

The Beauty of the Bridegroom King (Rev. 19:11-21)

I. THE BEAUTY OF JESUS AT HIS TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

- A. Jesus' beauty will be manifested in a great measure before all nations at His coming. As we meditate on what He does at that time, we will be able to see His personality behind the events. No one revealed more about Jesus' second coming than Isaiah (Isa. 4:2; 24:14; 28:5; 33:17).
²In that day the Branch of the LORD [Jesus] shall be beautiful and glorious. (Isa. 4:2)
¹⁷Your eyes will see the King in His beauty... (Isa. 33:17)
- B. Jesus will be seen as the One fairer or more beautiful than all others in His activity related to the Armageddon campaign (Ps. 45:1-8; Rev. 19:11-21). The Father is now singing of Jesus' beauty (Ps. 45:17; Heb. 1:8). The Spirit is emphasizing this theme to God's people now.
***²You are fairer [more beautiful] than the sons of men; grace [power] is poured upon Your lips...³Gird Your sword upon Your thigh, O Mighty One, with Your glory and Your majesty.
⁴In Your majesty ride prosperously because of truth, humility, and righteousness... (Ps. 45:2-4)***
- C. Jesus' beauty was veiled at His first coming. Only a few with a heart of faith saw it (Jn. 1:10-11).
²He has no form [beauty, NIV] or comeliness [majesty, NIV]; and when we see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him. (Isa. 53:2)
- D. In Revelation 19:11-21, the Holy Spirit highlighted twelve aspects of God's activity related to Jesus' future triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The testimony of the rest of Scripture supplies many more details that develop a clearer picture. Out of the thousands of details that could have been emphasized, the Spirit intentionally emphasized these twelve in His zeal to glorify Jesus.
1. The Holy Spirit highlighted eight aspects of Jesus' activity in Rev. 19:11-16:
His mode of travel (v. 11) as He comes on a white horse (also on clouds as in Mt. 24:30).
His character (v. 11-12) as One who is faithful, true, righteous, and zealous.
His actions (v. 11, 15) as He judges, makes war, strikes the nations with a sword, rules them with a rod of iron, and treads the winepress of God's wrath.
His eyes (v. 12) emphasize His perfect knowledge, feelings of love and zeal, and His ability to impart supernatural power by His very gaze (2 Thes. 2:8).
His crowns (v. 12) are tokens of His past and future victories.
His names (v. 12, 13, 16) are the unknown name, the Word of God, and King of kings.
His robe (v. 13, 16) has blood on it and His name, King of kings, is on it.
His armies (v. 14) are with Him, showing His desire for partnership with His people.
 2. The Holy Spirit highlighted four aspects of God's activity in Rev. 19:17-21:
Birds will be gathered for a great supper (Rev. 19:17-18; Lk. 17:37; Ezek. 39:17).
Kings will be gathered with their armies (Rev. 19:19; Joel 3:2, 12; Zech. 14:2; Zeph. 3:8).
The Antichrist will be defeated with the false prophet before all nations (Rev. 19:20).
Birds will clean up the carnage of the dead armies of the nations (Rev. 19:21).

II. THE SETTING AROUND JERUSALEM AT JESUS' TRIUMPHAL ENTRY (REV. 19:11-21)

- A. Isaiah makes it clear that Jesus is marching up to Jerusalem from Edom (modern-day Jordan; Isa. 62:6-63:1) to win the last battle in natural history. Israel will welcome Him as the messianic king (Mt. 23:39; Ps. 24:7-10) establishing His throne in Jerusalem (Mt. 19:28; 25:31; Jer. 3:17).
- B. The last chronological event that occurs in the story line of Revelation before this great battle is the seventh bowl (Rev. 16:21), which is soon after the rapture of the Church at the last trumpet (Rev. 11:15). Jesus is described as entering the battle scene just outside of Jerusalem (Rev. 19:11-21). A parenthetical section (Rev. 17:1-19:10) describes the destruction of Babylon at the seventh bowl (Rev. 16:19), the marriage supper, and the saints being rewarded (Rev. 19:7).
- C. John saw heaven open (Rev. 19:11), revealing this final war when all the nations will gather against Jerusalem (Joel 3:2, 12; Zech. 12:3; 14:2; Zeph. 3:8; Ezek. 38:4; 39:2; Rev. 16:14).

¹¹Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. (Rev. 19:11)

1. **White horse**: His mode of travel is on a white horse of victory, with clouds (Mt 24:30). Jesus makes His triumphal entry, or royal procession, into Jerusalem on a white horse.
 2. **He judges**: He evaluates and intervenes to set things in order in the nations. He judges in the sense of deciding (Isa. 11:4) or establishing laws and policies that help the poor.
⁴With righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth... (Isa. 11:4)
 3. **He makes war**: The judgments in the seven trumpets and seven bowls (Rev. 8-9; 16) were not enough. He acts to annihilate the governments of the nations in order to set things in order. Such extreme intervention with violent action is absolutely necessary.
 4. **Faithful and true**: His activities are from godly character (faithful, true, and righteous).
- D. Jesus' eyes, many crowns, and unknown name (Rev. 19:12)
- ¹²His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. (Rev. 19:12)*
1. **Eyes of fire**: His eyes see with perfect knowledge and piercing insight. They speak of His feelings of love and zeal and they can impart power by His very gaze (2 Thes. 2:8).
 2. **Many crowns**: These speak of His past and future victories, His successful leadership. The diadem here speaks of a ruler's crown in contrast to the stephanos or victor's wreath.
 3. **Name no one knows**: Aspects of His personality and activity will be totally unexpected. Facets of His name (v. 12, 13, 16) are revealed in the context of the battle of Jerusalem.

