

REVELATION



19

Heavenly Praise for God's Judgments (Verses 1–6)

- The Multitude Rejoices (vv. 1–3)
- “Hallelujah!” is shouted—first time this word appears in the New Testament.
- Praise for God’s righteous judgment of Babylon.
- Her smoke rises forever—symbol of permanent destruction.

Babylon

- Remember that Babylon is the CENTER of all man's rebellion.
- Ch 17 is the religious system.
- Ch 18 is the political / economical system.
- Both of these rebel against God.
- The start of Babylon came from Nimrod, whose name means rebel
- Rebelling against God is THE CORE ISSUE.

Babylon: The Symbol of Rebellion

- Babylon isn't just a city — it represents the world system: corrupt religion, politics, and economics aligned against God.
- In Revelation 17–18, Babylon is:
 - A harlot (false religion)
 - A great city (economic and political power)
 - Drunk with the blood of the saints (persecution of believers)
- Its motto could be: “We will not have God rule over us.”

Satan: The Original Rebel

- Lucifer's fall (Isaiah 14:12–14; Ezekiel 28) shows pride and a desire to be like God — **the root of all rebellion.**
- He deceived Eve with the same idea: “*You shall be like God...*” (Genesis 3:5).
- In Revelation:
 - He is the dragon (Rev. 12)
 - He empowers the beast/antichrist (Rev. 13)
 - He deceives the nations (Rev. 20)
- His goal is to oppose God and destroy God's people.

Fallen Man: Inherited Rebellion

- All humanity is born with a sinful nature that **resists God's rule** (Romans 3:10–12).
- The spirit of antichrist isn't just future — it's already in the world (1 John 4:3).
- In Revelation, people:
 - Refuse to repent (Rev. 9:20–21)
 - Curse God during the judgments (Rev. 16:9, 11)
 - Worship the beast instead of the Lamb

What did we Inherited?

- Genesis 2:17 – *"But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat..."*
Genesis 3:6 – *"She took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband... and he ate."*
- They directly disobeyed God's only command, even though they had everything else they could want in paradise.

Why Is It Rebellion?

- They rejected God's authority
- God said “do not,” and they said (in action), “we will.”
- Even though Satan **deceived** Eve, the decision to eat was still theirs.
- They wanted independence
- *"You will be like God, knowing good and evil." (Genesis 3:5)*
- The temptation wasn't just about food — it was about being equal with God, deciding right and wrong for themselves.
- Adam knowingly sinned
- Eve was deceived (1 Timothy 2:14), but Adam wasn't — he willfully chose to disobey.
- This makes it a conscious act of rebellion, especially for Adam.

To sum this up,

- Lucifer rebelled first
- Then other angels rebelled with him.
- Then Lucifer tempted first man to rebel.
 - Because of that now all men born are born with a rebellious heart and in a rebellious state.
- Nimrod led mankind to organize man's rebellion in what is called "Babylon."
- This is led and powered by Lucifer AKA The dragon

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VS 1

- With the understanding that it all boils down to rebellion, the smoking rising forever—symbol of permanent destruction on rebellion!
- Let's take a look at some words that are spoken.
- Salvation (Greek: *sōtēria*)
- Meaning: Deliverance, rescue, or preservation from danger or destruction
- In Revelation 19, it celebrates:
 - God's final deliverance of His people
 - The destruction of Babylon (Rev 18), symbolizing the end of rebellion's rule
- This is not just personal salvation—it's cosmic victory over rebellion.

Glory (Greek: *doxa*)

- Meaning: Splendor, brilliance, majesty, the manifestation of God's divine nature
- God's character is revealed in judgment and redemption.
- His glory is seen in:
 - His justice against rebellion (Babylon)
 - His faithfulness to His promises
 - His righteous rule being established
 - God's actions reveal His true greatness and majesty.

Honor (Greek: *timē*)

- Meaning: Value, worth, respect
- God is worthy of highest esteem from all creation.
- Even in judgment, He is just, right, and deserving of reverence.
- This is a public acknowledgment of God's supreme worth.
- All of heaven recognizes God's perfect character and justice.

