

KING OF THE JUNGLE

REALIZE WORLD PEACE

REVELATION 19:1-21

“Shock and awe” is a military doctrine first employed by the US in 2003 during *Operation Iraqi Freedom*.

On March 21 the US launched 1700 air sorties over the skies of Baghdad - including 504 cruise missiles.

All day long Baghdad was hit with precision strike after precision strike. Military targets were taken out. The city’s infrastructure was crippled. Shock and awe knocked out the city’s power grid and water supply.

The intention was to overwhelm the Iraqis. Military strategists call it rapid dominance. The invader tries to exhaust the occupier, until they lose the will to fight.

The colossal show of force paralyzes any resistance, and convinces everyone on the ground of the inevitability of their defeat. By the time troops roll in the locals are ready to capitulate and accept a new regime. The whole idea is to wage war with minimal bloodshed.

And that’s what happened in Iraq. By April 5, just two weeks later, Coalition Forces had seized Baghdad.

What we’ve been reading about the last few months in Revelation is God’s implementation of a “shock and awe” strategy. God will exercise a rapid dominance.

From Heaven the righteous Judge will riddle the rebel planet with surgical strikes. He'll pummel the devil's infrastructure by *breaking seven seals, blasting seven trumpets, dumping seven bowls* full of His wrath.

As we saw last week, **"Babylon the great, is fallen!"**

Chronologically, we're still at the end of Revelation 16 and the seventh bowl. God has launched an aerial assault - 100 pound hailstones are falling from the sky.

Man's blasphemy is receiving *a biblical punishment*.

And it's an act of mercy! To lessen the carnage God tries to exhaust man's resistance, and hasten an acceptance of the inevitability of his defeat. *Yet instead of repent, man shakes his fist in God's face to the end!*

All the **shock and awe** is to prepare the world for a final ground invasion. **God's goal is a regime change.**

Realize, this world belongs to God.

Its Creator gave authority over the Earth to the first couple, Adam and Eve. Thus, when Adam rebelled, Satan was able to usurp that authority from the hapless humans. Today, Satan has taken over a world that doesn't belong to him. He's become a squatter.

On the cross Jesus began the process of taking back His Creation. He started with the legalities. On Calvary Jesus paid off the liens - the debts our sin had caused.

Then when He rose from the dead and ascended to Heaven. Jesus walked right into God's courthouse and reclaimed the title deed to planet Earth. *We saw Him do it in Revelation 5.* John said, **"Who is worthy to open the scroll and loose its seals?"**

One of heaven's elders spoke up and declared, "The Lion of the tribe of Judah, the root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll."

Jesus created the universe. Now He's purchased it and holds the papers, but it's not yet in His possession.

Ownership doesn't necessarily mean occupation.

So here's our current situation... The Earth is overrun with Satan, and demons, and evil men. The rebels keep God at bay, and have had their own way. *It's a jungle out there... but Jesus is the King of the Jungle.*

And He's about to prove that point! He's got *papers in His hand*, and *invasion in His plans*. He's coming to put devils, rebels, and all their stuff out on the curb.

Chapter 19 describes the end of this current age. The revolt launched by Satan finally comes to an end.

Understand, we all can know the future. *History is no mystery*. The final chapter has already been written. If you want to know how it all ends read Revelation 19.

And it's interesting how this chapter opens... There's lots of saber-rattling on Earth. The Earth is preparing for *a war*, whereas Heaven is preparing for a *wedding*.

Heaven is in party-mode. It's hosting a celebration!

John begins chapter 19, "After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God!" Note this word, "*Alleluia.*"

Its origins are Hebrew. It's a compound word: "*Allel*" means "praise," "*Yah*" is a contracted form of God's name, "*Yahweh*." Put the two together and the word means "praise God..." "*Alleluia...*" Praise God for His glory and salvation, whether men receive it or not!

If the world wants to go to hell in a hand basket, so be it, but God is still to be praised for His heart to save!

"For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her." The Babylonian harlot represented a phony and false religious system.

The Antichrist claimed to be the Savior - in the end he's revealed as a tyrant. The world will be duped!

In contrast to *phony and false*, Jesus is "*true and righteous*." He's "*true...*" He's *genuine* as opposed to *counterfeit*. And He's "*righteous...*" He's *faithful* as opposed to *a liar*. Jesus is everything this world is not.

Verse 3, "*Again they said, "Alleluia! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!"*" Chapters 17-18 discussed God's overthrow of the two-headed Babylonian system.

The whore of Babel was evil disguised as religion - *a church without the Church*. This prostitute seduces the world to deny God and pledge allegiance to the Beast.

And she's helped by a commercial system - *also known as Babylon* - that extorts the world's worship.

A mark - a 666 - will be needed to buy or sell, and to receive that mark you'll have to sell your soul. People will suppress any lingering longings for the one, true Christ - Jesus - and bow their knee to the Antichrist.

Chapter 18:18 predicts that this evil system will burn to a crisp in one hour. Yet here we read, "*Her smoke rises up forever and ever!*" The Earth weeps and wails over her loss - whereas all Heaven shouts, "*Alleluia!*"

"And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sat on the throne, saying, "Amen! Alleluia!" You might be interested to know the word "Hallelujah" appears 24 times in the Hebrew OT - mostly in the book of Psalms.

It's a common exclamation of praise!

