



**A BIBLICAL VIEW OF THE END TIMES**  
**Week 76: The Second Coming of Jesus Christ, Part 1**  
**February 4, 2024**  
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**Review:**

- A. The last few weeks we have moved rather rapidly through a series of events associated with the very end of the Seven-year Tribulation.
  - B. Chiefly, these have been The Bowl Judgments of **Revelation Ch. 16**, the last couple of which are specific in getting the world's population ready for the great Battle of Armageddon.
  - C. The kings of the east have been supernaturally enabled to cross over the Euphrates River and go west from their various points of origin.
  - D. A demonically inspired and supernaturally supported message has gone out to all the rulers of the world by this point, and everyone has been gathered "*...for the battle on the great day of God Almighty*" (**Cf. Revelation 16:14**).
  - E. Then, in **Chapters 17 and 18**, God's Word gives us a divine pause to look back at the violent and sudden end of the false global religious system that occurs at the halfway point of the Tribulation.
  - F. This is the same point where the antichrist overthrows, with the help of his 10 'kings,' the headquarters of Rome. A huge disruption to the world's economy also happens with this event as we see detailed in **Revelation Ch. 18**.
  - G. Rome is the seat of power of this global false religious system which emerged and grew rapidly in power and corruption after The Rapture.
  - H. As we learned, it is likely the next evolution of what today we know as 'The Catholic Church.' At this future point in time, it will embrace every occultic and genocidal element that its prior history has only hinted at by comparison.
  - I. And, as we know from the details of **Revelation Ch. 13**, as well as some commentary from **Daniel Ch. 9**, this is also the juncture where the antichrist's Mark of the Beast is established, and he demands self-worship.
  - J. All that is behind us now, and John returns once again to a more chronologically based sequence of events in **Revelation Ch. 19**.
  - K. In terms of the timeline, this brings us now to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.
- I. The first part of **Revelation Ch. 19** records the scene in heaven that immediately precedes Jesus Christ's Second Advent:
- A. Representatives of the Church (the 24 Elders), and the angelic masses give great praise and song to Jesus Christ.
  - B. The roar of adulation is described as "*the sound of many waters,*" and "*the sound of mighty thunderings.*"
  - C. There is the announcement that "*the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.*" This is after the seven-year Tribulation, and so it conforms to the seven-day ritual of Jewish weddings.

- D. The Bride of Christ, which you and I are part of, is *“arrayed in fine linen clean and bright.”* We will see this emphasized once more a bit later.
- E. John is overcome at everything he is seeing and instructed to record, and in a very human-like shortcoming, he *“fell at the feet of the angel who is accompanying him at this point in order to worship him” (Cf. vs. 10)*
- F. The angel quickly instructs John *“Do not do that,”* and he reminds John that he is a fellow servant with John.
- G. The angel then gives John a piece of information which many in the church today would be wise to read, consider, and pray over. The angel says at the end of **vs. 10**, *“for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”*
- H. We should not quickly gloss over this important statement, for several points are made here:
1. God’s prophetic Word is, at its core, all about the testimony of Jesus Christ.
  2. Said another way: the full person and work of Jesus Christ is embodied just as much in the study of eschatology (the study of end times doctrines) as it is about all that Jesus was and did at His first coming.
  3. Many church leaders today, as we learned in an important special lesson a few weeks ago, are nearly exclusively focused on the person and work of Jesus Christ at His first coming.
  4. They are trapped in looking into past events, even as they dilute and even ridicule future events. They do not recognize the present *“times and seasons”* because they are preoccupied with the past and with what has already happened.
  5. This is the exact posture of the Pharisees and religious leaders had of Jesus’ first time on earth. Jesus criticized them for this posture.
  6. The Pharisees and other religious leaders of Jesus’ time were obsessed with Jesus being a political and military leader.
  7. They wanted a powerful King, not a humble suffering servant. Therefore, they missed Jesus Christ.
  8. Conversely, the religious leaders of our present time are obsessed with Jesus being a humble suffering servant. It’s basically all they talk about. They have flipped the script the other way around and missed the mark.
  9. They don’t want to focus on the fact that Jesus is returning as a Powerful King. Many of them are uncomfortable with Jesus returning as a bloodied warrior, as one who will rule with a rod of iron and will smash like shards of pottery all the workers of iniquity and injustice.
  10. They’ve repeated the same mistake that past religious leaders have made. Because they are not recognizing the present *“times and seasons”* as they ought to, they are in great danger of missing Jesus once more.
  11. And so, the angel tells John, *“...the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”* The bottom line is we need to diligently study the one third of God’s Word that is prophetic in nature if we are claiming, *“It’s all about Jesus.”*
  12. We cannot fully understand the person and work of Jesus Christ if we ignore a large part of what the Bible has to say about Him.

