

Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 3:20 PM
Subject: Last Nite's MOB Study on Revelation 19:11-21

"Then (when the 'times of the Gentiles' are fulfilled) they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near!" (Luke 21:27)

Remember last week's lesson, on Revelation 19:1-10? When John, the beloved disciple, still exiled on the Isle of Patmos and continuing to receive visions from God about "things to come," heard "something like a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven (apparently angels) shouting, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God who has judged the harlot (Babylon) and avenged the blood of His bondservants!" Then a second "hallelujah," shouted by the same multitude of angels, this time in response to "seeing smoke rising from Babylon forever and ever"! Signaling the end, for all time, of Babylon's influence and reign on the earth! Then the twenty-four elders and four living creatures chiming in with a third "hallelujah," adding an "Amen"! ("So be it!") And then, a voice coming from the very throne of God, urging "all His bond-servants" to give praise to God! And so, the resounding sound of a great multitude, "like the sound of many waters and peals of thunder," saying (you guessed it!) "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God reigns! Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride (the "church," we believe) has made herself ready"! Then, John was told to write, "Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb!"

And so, the world as we know will be coming to an end! And Christ will return as "King of Kings" and "Lord of Lords" to conquer Satan and the forces of evil (or, as MacArthur put it, "to take back the earth from the usurper") and set up His Millennial kingdom! What a day that will be!

And that was the essence of our lesson last night on Revelation 19:11-21!

John saw (in a vision) the "heavens opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it, called 'Faithful and True' in righteousness judging the nations, and waging war"! His name is called, "The Word of God"! And, in figurative language, he describes Christ with eyes as "a flame of fire" and "many diadems" (regal crowns) on His head; "clothed with a robe dipped in blood" (symbolizing the great battles He fought against sin, Satan, and death); and having another name "written on Him which no one knows except Himself" (transcending human understanding)! Wow!

The "armies" following Him, John also sees on "white horses, clothed in "fine, white linen" (but apparently with no weapons or armor, but as noncombatant supporters of the Messiah), as Christ, verse 15 says, "strikes down the nations with a "word," as symbolized by the "sharp sword that comes out from His mouth"! The Battle of Armageddon? This is it? Shortest war ever?

(The "Word"! The Word that brought the world, and all creation, into existence in an instance! The Word that was "with God...and was God...and was made flesh and dwelt among us..." The Word that is "quick and powerful, and sharper than a 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!")

Then John saw another angel "standing in the sun and crying with a loud voice" for all the birds (lots of them!) which fly in the mid-heaven (and especially, we're told, over Israel in this very day) to "assemble for the great supper of God" (in contrast with the marriage supper of the Lamb)!

And then, the beast (Antichrist) and the false prophet who "performed signs by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and worshipped his image were "seized and thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone. (The "eternal fire" which Jesus said, in Matthew 25:41, was prepared for the devil and his angels"!) And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh!" Yuk!

Christ described His coming back this way in Matthew 24:29-31: "But immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory. And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other!"

The Apostle Paul, in 2 Thessalonians 2:2, as "the day of the Lord"!

And remember the words of the "two men in white clothing" (probably angels) who stood by those seeing Christ ascend into heaven (in Acts 1:9-11): "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven!"

George Ladd, in his commentary on Revelation, wrote: "The Second Coming of Christ is an absolutely essential theme in New Testament theology. In His cross and resurrection, Christ won a great victory over the powers of evil; by His second coming, He will execute that victory! But, apart from His return to purge His creation of evil, redemption remains forever incomplete!"

Jesus is coming again! For the grand finale! Lift up your heads! Redemption is drawing near!

Hallelujah!

Lowell