

Revelation 19:11-16

In Acts 1:9-11, Jesus Christ made a statement that He would return the same way He left. When He left, He left physically, visibly, and literally. He will return the same way but there will be some major differences. **This is the great predicted moment of all of time, the time when Jesus Christ, who is God, comes in all of His glory to reign on this earth as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.**

There are ten descriptions of Jesus Christ here:

Description #1 - Jesus Christ will come with specific transportation. **19:11a**

When Christ went to Jerusalem the first time, He went riding a little donkey. When He comes the next time He will ride a “white horse.” The “white horse” speaks of a military conquering. Dr. John Walvoord said, “The fact that Christ comes on a white horse indicates that it is a time for His victory and for judgment on the wicked world” (p. 619).

Description #2 - Jesus Christ will come as faithful judge. **19:11b**

This verse makes it very clear that Jesus Christ is not coming to save the lost world, like the first time, He is coming to judge it. He is coming to wage war as judge. He is not coming to offer grace or peace, but He is coming to make war and bring judgment.

There are three facts we learn about this:

(Fact #1) - Jesus Christ is coming as faithful judge.

(Fact #2) - Jesus Christ is coming as true judge.

(Fact #3) - Jesus Christ is coming as righteous judge.

Description #3 - Jesus Christ will come with judgmental eyes. **19:12a**

Jesus Christ has seen everything and now He is coming to judge based on what He has seen. The eyes of Jesus Christ will be like “blazing fire” which means fierce judgment.

Description #4 - Jesus Christ will come in complete royalty. **19:12b**

When the Antichrist surfaced, he had ten diadems (13:1), when Jesus Christ returns He has many. The word “diadem” means Christ is wearing many crowns of royalty, not victory. Christ is not coming as “a” king but as “the King of Kings.”

Description #5 - Jesus Christ will come with a special private name . **19:12c**

We know that Israel is going to receive a new name (Isaiah 62:2-5) and the Church will receive a new name (Revelation 2:17; 3:12); what we learn here is that when Christ returns, **He will have a name written upon Himself that is not revealed. No one knows it.**

Description #6 - Jesus Christ will come wearing a bloodstained robe . **19:13a**

The blood stained robe will be something all will see and it will indicate two things:

- 1) It will indicate that Jesus suffered and shed His blood and now it is payback time.
- 2) It will indicate that Jesus' family suffered and their blood was shed and now it is payback time.

Description #7 - Jesus Christ will come with a specific identifiable name . **19:13b**

He is specifically called “The Word of the God.” Here is a title that only belongs to Jesus Christ. Everything He is, everything He does, and everything He says is the Word of God, including His judgments (Isaiah 11:4).

Description #8 - Jesus Christ will come and bring armies . **19:14**

Jude predicted this very moment in Jude 14-15. The armies coming with Jesus Christ have a unique Christological resemblance:

- 1) The armies have been in heaven and come from heaven. **19:14a**
These are heavenly saints from the Church Age and Tribulation
- 2) The armies are clothed in fine linen, which is white and clean. **19:14b**
Clothing not bloodstained but pure.
- 3) The armies are riding white horses. **19:14c**
Satan had his evil cavalry (Rev. 9:7, 16, 17, 19); now it is God's turn.

Description #9 - Jesus Christ will come pronouncing judgments . **19:15**

There is a horrific day of judgment predicted in Scripture that offers no grace (Amos 5:18-20; Obadiah 15-16; Micah 5:15; Nahum 1:2, 5, 6; Zephaniah 1:7, 14-18). This is that judgment here.

Jesus Christ comes with a sharp sword to judge and this judgment accomplishes three things:

- 1) This judgment will smite the nations. **19:15a**
- 2) This judgment will rule the nations. **19:15b**
- 3) This judgment will pour out wrath on the nations. **19:15c**

One had better stand in awe of the Word of God because the same Word that offers grace will pronounce wrath.

Description #10 - Jesus Christ will come as visible King. **19:16**

When the text says His name is “KINGS OF KINGS” it means that of all the kings and rulers who have ever reigned, Jesus Christ is the King of all kings. He is the God King.

When the text says He is “LORD OF LORDS” it means that Jesus Christ is God, He is the LORD GOD OVER ALL.

Jesus Christ is coming back in total deity and royalty and with complete authority.

Revelation 19:17-21

In Ezekiel 39:17-20, there is a very unusual prediction of birds and beasts being called by God to the mountains of Israel to clean up dead bodies by eating flesh and drinking blood at what is called God’s table. Job records that there are certain birds specifically designed to drink up blood and eat flesh carnage.