II. All that brings us to **Revelation 19:11+** where the tapestry of events concerning Jesus Christ's Second Advent are laid out. I'll go quickly verse-by-verse here to take in the whole scene:

A. **Vs. 11** –

1. John sees "*heaven standing open.*" This is another point where the supernatural corridor between earth and heaven is opened up.
  - a. In **Revelation 4:1**, John saw a "*door standing open in heaven,*" and he heard a voice saying, "*Come up here.*"
  - b. This is a type of the Rapture; we studied that. Following the conclusion of the church age which was described in **Revelation Chapters 2 and 3**. John ascends to heaven, and key to that event is a "*door standing open in heaven.*"
  - c. Now, in **Revelation 19:11**, John once more describes "*heaven standing open.*" Here is another moment when that "supernatural corridor" between earth and heaven is opened up.
  - d. But this time, nobody is going up. That's already happened. The saints of God were raptured before, and they went up from earth to heaven. This time, Jesus is coming down from heaven to earth, and we're coming with Him.
2. Recall: Just before this point, Jesus has already physically been on earth to rescue those faithful Jews who were sequestered away in Bozrah, in Petra, in Jordan.)
  - a. He fought as a lone warrior king to release them. Jesus slayed His enemies and then led that faithful remnant out.
  - b. He made His way to Jerusalem where He also fought. He has become soaked in blood as a result of all this fighting (so yes, it's real combat). We've studied this sequence of events already, and both myself, and Dr. Dan Starcevich, have gone over these details.
  - c. Somewhere in this sequence, we don't exactly know how or when, Jesus "goes airborne." He goes to heaven, and gathers His Bride, and prepares to return to earth in the sight of everyone.
  - d. He returns riding on a white horse. The first time He came, He rode on a donkey. Not this time! Now He is returning for battle, and He's riding a battle horse.
  - e. This is what we are seeing here in **vs. 11**. Jesus is getting ready to fight the last stage of this military campaign, the Battle of Armageddon.
  - f. As Dr. Dan Starcevich detailed for us, and as Bill Salus also describes it, the Battle of Armageddon is a singular event within a larger military campaign. It is a specific battle, the last one, within a larger conflict.
  - g. Again, here in **vs. 11**, Jesus Christ is returning, now in full view of everyone who is left alive on planet earth.
3. This passage describes a scene which is mentioned elsewhere in Scripture.