- E. Jesus' robe being stained with the blood of His enemies fulfills the Word of God (Rev. 19:13).
¹³He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called the Word of God. (19:13)
1. **Dipped in blood:** Jesus' robe, His long outer garment, will be splattered with the blood of His enemies. The word *dipped* comes from the Greek word *baptô* from which we get the word *baptize*. Here it means dipped, in the sense of being soaked with blood from having been dipped in blood. This occurs on His march from Edom to Jerusalem (Isa. 63:1-3).
¹Who is this who comes from Edom [modern-day Jordan]...this One who is glorious in His apparel, traveling in the greatness of His strength?... ²Why is Your apparel red, and Your garments like one who treads in the winepress? ³"I have trodden the winepress... their blood is sprinkled on My garments, and I have stained all My robes." (Isa. 63:1-3)
 2. **Word of God:** All that Jesus does in the battle of Jerusalem upholds the Scripture.
- F. Jesus has desire for partnership with His people even as He takes over the nations (Rev. 19:14).
¹⁴The armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. (Rev. 19:14)
1. **Armies:** Jesus enters Jerusalem with a vast army of resurrected saints and angels (Zech. 14:5; 1 Thes. 3:13; 4:13-17; Rev. 17:14). The first time the Bride appears with Jesus on the world stage is during His royal procession into Jerusalem.
 2. **Followed Him:** For the saints to follow Jesus implies that He is traveling at this time.
 3. **White and clean:** "White" is bright in (v. 8) speaking of clothing with the supernatural qualities of God's glory and light (Ps. 104:2; Mt. 17:2). White speaks of purity. The love and purity that she walked in will be demonstrated in her garments. Raptured believers will be evaluated and rewarded at the time Jesus returns (Mt. 16:27; Rev. 11:18; 22:12).
⁸And to her [the Bride] was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. (Rev. 19:8)
- G. Jesus' actions in judging the nations include striking them with the sword of His mouth, ruling them with a rod of iron, and treading the winepress of God's wrath (Rev. 19:15).
¹⁵Out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of...wrath... (Rev. 19:15)
1. **Strikes the nations:** By the decree of His mouth, His end-time judgments are released.
⁴He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. (Isa. 11:4)
 2. **Treads the winepress of wrath:** This is described in verses 19-21 in the last battle, where He transitions all governments of the earth in one great event. This is the only time in history when all the kings of the earth are together in the same city at the same time.

- H. Jesus is recognized by all the earth as the King of kings (Rev. 19:16). Jesus will take over all the governments of the earth and never relinquish that position, for the glory of God and the good of His people forever. He will reign forever; He will never be replaced, resign, or be defeated.

*¹⁶He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: **KING OF KINGS**... (Rev. 19:16)*

⁹The LORD shall be King over all the earth. (Zech. 14:9)

III. THE SPIRIT HIGHLIGHTED FOUR ASPECTS OF GOD'S ACTIVITY IN REV. 19:17-21

- A. Birds will be gathered for a great supper to feast on the Antichrist's army (Rev. 19:17-18).

¹⁷I saw an angel...saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather for the supper of the great God, ¹⁸that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses...and the flesh of all people..." (Rev. 19:17-18)

1. **All the birds**: There will be a supernatural gathering of birds. There are over 200 billion birds on the earth right now. The great supper of God is an invitation for the birds to feed themselves on the dead bodies of the soldiers killed in the battle of Jerusalem (v. 21). Jesus highlighted eagles, when speaking of this gathering of birds (Mt. 24:28; Lk. 17:37).

2. **The supper**: Ezekiel prophesied of this supper by calling it God's meal (Ezek. 39:17-29). God's great supper for the birds is in contrast to the wedding feast (Rev. 19:7, 9). They are expressions of same reality of transitioning the government of the earth to Jesus.

¹⁷Speak to every sort of bird and to every beast of the field: "Assemble yourselves...to My sacrificial meal...on the mountains of Israel, that you may eat flesh and drink blood. ¹⁸You shall eat the flesh of the mighty, drink the blood of the princes...¹⁹You shall eat fat till you are full, and drink blood till you are drunk, at My sacrificial meal...²⁰You shall be filled at My table with...all the men of war..." (Ezek. 39:17-20)

- B. Kings will be gathered with their armies (Rev. 19:19; Joel 3:2, 12; Zech. 14:2; Zeph. 3:8).

¹⁹And I saw the beast [Antichrist], the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him [Jesus] who sat on the horse and against His army. (Rev. 19:19)

- C. The Antichrist will be defeated with the false prophet before all the nations (Rev. 19:20).

²⁰Then the beast [Antichrist] was captured, and with him the false prophet... (Rev. 19:20)

- D. Birds will clean up the carnage of the dead armies (Rev. 19:21). They will eat the flesh of millions of dead soldiers so that they do not cause disease in Israel just as the Millennium starts.

²¹And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh. (Rev. 19:21)

²⁰And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs [about 200 miles]. (Rev. 14:20)