

**Revelation**  
**Chapter 19:11-21**  
**“The Return”**

**\*All scripture references are from the NASU unless otherwise noted\***

Calvary Chapel Fellowship of Enid  
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**Announcement:**

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**Teaching:** This morning’s text, in the words of Paul Harvey is, “the rest of the story”.

It’s the rest of the story to a number of familiar passages ... for example ...

During the Lord’s time on this earth, as He was on trial before Pontius Pilot, He surprised the governor with this answer ...

**John 18:36 ... My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm."**

**Q. Are you a king?** – Oh ya! But my kingdom is not earthly. And **Revelation chapter 19** gives us the rest of the story.

**Q. And do you remember when Jesus ascended?** – Let me read it to you from ...

**Acts 1:6 So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; 8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." 9 And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. 10 And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. 11 They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."**

And **Revelation chapter 19** gives us the rest of the story.

Jesus came to this earth 2,000 years ago as the Suffering Servant ... as the Sacrificial Lamb. That time He came to deal with our sin issue ... and having done so ... He

ascended back to the right hand of the Father and remains there to this day.

But the day is coming when He will return. He's coming back, not as the Sacrificial Lamb, but as the Conquering King ... not to deal with our sin issue, but to establish and exercise His own sovereignty.

**Q. He is sovereign ... always has been and always will be, but men don't always recognize that do they?** -- It should not be that way, but man in the exercise of his own free will, has rejected the Lord's sovereignty by the millions. But in a day, that I believe to be even nearer than we understand, Jesus will establish His sovereign reign. No longer requesting man's obedience ... but commanding it.

The first time the Lord came ... He was judged by wicked men. At His second Coming ... He will judge wicked men.

Now turn with me please to ...

**Isa 9:6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. 7 There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore.**

Poor Isaiah! This all had to be so confusing from his ancient perspective, because if you put Isaiah on the timeline ... he was looking far, far into the future to see these events and it's easy to understand how he could picture these as the same event. It's often been pictured for us this way ....

From our vantage point ... down in the valley of the Church Age ... we can look back to the prophetic mountain peak of His crucifixion and we can look forward to the prophetic mountain peak of His return, but to Isaiah ... it looked rather linear ... his line of site just didn't allow him to see the gap of time that we now live in.

Daniel was also given prophetic information about the events that will be our focus this morning ... the Lord's Kingdom, His Second coming and the Battle of Armageddon (**Dan 2**).

**Q. Remember when King Nebuchadnezzar called Daniel to interpret his dream?** – The king had dreamt of a huge statue made of various types of metals and minerals. And Daniel explained to him that as one type of metal transitioned into another it was speaking of a change in world dominance historically. And Daniel said that at the end of time, world dominance would be shared by a ten nation alliance.

But King Nebuchadnezzar also saw in his dream a large rock coming from Heaven and crushing that statue and that's exactly what we're looking at this morning; the Second

Coming of Jesus Christ and His crushing of those who oppose Him.

On yet another occasion the Lord was speaking with His disciples and they asked Him for the sign of His return. His answer is recorded in ...

**Matt 24:27 "For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be. 28 "Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.**

So this is not the Rapture which will be invisible to unbelievers ... this is the Lord's Second Coming which will be seen by all. And in that same conversation, Jesus also says

...

**Matt 24:31 "... immediately after the tribulation of those days THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 30 "And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.**

This is exactly what John is seeing fulfilled as we begin in ...

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**Verses 11-13:**

**Q. Any guesses ... how many people do you think are gonna come to me after the study and ask me what this name is that no one knows except Jesus?**

The description overall is a pretty familiar one ... the eyes like fire which speak to us of His penetrating judgment, the crowns and the royal robe, but what does stand out is that His royal attire has been severely stained. So stained that it looked like they had been literally dipped in a vat of blood.

**Q. So what's that all about?** – The Battle of Armageddon. Jesus returns with a mission and it is a literally bloody one!

**Q. Now some question ... who's blood is His robe dipped in? They will question ... is it His own blood or is it the blood of His enemies?** – I think on some level ... seeing Jesus as a mighty judge and executioner is unnerving to us. We like the Gentle Jesus ... meek and mild, but this doesn't like that same Lord.

But the prophet Isaiah sets the record straight so as to remove any doubts we might have

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**Isa 63:1 Who is this who comes from Edom, With garments of glowing colors from Bozrah, This One who is majestic in His apparel, Marching in the**

greatness of His strength? "It is I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save." 2 Why is Your apparel red, And Your garments like the one who treads in the wine press? 3 "I have trodden the wine trough alone, And from the peoples there was no man with Me. I also trod them in My anger And trampled them in My wrath; And their lifeblood is sprinkled on My garments, And I stained all My raiment. 4 "For the day of vengeance was in My heart, And My year of redemption has come. 5 "I looked, and there was no one to help, And I was astonished and there was no one to uphold; So My own arm brought salvation to Me, And My wrath upheld Me. 6 "I trod down the peoples in My anger And made them drunk in My wrath, And I poured out their lifeblood on the earth."

Lastly ... before we move on, I want to remind you that in **chapter 6, verse 2** we saw another rider coming on a white horse. That rider, as you will probably recall was the Antichrist ... the false christ. And there is a little clue that we can benefit from as we compare these two white horse riders.

Note that here in **chapter 19**, speaking of Jesus Christ, we are told that He comes with many crowns on His head. But let's re-read the account in **chapter 6** ... of the Antichrist's coming ... John says ...

**2 ... I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.**

The difference is that Jesus Christ comes crowned from Heaven ... the Antichrist on the other hand, is crowned by man.

Beware of those who are recognized by man, but not by God. Those who are exalted here on earth, but condemned in Heaven.