In this section we see another supper called “the great supper of God” (**19:17**). This is distinct from the marriage supper of the Lamb. The “marriage supper of the Lamb” has to do with our relationship to Jesus Christ; “the great supper of God” has to do with Jesus Christ’s judgment of evil. Dr. John Walvoord pointed out that these suppers are in sharp contrast with one another, with one meal being for us and the other being for the birds (*The Revelation*, p. 279).

There are three distinct events that are connected to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ:

Event #1 - The cry of the angel. **19:17-18**

The first thing this angel does is cry out with a “loud voice.” This loud voice signals that something very important is about to happen (6:10; 7:2, 10; 10:3; 14:15; 18:2). We may also observe that this angel is standing in the glory of the sun, which means what is about to happen reflects the glory of heaven. Now this angel cries out in “midheaven,” which is the stellar heaven where the sun is located, to all of the birds and he calls the birds to get ready for the greatest meal of their lives.

They are invited to get ready to eat the flesh of the carnage of a massive amount of dead bodies that Jesus Christ is just about to produce. People are going to physically die at the Second Coming of Jesus Christ and their souls will be in Hades. These birds will end up eating the flesh of kings, commanders, mighty men, horses, all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great.

Event #2 - The reaction of the beast and the kings. **19:19**

The “beast” (the Antichrist) gathers all political leaders of the earth who are left, to raise up a united military for the purpose of fighting against Jesus Christ and His army.

(285)

Event #3 - The judgment of Jesus Christ. **19:20-21**

When Jesus Christ comes in all of His glory He will immediately take two actions:

(Action #1) - He will cast alive into hell the Antichrist (13:1-20) and the false prophet (13:11-16).

Jesus Christ doesn't even kill these two, He just casts them into the lake of fire as they are, body and all (Isaiah 14:15,18-19). Many observe that there is a distinction between "Hades" and the "lake of fire." The "lake of fire" is the eternal hell and "Hades" is the temporal hell for unbelievers until they are sentenced to the "eternal lake of fire." What this would mean is that the Antichrist and the false prophet are the first two persons who enter the eternal hell. We know from Revelation 20:7, 14 that when Satan finally is thrown here, the Antichrist and false prophet are already there and have been for 1000 years.

(Action #2) - He will physically destroy the godless army. **19:21**

The rest of the satanic forces who are alive when Christ returns are immediately physically executed. Their bodies become food for the birds because their bodies do not go to hell, just their souls.

Revelation 20:1-15

When Gabriel announced to Mary that she would give birth to Jesus, he said that He would eventually sit on a Davidic throne and have a Kingdom (**Luke 1:30-33**).

The last of the O.T. prophets was John the Baptist (**Matthew 11:13**). When John the Baptist came preaching, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (**Matthew 3:2**), not one Jew ever asked, “What do you mean by kingdom?” When Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (**Matthew 4:17**), no one ever asked Him what He meant by talking about “the kingdom.” When the apostles took their Kingdom gospel to the “lost sheep of the house of Israel” (**Matthew 10:5-7**), not one Israelite ever questioned what was meant by the “kingdom.”

When Jesus said to the nation of Israel that the program of God had been put into abeyance until there was a national repentance (**Matthew 23:37-39**), and when Jesus finally ascended back to heaven, His disciples were clearly thinking about Israel’s kingdom (**Acts 1:6**).

When Paul wrote the gospel for the Grace Age in Romans, he clearly spoke of a time when God would fulfill His Kingdom promises to Israel (**Romans 11:25-27**).

One would have to overlook many passages of Scripture to miss the fact that Israel was and is looking for and longing for a kingdom here on this earth. They knew there would come a time when a Davidic King would rule the earth from sea to sea (**Psalms 72:8**). They knew that one day this Israeli Kingdom would be ushered in by Divine force (**Zechariah 12:9; 14:1-6, 16**).

The Kingdom that all of these passages predict is the Millennium found in Revelation 20.

Revelation 20 is one of the great prophetic chapters in the Bible.

- 1) The one thousand year Millennium . **20:1-7**
- 2) The one thousand year binding of Satan . **20:1-3**
- 3) The one thousand year reign of Jesus Christ and those who reign with Jesus Christ. **20:4-6**
- 4) The final attack of Satan . **20:7-9**
- 5) The final end of Satan . **20:10**
- 6) The Great White Throne Judgment . **20:11-15**

Millennium Questions

QUESTION #1 – What do we mean by the term Millennium?

