

**Pastor Robert Rutta**

## **The Second Coming of Christ**

### **Revelation 19:11-21**

The next event on the calendar will be the Rapture of all believers.

After the Rapture there will be a time when all believers will stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ in heaven.

The Rapture removed the church so that the attention can once again go to Israel as they complete the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel and fulfill his prophecies.

On earth there will be a horrible time of tribulation where the antichrist will rise to power.

At the close of this 7-year tribulation the Lord will literally return to this earth.

Remember that this event will be approx. seven years after the rapture of believers.

At the rapture He came for the believers, when He returns in glory we, as believers, will return with Him!

This is return of the King, Jesus Christ!

We must be clear that the Second Coming and the Rapture of the church are different events.

Look at some of the differences:

- The rapture will take place at the beginning of the tribulation period and the Second coming will take place at the end of the tribulation period.
- The rapture is when Christ will come FOR His Church, the Second Coming is when Christ will come WITH His church.
- The rapture is when Christ will come in the air, but at the Second Coming He will come to the earth.
- There are no signs for the rapture, but the Second Coming is when He will come with many signs of nature, as the last vial judgment is poured out on the face of the earth.

The Second Coming of Christ will bring human history to a close. The Second Coming of Christ will be the most fearful thing that mankind has ever had to face on this earth.

### **I. The Description of the One Who Comes.**

#### **A. His Physical Description.**

##### **1. Riding upon a white horse.**

a. He comes in contrast to the antichrist in Re. 6:2. (Satan always has a poor imitation of everything that is true in God.)

b. He comes riding on a white horse to indicate triumph and victory.

c. The first time He came in humility and quietness, but now Heaven is opened and He bursts onto the scene in power!

##### **2. His eyes were as a flame of fire.**

a. While on earth His eyes were flooded with tears of sorrow and heartache.

b. When He looked upon the unbelieving world He was moved with compassion.

c. Now His eyes indicate the severity of the coming judgment.

##### **3. On His head were many crowns.**

a. At Calvary He was crowned in mockery with a crown of thorns.

b. Now He is crowned with honour and glory.

c. His many crowns are symbolic of His sovereignty, King of kings and Lord of lords.

4. Clothed in a vesture dipped in blood.

a. A 'vesture' is simply a garment or a covering.

b. There are disagreements as to whose blood this is. I believe that it is His blood. Some see it as representative of the blood of His enemies that resulted from the tribulation judgments.

Re 14:19-20, "And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs."

5. With a sharp sword coming out of His mouth.

a. Heb. 4:12 tells us that the Word of God is quick and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword.

b. Paul wrote that the sword of the Spirit was the Word of God. Eph. 6:17

c. John's earlier description of Christ said that He had a sharp two-edged sword that proceeded from His mouth. Rev. 1:16

d. The same power that spoke the world into existence will bring forth judgment when Jesus returns in glory!

## B. His Various Names

1. Faithful and True. v11

a. Men are not faithful and do not tell the truth.

b. But here is One who is always faithful and always truthful.

c. He will keep every promise and be true to every warning that He has ever given.

2. The Word of God. v13

a. This name identifies Him as the incarnate Christ.

b. The Word was with God and the Word was God and the Word became flesh.

c. He, who is the Creator, will also be the judge of mankind.

3. King of kings and Lord of lords. v16

a. This is His victorious name.

b. He has already won the victory.

c. Even today, it matters little who sits upon the throne or in the seat of authority...for Jesus is still King of kings and Lord of lords!

## II. His Purpose in Coming.

A. He comes to fulfill Scripture.

1. God always keeps His word.

2. Throughout the Bible there are hundreds of promises of the Second Advent of Christ.

3. If Christ did not return, God would be a liar.

B. He Comes to "Judge".

1. He was judged in unrighteousness.

a. While on earth He stood before Caiaphas, Herod, and Pilate.

b. All convicted Him, the innocent Son of God, and condemned Him to death.

2. He will judge in righteousness.

Acts 17:31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

Jude 1:14-15, "... Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him."

3. There will be three major judgments.

- a. The Judgment Seat of Christ: believers will be rewarded for their faithfulness.
- b. The Judgment of Nations: this will be the living Gentiles at the close of the tribulation. (also called the sheep/goat judgment)

Matthew 25:31-33. "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him **shall be gathered all nations**: and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left."

To the sheep Jesus will say, "Enter the earthly 1,000 year kingdom." To the goats Jesus will say, "Depart into everlasting fire."

Matthew 25:34, "Then shall the king say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:" Also notice Matthew 24:41, "Then shall he say unto them on the left hand, "Depart from me ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."

In the Bible the sheep represent the saved and the goats represent the lost. The sheep are believers and the goats are unbelievers.

Sheep are sheep by birth and goats are goats by birth. I say this because some try to imply works for salvation in Matthew 25 by pointing to the works of the goats and sheep.  
The sheep picture the believer in Jesus Christ, born again by the Spirit of God.

- c. The Great White Throne judgment: where all of the wicked dead will be judged for eternity at the close of the millennial reign of Christ.

Zechariah 14:4 says that when Christ returns, " Zec 14:4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which *is* before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, *and there shall be* a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.."

When Mount Zion is split to create the new valley, the topography of Jerusalem as we know it now will be destroyed. Why will that valley be created?

**Joel 3:11** Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD.

**Joel 3:12** Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about.

**Joel 3:13** Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness *is* great.

**Joel 3:14** Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD *is* near in the valley of decision.

The valley created at Christ's return will be the valley of decision--the place where God determines the eternal destiny of those on earth at the time.

Verses 15-17 continue,

**Joel 3:15** The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.

**Joel 3:16** The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD *will be* the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.

**Joel 3:17** So shall ye know that I *am* the LORD your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more.

The Lord will instantly sanctify the city. And He will soon return bodily to reign there.

#### C. He Comes to "Make War". v14

"The armies which were in heaven followed Him upon white horses"

1. Note that there is more than one army.

a. There will be an army of angels with the Lord.

2Th 1:7-9, "And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;"

b. There will also be an army of believers.

1Th 3:13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ **with all his saints**.

Enoch talked about this army of Saints.

Look at Jude 14-15, we read, "And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with TEN THOUSANDS OF HIS SAINTS, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him."

2. But the armies will not join in the battle.

3. As a matter of fact, there really will not be much of a battle!

a. In v19, we see the preparation that antichrist and his armies make to go to war against God.

b. But in the very next verse we read that "the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet".

c. In v21, we see that the rest of the armies of antichrist were slain by the Word of God!

4. The enemy is imprisoned for 1000 years.

- Exciting events are in the future!
- Jesus is coming soon!