

## THE APOCALYPSE – A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

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### *THE FINAL CONQUEST! (Rev 19:1-21)*

#### **1. The Response in Heaven – 19:1-10**

Chapters 17 and 18 are actually a parenthesis. It is an elaboration of Rev. 16:19b which says, “great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.” The continuation of chapter 16 is 19.

**Revelation 19:1-4, “*And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God: For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. And again they said, Alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever. And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia.*”**

**19:1-4 (“a great voice of much people in heaven”)** – These would be the resurrected saints who have the glorified bodies and gone through the Great Tribulation. They saw what happened to Babylon and they praised the LORD. They praise the Lord because of the judgement that was meted out. They thank God for His salvation. They realized that it is by God’s grace that they are found in heaven. For what was before their very eyes could very well have happened to them, but for the grace and mercy of God. They realized it. That is why the first reason for their praise is God’s salvation. Literally it was a “mega” voice that was heard from heaven. The loudness point to a resounding approval and agreement from the glorified Tribulation saints and it was for the whole world to hear. It was perhaps also a triumphant approval of their faith which has now turned to sight.

The next is glory and honour and power be given to God. This was what Satan and His hosts deceived his followers to give to him. As a creature he has just robbed God of the devotion that is meant only for the Creator. That was why it was wrong for him to demand devotion and worship. It is not wrong for God to do so. His children who are saved by God's grace acknowledge this willingly and cheerfully with the deepest gratitude from their hearts. Not so the followers of Satan who were deceived into worshipping him.

God's judgement is true and righteous. The great whore deserved precisely what was due to her. The reason for the righteous judgement was that she had "*corrupt the earth with her fornication.*" Her idolatry caught up with her. She used wealth to entice foolish men and women to follow her and she succeeded. Now her judgement has come. This judgement was also to avenge the blood of God's servants who were killed at her hand.

The purpose of the destruction of the great whore was two fold. First it was the judgement for sin committed by God's creatures. The second was to avenge God's people who died for the faith.

**Isaiah 9:6-7**, "*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.*"

The second refrain is similar to the first. It has only one word, "Alleluia" which means "Praise the Lord." The rising of the smoke is indicative of the finality of the judgement. The rebellion that began thousands of years ago in the Garden of Eden is now over. All that we enjoyed, studied and knew in this world will be vanquished. It will not return again. It will be gone forever. This is represented by the smoke that billows forth forever from the city in ruins.

All the raptured and resurrected saints (represented by the twenty four elders) who came to know the Lord BEFORE the Great Tribulation and together with the angels bowed down and worshipped God. They said "Amen and Alleluia." "Amen" means "so let it be" and together with "Alleluia" which means "praise the Lord." This was a total and joyful agreement to what they had seen and heard. It is a righteous ending and let God be praised forever.

**Revelation 19:5-6**, "*And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.*"

**19:5-6 (United voices of God's servants)** – Another voice came out of the throne. This voice would most likely refer to an angelic being as the personal pronoun “our” is used in the song that follows. The song says, *“Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great.”* The focus is again on God not man. God must be our central theme in worship, even on earth. This is the fundamental point in worship that is lost today where the focus is on carnal man and not God. The music and the lyrics of the hymns and choruses sung during worship must be God honouring. Anything less is unacceptable.

The word for servant used here is also “slave.” Slaves of righteousness to the King of kings are what believers will be in heaven. We may be sons and rulers with Christ but we will also be servants serving God. What kind of services will be done in heaven we are not told. But the status of slaves remains forever. For the present reality count it all joy when we serve because to be a servant (or slave) of Christ is the greatest honour. Have we ever asked ourselves why God would want us to be his servant or slave? We are lazy, self-seeking at times, sinful, complacent, do not pray enough, do not study God's Word sufficiently, and sometimes even rob God of His glory. Who would want a servant with these credentials? Yet we “confidently” say we are God's servants! When others call us God's servants we lap it up as if we deserve such a title. Do we really deserve to be called “servants of the most High God” based upon what we have done and how we have been serving thus far? Joshua took his entire life of service before he was called “servant of the LORD.” When he started his service, he was simply called Moses' servant.

Then the voice of a great multitude (probably all the glorified saints praising together with one voice) that resonates and with the loudness of mighty thunders say, *“Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.”* Praising the Lord is the central theme throughout all the songs of the redeemed and angelic beings in heaven. God is all powerful and he will reign as He pleases.

**Revelation 19:7-8, “Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.”**

**19:7-8 (Marriage Supper of the Lamb)** – The heavenly praises continue in heaven. The marriage supper of the Lamb has arrived. Marriage in the Bible times has three parts. The first part is known as **etrothal**. The marriage between the bride and the groom has been agreed upon by the parents when the children are as young as a few days old. This is more significant than our modern concept of an engagement. In an engagement today, it is merely a private covenant made between two persons that they are committed to one another and hope that the relationship will culminate in a holy matrimony. In the mean time they will not date anyone else. They will seal this arrangement with the exchange of a ring, a diamond ring in most cases. If they so choose to separate or break off the engagement there is no legal implications involve. They just go their separate ways. Not so in the betrothal. It must be broken by a divorce. **Matthew 1:18-19**, *“Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.”* There is a legal implication in the

case of a biblical betrothal.

The second part involves **the preparation**. As the children are growing up to a marriageable age, there will be the preparation which will lead to **the presentation**. This would be a time of festivities just before the actual ceremony. These festivities can last up to a week or more depending on the economic and social status of the families. The time of the festivities will end when it is time to end. The rest of the wedding party must wait patiently for the wedding to end and they have to keep the lamps burning if the wedding ends at night., like in the parable of the Ten Virgins (cf Matthew 25:1-13).

The third and final part would be the **exchange of vows, marriage proper**. Towards the end of part two, i.e. the festivities, the groom together with his entourage would adjourn to the home of the bride and take her and her bridesmaids to the wedding ceremony. After the ceremony there will be a final meal followed by the consummation of the marriage.

The Bible has revealed to us that the relationship Christ has with His church is likened to a marriage.

**2 Corinthians 11:2**, *“For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.”*

**Ephesians 5:25-32**, *“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.”*

The entire period on earth before the Rapture and the First Resurrection would be seen as **the preparation**. Rapture and the First Resurrection would be seen as the close of the second part, **the preparation**. Remember the promise of Christ in **John 14:2-3**, *“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. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”* The period of the Great Tribulation is likened to the one week of festivities in heaven where the Groom presents the “bride” to the Father. This is **the presentation** period. The end of the Great Tribulation is where the acceptance of the Father will commence and the Great Supper of the Lamb begins.

The dressing of the bride is the righteousness of saints (fine linen, clean and white – symbolic of purity). Fine linen was used in the construction of many parts of the Tabernacle.

**Ex 26:1**, *“Moreover thou shalt make the tabernacle with ten curtains of **fine twined linen**, and blue, and purple, and scarlet: with cherubims of cunning work shalt thou make them.”*

**Ex 26:31**, *“And thou shalt make a vail of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and **fine twined linen** of cunning work: with cherubims shall it be made:”*

**Ex 26:36**, *“And thou shalt make an hanging for the door of the tent, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and **fine twined linen**, wrought with needlework.”*

**Ex 27:9**, *“And thou shalt make the court of the tabernacle: for the south side southward there shall be hangings for the court of **fine twined linen** of an hundred cubits long for one side:”*

**Exodus 39:3**, *“And they did beat the gold into thin plates, and cut it into wires, to work it in the blue, and in the purple, and in the scarlet, and in the fine linen, with cunning work.”*

Fine linen was what the high priest wore in the OT. This is perhaps symbolic of holiness. He has to be holy before he could enter the Holy Place and the most holy place. That it was clean and white confirms this interpretation.

This righteousness is based upon the law of God which the Lord Jesus Christ has fulfilled on our behalf when He was on earth. Therefore every Christian is seen as having fulfilled all of God’s Holy laws.

**Romans 8:3-4**, *“For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”*

Only the righteous saints (some in glorified bodies and others in mortal bodies) will participate in the Great Supper of the Lamb. This means that after the Second Coming of Christ there will be the separation of the sheep and the goats, the recreation of the devastated planet earth to the time before Noah’s Flood, the cleansing and setting up of the millennial

Temple coming down from heaven onto the earth, and the Bema Seat Judgement of the saints where all will be rewarded according to their good works done in Christ.

**Revelation 19:9-10**, *“And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God. And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”*

**19:9-10 (Worship only God)** – John was told to write, *“Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb”*. This is the fourth beatitude. How good and how wonderful to be found in this Great Supper of the Lamb! Of all the suppers that you could be invited to this is one you must be found in. MacArthur says, *“These guests represent OT believers.”* I do not believe that MacArthur is right to call them guests and then say that they refer to the OT saints. This is an invitation to all believers. It is because of MacArthur’s dispensational background that he interprets this verse the way he did. All who are found there are considered blessed by God. The dispensationalists believe that only NT saints will be raptured and resurrected since the OT saints did not die in Christ. They are saved by obeying the law therefore they died in the law. These OT saints are not considered part of the Bride of Christ. They are called guests by dispensationalists. But all believers OT and NT died in Christ. The OT saints are believers by looking forward to what Christ will do whereas the NT saints are believers by looking back to what Christ has already done. All who are called are considered blessed and there must be no distinction.

The angel then added, *“These are the true sayings of God.”* Why “true” saying and not just simply sayings? The reason is probably due to the great contrast of the lies of the unholy Trinity. Their entire scheme of things was built on a gigantic lie whereas God’s kingdom is built only on TRUTH, His Holy and Perfect Word!

John was so elated by what he had heard and seen that he bowed down in worship at the feet of the angel. The reaction of the angel was immediate. He said to John, *“See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”* Only fallen angels would desire to receive the worship of man. Good angels would never do that. That is why in the OT we know that the “angel of the LORD” refers to the Lord Jesus Christ for he received the worship of the OT saints. These appearances would be called a theophany, the appearances of Christ before His incarnation i.e. pre-incarnate appearances. Moreover, He is also called the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

**Exodus 3:2-6**, *“And **the angel of the LORD** appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt. And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground. Moreover he said, **I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.** And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.”* [emphasis added]

God is the only ONE whom we are allowed to worship. This is a great privilege given to us. Why is it then that we often drag our feet to church every Lord's Day? Why is there so little joy in our worship? Our singing must not be mundane as if we are going through the motion. There is little life and fervour in our worship. But the apostle John was elated and extremely thankful to God for he truly believed in all that was prophesied!

What we are studying is true because it comes from the Lord Jesus Christ who is here addressed as "the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." This is no accident. To whom did God give His prophecies to? Are they given to the believers or the unbelievers? Unbelievers would not even believe the gospel message which belongs to "earthly things." How then can they believe in heavenly things?

**John 3:12-13**, *"If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things? And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven."*

Prophecies are given by the Heavenly Father to His children like what every father would do. This is so that His own children who are supposed to believe in what Father would say and live and plan their lives in light of what Father would definitely do, unless the children are disobedient and would not believe the Father. What a shame when that happens? Is this happening in your life?

## 2. The Victory over the Beast – 19:11-21

**Revelation 19:11-13**, *"And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God."*

**19:11-13 (a description of the reigning Christ)** – In Revelation 4:1, heaven was opened to let John in. Here there is a difference. Revelation 19:11 said that John saw heaven opened for Christ to come out. He comes to judge. He rides on a white horse. This time the Lord will not ride on a donkey which was a sign of humiliation. On that occasion he came to die on the cross of Calvary. This time he comes to judge sinful man as King and

Lord.

The colour “white” symbolizes spotless and unblemished purity. There is absolutely no spot in Him at all. He is absolutely perfect in all His Words and deeds and character. The horse is a symbol of conquest. Hence the Name of Christ here is “Faithful and True.” Christ is faithful to His promises. He is keeping every single one of them. This would include all His prophecies. What He speaks is always true. All that he has said are perfect and true. There is no guile or lies in all that He has said or done. This is a very apt description of Christ at a time such as this. This is definitely in mark contrast to the Antichrist who is always unfaithful where he will break the covenant that he makes Israel, he will destroy the Harlot called Babylon the Great once her usefulness is done. The Antichrist is a disciple of the Father of Lies which is Satan. He cannot help himself but tell lies like his father. He cannot be trusted at all. Even when he tells you that he is a liar he is probably lying.

