

March 8, 2025

# West Valley End-Time Ministries Newsletter

## "The Robe and the Ring"

When Sammy and I got married, we, like most couples, exchanged rings. After the pastor had reminded us of the joys and obligations of marriage, we said our vows to each other — vows which we had written, and vows which we have since read to one another over the years since that day. Then the pastor prayed a blessing upon our marriage, and we sealed our union by placing on each others' fingers the rings you see in this picture. Those rings still represent a perpetual union between us, even after these many years.



In our prophecy segment today, we study about a marriage that is soon to be consummated between Christ and His Bride, the Church.

"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." And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteousness of the saints. Revelation 19:7, 8.

At this wedding, the bride will be wearing a "wedding gown" made of the finest linen, a gift of the Groom. Isaiah says of this occasion, "I will greatly rejoice in the LORD...for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness" Isaiah 61:10. And in the parable Jesus told of this wedding soon to take place (Matthew 22:2), just one person who was removed from the wedding. It was a man who came in wearing his own filthy clothing of self-righteousness. Only those wearing the robe of Christ's righteousness will allowed in to be a part of the marriage supper soon to be celebrated. That's the Gospel!

And what of the "ring" the bride will be wearing in this story? As the wedding ring is the outward symbol which forever seals the union of a man and a woman, so there is a "sign" that symbolizes our union with Christ. Note the language of Scripture:

Hallow My **Sabbaths**, and they will be a **sign** between Me and you, that you may know that I am the LORD your God. Ezekiel 20:20.

Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the **Sabbath**, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant. It is a **sign** [Heb: *distinguishing mark*] between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed. Exodus 31:16, 17.

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Pastor Darrell Chilson

***"We are living in the season of Christ's return."***

***Jesus said, "Watch and be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."***

***The mission of West Valley Ministries is to help Christ's followers recognize the signs of His approaching return and be prepared for that Great Day.***



At the end of time, at the “hour of His judgment,” there are two themes on the lips of the special messengers of God as they call God’s people out of Babylon and into the camp of the saved. Revelation 14:6, 7:

- 1) “The everlasting Gospel” which, when embraced by faith, saves the believer and clothes him with a perfect **robe** of righteousness — “the fine linen of the righteousness of Christ” **alone**, and
- 2) The call to “**worship** Him who made the heaven and the earth, the sea and the springs of water” — a reference to the **seventh-day Sabbath**, observed by the bride as a seal of her union with Christ!

In contrast, and during the same period of time, there will be another “woman” — a “harlot wearing purple and scarlet, adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, and having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication, and drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus” Revelation 17:4, 6. She will have on her lips:

- 1) A **false gospel** — corrupted by a **false righteousness**, and
- 2) A **false Sabbath** — the symbol of her allegiance, and proof of her authority, having been able to “change” the Law of God and have the world acknowledge her authority and embrace her false doctrine

Such is the testimony of Scripture, confirmed by the history of the Christian faith from its beginnings. Throughout the centuries, Satan has been seeking to use the pride and glory of man, the riches of the world, and the tool of deception to falsify and corrupt Christianity so that while “appearing as an angel of light,” he sweeps a wicked world with him to destruction.

In Him,

PC



## “REVELATION IN REVIEW” — Part 16

### Revelation 19

Revelation 19 is a concluding chapter of Revelation – an account of two women and their destiny (The Harlot and the Bride), and an account of the coming of the Warrior Christ as He comes to rescue His Bride and destroy the evil agents who violated her and murdered her children. There is exultation, celebration, drama and vengeance in this chapter – all of it!

