

REVELATION 19:1-10

Hallelujah

A
S
O
N
G

O
F

V
I
C
T
O
R
Y

Introduction:

+ In stark contrast to what we saw in chapter 18, this chapter begins with a grand celebration in heaven. The cause of this celebration is the judgment of the wicked and vindication of the saints graphically described in Chapter 18.

+ After the vision of this celebration, another vision of the destruction of Satan and the wicked is given (vv. 11-21).

Rev. 19:1-4 (The First Stanza of the Hallelujah Chorus)

+ *“The loud voice of a great multitude in heaven”* – This is the collected voice of all believers of all time assembled before the throne and joined to the host of angels. They are praising God for taking vengeance upon their enemies and for ushering in the New Age of His Eternal Kingdom.

Rev. 19:1-4 (The First Stanza of the Hallelujah Chorus)

+ *“Salvation and glory and power belong to our God”* – The saints and angels sing this hymn of praise to the only God who exists and reigns over the universe. Finally, all people will know the truth that YAHWEH is the only true God. All the ridicule and persecution His saints endured during their lives on earth has finally been justified, for God has proven Himself faithful to His promises, and has shown all people that He and His judgments are *“true and just.”*

It may seem odd that the saints and angels would celebrate the destruction of the wicked. We can't fully understand this because we're still plagued by sin in this life. Thus, we are prone to say, *"Wait a minute, why the celebration? Shouldn't the saints and angels be lamenting the fact that a vast majority of humankind have been cast into Hell to suffer eternal torment?"* Yet, when the Day comes, we will fully understand. On that great Day, we, for the first time, will know true Life – Life without the wickedness of sin and all its consequences. And, we will know that the source and cause of all wickedness has been eternally removed from us as Satan, and all his followers, is cast into Hell. Thus, we celebrate!



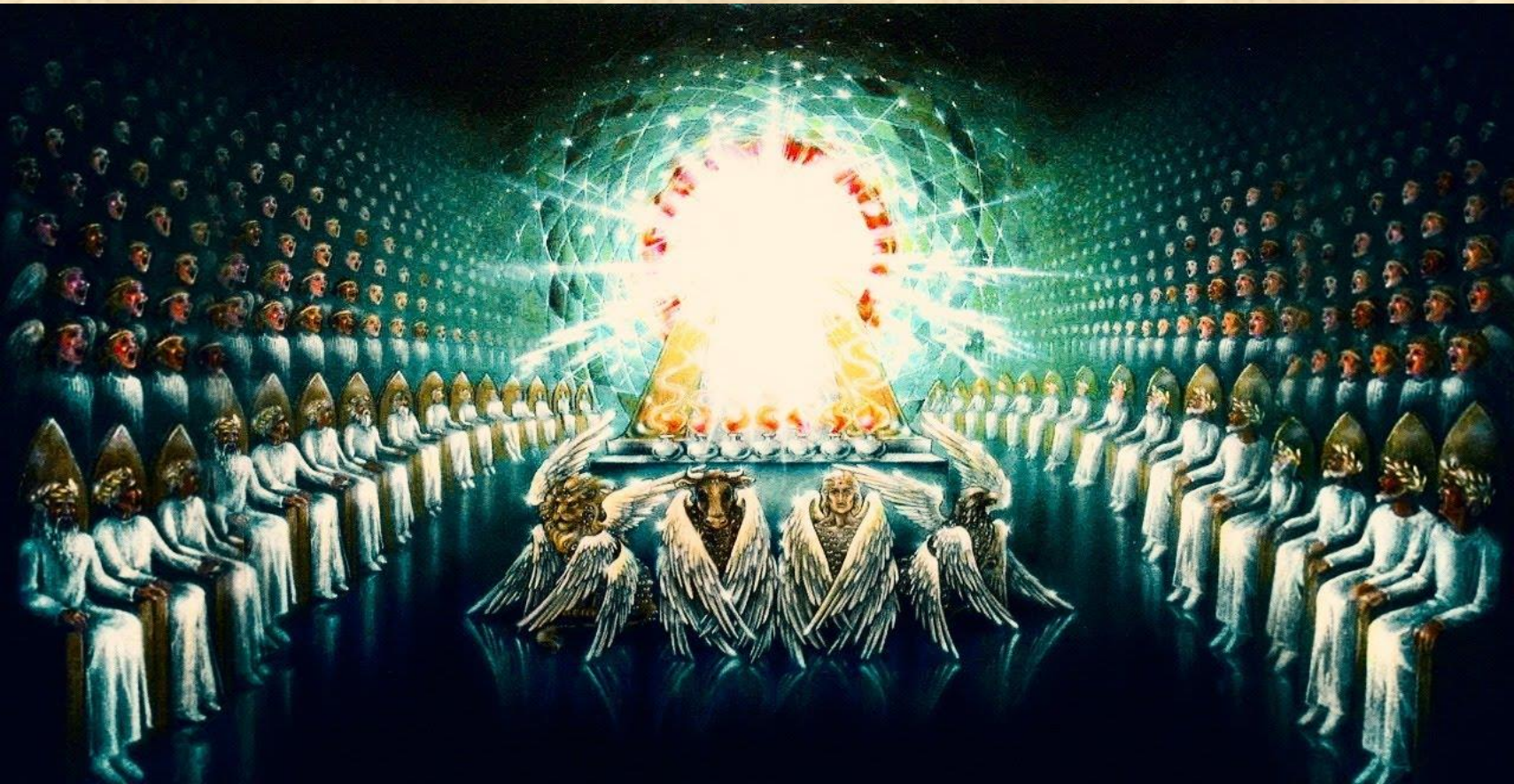
A
S
O
N
G
O
F
V
I
C
T
O
R
Y

+ *“The smoke from her (Babylon the Great) goes up forever and ever”* – Sin, death, and devil are destroyed forever! No more to plague God’s people, who will live eternally in His Kingdom.

There will be no reprieve, no appeal, no release for good behavior; the wicked will suffer forever! Her smoke is the demonstration that her judgment is final, which moves all of heaven to rejoice by shouting out a second...

HALLELUJAH!

+ *“Twenty-four elders and four living creatures”* – Cf. chapters 4 and 5; all of heaven joins in the grand celebration! This is what heaven has been waiting and praying for – the End of this Age and the beginning of the New Eternal Age to come.



A
S
O
N
G
O
F
V
I
C
T
O
R
Y

You may be surprised to know that heaven is NOT the final destination of the saints (your final destination), as many erroneously fail to understand. Heaven (paradise) is the interim place where the spirits of the faithful departed join the host of angels in worship and prayer before the throne of God; it's their place of rest! The saints and angels pray and long for the Day when Christ will be sent back to earth for the Final Judgment, for then they will be resurrected and enter into Christ's Eternal Kingdom in both body and soul to live forever, not in heaven or Paradise, but in the New Heaven and New Earth!



A
S
O
N
G
O
F



Rev. 19:5

+ *“Praise [Him Who Alone is] our God, all you his slaves, and those who fear him, the small and the great.”* - As the great hallelujah’s are resounding and still ringing in John’s ears, he hears a *“voice came out from the throne.”* This voice is a voice of invitation to all of God’s people, both *“the small and the great”* to worship and praise Him. Again, this voice is unidentified, although it comes *“out from the throne.”* This leads us to believe that it must be one of the angels of God’s presence who stand before and wait upon Him (cf. Rev. 4:11; 21:3; also consider Luke 1:19).

Rev. 19:5

All of heaven is called upon to worship the Lord, who now has, at last, taken His reign and demonstrates before the entire creation that He, the Lord Yahweh, is King!

What is meant, though, by “*the small and the great?*” A very telling and dramatic illustration of this phrase is seen at our Lord First Advent!

As Jesus begins the establishment of His reign, lowly shepherds came to worship the newborn Christ (Luke 2:8-20); later Magi too came to adore the Christ Child (Matt. 2:1-12).

Rev. 19:6-10

+ The hymn of praise continues, for *“the marriage of the Lamb has come.”* Finally, the Bride (the Church; you and me) will be joined to her Bridegroom (Jesus) in a grand ceremony and celebration. This is the fulfillment of the Church Militant’s anticipation throughout history. Already in this life, we who belong to the true Church are the Bride of Christ, but on the Last Day we will see that reality in full. Already, we partake of the Feast of the Lamb in Holy Communion; yet, on the Last Day, we will enjoy the Feast of the Lamb in His Kingdom, which will have no end.

The

M
A
R
R
I
A
G
E

F
E
A
S
T

of
the

L
A
M
B

Rev. 19:6-10

+ *“His Bride has prepared herself . . . given to her . . . pure, bright linen . . .”* – Throughout Revelation, we have been shown what the saints look like. They are clothed in white garments, which refer to the holiness and righteousness of Christ that covers them like a robe. They are given these white garments at Baptism and their garments are kept pure through the Blood of the Lamb as they receive Him in His Holy Word and in Holy Communion. Here, the fine linen is said to be *“the righteous deeds of the saints,”* since it is the righteous deeds of Christ in which they are clothed which makes them pure and holy. Only those who are properly clothed are *“invited to the feast of the marriage of the Lamb,”* that is, only those who, through repentance and faith, are clothed in Christ.

