

2-08-26 He Reigns: “Here Comes the King!”

Week 13

Text: Revelation 19-20

Big Idea: Revelation 19–20 shows us the climax of God’s plan for history: Christ returns in glory, defeats evil, reigns in righteousness, judges the wicked, and ushers in His eternal kingdom.

Let’s be real... We love gentle Jesus, don’t we? The baby Jesus in the manger?

Sunday school Jesus with the lamb over His shoulders?

Even “turn the other cheek” Jesus?

But what do we do with warrior Jesus?

The Jesus who splits the sky, rides a warhorse, swings a sword, tramples enemies, and locks Satan up? The tatted-out Jesus?!

You won’t find that Jesus on a Hallmark card.

You won’t hear this version of Jesus quoted in therapy sessions.

But **Revelation 19–20** reminds us: Jesus isn’t just Savior - He’s King, Judge, and Conqueror.

He came the first time in weakness...But He’s coming again in power.

He came first with a crown of thorns...But He’s coming back with many crowns.

This is the moment the world said would never happen.

But every mocker, every demon, every false king will finally see the sky open... and Christ return.

I. The Celebration of Heaven – The Marriage and the March

Revelation 19:1–10

A. The Hallelujah Chorus of Heaven (vv. 1–5)

- Read verses 1-5.
- "Alleluia" = Praise Yahweh (used only in this chapter in the NT — 4 times!)
- Praise for His justice, judgment on Babylon, and righteousness.

John MacArthur: *“Heaven celebrates what earth mourns—the collapse of man’s rebellion.”*

B. The Marriage Supper of the Lamb (vv. 6–10)

- **Read verses 6-10.**
- Bride = Church (cf. Eph. 5:25–27).
- The Church has been raptured, rewarded (Judgment Seat of Christ), and is now presented in glory.
- Contrast: While the world parties in Babylon, we’re dining with the Bridegroom.

Warren Wiersbe: “*Heaven is not a courtroom—it’s a wedding feast. But only for the redeemed.*”

Application:

Are you living like a bride preparing for a wedding—or like a stranger passing time in Babylon?

II. The Second Coming of Christ – The Rider on the White Horse

Revelation 19:11–21

A. The Sky Splits – Christ Returns in Glory (v. 11)

- **Read verse 11.**
- White horse = victory.
- **“Faithful and True”** – He is everything earth’s rulers weren’t.

J. Vernon McGee: “*At His first coming, He came to redeem. At His second, He comes to reign.*”

B. Description of the Warrior-King (vv. 12–16)

- Eyes of fire = omniscience.
- Many crowns = ultimate authority.
- Robe dipped in blood = either His own (**Isaiah 63**) or His enemies.
- Name: **“Word of God”** (cf. John 1:1), **“King of Kings and Lord of Lords”**

Spurgeon: “*He is not coming to negotiate—He is coming to conquer.*”

C. Final Battle: Armageddon (vv. 17–21)

- **Read verses 17-21.**
- Antichrist and False Prophet captured alive and cast into the lake of fire.
- The rest are slain by the sword from Christ’s mouth.

Walvoord: “*This battle will not be fought—it will be spoken. Jesus wins with a word.*”

Application:

You either bow to the Lamb who was slain or fall before the Lion who roars.

When the King returns, will you be riding with Him—or running from Him?

III. The Millennium – The Thousand-Year Reign of Christ

Revelation 20:1–6.

A. Satan Is Bound for 1,000 Years (vv. 1–3)

- **Read verses 1-4.**
- Literal thousand years (6 times mentioned for emphasis)
- Christ returns before the Millennium (Premillennialism)

John Walvoord: *“The binding of Satan is the only explanation for true peace on earth.”*

B. Christ Reigns with the Saints (vv. 4–6)

- **Read verses 4-6.**
- **“They lived and reigned with Christ...”** – resurrected believers reigning on the earth
- This includes tribulation martyrs and the Church, glorified and reigning.

Application:

We’re not just saved to escape hell... we’re saved to reign with Christ.

IV. The Final Rebellion – Evil’s Last Breath

Revelation 20:7–10

A. Satan’s Final Deception (vv. 7–9)

- **Read verses 7-9.**
- After 1,000 years of peace, human hearts still rebel when given the chance.
- Proves: Sin is not caused by environment... but by nature.

MacArthur: *“Even a perfect world can’t change a sinful heart without the gospel.”*

B. Fire from Heaven – God Ends It Swiftly

- **Read verse 10.**
- No drawn-out war—just fire.
- Satan is finally, eternally cast into the Lake of Fire (**v. 10**)

Application:

Are you dealing with sin like it’s something to manage or something to destroy?

