

ENDGAME

A Study On Revelation (Week #157)

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Revelation 19:7 Let's rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, because the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His [wife] bride has prepared herself. **8** She has been given the finest of pure white linen to wear." For the fine linen represents the good deeds of God's holy people. **9** And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb." And he added, "These are true words that come from God." (NLT)

Revelation 19:7 Let's rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, because the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His [wife] bride has prepared herself." **8** It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the [God's people] saints. **9** Then he *said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb.'" And he *said to me, "These are the true words of God." (NASB)

Revelation 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." **8** And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. **9** Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!' " And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God." (NKJV)

Wedding _____

- Recap
 - Who's Invited?
 - ▶ What does a true believer / disciple look like?
 - Betrothal
 - ▶ Covenant begins at the Betrothal (Engagement)
 - Purchase Price
 - ▶ Price paid for the Bride
 - Groom's Preparation
 - ▶ Rooms at the Father's house
 - Surprise Gathering
 - ▶ Announced by a shout and trumpet
 - Bride's Garments
 - ▶ Given, pure white linen
 - Celebration
 - ▶ 7 day celebration

- Day and Hour are unknown
 - ▶ Could we know the season?
- Heavenly marriage vs. Earthly marriage
 - ▶ Perfection vs imperfection

Understanding _____

- Heaven brings all things to completion (perfection)
 - We need to understand the “two-sided coins” of God’s plans.
 - If we are going to understand heavenly marriage we need to understand heavenly judgment.
- Two Judgements
 - Judgement of Believers - _____ / Works
 - ▶ Time: Unknown

1 Corinthians 3:11 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ. **12** Anyone who builds on that foundation may use a variety of materials—gold, silver, jewels, wood, hay, or straw. **13** But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person’s work has any value. **14** If the work survives, that builder will receive a reward. **15** But if the work is burned up, the builder will suffer great loss. The builder will be saved, but like someone barely escaping through a wall of flames. (NLT)

- Judgement of Unbelievers - Great White Throne
 - ▶ Time: “Day of Judgement”

Revelation 20:11 And I saw a great white throne and the one sitting on it. The earth and sky fled from his presence, but they found no place to hide. **12** I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God’s throne. And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books. **13** The sea gave up its dead, and death and the grave gave up their dead. And all were judged according to their deeds. **14** Then death and the grave were thrown into the lake of fire. This lake of fire is the second death. **15** And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire. (NLT)

- _____ Of Sex
 - One element that is sacred in marriage.
 - ▶ Absent in heaven
 - ▶ When God removes something earthly for eternal He replaces it with something better. (Example: Bodies, mind)
 - What is the purpose of sex in a marriage?
 - ▶ Deep sense of communion / fellowship

- ▶ Self-sacrifice
- ▶ Love for someone else
- ▶ Procreation
- ▶ Pleasure
- ▶ In heaven who fulfills those things?
- Earthly sex must be replaced by something special in heaven or Satan wouldn't attack it so much
 - ▶ Satan attacks what God says about certain things because it is important. (Example: Truth, Word of God, Obedience, Worship, Sex)
 - ▶ Cults have one thing in common - _____ the doctrine of sex
- There is something we are missing about the perfection of earthly sex to a heavenly intimacy with Jesus.
 - ▶ Why this struggle?
 - ▶ Can our struggle with justice and mercy also be in a similar fashion?

Army From _____

- What is the relationship between mercy and justice?
 - How can God be show mercy and deliver justice at the same time?

Zachariah 14:1 Watch, for the day of the Lord is coming when your possessions will be plundered right in front of you! **2** I will gather all the nations to fight against Jerusalem. The city will be taken, the houses looted, and the women raped. Half the population will be taken into captivity, and the rest will be left among the ruins of the city. **3** Then the Lord will go out to fight against those nations, as he has fought in times past. **4** On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem. And the Mount of Olives will split apart, making a wide valley running from east to west. Half the mountain will move toward the north and half toward the south. **5** You will flee through this valley, for it will reach across to Azal. Yes, you will flee as you did from the earthquake in the days of King Uzziah of Judah. Then the Lord my God will come, and all his holy ones with him. (NLT)

- Who is in the army?
 - Holy Ones? Angels or Redeemed?
 - ▶ Those who were always holy?
 - ▶ Those who were made holy?

Revelation 17:14 Together they will go to war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will defeat them because he is Lord of all lords and King of all kings. And his called and chosen and faithful ones will be with him." (NLT)

- Called and Chosen - terms not used for the _____.
 - ▶ Select group of Believers?

- Why does God have an army?
 - ▶ God doesn't need the army - He could do it on His own.
- War against the Lamb

Daniel 7:23 Then he said to me, "This fourth beast is the fourth world power that will rule the earth. It will be different from all the others. It will devour the whole world, trampling and crushing everything in its path. **24** Its ten horns are ten kings who will rule that empire. Then another king will arise, different from the other ten, who will subdue three of them. **25** He will defy the Most High and oppress the holy people of the Most High. He will try to change their sacred festivals and laws, and they will be placed under his control for a time, times, and half a time. (NLT)

- People of God are attacked
 - ▶ The Lamb brings His people to be a part of vengeance.
 - ▶ Is that a good thing?
 - ▶ Righteous anger?

Revelation 19:14 The armies of heaven, dressed in the finest of pure white linen, followed him on white horses. (NLT)

- Believers are made holy
 - ▶ Holy - white linen given to _____.
 - ▶ Right motives, right heart, right attitude

Revelation 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and let us give honor to him. For the time has come for the wedding feast of the Lamb, and his bride has prepared herself. **8** She has been given the finest of pure white linen to wear." For the fine linen represents the good deeds of God's holy people. (NLT)

- Holiness comes because of two reasons
 - ▶ The action of Christ on the cross
 - ▶ Good deeds / Righteous acts of Bride
 - ▶ Our actions prove what Christ did. _____ and _____.

Malachi 4:1 The Lord of Heaven's Armies says, "The day of judgment is coming, burning like a furnace. On that day the arrogant and the wicked will be burned up like straw. They will be consumed—roots, branches, and all. **2** "But for you who fear my name, the Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in his wings. And you will go free, leaping with joy like calves let out to pasture. **3** On the day when I act, you will tread upon the wicked as if they were dust under your feet," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies. (NLT)

- Healing in wings, transformation - that happens to humanity not angels.
 - ▶ Question then becomes...what are the angels doing then?
- Day of Lord / Day of Judgement
 - ▶ Usually refers to Final moment where God is setting up Millennial Reign
 - ▶ Final moments where God is calling for people to repent (Tribulation)
 - ▶ God is both calling people to repent and passing out judgement.
- Only three places where you have total annihilation of the wicked.
 - ▶ Noah and the ark
 - ▶ Armageddon (Before Millennial Reign)
 - ▶ Final Revolt (After Millennial Reign)

Psalm 149:5 Let the faithful rejoice that he honors them. Let them sing for joy as they lie on their beds. **6** Let the praises of God be in their mouths, and a sharp sword in their hands—**7** to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples, **8** to bind their kings with shackles and their leaders with iron chains, **9** to execute the judgment written against them. This is the glorious privilege of his faithful ones. (NLT)

- Call to the faithful to _____ and _____ vengeance.
 - ▶ Jesus overcomes on our behalf - He is the judge.
 - ▶ We partake in the moment.

Joel 2:2 It is a day of darkness and gloom, a day of thick clouds and deep blackness. Suddenly, like dawn spreading across the mountains, a great and mighty army appears. Nothing like it has been seen before or will ever be seen again. **3** Fire burns in front of them, and flames follow after them. Ahead of them the land lies as beautiful as the Garden of Eden. Behind them is nothing but desolation; not one thing escapes. **4** They look like horses; they charge forward like warhorses. **5** Look at them as they leap along the mountaintops. Listen to the noise they make—like the rumbling of chariots, like the roar of fire sweeping across a field of stubble, or like a mighty army moving into battle. **6** Fear grips all the people; every face grows pale with terror. **7** The attackers march like warriors and scale city walls like soldiers. Straight forward they march, never breaking rank. **8** They never jostle each other; each moves in exactly the right position. They break through defenses without missing a step. **9** They swarm over the city and run along its walls. They enter all the houses, climbing like thieves through the windows. **10** The earth quakes as they advance, and the heavens tremble. The sun and moon grow dark, and the stars no longer shine. **11** The Lord is at the head of the column. He leads them with a shout. This is his mighty army, and they follow his orders. The day of the Lord is an awesome, terrible thing. Who can possibly survive? (NLT)

- In Biblical prophecy we have seen several times that sometimes it describes multiple events happening at the same time.
 - ▶ Pagan army and heavenly army (throughout Joel)
- Heavenly Army
 - ▶ No stopping this army
 - ▶ Perfect unity
 - ▶ Number - when Greek and Hebrew say something cannot be counted it is beyond their counting. They at that time stopped counting in the hundreds of millions.

Army of _____

- How do we reconcile God of mercy with God of wrath?
 - Sword of God / Word of God - Double edged
 - ▶ One side - Mercy and Redemption
 - ▶ One side - Vengeance and Justice
 - People argue that God of the Old Testament and God of the New Testament are different.
 - ▶ God of the Old Testament is a brutal God.
 - ▶ God of the New Testament is a God of mercy.
 - ▶ Can God enact mercy and justice at the same time? Yes.
 - ▶ The Holy Spirit has been the difference holding back wickedness, in the New Testament era.
- What is the task of the army of saints?