And for those who have an interest in noting the chiastic form of this chapter, so characteristic of divine inspiration, I submit the following illustration:

#### **CHIASTIC STRUCTURE OF REVELATION 19**

**Judgment of the Harlot – False Church – Revelation 19:1-5**

**Vindication of the Bride – True Church – Revelation 19:6-10**

**Victory of the Lamb – Christ – Revelation 19:11-16**

**Defeat of the Antichrist – Revelation 19:17-21**

As an introduction to this commentary of Revelation 19, I wish to quote a Bible scholar, commentator and man of God with whom I had an acquaintance many years ago. He now rests in “sleep” as he awaits his eternal inheritance. This is how he introduces his commentary on Revelation 19:

This is the chapter of the two suppers – the marriage supper of the Lamb, and the supper of the birds upon the slain at earth’s final battle. It is also the chapter of the wedding song of praise, in contrast to the funeral dirge in chapter 18. Chapter 19 revolves around the true church, and its union with Christ her heavenly spouse, while the previous chapter speaks of the fate of the false church, and its separation from Him. Crisis!, Desmond Ford, pg. 688.

#### **Heaven Exults Over the Judgment of Babylon – Revelation 19:1-5**


This first portion of the chapter can be summarized in the following two verses – praise to God for the judgment of the “great harlot.”

After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God! "For true and righteous are His judgments, because **He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her.**" Revelation 19:1, 2.

#### **The Marriage Supper of the Lamb – Revelation 19:6-10**

In these verses, there is rejoicing in heaven over the long-awaited marriage of Jesus Christ with His Church.

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"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." And to her it was granted to be arrayed in **fine linen, clean and bright**, for the fine linen is **the righteousness of the saints**. Revelation 19:7, 8.

This is not the first time in the Bible that we find mention of Jesus as the Groom and His Church as the Bride of Christ. Jesus told a parable of "a certain king who made a wedding for his son" Matthew 22:2 – a story of this same wedding that takes place in Revelation 19. And in the parable, Jesus also told of the wedding garments which would be worn by those in attendance. The garments in both stories represent the clothing of **Christ's imparted righteousness** which is required of all who come to this marriage. In Matthew, the only person who was expelled from the wedding was a man who was not wearing the wedding garment. And so it will be on the day Jesus celebrates His union in marriage with His Church.

Isaiah says,

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness. Isaiah 62:10.

Though John's language speaks of "the righteousness of the saints," not one whit their own righteousness is inferred, but that which she has been "**granted** to be arrayed in," that righteousness that is "fine, clean and bright," a garment in which "there is not one thread of human devising," as one author states it – a righteousness which alone passes the test of perfection as only Christ could offer it!


Paul also uses this symbolism of the bridegroom and bride motif to illustrate the relationship between Christ and His Church:

Husbands, love your wives, just as **Christ** also loved **the church** and gave Himself for her, ... For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. For **we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones**. "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and **the two shall become one flesh**." This is a great mystery, but I **speak concerning Christ and the church**. Ephesians 5:25-32.

One more phrase on which we must comment is found in verse 10. John is in such rapture at hearing what the angel messenger is telling him that he falls at the feet of the angel to worship him. But the angel says to him,

"See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the **testimony of Jesus**. Worship God!" And then the angel defines "the testimony of Jesus" when he says, "**The testimony of Jesus is the spirit [or Grk: vital principle] of prophecy**."

Why is this important? Because some well-meaning but mistaken religionists use this verse to "prove" that their version of religion is the right one because they claim to have a "prophet" among them. This is an erroneous and false use of this verse, used to promote their faith, much as the Mormons say that one proof that their church is the right church is because the name of their church is "the Church of Jesus Christ" [of Latter Day Saints], In Revelation 1:9, John again speaks of "the testimony of Jesus Christ" in reference to **the Gospel, which is the essence of all Scripture!**



I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for **the testimony of Jesus Christ**.

And Paul says, “Do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord...the Gospel according to the power of God.” 2 Timothy 1:8. And then I must include one more text illustrating this point.

When Jesus was walking with the two men on the road to Emmaus the day of His resurrection, the men were confused about what had just happened to Jesus the previous Friday. Jesus explained to them in essence the Gospel from the Old Testament Scriptures. Luke 24:27 says, “Beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself” – explaining the reason for Calvary and the prophecies which spoke of the events of the past few days. That evening, their eyes were opened as they saw the nail prints in the hands of Jesus, and immediately they returned to Jerusalem to share the “good news” with the other believers. Before Jesus returns, “This Gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world, for a witness to all the nations [by the special messengers of God], and then the end will come.” Matthew 24:14.

