

Revelation 19: The Return of Christ

18.1-3: An Angel Announces the Fall of Babylon (14.8 repeated)

Isaiah 13.21-22: Depicted as a deserted city inhabited by demons and unclean birds (also Jer. 50.39; 51.37)

18.6-8: Just Judgment

Lex talionis – law of retribution

Jeremiah 50.29: ‘Repay her (Babylon) for her deeds; do to her as she has done’

18.21-24: Destruction of Babylon

19.1-5: Hallelujah Chorus – Joy and the Justice of God

‘a loud voice from a great multitude’ – angels or the *hagioi* (7.9)

Hallel psalms – 113-118

After all the horror, why the joy here?

16.7: ‘Your judgments are true and just’

6.10: ‘How long, O Sovereign, holy and true, are you not going to judge and avenge our blood against those who inhabit the earth?’

19.4 – The 24 *presbyterioi* and 4 living creatures – 4.8-10; 5.8-14; 7.11-17; 11.16; 14.3; 19.4

19.6-21: The Return of Christ!!

The Rapture of the Saints: Mark 13.24-27; 1 Cor. 15.51-57; 2 Cor. 5.1-8; 1 Thess. 4.15-18

The Judgment of Sinners: Matt. 13.24-30; 25.31-46; 1 Thess. 5.1-11; 2 Thess. 2.1-10; 2 Peter 3.10-13

6-10: A Hallelujah Chorus Precedes the Lord

Celebrating the Wedding of the Lamb:

Israel as the Bride of the LORD - Isaiah 54.5: ‘Your Maker is your husband, the LORD Almighty is His name’

Isa. 61.10: ‘He has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with jewels’; also Ezekiel 16.7-14

Jesus is a bridegroom – Matthew 22.1-14; 25.1-13; Mark 2.19-20; 2 Corinthians 11.2; Ephesians 5.25-27

Faithfulness of the Bride described as:

- a. Maintaining their testimony (1.9; 6.9; 12.11, 17; 20.4)
- b. Enduring hardship (1.9; 2.2-3, 19; 3.10; 13.10; 14.12)
- c. Obeying God’s commands (12.17; 14.12)

Clothing of the Bride – ‘fine linen, bright and pure’; contrast with the Prostitute of Babylon

Seven angels carrying seven plagues wear ‘bright white linen’ (15.6; 19.14)

9-10: Write this Down!

The Saints are both the Bride and the Invited Guests at the Divine Wedding

Luke 14.15: ‘Blessed is the man who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God’

Luke 22.30: ‘You may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom’

Isa. 25.6: ‘On this mountain, the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples’

19.11-16: The Conquering Christ Arrives with Armies of Heaven

Seven Qualities of the Warrior Messiah:

1. Faithful and True – (1.5; 3.14; 6.10; 15.3; 16.7; 19.2, 9)
2. Judges in Righteousness – Psalm 7.11; 9.4, 8; 50.6; 67.4; 72.2; 96.13; 98.9
3. Eyes Like a Raging Fire – 1.14; 2.18; Daniel 10.6 (‘his eyes like flaming torches’)
4. Diadems on His Head – for the King of Kings
5. A Name that No one Knows – also 2.17
6. Clothed with a Garment Dipped in Blood – blood of atoning sacrifice (1.5; 5.9; 7.14; 12.11); blood of martyrs ((6.10; 16.6; 17.6; 18.24; 19.2); blood of enemies (14.20); trod winepress – Isa. 63.1-3
7. Called the *Logos tou Theou* – Word of God – John 1.1-14

14-16: The Rider on the White Horse

- a. Leads Armies in Heaven to the Judgment – angels, saints, or both?
- b. The Victory of Christ – the sharp sword from His mouth (1.16; 2.12, 16); Psalm 2.9
- c. Destroys the Nations
- d. His name is written on his garment – King of King and Lord of Lords

19.17-18: Invitation to the Carrion to Come and Feast

A parody of the saints attending the wedding banquet

19.19-21: The Battle’s Decisive End

Isa. 31.4; 42.13; 59.17-20; 63.1-5; Ezekiel 38-39; Daniel 12.1-3; Joel 1.15, 3.9-16

Lake of Fire – like Gehenna, name derived from Valley of Hinnom under Ahaz and Manassah (2 Chron. 28-33)

A symbol of Fiery Judgment – Mark 9.43-47; Matt. 10.28; 18.9