

The Church's Victory

The Marriage Supper of the Lamb (19:1-10)

The members of the church triumphant were called to rejoice over God's judgment against Babylon. In the first portion of this chapter we hear the church's response to that call. The victory of the true church is now secure.

- 1) How do the martyrs in heaven finally have their prayer request answered?

- 2) How do we know that the fall of Babylon is not just a temporal setback from which she will rise again?

- 3) Who is the bride and what exactly is the fine linen she wears? (Mt. 25:1ff)

- 4) How do we know that it is improper to worship angels?

- 5) What is the only type of preaching that God is pleased with?

His Word in My Life:

In chapter 19:9, the multitude sing about the wedding of the Lamb and his bride. Why does a celebration at a wedding so appropriately picture the joys of heaven?

The Rider on the White Horse (19:11-21)

- 6) How do we know that the rider on the white horse is Jesus?

 - 7) What is a war of justice or righteousness?

 - 8) How do we harmonize that this rider has many crowns while the rider in chapter 6 only has one crown?

 - 9) What does it mean that the armies of heaven were following him dressed in white?
- Note: The enemies of God are designated by 10 terms which is an indication of the total victory of the Savior over all his enemies. (vs. 18)**
- 10) What is the future for the Beast of the Sea and the Beast of the Earth? (false prophet)

Christ and Satan

Chapter 20

Now that the beast of the sea and the beast of the earth have been disposed of into the fires of hell, there is only one more enemy to be dealt with, Satan himself. His defeat is described in Chapter 20.

- 1) Who is the angel that holds the key to the Abyss?
- 2) How can we know that the thousand years in this chapter is not to be taken literally? (See Matthew 24:6-12; I Thessalonians 5:13; 2 Peter 3:13)

Note: As long as the Gospel is preached to the nations, the devil will be hindered in his attempt to deceive the nations. The more widely and purely the Gospel is preached, the shorter Satan's chain becomes.

- 3) What is the thousand years mentioned here?
- 4) What does it mean that Jesus locked and sealed the abyss over the devil?
- 5) What does it mean the devil will be unleashed for a short time?
- 6) What is the first resurrection? (See Col 3:1; Ephesians 5:14; Romans 6:1-11)
- 7) What does it mean that the rest of the dead did not live until the thousand years were ended?
- 8) Who are Gog and Magog?

Note: The armies described here are not primarily a military force but a symbolic representation of all the spiritual and moral evil with which the church must contend.

- 9) What comfort do Christians have who live in the short season before Judgment Day?
- 10) What does the fact that there is more than one book for the unbelievers tell you? See also Matthew 7:13
- 11) What does it mean that the dead will be judged according to what they have done?

His Word for My Life:

In John 11:25-26, Jesus said that "those who live and believe in him will never die". What does that mean?

Tips To Refute Millennial Thought

1. I Thessalonians 4:13-18

This section of Scripture was written to the Thessalonian Christians to tell them that their loved ones who died in Christ would not miss out on the glorious final day of Judgment. In fact, if Judgment day happened during their lifetime, those departed Christians would rise first, before the living Thessalonians rose to be with Jesus in heaven. The contrast here is between living believers and dead believers not between the believing dead and the unbelieving dead.

2. The reigning in Revelation 20 is of those seated on the thrones

If a man says, “I lived at my parents home in Detroit for 20 years before I left home to go away to school,” that comment does not give one iota of information in how long his parents lived at that home. When John tells us that those who sit on the thrones reigned with Christ for 1000 years, it does not tell us specifically how many years Christ ruled. In fact, the Bible tells us that Christ reigns forever and ever. (Rev. 11:15) Likewise, these words cannot be used as a proof to demonstrate that Christ will set up a special reign for 1000 years.

3. Old Testament passages speak not of a temporal and physical peace in the world, but of the spiritual peace and rest that the Messiah will bring to his people.

4. Nowhere in Revelation 20 are we told about a millennial kingdom of Christ which will have its capital in the city of Jerusalem.

Remember what Jesus said to Pontius Pilate, “My kingdom is not of this world.” (Jn 18:36)