

## Message #48

## Revelation 19:11-16

In **Matthew 24:29-30** we read these words:

“But immediately after the Tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory.”

In **Acts 1:9-11** we read these words:

“And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. They also said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.’”

It is predicted here that there would come a day when Jesus Christ would literally return to earth in the same manner He left it. When He left the earth, He left it physically, visibly and literally. He will return in the same manner, but there will be some differences.

In **Revelation 1:7** we read these words:

“Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen.”

These passages are very clear to point out there will come a moment when Jesus Christ will literally and gloriously return to this earth to take over and reign.

This is that moment that occurs right here in Revelation.

**AFTER THE TRIBULATION IS OVER, JESUS CHRIST, WHO IS GOD, WILL GLORIOUSLY COME BACK TO THIS EARTH TO REIGN AS KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.**

This is the moment when Jesus Christ returns to earth and we want to go through this text and glean everything God has revealed to us about it.

We may notice that John begins by saying, “I saw” this. So we want to carefully analyze the description of what he saw. What John saw, we will see. We will have the same spectacular view. There are six very specific descriptions that are given to us about this moment:

**Description #1** - John saw heaven opened. **19:11a**

There is an article “the” before the noun heaven, so this means this is the heaven that is opened. As we have said there are three heavens and we see two of them: 1) Our atmospheric heaven; 2) The Stellar Heaven and 3) The Throne of God heaven. We can look into the sky and see the first two right now so they don’t need to be opened to see this; but the third heaven does.

The participle “opened” is a word that is used for opening a door or gate (G. Abbott-Smith, *Greek Lexicon*, p. 39). The perfect tense of the participle indicates that he saw this at a point of time and from that point of time the action continued. So once this door is opened, it is opened from that point on.

So what that means is once this door of heaven is opened, it will remain open from this moment on.

**Description #2** - John saw a white horse. **19:11b**

The “white horse” describes a horse that is bright and brilliant and white (*Ibid.*, p. 267). The last time Jesus Christ was seen riding an animal, He was riding a little donkey. Not this time.

This shining horse is a heavenly victory horse. 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” (*Revelation*, p. 619).

**Description #3** - John saw the rider on the white horse. **19:11c-13**

There are ten very specific facts that John brings out about this rider:

**(Fact #1)** - The rider is called Faithful. **19:11c**

The participle “called” is a present tense middle participle. What that means is that He is continually called faithful and is faithful in and of Himself. There has never been a moment when He was not faithful. There has never been a moment when He was not trustworthy or reliable.

Now God will not ever call us faithful in and of ourselves. To be classified as faithful we need to believe on Jesus Christ and yield to the Spirit of God. Jesus is faithful in and of Himself.

**(Fact #2)** - The rider is called True. **19:11d**

He is continually called true in and of Himself, which means He in and of Himself is always true to fact and cannot ever do or say anything false. There is not a person on this earth who has not shaded the truth.

I heard a judge say one time I never met a person who had always told the truth perfectly, including myself. Jesus is the Person who is true.

Now these names are given to Him from heaven. He has always been faithful and He has always been true.

**(Fact #3)** - The rider is coming in Righteousness. **19:11e**

He is righteousness. He is the One Person who meets all of the righteous standards of God. This is a sick, deranged world and we need the Lord Jesus Christ to come back in all of His righteousness and take it over. This is the moment He does.

**(Fact #4)** - The rider is coming to judge. **19:11f**

He is coming to judge. He is coming back to pour out judgment. He is not coming back to walk around again and teach the Sermon on the Mount; He is not coming back to promote love and let's all get along and accept each other. He is coming back as judge and He is coming back to judge.

**(Fact #5)** - The rider is coming to wage war. **19:11g**

He is coming to wage war. He is not only coming back to wage war, but to win the war against evil. In fact, He is coming to win the ultimate war. This is an interesting word because it means He is specifically coming at this moment to fight. His fight is a quarrel against the whole world (*Ibid.*, p. 370).

**(Fact #6)** - The rider has eyes that are a flame of fire. **19:12a**

Some manuscripts read His eyes are "as" a flame of fire and others read His eyes "are" a flame of fire.

Either way, His eyes will not look friendly. They will be a flame of fire, which means they will be eyes of burning, fiery judgment.