Power (Greek: *dunamis*)

- Meaning: Strength, might, miraculous force
- God alone had the power to bring Babylon down.
- He is the One who will now establish His kingdom.
- His power is not just destructive—it's redemptive.
- God has the power to destroy evil and establish everlasting righteousness.

The 24 Elders and Four Living Creatures Join In (v. 4)

- The 24 Elders and Four Living Creatures Join In (v. 4)
- Bowing and worshiping, affirming God's reign and justice.
- The Voice from the Throne (vv. 5–6)
- A call to all servants to praise the Lord.
- The sound of mighty waters and peals of thunder: “Hallelujah! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!”

Now the fun begins... The Marriage.

- *"Let us rejoice and be glad and give Him glory! For the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready... Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb!"*
- What is not said:
- The Church is not explicitly called the Bride here.
- There is no direct statement that the Church is now "married."
- The term "wife" (Greek: *gynē*) is used, but without specific identification.

The Church Remains the Body of Christ

- the Church is always called the Body, never officially titled "Bride" in the doctrinal epistles.
- 1 Corinthians 12:27 – *“Now you are the body of Christ...”*
- Romans 12:5, Ephesians 1:22–23, Colossians 1:18
- The Church:
 - Is joined to Christ as a body to its head (Eph. 5:30)
 - Is not absorbed into a new identity post-rapture
 - Is co-heirs, co-rulers, and co-reigners, not just guests or bridesmaids (2 Timothy 2:12, Revelation 20:4–6)

A Kingdom Book Written to Israel

- Matthew is a Kingdom-focused gospel, written specifically to the Jews, with a strong emphasis on the Kingdom of Heaven, which aligns prophetically with the Millennial reign of Christ.
- Audience
- Matthew's Gospel was written primarily to Jewish readers.
- It begins with a genealogy of Jesus from Abraham and David (Matt 1:1–17) — showing His legal right to Israel's throne.

Theme: The Kingdom of Heaven

- Used 32 times in Matthew — nowhere else.
- It refers to the Messianic, earthly reign of Christ — what we call the Millennial Kingdom in Revelation 20.
- This is the literal kingdom promised to Israel in the Old Testament (2 Samuel 7, Isaiah 9, Jeremiah 23).

Kingdom of Heaven” ≠ “Kingdom of God”

- Kingdom of Heaven: Earthly, physical, Davidic reign of Messiah — what Jews were expecting.
- Kingdom of God: Broader, spiritual realm including God's universal rule over all.

Key Kingdom Teachings in Matthew (Prophetic to Israel)

Passage	Description	Connection to Millennium
Matt 3:2	“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”	John the Baptist offering the Kingdom to Israel
Matt 5–7	Sermon on the Mount	Kingdom ethics — how Israel will live under Messiah
Matt 10:5–7	Sent to “the lost sheep of Israel”	Specific mission to Israel, not Gentiles
Matt 13	Parables of the Kingdom	Explains the mystery form of the Kingdom in rejection
Matt 24–25	Olivet Discourse	Timeline of Tribulation and Christ’s return to reign
Matt 25:31–46	Sheep and Goat Judgment	Happens after Second Coming, before Millennium

Matthew and the Millennium

- Jesus' return in Matthew 24–25 sets up the Millennial Kingdom described in Revelation 20.
- Israel's role is central in that reign:
 - Twelve apostles ruling the twelve tribes (Matt 19:28)
 - Jesus sitting on David's throne (Matt 25:31; Isa. 9:7)
 - The Temple is rebuilt, worship is restored, and Torah is taught from Zion (Isaiah 2:2–4)

Summary:

Point

Gospel of Matthew

Emphasis

Timeline

Dispensational role

Relation to Church

Truth

Written primarily to Jews

Earthly, literal **Kingdom of Heaven**

Looks forward to Christ's 1,000-year reign

Bridges OT prophecies with the Millennial Kingdom

Church is hinted at (Matt 16:18) but not central

Understanding the Bible and rightly dividing the Word of truth

- The Gospels (Mark (to believers in Rome), Luke (To Theophilus) and John (all believers)) were written for **believers** (to show who Jesus is)
- Romans through Philemon were written to the Church (to explain what Jesus accomplished and how the Church is to live under grace).

