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REVELATION

The Marriage Supper of the Lamb Revelation 19:1-10

- I. The Second Coming
 - a. I have the great privilege of sharing the events of Revelation 19 with you
 - i. We have endured the Great Tribulation chapter 6 through chapter 19 literal hell on earth
 - ii. Oceans turned to blood, sun in the sky darkened, famine, disease, demonic creatures tormenting the nations
 - iii. All this builds up to this climactic event The Second Coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
 - 1. It's not just the book of Revelation that builds up to this event, it is the entirety of scripture
 - b. Scripture speaks of the Second Coming of Christ more than any other topic besides faith
 - i. 1 out of every 30 verses in scripture deal with the Second Coming totaling 1,845 mentions
 - 1. In Genesis 3 God tells the serpent, satan, that the women's offspring will crush his head
 - 2. Genesis 49 Jacob, on his death bed, blesses his sons and prophesies about the Second Coming when he says "The scepter will not depart from Judah nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs shall come and the obedience of the nations shall be his."
 - 3. 2Sa 7:12-13 "When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.
 - 4. Isaiah 6:6-7 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.
 - 5. Daniel interprets Nebuchadnezzar's dream this image made of differing metals that is destroyed Daniels says in *Daniel 2:44 (NIV)* "In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever.
 - 6. Mat 24:29-30 "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the

earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

- ii. We are instructed over 50 times in scripture to be ready for the Second Coming
 - 1. Jesus instructs us to pray "Your Kingdom come, Your will be done"
 - 2. This is the culmination of God's redemptive plan for His creation!

Rev 19:1 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! 2 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." 3 Again they said, "Alleluia! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!" 4 And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sat on the throne, saying, "Amen! Alleluia!" 5 Then a voice came from the throne, saying, "Praise our God, all you His servants and those who fear Him, both small and great!" 6 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! 7 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." 8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. 9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!' "And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God." 10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

II. Hallelujah!

- a. Chapter 17 18 The Judgement of the Great Harlot
 - i. Babylon is fallen the false church false religion the Great Harlot that seduced the kings of all nations
 - ii. Drawing them away from the one true Messiah
 - 1. They have all been judged and destroyed
 - iii. Now our attention turns to a celebration in heaven the cry of "Halleluia!" and the announcement of the Marriage Supper of the Lamb
- b. The fourfold "Hallelujah" (vv. 1, 3, 4, 6).
 - i. "Hallelujah" means "You praise Yahweh." Turn and look at Him!
 - 1. Turn your attention to Jesus that should be the heart of every pastor, preacher, teacher, elder, and leader Look at Him! Don't look at me.
 - ii. Revelation 19:1–10 is the only place in the New Testament where this word appears.
 - iii. Found all over the place in Psalms especially Psalms 146–150 and the Hallel Psalms (113–118).
 - 1. These were Passover Psalms, sung to celebrate God's deliverance from Egypt.
 - 2. The people of God always shout "Hallelujah" after deliverance never before it. Praise follows rescue.
 - iv. Mark 14:26 After the Last Supper, Jesus sang one of these Psalms with His disciples most likely Psalms 115–118.
- c. Here's the picture
 - i. Revelation 17–18: Babylon, the great harlot, the one who captures men's souls, has fallen.

