

Things to Come

#23 The Second Coming

Rev. 19:1-21

I. Introduction

The scene now shifts from the events on earth, to heaven. Everything before chapter 19, was a kind of introduction to this great event: The Second Coming of Christ.

Chapters 20-22 are the results or aftermath of that second coming.

II. Thanksgiving for the destruction of Babylon vs. 1-5

The four "Hallelujahs":

This term is a transliteration of the Greek term, which is also a transliteration of the Hebrew term. It means, "Praise the Lord." Notice the title used in Ps. 113-118- The Hallel. It was sung as part of the Passover feast.

There have been other times of praise in heaven (4:8-11, 5:9-14, 7:10-12, 11:15-18, 15:3-4, 16:5-6), but it reaches a crescendo here.

The reasons for heaven's joy:

1. Our salvation is complete.
2. There is finally full justice.
3. The rebellion is over.
4. God is definitely in control.
5. The celebration can occur (the Marriage Supper of the Lamb).

III. Thanksgiving for the marriage supper of the Lamb vs. 6-10

Contrast the prostitute (chapter 17) and her lovers with the Lamb and His chaste bride (Eph. 5:25-27).

Remember that a Jewish wedding consisted of the betrothal (II Cor. 11:2), the preparation (John 14:3-4), the procession (Matt. 25:1-13) and the wedding feast.

The bride is the church and likely the guests are the OT saints and those martyred during the tribulation.

IV. Christ's glorious return vs. 11-21

A. Note the OT allusions to the warrior-Messiah:

Isa. 11:3-4 He strikes down the nations

Ps. 2:9-He rules with an iron rod

- Isa. 63:1-6-Note His wrath
- B. His appearance
1. His "blazing eyes" or "flame of fire"-penetrating, powerful
 2. His names:
 - "the Word of God" (see also John 1:1, 14, I John 1:1)
 - "King of Kings and Lord of Lords"
 3. His blood dripped robe
 4. The "armies of heaven" :(those raptured, OT saints, and those martyred)
 5. The sword
- C. His victory (consider the details in 16:16) See also Zeph. 1:14-18
1. The "kings of the earth"- the ten horns of the beast
 2. The corpses on the battlefield are eaten by the birds. See Eze. 39:12
 3. The beast and the false prophet are thrown into the lake of fire.

Hades- Luke 16:23

Lake of Fire-

Ps. 55:23." But you, God, will bring down the wicked into the pit of decay; the bloodthirsty and deceitful will not live out half their days. But as for me, I trust in you."

II Peter 2:17. " These people are springs without water and mists driven by a storm. Blackest darkness is reserved for them."

Jude 13 " They are wild waves of the sea, foaming up their shame; wandering stars, for whom blackest darkness has been reserved forever."

V. So What?

Once again, these truths are both a sobering warning to the unbelievers. To them, the message is simple: repent!

II Peter 3:9. " The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

To the believers, the message is meant to stimulate us to godly living.

II Pet. 3:11 " Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives..."