

Every Promise Fulfilled
Revelation 19:1-10

Sooke Baptist Church
Sunday, October 24, 2021
9:30 am, In-person
also on Facebook and YouTube

Coffee/Question
What keeps you going?

03:00

Revelation 19:1-10

In this chapter we are privileged to see the worship of heaven.

This is not the first time that such a sight has been shown to the reader. In Revelation 4 we read of the praise of the four living creatures, who are angelic beings, and who represent the whole created order of animate life. GK Beale This is the praise they offer up to God...



**Holy, holy, holy
is the LORD God Almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.
Revelation 4:8**

In Revelation 4 we also read of the praise of the twenty-four elders. They too are angelic beings, who represent the church of Jesus in its entirety – in the OT and in the NT era. Beale, p.102; DJ, p.139. This is the praise they offer up to God...



**“You are worthy,
our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they were created
and have their being.”**

Revelation 4:11

In Revelation 5, we read of the praise of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. This is the praise they offer up to God...



**“Worthy is the Lamb,
who was slain,
to receive power and wealth
and wisdom and strength and honor
and glory and praise!”**

Revelation 5:12

We read of the praise of every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them.

This is the praise they offer up to God...

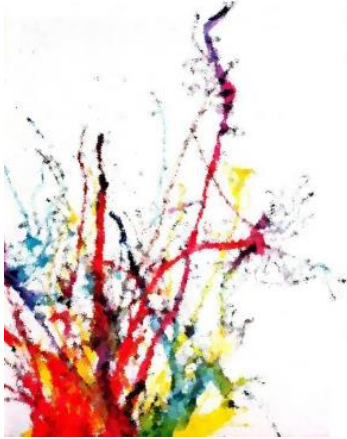


**“To him who sits on throne
and to the Lamb,
be praise and honor
and glory and power,
for ever and ever.”**

Revelation 5:13

In Revelation 7 we read of the praise of redeemed humanity... a great multitude, John writes... that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language.

This is the praise they offer up to God...



**“Salvation belongs to our God,
who sits on the throne
and to the Lamb.”**

Revelation 7:10

In Revelation 11, we again read of the praise of the twenty-four elders.
In Revelation 15 we again read of the praise of the redeemed.

And now in Revelation 19... once more we are privileged to read of a great
multitude in heaven, who along with the twenty-four elders and the four living
creatures, praise God!

This scene is meant to enflame the hearts of God’s people who live on the earth.



This scene is meant to breathe courage into those who’ve become a new creation
through faith in Jesus Christ.

It is the intent of Holy Spirit that this scene...would strengthen God's people...

- ...to resist and reject temptation
- ...when it becomes necessary, to endure suffering for Jesus' sake
- ...to embrace God's discipline as he transforms our character
- ...to trust and to obey God in every situation and in every season



Four times the word "hallelujah" is used in today's passage
– v.1, 3, 4, and 6.



Hallelujah means “praise Yahweh!”



The first “Hallelujah!”

Revelation 19:1b-2a

Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,
for true and just are his judgments.

The great multitude praises God because he is the God who saves...not Babylon.
He is the God who is glorious... not the great prostitute.
He is the God who is all-powerful... not the dragon and the two beasts.

Because God is good and pure, he does what is right... concerning Babylon!

The first “Hallelujah!”

Revelation 19:1b-2

Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,
for true and just are his judgments.

He has condemned the great prostitute
who corrupted the earth by her adulteries.

He has avenged on her the blood of his servants.

This praise flows into the second hallelujah.

The second “Hallelujah!”

Revelation 19:3

The smoke from her goes up forever and ever.

God is praised because he has held Babylon accountable.

God is praised because his judgment of Babylon is neither excessive nor inadequate.

The significance of the statement regarding the smoke from her going up forever and ever is this... when God justly judges Babylon, she will never again be a threat to the people of God.

The praise of the great multitude flows into the third hallelujah.

Hearing the praise of the great multitude regarding God's justice both motivates and compels the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures to express their agreement with but two words ...



Amen means - Let it be so...

Hallelujah means - praise Yahweh...

When it comes to the worship of our God, the best is yet to come.

Can you even begin to imagine what it will be like when the two races whom God created in his likeness, angels and human beings, worship the triune God together?!

As we see in this scene from heaven...each will spur on the other to delight in and to declare the praises of the glorious Three-in-One.

A worship leader who is not identified speaks to all of God's servants, saying...

**“Praise our God,
all you his servants,
you who fear him,
both great and small!”**

It is at the voice's urging, that the great multitude, whose voices sounded like...



... the roar of rushing waters, and like...



... loud peals of thunder... express to God the fourth hallelujah.

The fourth “Hallelujah!”

Revelation 19:6b-7

For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

The Lord God Almighty reigns.
Gerhard Krodel says,

**“The reign of God
is a reign of love and faithfulness,
joy and care,
understanding and intimacy.”**

Gerhard Krodel

p.313.

The risen Jesus, the Lamb who sits upon the throne, he holds the keys of death and Hades ... not the dragon, not the two beasts, nor Babylon.

In this present time, God rules in the midst of his enemies, whom, he has triumphed over by the cross, and who at his return will forever be banished to a place from which they can never cause harm.

This is the reality that fuels the worship of God in heaven.
This is the source of joy and hope for all who love God.

The fourth “Hallelujah!”

Revelation 19:6b-7

For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!

For the wedding of the Lamb has come,
and his bride has made herself ready.

Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.

The great multitude shouts the fourth “hallelujah” because God brings history to the conclusion he determined before he created all that is.

Angelic and human sinfulness did not derail the purposes of God.

To what end does God direct human history?

To a wedding!

And not just any wedding, but the wedding of the Lamb...where God will link his life inseparably to the life of his people, those whom...

(1) he redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ

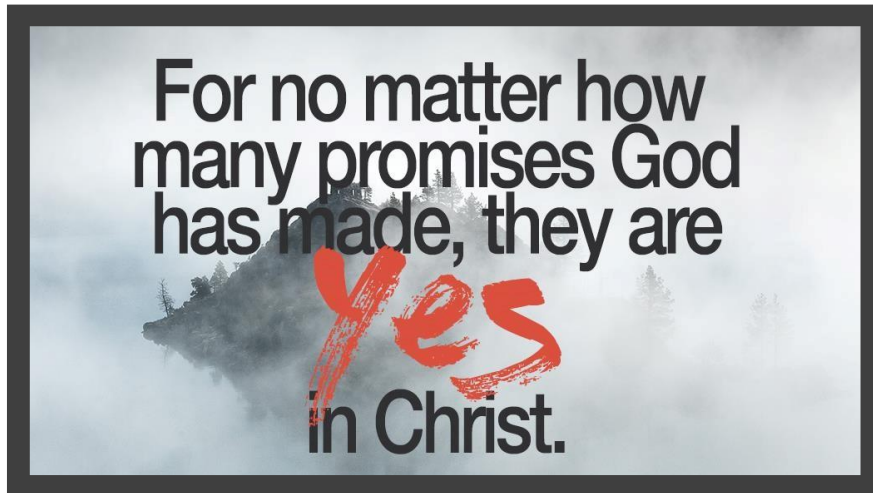
(2) he has clothed with the righteousness of Jesus Christ.

At this wedding the redeemed will be brought into the long-anticipated circle of belonging and fellowship with the triune God.

God keeps his word.

God fulfills every promise.

2 Corinthians 1:20 testifies...



After the great catastrophe... God promised in the presence of our first parents... that he would send a Rescuer.

And through the long centuries which followed, God made additional promises, in fact, hundreds of promises regarding the Rescuer.

And every one of those promises... is fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

It is this – the faithfulness of God...which reveals his grace and his goodness, his wisdom and his power.... it is this that fuels heaven's praises in Revelation 19.

Where does this truth connect to our lives in this present time?

I put before you two simple things.

1. John Piper says it inspires us to wholeheartedly cooperate with the Holy Spirit in becoming the people of God who like Jesus are radically pure, holy, loving, and sacrificial.

1 John 3:2-3

Dear friends, now we are children of God,
and what we will be
has not yet been made known.

But we know that when Christ appears,
we shall be like him,
for we shall see him as he is.

All who have this hope in him
purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Even now... we are the children of God.

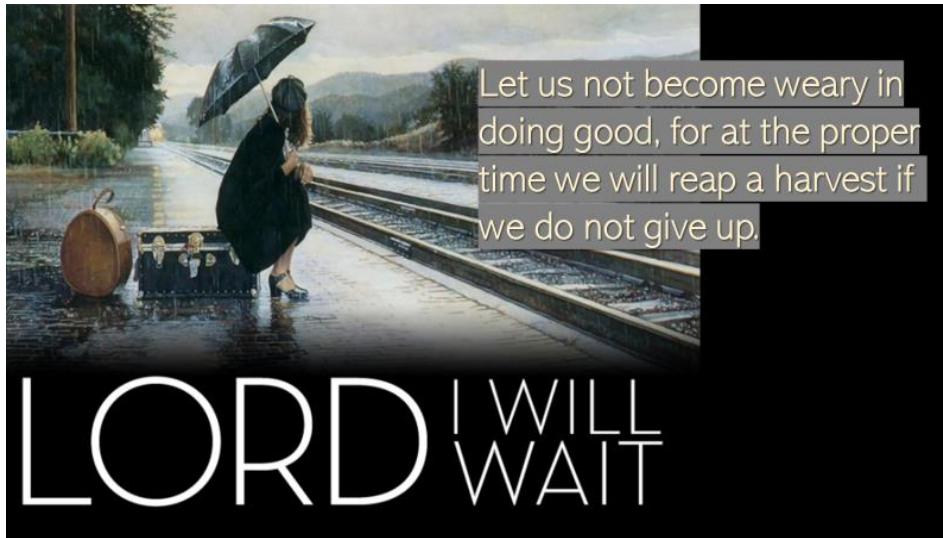
Even now.... we worship the living God.

But there is coming a future moment... when we will be participants in this scene described in Revelation 19.

This hope of glory... motivates us... individually and corporately... to purify ourselves...to be holy as God is holy.

2. This truth also encourages us to find our strength and hope in the LORD.





In this present time our hearts can become discouraged.

What are we to do when that happens?

The scene from Revelation 19 inspires us to preach the gospel to our souls... and in doing so, to find fresh strength and hope in the Lord.

God's purposes will prevail.

What God has begun in us he will finish.

What was realized at the cross of Jesus on a hill called Golgotha will be completed at the wedding of the Lamb.

So take hold of God's mercy and continue to live by faith in the One who gave himself for you.



What is it that keeps us from losing heart, from giving up?

God's mercy.

He places into our hands certain responsibilities for which he has given us giftings of grace.

Thinking of this C.S. Lewis wrote in his book, 'The Weight of Glory':

It may be possible for each to think too much of his own potential glory hereafter; it is hardly possible for him to think too often or too deeply about that of his neighbor.

The load, or weight, or burden of my neighbor's glory should be laid daily on my back, a load so heavy that only humility can carry it, and the backs of the proud will be broken.

It is a serious thing to live in a society of possible gods and goddesses, to remember that the dullest and most uninteresting person you talk to may one day be a creature which, if you saw it now, you would be strongly tempted to worship, or else a horror and a corruption such as you now meet, if at all, only in a nightmare.

All day long we are, in some degree, helping each other to one or other of these destinations.

It is in the light of these overwhelming possibilities, it is with the awe and circumspection proper to them, that we should conduct all our dealings with one another, all friendships, all loves, all play, all politics.

There are no *ordinary* people.

You have never talked to a mere mortal.

Nations, cultures, arts, civilization—these are mortal, and their life is to ours as the life of a gnat.

But it is immortals whom we joke with, work with, marry, snub, and exploit—immortal horrors or everlasting splendors.

This does not mean that we are to be perpetually solemn.

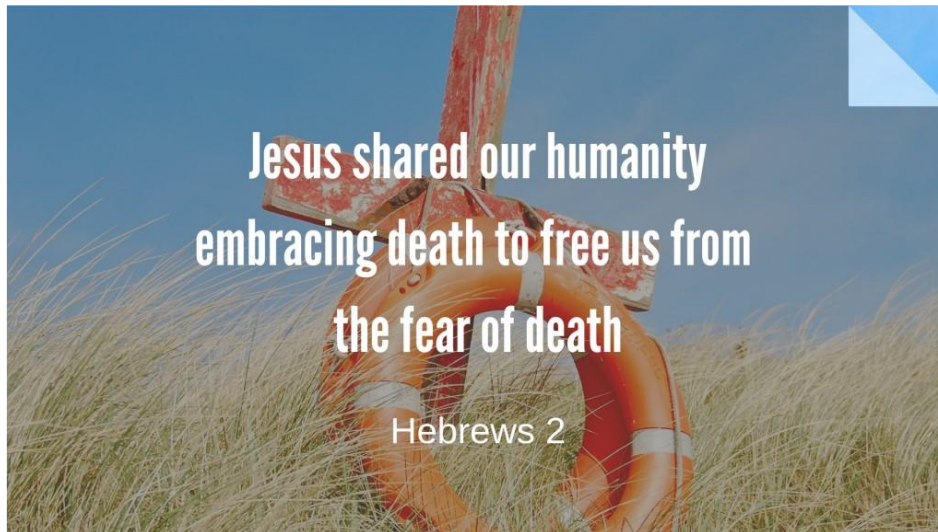
We must play.

But our merriment must be of that kind (and it is, in fact, the merriest kind) which exists between people who have, from the outset, taken each other seriously—no flippancy, no superiority, no presumption.

And our charity must be real and costly love, with deep feeling for the sins in spite of which we love the sinner—no mere tolerance or indulgence which parodies love as flippancy parodies merriment.

Next to the Blessed Sacrament itself, your neighbor is the holiest object presented to your senses.

—*The Weight of Glory* (HarperOne, 2001), pp. 45-46.



“The Lamb who sits upon the throne” shared in our humanity. Jesus experienced everything we experience; he faced every temptation that confronts us – Hebrews 2. But never once did Jesus say yes to sin, and no to God the Father.

When Jesus died on a Roman cross, it was not for some crime he had committed. His sinless life was offered as a sacrifice in order to make atonement for our sins. He became sin for us that in him we might become righteous. Jesus saves us from the penalty of our sin.

Jesus helps us to break the power of our sin.

**Because he himself suffered
when he was tempted,
he is able to help those
who are being tempted.**

Hebrews 2:18

And Jesus will come again to rescue us from the presence of our sin, as he saves us body, soul and spirit.

In the OT time, look at what Joshua said in 21:45...



At the dedication of the temple, look at what Solomon said of God, 1 Kings 8:56...

Praise be to the LORD,
who has given rest to his people Israel
just as he promised.
Not one word has failed
of all the good promises
he gave through his servant Moses.

1 Kings 8:56

God is praised in Revelation 19... because... look at v.1 – through Jesus Christ, and him alone... salvation has come.

It is God who saves.

It is God who has overcome Babylon.

It is God who has vindicated and rescued his people.