- 1. Revelation 19: The redeemed respond with *Hallelujah!* Look at what our Savior has done!
- ii. Just as the Jewish people sang during the Passover Meal as they remembered and celebrated their deliverance from Egypt
 - 1. After the praise comes the feast
- III. The Marriage Supper of the Lamb
 - a. The prophecy of the feast
 - i. In Isaiah 25, Isaiah praises the Lord because He has accomplished great things, plans that He formed long ago with perfect faithfulness
 - 1. God has been a stronghold for the poor and needy and those who are in distress, a refuge from the storms, shade from the heat -
 - ii. Isa 25:6 (CSB) On this mountain,, the Lord of Armies will prepare for all the peoples a feast of choice meat, a feast with aged wine, prime cuts of choice meat, fine vintage wine.
 - 1. Isa 25: 7 On this mountain he will swallow up the burial shroud, the shroud over all the peoples, the sheet covering all the nations. 8 When he has swallowed up death once and for all, the Lord God will wipe away the tears from every face and remove his people's disgrace from the whole earth, for the Lord has spoken.
 - b. Jesus elaborates on this day with a parable in Matthew 22
 - i. Mat 22:1-14 And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: (2) "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, (3) and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. (4) Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding." ' (5) But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. (6) And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. (7) But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. (8) Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. (9) Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.' (10) So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. (11) "But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. (12) So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. (13) Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' (14) "For many are called, but few are chosen."
 - 1. Many rejected the invitation, some violently the invitation was extended to those on the highways the wedding hall was full
 - a. King noticed someone present without proper wedding attire cast into outer darkness
 - c. The Marriage Motif
 - i. Isn't just in Isaiah and Matthew the story of the Bridegroom and the Bride is found throughout Scripture

- 1. In the beginning of Revelation The Seven Churches
 - a. Ephesus (2:4) Lost their first love.
 - b. Thyatira (2:18–29) Tempted by Jezebel to spiritual adultery.
 - c. Laodicea (3:20) The Beloved stands at the door and knocks.
- 2. John 3:25 Then there arose a dispute between some of John's disciples and the Jews about purification. 26 And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, He who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified—behold, He is baptizing, and all are coming to Him!" 27 John answered and said, "A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven. 28 You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent before Him.' 29 He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. 30 He must increase, but I must decrease.
 - a. Rev 19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."
 - b. The purpose of prophecy is to point people to Jesus!
- 3. John 4 Jesus meets the woman at the well, echoing OT bride stories. "Go to your husband and bring him here" "I have no husband" "You have had five husbands and the one you wife isn't your husband."
- 4. Ephesians 5 Paul's famous words Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.
- 5. 2 Cor 11 Paul is discouraged by the false teachers who have crept into the church "I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy, because I have promised you in marriage to one husband—to present a faithful bride to Christ."

IV. Jewish Marriage Customs

- a. To understand what is going on here we must understand Jewish Marriage Customs
 - i. Betrothal
 - 1. Groom leaves his father's house to make a covenant with the bride
 - 2. Pays the purchase price
 - 3. Covenant sealed by a cup of wine: "This cup is the new covenant"
 - ii. Preparation
 - 1. Groom returns to his father's house to prepare a room
 - 2. Bride prepares herself in purity and readiness
 - 3. The bride would prepare her wedding garments, often weaving or embroidering them herself. These garments were her responsibility and symbolized her diligence and devotion.
 - 4. Waiting with expectancy The bride never knew exactly when her groom would return. Because the coming could happen at any time, often at night, the bride kept her lamp filled with oil and remained alert.

- a. Already some of your minds are rightfully going to the parable of the ten virgins that Jesus shared in Matthew 25
- iii. Wedding Feast Groom returns at night, with a procession of friends carrying torches, blowing the shofar (ram's horn), and shouting to announce his arrival, to take his bride to the father's house.
 - 1. Once the procession arrived, the wedding feast began a celebration that could last seven days or more
- b. Consider Jesus words during the Feast of the Passover
 - i. John 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.
 - 1. As they shared the feast together Jesus said in *Matt 26:27 CSB Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he gave it to them and said, "Drink from it, all of you. 28 For this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.*
 - 2. His blood was the purchase price and the covenant was sealed.
- c. We are legally His, awaiting His return.
 - i. Waiting for the day He arrives with a shout to take us to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb
 - ii. Are you ready? His wife has made herself ready." 8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints
 - 1. Tension Phil 2: 12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.
 - 2. "Work out your salvation... for it is God who works in you."
 - a. It is finished, Jesus offers His righteousness, will you put it on?

V. Blessed By God

- a. 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!
 - i. Deut 30:19 I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose <u>life</u>, that both you and your descendants may live; 20 that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days; and that you may dwell in the land which the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them." I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing therefore choose life what does that insinuate about God's blessing? It must be received
- b. Which table are you at? Where are you enjoying your meals?
 - i. 1Co 10:21-22 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons. Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?