Christ’s judgements will be in righteousness. Righteousness is the enemy of situational ethics. We live in a situational ethical society. We make decisions not based upon absolute truth but what we think may or may not happen. We do not tell the truth because he might not like it. We do not discipline because it will hurt others who love him. It goes on and on and on. But with God it is very different. He will do what is right because it is right. This will be the case on Judgement Day. Based upon His perfect sense of righteousness He will judge and make war.

**‘His eyes were as flame of fire’** means that He will see all people and things even into the very recesses of our hearts. Every motive behind every action will be known by Him. These eyes were once tender toward every child and every repentant sinner will now have only flames for all unrepentant sinners and every demon. No one will escape Him. No one can hide from Him.

**“On His head were many crowns (diadems).”** These are royal crowns which points to ruler crowns. They are worn by Christ to symbolize His regal authority and royal rank. “Many” demonstrates that He alone is King and there is none other like him. Other kings of the earth have only one crown for if you are a king of one country you cannot be the king of another. But the Lord is King of all nations and kingdoms. All the kingdoms of man will bow down to Him as King. **Philippians 2:11**, *“And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*

Christ has **a name written that no man knew** except He Himself. Therefore it is pointless and futile to try to guess what this name is. Not even the apostle John could figure it out. He saw it but could not know it.

Christ was also **clothed with a vesture dipped in blood**. What kind of blood is referred to here? Could this be His redemptive blood that was shed on Calvary? To signify His redemptive blood here would be out of place. Since this was not a journey to redeem but He is coming to judge, it does not make sense to interpret that this blood refers to Christ’s own blood. Could this refer to the blood of the martyrs? The fact that it was dipped in blood may point to something other than the blood of the martyrs. Why would Christ dip His vesture in the

blood of His own children? It does not make sense. Then it has to refer to the blood of the sinners that will be slain by Christ at the battle of Armageddon. This fits in with what Isaiah wrote in . . .

**Isaiah 63:1-6**, *“Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come. And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me. And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth.”*

Christ’s **Name is called The Word of God**. This is very significant in light of the many attacks on God’s Holy Word. The well sung tune that “the Bible has mistakes but very insignificant ones” is so well accepted today by many so-called fundamentalist Christians that is frightening. Here Jesus who is perfect and holy and true and faithful and His name is called the Word of God and we say that His word has mistakes albeit insignificant ones! How dare we!! What right has a sinner to distinguish in the Word of God whom God has seen fit in His infinite wisdom to inspire that some parts are more inspired than others or that they are less significant than others? The arrogance of a sinner truly knows no bounds. It is so apt that Jesus Christ is called the Word of God here. He is perfect and true and so are His Words, all of them without exception. Many will die for the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ in the last days as they did in the past. Are you prepared to do likewise?

**Revelation 19:14**, *“And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.”*

**19:14 (Christ’s armies)** – Do you know how to ride a horse? Here you will be riding on one. Christ’s armies will come from heaven with Him. They will be clothed in fine linen, white and clean. They will be absolutely perfect, holy and without blemish. Fine linen was the material used by the high priest in the TO as mentioned above. Who will make up Christ’s armies?

The angels -- **Matthew 25:31**, “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 **2 Thessalonians 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,”*

All the saints -- **Jude 1:14**, *"And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,"*

This will be a non-fighting army. The reason is that they do not need to fight for Christ will fight for them.

**19:15-21 (The Final Killing)** – Out of the mouth of Christ will come forth a sharp sword. This would refer to the Word of God.

**Eph 6:17**, *"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:"*

**Heb 4:12**, *"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart"*

**Revelation 19:15-16**, *"And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."*

**19:15a (Christ's spoken Word)** -- By Christ's spoken Word all the enemies would be destroyed. With it He would thoroughly smite the nations gathered at Armageddon. The yardstick will be the "rod of iron." This means that there will be no mercy. The time for mercy has come to an end. The unrepentant hearts of the followers of Satan condemned themselves after all that God had done to convict them. They stubbornly resisted and persisted in their blasphemies. Now they will pay the ultimate price.

Christ **"treadeth the wine press of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God."** The picture of the winepress is used in **Joel 3:12-14**, *"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. 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. Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision."* When someone stomps on the grapes in the wine press it symbolizes the through nature of the judgement. Christ will stomp on the rebellious sinners like a worker would stomp on the grapes until all is squeezed out. The fact that the word "treadeth" is in the present tense tells us that it will be a continuous stomping until it is complete. The judgement of God will not stop until it reaches its final climax and conclusion, every sinner and demon will receive their just due.

