

Revelation 19

The Second Coming of Christ

INTRO.

- Will mankind be destroyed in a nuclear war?
- Will we be destroyed by an asteroid that collides with earth?
- Will we be invaded by aliens from outer space?
- Will global warming create conditions that we can no longer exist on earth?
Congress woman Estacio Cortez said if we do nothing about climate change, the earth will be destroyed in 12 years.
- As A Christian, how would you answer these ideas?

Aug. 8, 2016 – Astrophysicists from Harvard and Oxford have concluded the reason we have not discovered intelligent life on other planets is because we are not asking the right question – not **where** but **when**. After studying stars they concluded that the reason we can't find intelligent beings is because they haven't been born yet. It is possible that intelligent aliens on other planets will not be born for billions of years from now. By that time our sun will have burnt earth to a crisp, and humans will have found other places than earth to live. Humans are bizarre exceptions born billions of years ahead of time. The prime time for alien intelligences is billions of years from now, when the universe is 10 to 1,000 times its current age.

DOES THAT SET YOUR HEART AT EASE?

More and more cosmologists believe that human life was created by aliens. This seems to fit their theory of how life got here. They evidently have concluded there are no intelligent aliens, so they are walking back their theory by explaining humans are an aberration, but that's OK. In the length of time they say it took earthlings to evolve, we will find intelligences in the future. We just have to wait several billion years. In the meantime let's see what the Bible says will happen while scientists are waiting.

REVIEW:

- Ch. 16 - the final judgments that will lead the world to Armageddon
- Ch. 17 - the destruction of Antichrist's religious system
- Ch. 18 - the collapse of Antichrist's world economic system

- Ch. 19 – prophecies of the last events leading to the 2nd coming of Christ to earth

1. REJOICING OF THE SAINTS IN HEAVEN (read 1-6)

- A multitude in Heaven praise God for His judgments on Antichrist
On the religious system & political systems of the Antichrist (Rev. 17-18)
- 24 elders worship & the multitude praise God as the ruler of the universe
Who sat on the THRONE – God is always on the throne

2. THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB (read 7-10)

- The **marriage** of the Lamb takes place in Heaven after the rapture
- The church is presently espoused to Christ as a pure virgin
We are waiting for Christ to call us up (Rapture)
- The church is identified as Christ's bride (**see Eph. 5:30-32**)
- *His wife has made herself ready* (7) refers to the Judgment Seat of Christ
- *The righteousness of the saints* (8) is not imputed righteousness of Christ but the righteous acts revealed at the Judgment Seat of Christ
- *Blessed are those who are called to the **marriage supper** of the Lamb* (9)
 - This symbolic supper refers to the thousand-year reign of Christ
 - The church will reign with Him
 - OT & Tribulation saints are called to reign with Christ & His church
- *The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy* (10)
 - From Genesis 3:15 to Malachi 4:6. From Matthew 1 to Revelation 21

3. THE RETURN OF CHRIST TO EARTH (read 11-16)

(The return of Christ to earth is different than the rapture in the air)

- Christ comes on *a white horse* as Prince of Peace to *judge & make war* (11)
 - Antichrist comes on a white horse to offer peace that will lead to war
- *He had a name that no one knew except Himself* (12). His unknown name
 - **Deut. 29:29** – *The secret things belong to the Lord...*
- *He is called Faithful & True*
 - Called *faithful & true* to the Laodicean church unfaithful to the truth (3:14)
 - Unfaithful to the truth describes most of the church today.
- *On His head... many crowns* (12) = Christ's authority over all earthly kingdoms
- *His name is called The Word of God* (13). His eternal name (John 1:1-2, 14)

- *The armies in heaven...followed Him on white horses* (14)
 - The church, the saints of former dispensations, the tribulation saints
- *Out of His mouth goes a sharp sword* (15) refers to His word
He told the church at Pergamos if they did not repent, He would fight against them w/ the sword of His mouth (Rev. 2:16)
- *He...treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God* (15)
 - The winepress is a symbol of unsparing judgment
 - **Isaiah 63:1-6**
- His 3rd name: *King of Kings & Lord of Lords* (16)
 - His sovereign name - over all human rulers

4. AN INVITATION TO ARMAGEDDON (the supper of the great God) (17-21)

- Scavenger birds are invited (read 17-18)
Mat. 24:27-30
- The Beast, False Prophet, the kings & armies of earth are invited (read 19)
Psalms 2:1-3
- The Beast & False Prophet will be cast alive into the lake of fire (19)
Satan will be thrown into the bottomless pit (Rev. 20:2)
- Everyone else will be killed by the sword (21)
All remaining Christ-rejecters will be executed, and birds will eat their corpses

PRINCIPLES OF DIVINE JUDGMENT:

1. There can be no justice without judgment.
 - *Shall not the judge of all the earth do right?*
 - Our legal system is based on justice. Where does justice come from?
2. If the wicked will not be judged, there is no need for repentance.
 - God would be unjust not to judge the wicked for their sins.
 - If God does not judge the unrighteous, there is no eternal benefit in being righteous, and there is no eternal penalty for being wicked.
3. God would be unjust to judge the righteous for sins
 - The law of double jeopardy applies to those who trust the cross of Christ.
 - The Judgment Seat of Christ (Romans 14:10-12; I Cor. 3:12-15) is to account for service, not sins. However, we are chastened as sons (Heb. 12:6).

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