This passage in Revelation is the passage from which we get the term “Millennium.” The actual word comes from the Latin “mille” which means one thousand and “annus” which means year (we get our English word “annual” from this word). The actual Greek word chilioi (χιλιοι) is also one that means “a thousand.” Therefore “millennialism” is often referred to as “chiliasm.” Six times in Revelation 20:2-7 the word “a thousand years” is used (**20:2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7**).

(287)

Dr. Ryrie Charles Ryrie said, “Six times in Revelation 20:2-7 the length of the Millennium is stated to be 1000 years. The repetition of this figure underscores both its literalness and importance” (*Basic Theology*, p. 508).

The term Millennium actually refers to the time on earth when Jesus Christ reigns and rules over all the earth and fulfills all of the promises and prophecies made in the O.T. concerning Israel and her Promised Land.

QUESTION #2 – What is the duration of the Millennium?

It is stated very clearly in **Revelation 20** that the duration is 1000 years.

QUESTION #3 – What type of government structure will exist in the Millennium?

The type of government that will be found in the Millennium will be a theocracy, which means that the Millennium will be ruled and governed by God in the Person of Jesus Christ. All government will be on His shoulders (Isaiah 9:6-7).

QUESTION #4 – Where will Christ’s political headquarters be located during the Millennium?

The Bible is very clear and very specific on this question; Jesus Christ will reign over all of the world from His headquarters in Jerusalem (Zechariah 8:3; 14:9-11; Psalm 48:1-2; Isaiah 2:3; 24:23; 33:17, 20-22).

QUESTION #5 – Who are the people on earth during the 1000 year reign of Jesus Christ?

- 1) Jewish believers who survived the Great Tribulation (Zechariah 13:8)
- 2) Gentile believers who survived the Great Tribulation, especially by ministering to Jews (Matthew 25:3ff)
- 3) Babies who were born during the Great Tribulation or after the Great Tribulation during the Millennium - both Jews and Gentiles (Matthew 24:19)
- 4) Old Testament Jewish believers who have been resurrected to inherit this Kingdom (Daniel 12:1-2)

QUESTION #6 – What will life be like during the Millennium?

- 1) It will be a Kingdom of complete righteousness - Isaiah 11:4-5; 16:5; Jeremiah 23:5; Zechariah 8:3-8
- 2) It will be a Kingdom of total peace - Isaiah 2:4; 11:6-10; 19:23-25
- 3) It will be a Kingdom of total prosperity in all areas and existences of life - Isaiah 35:1-10; 65:19-25; Amos 9:13-15
- 4) It will be a Kingdom that will feature God-honoring study and worship - Isaiah 2:2-3; Micah 4:1-4
- 5) It will be a Kingdom that will actually feature the earthly, heavenly, and spiritual.

(288)

QUESTION #7 – Who will reign with Jesus Christ in His 1000 years Kingdom?

- 1) David will play an important role during this time period - Jeremiah 23:5-8; 30:9; Ezekiel 37:24-25
- 2) Many O.T. believers will play an important role during this time. Daniel 12:1-2
- 3) The apostles will reign with Jesus Christ during the 1000 year Millennium. Matthew 19:28
- 4) Many from the nation Israel will share in governmental responsibilities - Isaiah 32:1; Jeremiah 30:18-21
- 5) Many, including Church Age believers, will share in the 1000 year reign of Jesus Christ.

QUESTION #8 – What are the three main views concerning the 1000 year Millennium?

(View #1) - Post -millennialism

This is the view that we are in the Millennium or rapidly approaching it by the churches' presentation of the gospel which is causing this world to become progressively better to the point that righteousness will eventually dominate the world so that Jesus Christ can finally come back to judge and reign. According to this view, Christ comes back after the 1000 year Millennium. The Kingdom is a spiritual Kingdom, not a physical Kingdom and the number 1000 is a symbolic number and the reign of Jesus Christ is spiritual, not literal and physical.

(View #2) - A -millennialism

This is the belief that there is really no Millennium in which Christ will reign as King for 1000 years.

(View #3) - Pre -millennialism

This is the belief that the present Church Age will continue to increase in evil, and that will lead to the time when God will end the Church Age and pour out His wrath on this world, which will lead to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ in all of His glory to judge and establish His righteous Kingdom on this earth for 1000 years.

Revelation 20:1-10

It is clear from these first ten verses that there is a specific chronology of events that occur as the Millennium begins. We may observe four major chronological events: