

The Rider on the White Horse

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Revelation 19:6-21.

B. This is the Second Coming of Jesus.

C. Heaven breaks into praise over the mystery of Babylon the Great and then comes to a crescendo to announce the true bride of Christ.

II. The bride is all the saints who have been glorified throughout all time.

A. This includes both the church and Old Testament saints. (Matthew 24)

B. That the bride has made herself ready indicates that the time of the judgment seat is over.

III. The invitation to the wedding feast is the gospel. (Matthew 22)

A. Every believer will be a part of the Lord Himself.

B. John is so moved by this that he falls down to worship the angel, but he is rebuked and told to worship God.

C. All prophesy is designed to point to Jesus.

IV. All events move to the unveiling of the presence of Jesus in great glory.

A. This is called the splendor of His coming—the outshining of His presence. (II Thessalonians)

B. Jesus' invisible presence is made present here. (Revelation 1)

C. The Rider's names.

1. Faithful and True—the Lord comes to exercise perfect justice.

2. The name no one knows but Himself that is tied to His blazing eyes and diadem on His head. This points to discernment and authority, or omniscience and omnipotence vested in a man.

3. The Word of God. This is associated with the robe dipped in blood, the armies following Him, and the sword coming from His mouth. The robe is a reference to a dialogue with the prophet Isaiah about the coming of Christ (Isaiah 63). The sword is the Word of God that smites us. The armies depict the church coming with Jesus in glory (Jude) as well as the host of angels.

4. The King of Kings and Lord of Lords. This is linked to Jesus' ruling with an iron scepter. This speaks to the Lord's shepherding over the nations (Psalm 2). Jesus' righteousness will be tough and unbending.

V. The effect of the Lord's appearance on the anti-Christian enemies.

A. There is a call to a great slaughter, which refers to the battle of Armageddon. (Ezekiel 38-39, Joel 2, Daniel 11)

B. The Beast and the Prophet are thrown into the Lake of Fire for eternal judgment, while the rest are destroyed by the Word of God.

VI. The very essence of prophesy is to testify to Jesus. What do you do with Jesus? He is the answer to all of life.

Application questions:

1. How has the Word of God penetrated you about a matter of which you were guilty? What was the right response in this situation?

2. What did you learn about Jesus that is different from our culture's expectations of Jesus? Explain.

3. Should we be encouraged, as Christians that those opposed to the Christian faith will meet their demise? Explain.