Back to Matthew.

- If we accept that Matthew as a Kingdom of heaven letter written to the Jews, then we have a problem with the wedding parable. If the wedding takes place in heaven, after the rapture and Jesus comes back with the Bride in CH 19.the Jews are not invited to the wedding at all.

MATTHEW 22

- And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: 2“**The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, 3and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come.**

Matthew 22:1–14 – The Parable of the Wedding Feast

Character

The King

The Son

The Wedding

First Invited Guests

New Guests (from highways)

Man without wedding garment

Represents

God the Father

Jesus Christ

The Kingdom (offered in the Millennium)

Israel (the Jews under the Law)

Gentiles (and whosoever will)

False professors or intruders — not truly righteous

Matthew 22: Wedding = Kingdom of Heaven

- *“The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son...”* (Matt. 22:2)
- In Matthew's context (a Kingdom book to the Jews), this wedding feast parable is clearly symbolic of the Millennial Kingdom — the 1,000-year reign of Christ on earth.
- The kingdom itself is described as the wedding celebration, not just the ceremony.

Revelation 19:7–8 — What Does It Actually Say?

- *“Let us be glad and rejoice... for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready. And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright...”*
- Key observations:
- The bride (or wife) is ready — prepared, adorned.
- But there is **no actual wedding ceremony described in the chapter.**
- Immediately after this announcement, Jesus returns to earth to make war (Rev 19:11–21).

- This is not the wedding itself, but the announcement that:
- “The time is approaching... she is now ready.”
- At this point, the Church is glorified, rewarded, and ready.
- But the Millennial reign must still happen — and Israel has not yet joined the celebration.
- Rev 20:4–6 = saints reign with Christ 1,000 years as still the Body.
- Zechariah 12–14 = Israel repents and enters the kingdom.

The Wedding Happens After the 1,000 Years

- Revelation 21:2 – *“The holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down... prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.”*
- Revelation 21:9–10 – *“Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.”*
- Now the bride is not just the Church — it includes all redeemed (Israel, Gentiles, etc.) dwelling in the New Jerusalem. VERSE 5!!!!
- This is after the Millennium and after all judgment is complete.
- Just because the bride makes herself ready (Rev 19) doesn't mean the marriage is complete.
The wedding is not consummated until after the Millennium, when all of God's people — Israel, Church, and others redeemed — are united with Christ in the eternal state.

Full Circle!

- Just because the bride makes herself ready (Rev 19) doesn't mean the marriage is complete. The wedding is not consummated until after the Millennium, and after the release of Satan one more time, when all of God's people — Israel, Church, and others redeemed — are united with Christ in the eternal state.

Marriage in God's Eyes: Two Become One

- “*The two shall become one flesh.*” — Genesis 2:24
Repeated by Jesus in Matthew 19:5–6
Applied spiritually in Ephesians 5:31–32 as a mystery of Christ and the Church
- In God’s pattern:
- Marriage = unity, not just ceremony.
- True marriage is about permanent covenantal union — *oneness of purpose, spirit, and identity.*

Revelation 21 — When Is This Oneness Fully Achieved?

- *“Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men... and He will dwell with them.”* (Rev 21:3)
“The bride... the wife of the Lamb” (Rev 21:9)
- What's just happened?
- All rebellion is judged:
 - Satan is cast into the lake of fire (Rev 20:10)
 - The wicked dead judged (Rev 20:11–15)
 - Death and hell destroyed
- Now, nothing remains but oneness between God and the redeemed.
- The two (God + His redeemed) become one dwelling — New Jerusalem, God's eternal union with His people.

Final thoughts

Stage

Preparation

Cleansing of rebellion

Marriage union

Fulfillment

Church makes herself ready (Rev 19:7)

Satan judged, death defeated (Rev 20)

God and His redeemed dwell together in oneness
(Rev 21)

True marriage in God's design is the result of all rebellion being judged and removed.

Only then can true unity and covenantal oneness be fully realized — and that's what happens in Revelation 21, after the final judgment.