Even a 1,000-year peace won’t change the heart, but grace still can today.

V. The Great White Throne – The Final Judgment

Revelation 20:11–15.

A. The Judge Sits – No More Excuses

- **Read verses 11-15.**
- Heaven and earth flee—nowhere to hide (v. 11).
- Books opened = perfect record of every deed, thought, motive.
- Another book = The Book of Life.

B. Degrees of Punishment and One Standard of Salvation

- Judgment is by work, but salvation is by grace.
- If your name is not in the Book of Life, you are cast into Lake of Fire.

A.W. Tozer: *“The most sobering reality in the world today is that people are dying and going to hell.”*

Final application:

1. You Don’t Get to Pick Which Jesus You Follow

- **Revelation 19** destroys the idea of a “customized Christ.”
- Many people love Jesus as: helper, comforter, therapist, and life coach.
- But Revelation shows Him also as: King, Judge, Conqueror.
- If you only follow the parts of Jesus you like, you’re not following Jesus, you’re following yourself.
- The same Jesus who forgives also rules.
- The same Jesus who saves also judges.

2. How You Live Now Shows What You Believe About His Return

- Heaven is celebrating because the wedding is coming and the King is arriving.
- Brides prepare. Guests anticipate. Only the unaware act casually.
- Are you living like someone preparing for a wedding...
- or killing time in Babylon like nothing eternal is coming?
- Your priorities reveal whether you believe Jesus is returning, or just a doctrine you agree with.

3. Jesus Will Not Negotiate with the Things You Refuse to Surrender

- At Armageddon, Christ doesn’t debate, compromise, or bargain.
- He speaks, and it’s over.
- Sin you excuse now will be confronted later.
- Pride you protect now will be crushed later.

- Allegiance you delay now will be demanded later.
- The safest place to bow is now, not later.
- You either bow to the Lamb who was slain, or you fall before the Lion who roars.

4. You Were Saved for More Than Survival

- **Revelation 20** makes this clear: believers don't just escape judgment, they reign.
- Many Christians live like spiritual refugees instead of future rulers: fearful, passive, disengaged, and hiding from culture.
- We weren't saved just to avoid hell, you were saved to reflect Christ's authority, holiness, and truth now.
- If you reign with Him then, you should represent Him now.

5. Peace Without Heart Change Still Ends in Rebellion

- After 1,000 perfect years, humanity still rebels when Satan is released.
- Better laws don't fix the heart.
- Better environments don't cure sin.
- Comfort doesn't produce holiness.
- We must stop managing sin and start mortifying it.
- If grace hasn't changed your heart, comfort won't either.

6. The Devil's End Is Certain, But Your Choices Still Matter

- Satan's defeat is final, fast, and irreversible.
- Some believers live like Satan is winning paralyzed by fear, obsessed with darkness and shrinking back instead of standing firm.
- You don't fight for victory... you live from it.
- The devil is on borrowed time. We must live like you know who wins.

7. There Is a Court Appointment You Will Not Miss

- **Revelation 20** reminds us: everyone will stand before Christ.
- Reputation won't matter.
- Excuses won't work.
- Comparisons won't help.
- If your name is in the Book of Life, you stand forgiven.
- If not, no amount of good intentions will save you.
- Grace writes your name now.... or judgment reads your record later.

8. Delayed Decisions Are Still Decisions

- Revelation ends with finality. No appeal. No extensions.
- Most people don't reject Jesus, they postpone Him.
- Putting off surrender is not neutrality, it's refusal.
- We don't get infinite chances. We are getting mercy now.

9. The Return of Christ Should Make Us Urgent, Not Arrogant

- Heaven rejoices, but the Church is called to warn.
- If judgment is real, silence is not loving.
- If grace is real, urgency is required.
- If we truly believe **Revelation 19–20** is coming, casual Christianity should be impossible.
- Truth that isn't shared becomes truth that condemns.

When the sky splits and Jesus returns, will you recognize Him as Savior... or meet Him as Judge?

You may escape earthly courtrooms, but you won't miss this one.

God doesn't grade on a curve, only the blood of Jesus can blot out your record.

Final Challenge:

He came once to save. He's coming again to reign. And after that, there will be no more appeals.

Jesus doesn't return to take sides...He returns to take over.

The question is:

Will you be a guest at the wedding or a corpse on the battlefield?

Will you reign with Him—or face Him as Judge?

To the not yet believer: Judgment is coming, but grace is still available. Don't gamble with your soul.

To the believer: You're not called to hide—you're called to prepare, preach, and reign.

To the church: If we believe this is coming, we should live like tomorrow isn't promised, because prophetically, it's not.

Prayer