

“The Second Coming”

(Rev. 19:11-21)

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I. Introduction

A. Updates

1. Heaven and the Final Kingdom
2. Will finish Revelation on Palm Sunday (March 16)
3. Easter...Jesus, while his body was in the tomb
4. Immediately after Easter...a special journey begins
5. But first...

B. My visits to “Megiddo”

1. The town
 - a. The town of Megiddo guarded the pass which formed the easiest caravan route between the Plain of Sharon and the Valley of Jezreel, and the low mountains around were silent witnesses of perhaps more bloody encounters than any other spot on earth, continuing down to recent times. Hence the appropriateness of this place for the vast conflict pictured in Revelation.
2. Called “Armageddon” in Rev. 16:16
 - a. Literally means “Mount Megiddo”
 - b. Over-looking the vast plains of Megiddo

Upon surveying it, Napoleon proclaimed the valley was the most natural battleground of the whole earth.
 - c. Historic battles have been fought there
 1. Ramses, 1350 BC;

2. Sargon, 722 BC;
3. Sennacherib, 710 BC:
4. Nebuchadnezzar, 606 BC;
5. Ptolemy, 197 BC;
6. Antiochus Epiphanes, 168 BC;
7. Pompeii, 63 BC;
8. Titus, AD 70;
9. Khosru, the Persian king, AD 614;
10. The Crusades
11. Saladin, who conquered Richard the Lion-Hearted in AD 1187;
12. The Turks (Ottoman forces), AD 1616.
13. Napoleon

3. In the Bible

- a. Barak and Deborah fought Sisera
- b. Gideon fought Midianites
- c. Saul slain by Philistines
- d. ...and many other battles

B. But the biggest battle is yet to come!

1. Incredible carnage
 - WW I – 30 million
 - WW II – 60 million
2. That's nothing!

C. The Battle of Armageddon

1. Normandy was the greatest invasion force of all time
2. This will overshadow Normandy
3. The armies pouring out of Heaven
 - Dressed in white
 - Include—
 - a. Angels
 - b. The Church
 - c. O.T. and Tribulation saints
4. But the key is their “commander in chief”
 - a. Jesus Christ
 - b. Will take on all the armies of the world
 1. Amassed in the plains of Israel
5. A king returning to reclaim his kingdom

D. God’s son came once before

1. As a baby
 - a. Humble and weak
2. But not this time
3. (Isa. 9:6)—“For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulders. And his name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”
4. His first coming was as a “baby”
 - a. Now, as Paul Harvey would say.... “the rest of the story”

II. Review

A. The Tribulation is done

1. The Seven Seals have been opened
2. The Seven Trumpets have been blown
3. The Seven Bowls of Wrath have been poured out

B. Satan, Antichrist and the False Prophet are prepared

1. Know Christ is about to return
2. Will have gathered all of the armies of the world

C. The Marriage and Supper are completed (Rev. 19:1-10)

1. Arrayed in white linens and ready to go!

D. All set to go

1. The skies are black as midnight as the earth waits
2. Then it happens in verse 11

III. The Text

A. His Return (v. 11-14)

(11) I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. (12) His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. (13) He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. (14) The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean,

1. The White Horse

- a. The Roman Parade

When a general returned from a successful campaign, he and his legions were granted the right to parade up the Via Sacra, the main street of Rome that led from the Forum to the Temple of Jupiter on the Capitol

Hill. Mounted on a white horse, the general rode at the head of his troops.

b. Who will it be?

2. *The Rider*

a. Names and description.....v.11

1. ***“Faithful and true”***

2. ***“He judges and makes war”***

b. Another name in verse 13

1. ***“...and his name is ‘The Word of God’”***

a. John 1:1—“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God”

2. Jesus

a. (v. 14)—“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us...”

c. So different from the Rapture

Rapture

- a. Reward the Saved
- b. Meet in the air
- c. Secret
- d. Without warning
- e. “For” the Church

Here

- a. Punish the unsaved
- b. Lands on Mount of Olives
- c. Seen by all
- d. After seven years
- e. “With” the church (v. 14)

d. Will be wearing “many crowns”.....v.12

(12) His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns.

1. Last visit—a crown of thorns

a. Not this time

2. His crowns

a. “diadema”

1. Royal crown

2. A king's crown

b. Will be wearing “many” crowns

c. The Antichrist had 10 crowns

1. Now Jesus has them all

e. The Unknown Name

(12) He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself.

1. Commentators try to guess

2. Foolishness to even try

(Dt. 29:29)— *“The secret things belong to the Lord our God”*

f. There is a lot we don't understand

g. His Robe

(13) He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God.