- a. **(Cf. Revelation 1:7;)** – This verse tells of the worldwide audience this event will have. Nobody will miss this occasion. Everyone will see it.
- b. **(Cf. Matthew 24:29-31;)** – This verse is the source of the one we read just before in **Revelation 1:7**, and we see several things that will happen at this moment when “*heaven is standing open*” and Jesus returns:
  - First, everyone will witness this event. It is visible to all.
  - Second, “*all the nations of the earth will mourn.*” The gig is up. Their corruption has exposed them. They are now going to be held accountable. They cannot escape God’s wrath and justice, and they know it and they mourn.
  - Third, a sign or signal will appear IN THE SKY. Here in Matthew it is “the sign of the Son of Man.”
    - There is speculation as to what exactly this sign is. We don’t know if it’s something special, but I think the most direct explanation is simply that people will see Jesus Himself coming.
    - It does not matter where on the globe one will be at that moment, they will see Jesus returning.
  - Fourth, the angels are sent out on a mission to “*gather His elect from the four winds.*” There are several things we need to talk about here:
    - This is a supernatural gathering, a translocation, of all the Jewish and Gentile believers.
    - There are not many left by this point, as we’ve already learned. However, those that are alive and still remain (despite all the odds of the Tribulation) will be gathered by the angels from throughout the earth.
    - After enduring the Tribulation, imagine how the elect will feel when they see their King and are gathered to Him by His angels.
    - I personally think this is the moment the 144,000 Jewish evangelists from all over the earth will be supernaturally gathered. We see in **Revelation 14:1** that these individuals will appear together, at some point, on Mount Zion, in Israel on the Holy Mountain.

**NOTE:** It is not just the righteous who are gathered supernaturally at this point, because we read in **Matthew 13:40-43** that the unrighteous will also be supernaturally gathered at this time for judgment.

**Joel 3:2** gives us a bit more information about this event of gathering the unrighteous. It reads:

*“I will gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. There I will put them on trial for what they did to my inheritance, my people Israel, because they scattered my people*

*among the nations and divided up my land. They cast lots for My people; they bartered a boy for a prostitute and sold a girl for wine to drink....”*

- III. Question: What can we conclude here from all this information?
- A. First: Jesus Christ’s Second Coming is accompanied in its early stages: by an angelic mission to gather everyone on earth into one place: Israel. Specifically, that location in Israel appears to be the Valley of Jehoshaphat which lies between Jerusalem and the Mount of Olives.
  - B. Second: The righteous will be gathered together here in this location to reboot the earth’s population in preparation for The Millennial Kingdom (more on this later).
  - C. Third: Jesus will then judge the unrighteous for their lack of faith. That lack of faith is evidenced by how they regarded Israel, and the Jews. More specifically, Jesus will judge them for how they treated the Jews and tried to divide up the land of Israel.
    - 1. NOTE: There is NO place in the Christian faith for an improper view of Israel. There is NO place in the Christian faith for replacement theology, the Boycott-Divestment-Sanctions Movement against Israel, or a two-state solution, etc.
    - 2. In fact, **Joel 3:2** makes it plain that these views are inconsistent with true faith, for such postures and attitudes will condemn these people.
    - 3. This should be a very sobering wake-up call for all the churches, “Christian” leaders, and so-called “believers” today which are conforming to the woke attitudes of the left, which are displaying thinly-veiled antisemitisms, and are marching in support of the Palestinians, and are against Israel.
    - 4. Again, there is NO place for these ideas in the heart of the true believer. The Bible is quite clear. The last part of **Revelation 19:11** says Jesus will “*judge with justice,*” and part of that justice is calling out a wrong view of Israel and the Jews.
    - 5. Moving on...
  - D. **Vss. 12 & 13** – Here are some descriptions provided to us of Jesus Christ at His physical Second Coming:
    - 1. “*His eyes are like blazing fire*” – Jesus’ eyes here match the description which John saw in his first vision of the glorified Christ and how He is described in the letter to the church at Thyatira (**Cf. Revelation 1:14,2:18**).
      - a. Jesus’ gaze is absolutely piercing and impossible to hide from. He is wrathful, and His eyes show this.
    - 2. “*On His head are many crowns*” – This is a reminder that we’re not looking back anymore; we’re looking forward.
      - a. There is no more a Crown of Thorns. That was before. That part of being a suffering servant is over. It is past.
      - b. He is now returning as the final and ultimate ruler. He is crowned with glory and honor.
      - c. Dr. John MacArthur suggests the many crowns are an indication of the crowns He will gather when He vanquishes the kings of

the earth. The word “many” indicates His collecting of all rulers’ crowns, showing He alone is the sovereign ruler of the earth.