Joshua 10:22 Then Joshua said, "Remove the rocks covering the opening of the cave, and bring the five kings to me." **23** So they brought the five kings out of the cave—the kings of Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, and Eglon. **24** When they brought them out, Joshua told the commanders of his army, "Come and put your feet on the kings' necks." And they did as they were told. **25** "Don't ever be afraid or discouraged," Joshua told his men. "Be strong and courageous, for the Lord is going to do this to all of your enemies." (NLT)

- Wipe them out, all of them.
 - ▶ 5 Kings - Ammorites
 - ▶ Kings of the 5 most powerful cities
 - ▶ Kings represent sin, the enemy (and his attempt to thwart God's plans).

Joshua 10:8 "Do not be afraid of them," the Lord said to Joshua, "for I have given you victory over them. Not a single one of them will be able to stand up to you." (NLT)

- Safety from all your enemies

- ▶ Evil will not overwhelm you.
- ▶ Do we see an assault from pagan enemies upon the _____ today?

Psalm 149:6 Let the praises of God be in their mouths, and a sharp sword in their hands— **7** to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples, **8** to bind their kings with shackles and their leaders with iron chains, **9** to execute the judgment written against them. This is the glorious privilege of his faithful ones. (NLT)

- Praise and mercy along with Justice and vengeance
 - ▶ Praise God for Mercy
 - ▶ Praise God for Justice
 - ▶ Praise God for removal of sin

Daniel 7:23 Then he said to me, "This fourth beast is the fourth world power that will rule the earth. It will be different from all the others. It will devour the whole world, trampling and crushing everything in its path. **24** Its ten horns are ten kings who will rule that empire. Then another king will arise, different from the other ten, who will subdue three of them. **25** He will defy the Most High and oppress the holy people of the Most High. He will try to change their sacred festivals and laws, and they will be placed under his control for a time, times, and half a time. **26** "But then the court will pass judgment, and all his power will be taken away and completely destroyed. **27** Then the sovereignty, power, and greatness of all the kingdoms under heaven will be given to the holy people of the Most High. His kingdom will last forever, and all rulers will serve and obey him." (NLT)

- God's _____ is an expression of His _____
 - ▶ Shorting of their sentence by shortening their lives
 - ▶ Reducing their punishment?
 - ▶ Their wickedness would just get worse.

Malachi 4:2 "But for you who fear my name, the Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in his wings. And you will go free, leaping with joy like calves let out to pasture. **3** On the day when I act, you will tread upon the wicked as if they were dust under your feet," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies. **4** "Remember to obey the Law of Moses, my servant—all the decrees and regulations that I gave him on Mount Sinai for all Israel. **5** "Look, I am sending you the prophet Elijah before the great and dreadful day of the Lord arrives. (NLT)

- Why are the righteous chosen?
 - ▶ Demonstration of God's power, healing, mercy, grace

- ▶ Moses and Elijah represent the law and the prophets.
- ▶ Jesus represents the fulfillment of both.

Revelation 17:14 Together they will go to war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will defeat them because he is Lord of all lords and King of all kings. And his called and chosen and faithful ones will be with him." **15** Then the angel said to me, "The waters where the prostitute is ruling represent masses of people of every nation and language. **16** The scarlet beast and his ten horns all hate the prostitute. They will strip her naked, eat her flesh, and burn her remains with fire. **17** For God has put a plan into their minds, a plan that will carry out his purposes. They will agree to give their authority to the scarlet beast, and so the words of God will be fulfilled. (NLT)

- Jesus brings us along so we _____ the completion of His promise.
 - ▶ Sin will be destroyed.
 - ▶ Enemy will be defeated.
 - ▶ Jesus will be victorious.
- We will know His _____ and see His _____

Revelation 19:14 The armies of heaven, dressed in the finest of pure white linen, followed him on white horses. **15** From his mouth came a sharp sword to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron rod. He will release the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty, like juice flowing from a winepress. **16** On his robe at his thigh[a] was written this title: King of all kings and Lord of all lords. **17** Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, shouting to the vultures flying high in the sky: "Come! Gather together for the great banquet God has prepared. **18** Come and eat the flesh of kings, generals, and strong warriors; of horses and their riders; and of all humanity, both free and slave, small and great." **19** Then I saw the beast and the kings of the world and their armies gathered together to fight against the one sitting on the horse and his army. **20** And the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who did mighty miracles on behalf of the beast—miracles that deceived all who had accepted the mark of the beast and who worshiped his statue. Both the beast and his false prophet were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur. (NLT)

- 1000 years there will be another revolt.
 - ▶ How could they revolt?
 - ▶ How long did it take the Israelites to rebel against God after coming out of Egypt?
- _____ Of Sex
 - God has something greater in store for us in heaven.
 - ▶ God gives good things to His children.
 - ▶ Why do we doubt the giver of all good things?