**(Fact #7)** - The rider has many diadems on His head. **19:12b**

The crowns Jesus has are "diadems" which are crowns of royalty. When the Antichrist surfaced in the Tribulation, he was given ten diadems (13:1); notice when Jesus Christ returns, he has many. That adverb "many" refers to a great number which is greater than any other number (*Ibid.*, p. 371). Jesus is coming from heaven in total world royalty. Not just over ten nations. His royal reign will be all over the world.

**(Fact #8)** - The rider has a name no one knows but Him. **19:12c**

In Isaiah 62:2-5 we learn that there will come a time when Israel will have a new name.

In Revelation 2:17; 3:12 we learn that the Church Age believers will receive a new name. In Revelation 19:12, we learn that when Jesus Christ returns He, Himself, will have a special name.

We learn three things about this new name:

- 1) It is a name written on Him.
- 2) It is a name no one knows.
- 3) It is a name only He knows.

**(Fact #9)** - The rider is clothed with a robe dipped in blood. **19:13a**

This glorious King will come wearing a robe dipped in blood. This will be seen by all and will indicate two realities:

- 1) It indicates that Jesus suffered and shed His own blood and it is payback time.
- 2) It indicates that Jesus' family suffered and shed blood and it is payback time.

**(Fact #10)** - The rider has a name which is "the Word of the God." **19:13b**

Jesus Christ is the Word of God. He is the Word of the God and He is the only Person who has this name. Everything He is and does, including judgment, is the Word of God. "He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth and with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked" (Isaiah 11:4).

The Word of God is the thing that is so critical to us. The thing we want to be known for is those people loved the Word of God. They did not love religion, but the Word of God.

**Description #4** - John saw armies following Jesus Christ. **19:14**

In **Jude 14-15** we read, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

It is predicted that when Jesus Christ comes out of heaven, armies and thousands of holy ones are following Him.

The word "armies" refers to soldiers who are those who make war and do battle and fight (*Ibid.*, p. 419). This is a military term. So the armies coming back with Jesus Christ are not a harp playing choir, they are coming back to do battle with Jesus Christ.

There are several facts brought out about them:

**(Fact #1)** - The armies are in heaven. **19:14a**

This army is coming out of the heaven, which is the throne of God. These are the heavenly saints from the Church Age and the Tribulation.

**(Fact #2)** - The armies are clothed in fine linen. **19:14b**

This is strange military attire. What this indicates is that this will be a priestly victory and they won't even get dirty.

**(Fact #3)** - The armies are clothed in white linen. **19:14c**

This clothing has the white righteousness of Jesus Christ.

**(Fact #4)** - The armies are clothed in clean linen. **19:14d**

This clothing is free from the stain of any sin. Everyone is completely clean who is coming back with Jesus Christ.

**(Fact #5)** - The armies are following Him on white horses. **19:14e**

Those coming with Christ are coming on the same kind of horses Christ is riding.

We may recall that Satan had his demonic horse cavalry (Rev. 9:7, 16, 17, 19) that came from the bottomless pit of the furnace, but now the heavenly horse cavalry comes in all of its glory out of heaven.

**Description #5** - John saw Jesus Christ Himself speak judgment and wrath and strike down the nations. **19:15**

There is no grace offered here. It is a horrific day of judgment that is predicted in multiple texts:

- 1) Amos 5:18-20
- 2) Obadiah 15-16
- 3) Micah 5:15
- 4) Nahum 1:2, 5, 6
- 5) Zephaniah 1:7, 14-18

**The power of just the word of Jesus Christ is seen in this judgment:**

- 1) He strikes down the nations with His word. **19:15a**
- 2) He rules the nations with a rod of iron. **19:15b**
- 3) He pours out the fierce wrath of Almighty God and finishes it. **19:15c**

Just as He spoke things into existence, so He speaks and brings total judgment into existence.

**Description #6** - John saw a written name on His robe and thigh. **19:16**

The written name John saw was **KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS (basileus basilewn kai kurios kuriwn)**. This is exactly what John saw.

The title “King of kings” 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.

The title “Lord of Lords” means that Jesus Christ is God who is the Lord God over all.

What a glorious moment. What a spectacular moment and if you know Jesus Christ, you will be here in heaven to see it.

**PARTING THOUGHTS:**

- 1) We need to be people who are faithful.
- 2) We need to be people who are True.
- 3) We need to be people dedicated to God’s word.