**19:15b** -- The **power of Almighty God** will be behind this stomping. No one will be able to escape or stand against Christ.

**19:16** -- The vesture of Christ will be dipped in blood since He will have it on when He judges. On Christ's vesture that flows down to His thigh there was a name written **King of kings and Lord of lords**. It must have been a large banner that Christ has on. He is the King of all kings and the Lord of all the lords. He will be the final King and Lord of all mankind. There will be no one to follow after Him. After His rule and reign during the millennium, eternity will begin. This is seen in the dream of Nebuchadnezzar in . . .

**Daniel 2:45**, *"Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure."*

**Revelation 19:17-18**, *"And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great"*

**19:17-18 (Feast of the Unclean Birds)** -- The angel will call **all the fowls of the air to come and have supper**. This is a supper prepared for them by the great God. These must be birds of prey. This will be the last time flesh eating will occur on earth. This would also be a mega voice. The sun shines again after the darkness is over. They will eat the flesh of kings and captains, mighty men, horses, and all the soldiers that sit on these horses, including all men bond and free, small and great. All who gathered at the valley of Megiddo to fight against Christ will be food for these birds.

**Zephaniah 1:14-18**, *"The great day of the LORD is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the LORD: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly. That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers. And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD: and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung. Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD'S wrath; but the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of his jealousy: for he shall make even a speedy riddance of all them that dwell in the land."*

**Revelation 19:19-21**, *“And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.”*

**19:19-21(The Beast and False Prophet consigned to Lake of Fire)** – The beast will attempt to fight against God but it will be futile. The kings and their armies will follow suit but it will also be useless. The Beast (pr Antichrist) will be taken (i.e. apprehended or seized) and with him was the False Prophet who *“wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image.”* These two will be cast alive into the Lake of Fire which continuously burns with brimstone. This is the first time the Lake of Fire is mentioned. But this place was intimated by Matthew in Matthew 25:41, *“Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.”* At the end of a thousand years Satan will join them. This means that even after one thousand years the two evil men will still be there. There is no place for the diabolical doctrine of annihilation.

The rest of mankind who were gathered at Armageddon will be killed and they will go to Hell and not the Lake of Fire.

John Phillips described this scene well when he said, *“Then suddenly it will all be over. In fact, there will be no war at all, in the sense that we think of war. There will be just a word spoken from Him who sits astride the great white horse. Once he spoke a word to a fig tree, and it withered away. Once He spoke a word to howling winds and heaving waves, and the storm clouds vanished and the waves fell still. Once he spoke to a legion of demons bursting at the seams of a poor man’s soul, and instantly they fled. Now He speaks a word, and the war is over. The blasphemous, loud-mouthed Beast is stricken where he stands. The false prophet, the miracle-working windbag from the pit is punctured and still. The pair of them are bundled up and hurled headlong into the everlasting flames. Another word, and the panic-stricken armies reel and stagger and fall down dead. Field marshals and generals, admirals and air commanders, soldiers and sailors, rank and file, one and all—they fall. And the vultures descend and cover the scene.”*

Let us conclude with the words of the prophet Zechariah. **Zechariah 14:1-14**, *“Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. 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. And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee. And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark: But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall*

*be light. And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be. And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one. All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem: and it shall be lifted up, and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin's gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the corner gate, and from the tower of Hananeel unto the king's winepresses. And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited. And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth. And it shall come to pass in that day, that a great tumult from the LORD shall be among them; and they shall lay hold every one on the hand of his neighbour, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbour. And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the heathen round about shall be gathered together, gold, and silver, and apparel, in great abundance."*

## **CONCLUSION**

The end of all mankind is death and destruction by the LORD Jesus Christ Himself. The sins of man are the cause of man's fall and demise and final end in the Lake of Fire. There is only one way of escape! Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved. Christ died for your sins. He took your place when he died on Calvary. God raised Him from the dead on the third day after he was buried for your justification i.e. to show that God had accepted completely the finished redemptive work of Christ. Believe in Him as your only Lord and Saviour and ask Him to come into your heart and wash away your sins with His priceless and precious blood and you will be saved.

**Romans 10:9-11**, *"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."*