### **Christ and the Armies of Heaven On White Horses – Revelation 19:11-16**


One of the most beautiful portrayals of Scripture of the coming of Jesus in the heavens to redeem His Church is found in these verses:

Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, **a white horse**. And **He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war**. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood [a symbol of His sacrifice on Calvary], and His name is called The Word of God. And **the armies in heaven**, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, **followed Him on white horses**. Now out of His mouth goes **a sharp sword**, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS**. Revelation 19:11-16.

You may recall in our study of the Seven Seals that the first seal described a rider on a white horse:

And I looked, and behold, **a white horse**. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer. Revelation 6:2.

In Revelation 6, the rider has a “bow” in his hand, but in chapter 19 the Rider has a “sharp sword” in His mouth. In chapter 6, he goes forth conquering, and in chapter 19 He goes forth to strike the nations. In fact, the Rider is the same Rider! In chapter 6 we find Jesus Christ **in the person of His people** going forth with power, carrying the Word of the Gospel to the world. In chapter 19, the Gospel has already been proclaimed, and now Jesus is coming to bring judgment upon the wicked by the Word of His mouth. “In righteousness He judges and makes war” (verse 11) and “with [the sword] He strikes the nations” (verse 15). Paul speaks of the “sword of the Spirit being the Word of God” (Ephesians 6:17), and here, in both cases, the Word of God is represented – the Word which saves the lost in Revelation 6, and the Word which condemns and destroys the wicked in Revelation 19!



The scene of this passage is the final scene of the victory Jesus won at Calvary! Redemption is complete in this word picture, and now not only is “the prince of this world cast down” (John 12:31), the kings, the princes, and the corrupt religious leaders of the world, the beast and the false prophet are also cast down in defeat. Judgment in favor of God’s children, followers of Christ, is complete.

### **The Beast and His Armies Defeated** – Revelation 19:17-21

The next scene is pretty incredible when you realize that this passage describes the final Battle of Armageddon Phase I (Phase II is described in the next chapter) – Christ and the armies of heaven coming through the skies to rescue the saved of all ages AND “the beast, the kings of the earth and their armies” gathering to make war against the armies of heaven! Can you visualize this!?

Last Wednesday evening, I witnessed a type of this rebellion during the joint congressional session of Congress. The show was by NO means to the scale that John describes in this chapter, but the similarities in attitude and obvious anger were striking. A defiant and defeated party sat in protest of the tremendous, combined strength of the president and the senate and house majorities as the president reported on the advances which are being achieved by the new administrative team, among which were border security, economic progress, gender identity, DEI and CRT through executive orders, strides toward world peace, and exposure of fraud and graft. A number of American heroes and their families were showcased and honored for extraordinary sacrifice and loss. But none of it elicited the minutest approbation of the minority party members. Unbelievable, but frankly not surprising. After all the billions of dollars spent, the lies told to maintain power and the cover of wrongdoing, and the loss of power and financial graft, you can understand that their loss might enrage them and cause them to protest, some with quiet disgust, others with upheld signs, and one congressman in open rebellion against the president so that he had to be removed from the chambers. (Yesterday, the House censored the congressman for his actions). All sat stone-faced and expressionless as touching stories and celebrated individuals were honored for their bravery, courage, and honorable aspirations in spite of their pain. They sat in solidarity and protest against the new government, elected by the people of this country by every measure of a majority, like children throwing a temper tantrum – adults???

So it will be, **to a much greater degree**, according to prophecy, for the powers of earth when they realize their eternal loss as the armies of heaven descend with all their divine power and glory to crush evil and evildoers forever! They will be overwhelmed by the strength of heaven, yet in their defeat they will be emboldened and “gather together to make war against Him who sits on the horse and against His army” in one final, angry attempt to overthrow the government of heaven. Yet we’re told that,

The beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh. Revelation 19:20, 21.

Next week – phase II of the Battle of Armageddon and the disposition of the Dragon, the Beast, and the False Prophet, along with all those who have refused the offer of Christ and sold themselves to the agenda and work of Satan, believing instead the lies and deceptions of the Devil in his war against Jesus Christ.