- d. Wearing the crown of a vanquished king was customary in the ancient world. After defeating the Ammonites, we see in **2 Samuel 12:30** that David “*took the crown of their king from his head . . . and it was placed on his own head.*”
  - e. So here, in effect, Jesus is wearing the crowns of all the vanquished kings of the earth. He alone is the final and sovereign ruler.
3. “*He has a name written on Him that no one knows but He himself.*” Unlike various commentators that will try to tell you what this name is, I’m just going to stick with the text. No one knows it, but Jesus.
  4. “*He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood*” – Again, I’m repeating myself, but the point is an important one: We know from our previous lessons that this is an indication of the battles He has just previously fought.
    - a. Isaiah asks in his vision that is recorded in **Isaiah 63:1**, “*Who is this coming from Edom, from Bozrah, with his garments stained crimson?*”
      - As we’ve already learned, Jesus physically fights on behalf of the righteous Jewish remnant that are hidden away in Petra.
      - As Jesus states in **Isaiah 63:3**, “*...their blood spattered my garments and I stained all my clothing.*”
      - This is the same clothing, the same robe, He is wearing now in this scene as He descends from heaven prepared to fight once more. His garments are already bloody from previous combat.
      - NOTE: Many Christians are uncomfortable with this notion of Jesus Christ actually fighting and killing His enemies.
      - They don’t want to discuss it. They’d much rather talk about Him being a baby in a manger, or hanging on a cross.
      - However, this is how Jesus is returning, as a warrior king. It’s why His eyes are blazing like fire, etc.
  5. **Vs. 14:** Horses here are likely not symbolic, but actual. I don’t understand all the roles animals might play in the heavens, but here is an indication that some role exists.
    - a. We will all be skilled at horsemanship at some future point.
    - b. We are part of the armies of heaven. NOTE: We are “*following Him;*” we are not going to engage in the battle, but we will see it fought.
    - c. We will be “*dressed in fine linen, white and clean.*” This gets back to the Bride of Christ issues we mentioned at the start of this lesson. This is our attire.
  6. **Vss. 15 and 16** – Here, more descriptions of Jesus Christ are given to us: “*Out of His mouth comes a sharp sword, etc.*” – With the Battle of Armageddon specifically

in view, it appears that Jesus Christ will defeat His enemies there with a simple spoken word, so the sword coming out of His mouth is probably a reference to this.

- a. **(Cf. 2 Thessalonians 2:8)** says, *“And then the lawless one (this is the antichrist) will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming.”*
  - b. It may not be that the ‘entire’ Battle of Armageddon is combat-free, but we do know that parts of that conflict are won by His spoken word.
7. *“He will rule the nations with an iron scepter.”* This is the same as the *“rod of iron”* noted in other places in Scripture.
- a. Much could be said here, but suffice it to say this is an indication of the final and unchallenged rule of Jesus Christ. This scepter or rod theme shows up multiple times in the prophetic Scriptures.
  - b. Jesus’ justice will be absolute. His authority will be unquestioned. There will be no more fraud, no more corruption, and no more injustice. His reign will be righteous and firm.
8. *“He treads the winepress of His fury....etc.”* – Jesus is returning in wrath. Maybe not the way you tend to see Him, but this will be His time for vengeance.
- a. This is where we get that line in The Battle Hymn of the Republic, *“He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored....”*
  - b. This is similar language and descriptions given to how Jesus Christ will fight alone when He frees that faithful remnant who are in Petra.
9. Lastly, *“On His robe and on His thigh, He has this name written: King of kings, and Lord of lords.”*
- a. This title sets Jesus Christ apart from ALL other rulers from ALL other ages.
  - b. He alone is supreme, He alone is omnipotent, and He alone is worthy. He is matchless!
  - c. This is the time when all the nations of the world will recognize Jesus Christ as the final and ultimate ruler.
  - d. And, this is the moment when it is physically realized that, *“The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!” (Cf. Revelation 11:15)*