1. Dipped in blood

2. One or both of the following

a. The blood of past enemies

1. Or start of Armageddon

2. Blood 200 miles long

3. Up to horses' bridles

b. His own blood shed on Calvary

h. His Identity

1. ***“the Word of God”***

2. Can only be Jesus

3. The Army

(14) The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean,

- a. Followed by a seemingly endless stream of great warriors
- b. Clothed in fine white linen
 - 1. Also translated as “bright” and brilliant
 - 2. Gleaming against a darkened sky
- b. Also riding white horses
- c. Who are they?

1. *The Saints*

- a. (Jude 14 and 15)—“*Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam prophesied about these men also, saying, “Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints,¹⁵ to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.”*”
- b. (Col. 3;4)—“*When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory*”
- c. The Tribulation Martyrs and the O.T. Saints

(Rev, 7:9)—“After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the lamb, clothed with white robes”

2. *The Angels*

- a. Jesus gave the best description of his coming
- b. *Mt. 24:27-31*

“For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.²⁸ For

wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together. ²⁹ *Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.* ³⁰ *Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.* ³¹ *And he will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”*

B. His Rule (v. 15-16)

(15) Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. “He will rule them with an iron scepter.” He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. (16) On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

1. The Commander-in-chief does all the work
2. The “sharp sword”
 - a. The “hromphania”
 - Thracian sword (two-edged)
 - Long, like a spear
 - b. the Word of God is alive and powerful and sharper than a two-edged sword
3. Mows down the armies with his Word
 - a. Like a two-edged sword
 - b. Arteries burst
 1. Like a winepress
 2. The winepress of his fierceness
 - c. The armies are absolutely powerless
 - d. His army just stands back

4. The power of His words
 - a. Spoke the world into existence
 - b. Spoke and the Roman soldiers fell
5. Made the world with His word—will destroy it the same way
6. The iron scepter
 - a. Will rule with an iron scepter
 1. An iron rod
 2. Instant and righteous judgment
7. His title

(16) On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

- a. Written on His robe and thigh
- b. “King of Kings and Lord of Lords”

C. His Ravaging (v. 17-21)

(17) And I saw an angel standing in the sun, who cried in a loud voice to all the birds flying in midair, “Come, gather together for the great supper of God, (18) so that you may eat the flesh of kings, generals, and mighty men, of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, small and great.” (19) Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to make war against the rider on the horse and his army.

1. Describes how He will do it
2. The angelic announcement
 - a. To the birds
 1. Carrion eaters
 2. Vultures, etc.
 - b. The supper of the great God
 - c. The flesh of the kings

1. And the captives
2. And the mighty men
3. And the horses
4. And those who ride them
5. ALL people

--free and slave

--small and great

3. The Armies

- a. All the world's armies are gathered

1. To fight God

- b. Led by the Antichrist and his kings

4. The capture of the Antichrist and the False Prophet

(20) But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur.

- a. Literally “grabbed”
- b. As the Kings and armies look on in horror
- c. Dangles them in front of their armies

5. Cast into Lake of Fire

- a. Burning with brimstone
- b. Cast in alive

6. Horrors of Hell

- a. See more later

b. But—

1. 1,000 years later
2. At end of millennium
3. (Rev. 20:10)—“And the devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the best and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.”

c. That’s where rejecters of Christ end up

1. (Rev. 20:15)—“And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

d. When I’m asked about Hell..

1. When unsaved loved ones die...
2. I can’t give false hope

7. The rest of the Antichrist’s army

(21) The rest of them were killed with the sword that came out of the mouth of the rider on the horse, and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh.

a. Fall to the sword

1. The Word of Jesus

b. Him on the White Horse

1. From His mouth

c. And the birds come to that awful supper

IV. Summary

A. The Three Visits

1. As a lowly baby

a. Christmas

2. *To remove the church*

- a. Secretly
- b. Prior to this great judgment

3. *As the Conqueror*

- a. The words of the angel on the Mount of Olives

- 1. As Jesus ascended into Heaven
- 2. Told of this coming return

- a. Acts 1:11

“Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into Heaven.”

- 3. Zech. 14:3-4

“Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle. ⁴ And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley; half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south.”

- b. The Golden Gate

- 1. Has been sealed for centuries
- 2. Leads in to the Dome of the Rock

- a. Muslim holy place

- 3. Site of the Temple
- 4. The gates will be opened
- 5. Jesus will march into his Temple

- a. And we will march right in behind Him

- 6. The King has returned!