 specifically mentioned in scripture:

- 1) The _____ Crown-(2Timothy 2:4, Hebrews 12:1,2) for running and completing our spiritual race
- 2) The Crown of _____ -(1 Thessalonians 2:19-20) often called the soul winners crown, as Paul spoke of his converts as his crown or rejoicing
- 3) The Crown of _____ -(James 1:12) is the crown given to a faithful overcomer and is received by all martyrs who are executed
- 4) The Crown of _____ -(1 Peter 5:4) ministers who are found faithful in caring for, protecting and feeding the flock will receive this crown
- 5) The Crown of _____ -(2 Timothy 4:8, Revelation 11:18) those who have lived righteously on earth

Jesus will also wear the crown of royalty while we wear the crown of victory!

Next John sees an angel shouting in a loud voice to all the birds of the air, “Come gather together for the great supper of God”. This is not the marriage supper of the Lamb but something else altogether. Jesus is going to slay all who worship the beast, the dragon, and have taken the mark by his the words of his mouth. The Beast and the False Prophet are thrown into the Lake of Fire and the rest of the armies with them are killed and the birds finish them off.

Jesus wins...and so do you and I if we have that relationship with Him.