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**Verse 14:**

**Q. So who is this following the Lord?**

**Jude 14 It was also about these men that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones**

So the saints ... me and you ... we will return with the Lord. But it would appear that it's not only us who will follow the divine Commander ... notice that it says "the armies (plural) which are in Heaven". And we read in ...

**Matt 25:31 "... when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.**

So along with us ... the angel armies ... the host of Heaven will return ... all of us

clothed ...

Note this ... all of us clothed in clean white linen. Not just white linen, but clean, white linen. Because even as the Lord told us in **Isaiah 63** ...

### **3 "I have trodden the wine trough alone**

So His garments are soaked in the blood of battle, but ours are white as snow.

This is not a battle that we engage in. Just as the Lord spoke all things into existence ... He can also speak them out and that's exactly what He'll do at the Battle of Armageddon.

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#### **Verses 15-16:**

**2 Thess 2:7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way. 8 Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming**

And back in **Rev 2:27** we saw read the Lord's promise to the church at Thyatira, that they would rule with Jesus ... reigning over the nations with a rod of iron. We will be a part of this whole scene.

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**Verses 17-19:** The "kings" that are spoken of here are the "Ten Federated kings", which is amazing when you think about it because it's hard to get even a room full of people to agree on things. So trying to get the whole earth to agree sounds impossible, but under the influence of Satan and the guidance of the Antichrist ... and ... believe it or not, the inspiration of God Himself ... it happens.

**Q. And what are they agreed upon?** – That they should all go to war against God. That God has restrained their consciences long enough.

The Lord not only warned of this, but even gave counsel to abandon the plan in ...

**Ps 2:1 Why are the nations in an uproar And the peoples devising a vain thing? 2 The kings of the earth take their stand And the rulers take counsel together Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, 3 "Let us tear their fetters apart And cast away their cords from us!" 4 He who sits in the heavens laughs, The Lord scoffs at them. 5 Then He will speak to them in His anger And terrify them in His fury, saying, 6 "But as for Me, I have installed My King Upon Zion, My holy mountain." 7 "I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. 8 'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Your possession. 9 'You shall break them with a rod of iron, You shall shatter them like earthenware.'" 10 Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; Take warning, O judges of the earth. 11 Worship**

**the LORD with reverence**

**Zech 14:1 Behold, a day is coming for the LORD when the spoil taken from you will be divided among you. 2 For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city will be captured, the houses plundered, the women ravished and half of the city exiled, but the rest of the people will not be cut off from the city. 3 Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle. 4 In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south. 5 You will flee by the valley of My mountains, for the valley of the mountains will reach to Azel; yes, you will flee just as you fled before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD, my God, will come, and all the holy ones with Him!**

If you were listening closely, you might be a little confused because the Lord says in **Zech 14, verse 2** that He will gather the nations together to bring war against Himself, but in **Psalm 2, verses 10 and 11** He begs them not to do it.

**Q. So what's the deal?** – The deal is this ... we must each choose! The war is going to take place! That's unquestionable, so when the Lord says in **Psalm 2** ... show discernment ... Take warning ... Worship the LORD with reverence. He's pleading with as many individuals as will listen and respond. Each man, woman and child, can and must choose for themselves.

And there is a very powerful and graphic contrast here as it relates to that choice, because in last week's study we looked at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, but here we read of the Great Supper of God.

The Marriage Supper of the Lamb is, of course, that time of celebration and exultation when we will finally be eternally united with the Lord.

But here ... this Great Supper of God ... this is a time of deep mourning when those who've rejected the Lord will be eternally separated from Him through physical death. And ultimately, their carcasses are devoured by the birds of prey and scavengers.

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**Verses 20-21:**

**Q. Do you remember the two witnesses of God from chapter 11? – Do you remember what happened to them?** -- Because we again see the difference between following Jesus Christ and following the Antichrist.

Just as we are told that those two witnesses of God were taken up into Heaven ... **alive** (**Rev 11:12**), we see these two witnesses of Satan being cast into the Lake of Fire ... **alive**.

The Beast (also known as the Antichrist), and the False Prophet are bound even before the Battle of Armageddon begins and they will be the first occupants of The Lake of Fire and will remain alone there for 1,000 years (throughout the Millennial Reign).

Unsaved people who have died from the foundation of the earth are confined to the grave presently, but they will join the Beast and the False Prophet in The Lake of Fire at the end of the Thousand Year Reign of Peace (**Rev 20:14**).

Satan will be locked up for 1,000 years right around this time and he, along with his demons, will ultimately be cast in this Lake of Fire at the end of the Thousand Year Reign of Peace as well.

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**\* Signal Usher to get P & W Leader \***

**Conclusion:** Someone said ...

“The world likes a complacent, reasonable religion and so is always ready to revere some pale, Galilean image of Jesus. Some meager, anemic messiah and to give him a moderate, rational homage.”

But **Revelation 19** gives us a Jesus that is not complacent, meager, anemic or moderate. Many would say He’s not even reasonable. He’s out of control! That is ... He’s out of your control and my control. He’s undeniably sovereign. And we need to see that and be reminded of it.

The prophet, Zechariah said in **chapter 9, verse 9** ...

**Zech 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, Humble, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.**

The Lord first came in humility, but as we look here at His Second Coming ... He comes crowned and armed and riding on the mount of a king.

And in that we should be reminded of our own calling and destiny. We are called to humility in this life, but the divine promise is a crown of glory to those who humble themselves now.

**2 Tim 4:6 For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; 8 in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.**

Those who are willing to identify with the Lord in His humble incarnation as the Sacrificial Lamb will be exalted, by Him and with Him.

There is a difference between those who look **at** His Second Coming and those who look **for** it. If you go to a wedding as a spectator or witness ... you look **at** the event, but if you're the bride of that wedding ... you're looking **for** it ... not merely at it.