

Apocalypse Now: The Challenge of Revelation
Week 9—Revelation 19:11-20:10
November 9, 2022

I. Review.

A. The Focus of the message is Jesus Christ (1)

B. The exalted Lord in the heavenly throne room (ch. 4–5)

C. Three series of seven visions portray judgment as disasters: Seals, Trumpets and Bowls

1. Pattern: 1 thru 4 disaster; 5 intensification; 6 devastation

D. Revelation 12-14 envision Christ's victory over the devil.

1. Chapter 12 reveals Satan is deeper source of evil.

a. Dragon seeks to devour the baby and is foiled; persecutes woman and her offspring.

2. Chapter 13 paints picture of an evil, anti-trinity.

a. The deception will be as clear as math 666 isn't 777.

3. Chapter 14 gives true picture of true salvation & judgment.

a. Lamb marks his numerous followers with the true mark.

b. Stark contrast of true and false salvation.

E. Chapters 15 & 16. End of history; vision of seven bowls.

1. Intensified repetitions of the previous sets of seven visions.

2. The final cataclysm is set: the place called "Armageddon."

a. Uncertainty surrounding identity of this place.

b. Great reversal of history (cf. II Kings 23).

3. 7th Bowl. Signals total judgment. "It is done" (finished).

F. Chapter 17. An account of Rome's destruction.

1. Rome symbolized as woman-Babylon who is a whore

2. She is drunk with blood of saints and witnesses (martyrs).

G. Chapter 18 describes rejoicing over fall of Babylon (Rome) from the perspective of those who had grown rich & powerful

H. Chapter 19:1-10

1. Songs of praise: wedding banquet of Christ & Church
2. Don't worship the angels!

II. God Redeems the Holy City Seven Visions of the End (Chapters 19-22)

1. 19:11-16. Second coming, the appearance of Christ.
 - a. A different manner of battle & victory
 - b. The king (Jesus) is crucified **as** his victory.
2. 19:17-21. Last battle
 - a. The "Carrion feast" vs. the marriage supper of the lamb
 - b. An unexpectedly one-sided "non-battle"
3. 20:1-3. Binding of Satan
 - a. Evil is clearly and definitively limited.
4. 20:4-6. The Millennium
 - a. God's reward to the martyrs: 1,000 years reigning.
 - b. One of many pictures of the end Jesus gives to John.
5. 20:7-10. Defeat of Gog and Magog: Satan's Last Stand
 - a. Cf. Ezekiel 38; magnified and then destroyed
 - b. Literal vs. metaphorical understanding of 1,000:
 - 1) Post-
 - 2) Pre-
 - 3) A-millennialism.
6. 20:11-15. Last judgment
 - a. God's throne dominates all
 - b. Great and small are present.
 - c. Judged according to deeds, saved by grace
7. 21:1-22:21 The New Jerusalem (next time)