

“And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying 'Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready'” – Revelation 19:6-7

Overview:

The focus of this section of Revelation is the end of the Great Tribulation and the “Bride of Christ” prepared for the coming of Jesus Christ our Lord and King. These verses mark the transition from the Great Tribulation to the second coming and this marks the close of the third major interlude in the book of Revelation. Like so many other sections of Revelation, these verses are filled with worship to God.

The great harlot who corrupted the earth has been judged. Babylon has been destroyed and the Lord God Omnipotent reigns. God's judgments are true and righteous and this causes all of heaven to erupt in worship. The marriage of the Lamb has come and the bride of Christ, the church, has made herself ready.

References:

Rev 19:1 – After these things – marks the closing of the 3rd major interlude in Revelation

- Rev 7 – 1st Interlude after the Seal judgments (Rev 6)
- Rev 10-15 – 2nd Interlude after the Trumpet judgments (Rev 8-9)
- Rev 17-19:10 – 3rd Interlude after the Bowl judgments (Rev 16)

Rev 19:1 – Great multitude – Saints from the Tribulation – Rev 7:9, 14

Rev 19:3 – Alleluia – the answer to their prayer – Rev 6:10

Rev 19:3 – Her (Babylon's) smoke rises up – Psalm 104:35

Rev 19:3 – Forever and ever – Mark 9:44-48

Rev 19:7 – Three aspects of the coming of Jesus

- It will be like a thief in the night – Matthew 24:36, 43-44
- Every eye will see Him – Rev 1:7
- Every person is called to consider this truth
 - Some will scoff at this idea – 2 Peter 3:4
 - Those who are His are called to be ready – 2 Peter 3:11-14, 1 John 2:28-29, 1 John 3:2-3

Rev 19:7 – Seeing His coming in light of marriage

- Jesus referred to Himself as the bridegroom – Mark 2:19-20
- John the Baptist called Jesus the bridegroom – John 3:29
- The church is His bride – 2 Corinthians 11:2, Ephesians 5:25-27
- Marriage in Jesus' day had three parts and each is seen in the coming of Jesus
 - Parents agree upon a marriage contract – This happens when we trust in Christ for salvation – Philippians 1:6
 - When old enough, groom would make a home for his bride and then escorts her to his home – John 14:1-2
 - Occurs before the tribulation when Jesus comes for the church – 1 Thessalonians 4:15, 1 Corinthians 15:51-52
 - A strong argument for placing this coming before the 7 years of tribulation – 1 Thessalonians 5:9-10
 - Setting of the parable of the 10 virgins – Matthew 25:1-13
- After the marriage there would be a marriage supper - John 2:1-12

Questions:

- * When you think of God's coming judgments, what emotions do you feel? What actions do you take?
- * What does it mean in verse 7, “His wife has made herself ready”?
- * Ask the Holy Spirit to do the work in your life to be ready for marriage supper of the Lamb.

Additional Study:

Rev 19:1

- * After these things (*meta tauta*) – marks a major division in the book of Revelation
 - The transition from the Great Tribulation to the 2nd coming
 - The closing of the 3rd major interlude in Revelation

Rev 19:1

- * Alleluia
 - Hallel – To praise Jah
 - Yahweh – Praise the Lord

Rev 19:6

- * For the Lord God Omnipotent (*pantokrator*)
 - panta – all
 - krator – powerful