The

M
A
R
R
I
A
G
E

F
E
A
S
T

of
the

L
A
M
B

Rev. 19:6-10

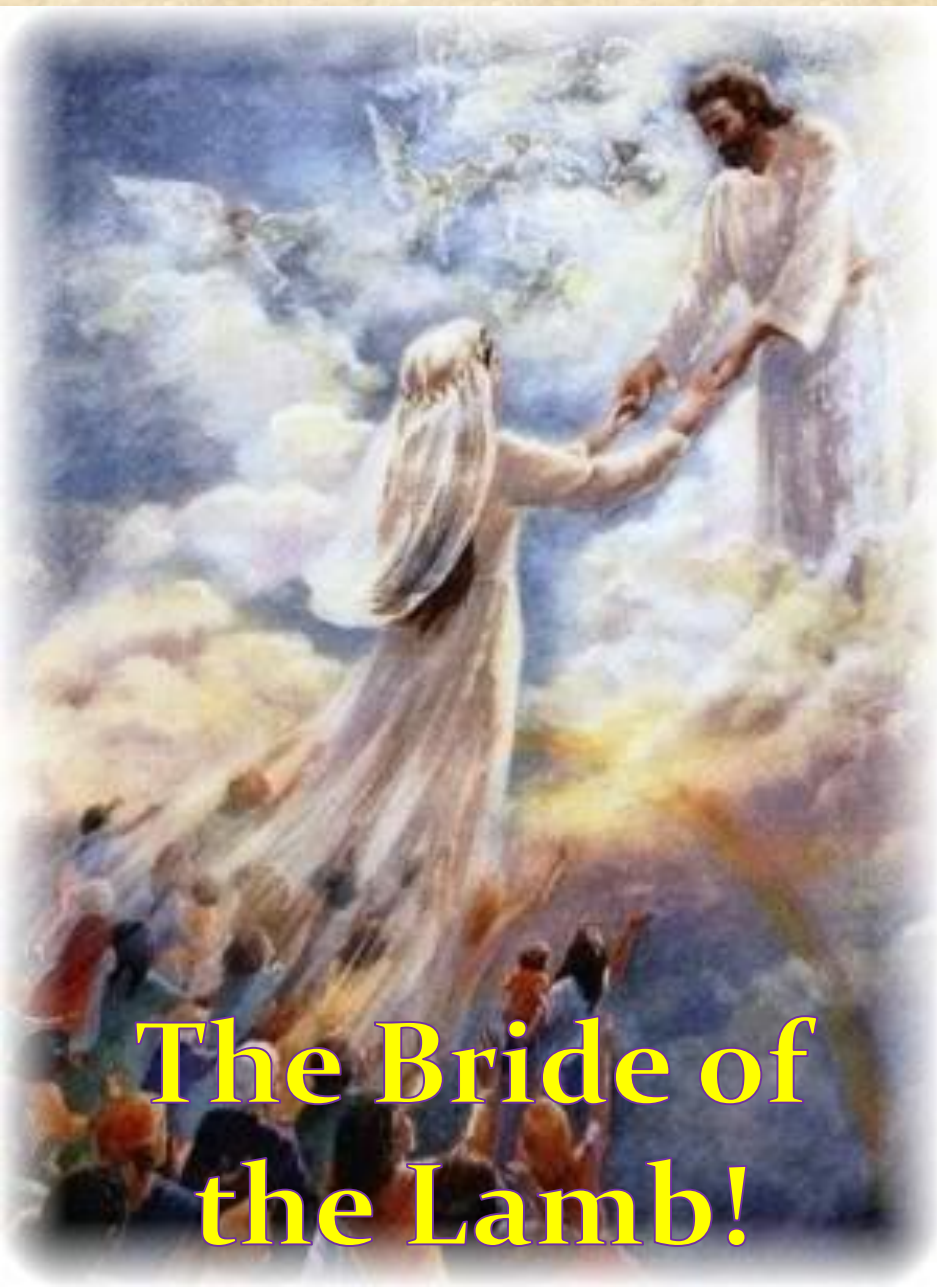
– This is the fourth of seven Beatitudes in Revelation (cf. Rev. 1:3; 14:13; 16:15; here; 20:6; 22:7, 14). This Beatitude is pronounced over all those who have been invited to the wedding of the Lord Christ and His Bride.

The Bride has kept her garment of righteousness, which covers her nakedness and keeps her pure and virgin (16:15), and her wedding garment is ready to wear, for her works have followed her (14:13). She's now ready and her Divine Husband receives her – this is the grandest of all blessings!

+ “Write, ‘Blessed are those who have been invited to the feast of the marriage of the Lamb.’”



Rev. 19:6-10



**The Bride of
the Lamb!**

**So we have the
Bridegroom and Bride
present...so who are
the guests? In reality,
the guests are the
Bride! The Bride in the
collective sense
consists of the guests
who have been invited
and who have been
brought into the feast
(Matt. 22:1-14). Thus,
the guests of honor...**

The

M
A
R
R
I
A
G
E

F
E
A
S
T

of
the

L
A
M
B

Rev. 19:6-10

+ *“See that you do not [do that]!”* – John is so moved by this awesome vision of what he has seen and heard (17:1 – 19:10) that he falls down to worship before the angel. The angel quickly rebukes him, reminding him that worship belongs to God and God alone.



The

M
A
R
R
I
A
G
E

F
E
A
S
T

of
the

L
A
M
B

Rev. 19:6-10



+ *“the witness of Jesus is the Spirit of the prophecy”*
- This is a clear reference to the fact that all of the prophecies of the Old Testament are fulfilled in Jesus and is the same witness that the apostles and John and the saints of God now hold concerning the Christ, and it is the witness which they proclaim to the world!

The

M
A
R
R
I
A
G
E

F
E
A
S
T

of
the

L
A
M
B