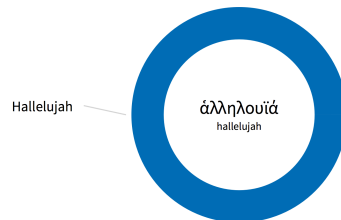


Revelation Part 14 | 8/13/17

- Summary of chapters 17 and 18
 - These chapters speak more in-depth to the destruction of the world system of the antichrist and its false religious system.
 - It deals with results from the final bowl judgments and also speaks to the final destruction after Christ's return.
 - Terms:
 - Prostitute/Harlot- The false religious system that denies the truth of God and draws the lost of the world away from Him. It is the religious system that brings worship to the antichrist and persecution upon the Christians.
 - In contrast Scripture portrays the true church as a pure virgin to Christ.
 - Babylon – This is the political and economic system of the antichrist that will ensnare the whole world.
 - The great city – The capital city of the antichrist's empire.
 - Revelation 17
 - **Read Revelation 17:1-6**
 - An angel shows John the great judgment that will come upon the false religious system and those who partake of it.
 - The prostitute (which is the false religious system) becomes integrated with the world leaders and they drink of the false teachings.
 - Many Christians have been killed because of their beliefs and this false system is responsible.
 - Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth's abominations.
 - A worthy description for this final world system and its purpose.
 - The beast (antichrist) will rise from the pit, but will be going to his destruction at the hands of Christ.
 - Those who do not have their names written in the lamb's book of life will follow and worship the antichrist.
 - Seven kings: The seven great world empires – Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome and the antichrist.
 - Ten kings: 10 future rulers who will be in power under the antichrist.
 - The Lamb who is Jesus Christ will conquer the kingdom of the antichrist and all the worldly rulers under him.
 - It was God ordained for the rulers of the world to turn over their power to the antichrist.
 - Revelation 18
 - Babylon will fall after the 7th bowl brings great devastation upon the world system put in place by the antichrist.
 - The lure of the antichrist and its sin will be a great temptation and the lost will be drunk on its pleasures of sin and disobedience.
 - God calls His children to remove themselves from the evil and blasphemous system.
 - The kings of the earth will mourn the loss of Babylon when the economic system of the antichrist is destroyed.
 - God's righteousness and justice will prevail.
 - **The world political and economic system of the antichrist has been defeated.**
 - At this time after the 7th bowl judgment the world political and economic system established by the antichrist has been defeated.

- The time is NOW for the return of Christ, for the battle of Armageddon, His defeat of Satan, the establishment of the millennial kingdom and God will bring in the new heavens and earth.
- Rejoicing in heaven as judgment has come upon the antichrist and his world system. | Revelation 19:1-5
 - **Read Revelation 19:1-5**
 - Heaven has seen God’s judgment upon the world and they are rejoicing.
 - Babylon and everything it stands for has been defeated.
 - Revelation 8:20
 - “Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, for God has given judgment for you against her!
 - God’s judgment has come and there is great celebration, because God had judged those who have persecuted the Christians, those who have blasphemed the Lord God.
 - Hallelujah
 - The word “Hallelujah” only appears 4 times in the New Testament, and all 4 of them appear in the first 6 verses of Revelation 19.
 - Hallelujah is a Hebrew word -



- Hallelujah means “Praise the Lord” or “Praise Yahweh”.
 - Hallelujah is translated into either “Praise the Lord” or “Praise Yahweh” in the Old Testament Psalms.
 - To say “Hallelujah” is to praise God as those Israelites did thousands of years ago, when they called upon the Lord their God.
- The marriage supper of the Lamb – Revelation 19:6-10
 - **Read Revelation 19:6-10**
 - Here we have a wonderful portrayal of our relationship with Jesus Christ.
 - **God has portrayed it as a marriage.**
 - As a husband takes his wife into marriage, a bond built on love and adoration, so is the marriage with the Christian and Jesus Christ.
 - The bride is the church and the husband is Jesus Christ.
 - As we see this marriage take place, the Bride is the church.
 - **The church today is also known as the “invisible” church.**
 - Those who are a part of the true church will come from many denominations, this not exclusive.
 - It is to those who have hearts that have true faith in Jesus Christ, those whom Christ has made righteous.
 - 2 Corinthians 11:2
 - “For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ.”
 - Ephesians 5:25-27

- “Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.”
 - This marriage “process” reflects 1st century Jewish wedding.
 - Jewish wedding consisted of 3-4 parts.
 - First there is the betrothal or engagement which is legally binding and can only be broken by a form of divorce. This at times took place when the couple were very young.
 - Then the public ceremony would take place where the groom would go to the bride’s house and claim her.
 - Then he would bring her to his house where the ceremony and subsequent wedding supper/feast would commence.
 - The marriage to the Lamb.
 - Christians today who are a part of the true “invisible” church are engaged to Christ in a permanent relationship.
 - They have the Holy Spirit and are in the family of God.
 - **However, we are not yet where we can meet Him in the Kingdom of God.**
 - At the rapture Christ will come for the church, to take them to His dwelling in heaven.
 - John 14:1-3
 - “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.”
 - **1 Thessalonians 4:14-18**
 - The wedding supper will take place at the establishment of the millennial kingdom and last through the 1000-year Kingdom Age.
 - The wedding guests who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.
 - There is a difference between the bride (the church) and those who are invited guests.
 - Some take the guests to be the believers who were saved prior to the establishment of the church, which includes all the Old Testament believers.
 - These guests will also be the tribulation saints, those who were saved after the rapture.
 - While different groups they all receive the same eternal benefits.
 - While there is distinction between these groups in the kingdom age they all have the same reality.
 - They all will live and reign with Christ in the millennial kingdom.
 - They will all be with Christ for an eternity in heaven.
 - **When you contemplate our “marriage” to Christ what does this mean to you? What does this mean about how he cares for us and how we see Him?**
- The 2nd Coming of Christ | Revelation 19:11-21
 - **Read Revelation 19:11-21**
 - We have come to the climax of Christ 2nd coming that has been foretold all throughout Scripture.

- Matthew 24:29-30
 - “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 heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.”
- Christ is returning to take back the earth from Satan.
 - Satan using the antichrist and false prophet has been ruling the earth. Spreading their false teachings and turning man from God.
 - But Christ has judged the world and destroyed this evil religious system, now he will come here to reclaim the earth and throw the antichrist and false prophet into the lake of fire.
 - At the pouring of the 6th bowl the way was made for the armies of the antichrist to make their way to Armageddon.
 - Revelation 16:13-16
 - The time is now where the great (but lopsided) battle will take place between Christ and the heavenly armies, and the antichrist and his earthly army.
- **This is a time of judgment, a time of war**
 - Unlike when Christ met His children in the air at the rapture to bring them to heaven, here He is coming down to earth ready for battle.
 - He has come to give His righteous judgment.
- The backdrop for His return was the final bowl judgments.
 - Christ's return will come directly after the final bowl judgment.
- **Christ 2nd coming contrasts that of His first.**
 - When Christ first came it was not as a king, but as a lowly servant.
 - He appeared weak from an earthly perspective while He was here on earth.
 - But now He is coming as a powerful King riding His white horse for battle.
 - He will not portray weakness, but instead power.
 - **What do you think about the differences between His first and 2nd coming? What does this tell us?**
- Christ's physical description
 - Eyes are like flames of fire.
 - This reminds us that no one can escape or hide from Him.
 - Hebrews 4:13
 - “And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him whom we must give account.”
 - He will be wearing many crowns.
 - He is called “The Word of God”
 - Only John refers to Christ as “The Word” and it is again used here.
 - The unknown name.
 - Even in heaven there are mysterious, as He has a name written that only He knows.
 - He will wear a robe that is dipped in blood.
 - Either to symbolize what is to come, or showing His prior battles against Satan and sin.
 - On His robe and thigh, he has the name written “King of kings and Lord of lords.”
 - **This title shows His absolute sovereignty, there is NO ONE greater than He.**
 - 1 Timothy 6:14-16

- “to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will display at the proper time he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be the honor and eternal dominion. Amen.”
 - There are similar Old Testament references to God.
 - Daniel 2:47
 - Deuteronomy 10:17
- The armies of heaven
 - The armies of heaven will consist of not only the heavenly angels, but also the saints.
 - The angels:
 - Matthew 25:31
 - “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne.
 - 2 Thessalonians 1:7
 - “and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels.”
 - The saints (the redeemed) will also be present with Christ at His return, though they will not be here to fight.
 - They are arrayed in fine linen, white and pure which is the description of the “bride” in verse 8.
 - They maybe the “chosen and faithful” in Revelation 17:14
 - Revelation 17:14
 - “They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.”
 - 1 Thessalonians 3:13
 - “so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.”
 - 1 Thessalonians 1:10
 - “when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed.”
 - Jude 14-15 also refers to the same scene where “Holy ones” could mean both angels and saints.
 - Jude 14-15
 - They will be present and follow Christ into battle, but will not have to battle as Christ has come to take on this army Himself.
 - The saints will return to reign with Christ for the 1000 years.
 - 2 Timothy 2:12
 - **“if we endure we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us;”**
- Christ conquers with the sword from His mouth.
 - The battle is quite short, there is not a long grueling battle that rages for hours or days. There is just Jesus Christ and the word from His mouth that strikes down the nations.
 - Hebrews 4:12

- “For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”
 - The harvest spoken previously
 - Revelation 14:18-20
 - **Jesus doesn’t need the army, Jesus doesn’t need the angels to fight for Him. He is God and has destroyed those who have made war against Him.**
- Christ defeats the army of men, antichrist and false prophet, who are then thrown into the lake of fire.
 - The battle was over before it even began.
 - An angel called to the birds to gather, because Christ was going to decimate the armies that gathered against Him.
 - The beast (antichrist) and the false prophet, were defeated and thrown into the lake of fire.
 - 2 Thessalonians 2:8
 - “And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming.”
 - The lake of fire is the eternal place where Satan and all those whose names are not written in the Lambs Book of Life will reside.
 - The antichrist and the false prophet will be the first to reside there.
 - This is different than Hell, which is obviously a place of torment and misery. But a time of judgment will occur at the Great White Throne where they too will be sent into the Lake of fire.
 - Revelation 20:15
 - “And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”
 - This is also Satan’s final resting place after the 1000-year rule of Christ on earth.
 - Revelation 20:10
 - “and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.”
 - After the leaders of the rebellious army against Christ are thrown into the fire, the rest are slain.