But the word appears only four times in the NT - *and all right here*. It's as if God saves all the Hallelujahs for this moment. *As man's rebellion reaches a breaking point on Earth, God's praise crescendos in Heaven.*

For centuries the heavenly host has watched Satan steal, kill, and destroy. Now that he's finally on the ropes, heaven erupts in praise - a chorus of Alleluias!

"Then a voice came from the throne, saying, "Praise our God, all you His servants and those who fear Him, both small and great!" And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia!"

A voice calls on Heaven to praise God, and a mighty roar goes up - *loud like a waterfall or a thunderclap.*

"*A great multitude*" shouts out "*Alleluia.*"

You know how to say this word in English, but do you know how to pronounce “*Alleluia*” in *Spanish... or Arabic, or Berber, or Mandarin, or German, or Yoruba?*

It’s “*Alleluia.*” It’s the same pronunciation in every language. Even Heaven shouts “*Alleluias*” to God!

But that’s just half of Heaven’s shout. The triumphant chorus rings out “*For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!*”

Earth’s impending collapse reminds Heaven Who it is that reigns. The Lord is “*omnipotent*” or *all-powerful*.

Heaven is sure there is no problem God can’t solve!

Wayne Valis worked in the White House as a special assistant to Presidents Nixon, Ford, and Reagan.

When he finally called it quits, his resignation was full of despair. Valis wrote, “*I’ve come to believe, especially after my time with Reagan, that there is no ultimate solution to human problems... Hopefully you can trade more vexing problems for less vexing problems.*”

Here’s the opinion of a man who spent his whole adult life in government - the best humans can do is *trade more vexing problems for less vexing problems*.

And the reason human government is so impotent is because it’s depends on *fallible, frail, foolish* humans.

Here’s Earth’s only hope - *God omnipotent reigns!*

Today, God sits on the throne in Heaven, and is sovereign over human affairs! For the moment, He's allowing us to *run the show...* and *make a mess*. He's proving how incapable we are of governing ourselves.

But the day is coming when the Omnipotent will flex His muscle and establish His kingdom on Earth. He'll recreate a perfect world... *Hear the sound from heaven thunder our hope, "The Lord God Omnipotent reigns!"*

Verse 7, *"Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."* Notice, this about the greatness of God... He's both *omnipotent*, yet *intimate!*

He's High, yet He's nigh. He leads, and He loves.

Jesus is not only the King of the Jungle, but He's the Bridegroom who cherishes and nurtures His Bride.

And you are that bride! If you're a follower of Jesus you're betrothed. You're destined to marry the Lamb.

Hebrew marriage rites were in three stages...

First was the *engagement*. Parents often arranged their children's marriage when the kids were young.

Of course, if you're a teenage girl today you're repulsed by this idea... But if you're the dad of a teenage girl it's starting to make a lot of sense...

The second marital stage was called *betrothal*.

The couple met at the home of the bride to exchange vows... Then immediately, the groom would leave to prepare a place for he and his wife to live. Often this task involved building a room onto his father's house.

From this point onward the groom and his bride were legally bound - with the exception of sexual relations.

The marriage wasn't consummated until the feast.

Which was the third stage - the [wedding feast](#). Once preparations were complete the groom would return for his bride - sweep her up - then take her to their abode.

There they celebrated with family and friends, and entered the bridal chamber to begin their married life.

And this is a beautiful overview of Jesus' dealings with His Church. Scripture calls us ["the Bride of Christ."](#)

Our marriage with Jesus was prearranged. The NT teaches we were chosen by Him before we were born.

When we put our faith in Him we take a vow. We're betrothed. We're committed to Jesus and no one else.

Jesus has now returned to Heaven. In His Father's house are many mansions - *or rooms*. He's gone to prepare a place for us. And when its finished He's promised to return and take us to live with Him forever.

And here we read about a marriage supper...

We're told in verse 8 what the Bride wears, "And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright..." The Bride of Christ will be dressed to the hilt. "For the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints."

This past July, Lydia Tayler, got married. But rather than shell out big bucks, she knitted her own wedding gown. It took her four months and 100,000 stitches.

And here we're told that we too are making our own wedding dress. When you meet Jesus you'll be clothed in your own "*righteous acts.*" *Do you know what that means? Some of you are going to be married to Jesus Christ for all eternity in your sweatpants and a hoodie.*

If you have any fashion sense at all - you can't let that happen! You can't be caught dead in a tattered T-shirt on your wedding day! You should begin right now serving God with your time, effort, money, passion.

All that you do for Him *with love in your heart* is weaving for you a beautiful wedding gown for that day.

Verse 9, "Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed (or happy) are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" Here's the big question for you...

Have you saved the date? I know you haven't been given an actual date. Jesus said, "No one knows the day or the hour." *But are you planning to be there?*

Are you excited about leaving this world behind and moving in with Jesus? I've never met an engaged couple who wasn't ready for their wedding day. They were packed, and eager, and full of anticipation.

This is the next big event on God's prophetic calendar - [the rapture of the Church](#). When God pours out His judgments on Earth, His Church is in Heaven's banquet hall celebrating our marriage to His Son.

Remember at His first coming, on the eve of His crucifixion, Jesus ate the Passover with His disciples.

And at that *Last Supper* Jesus talked of this *marriage supper*. In essence, He toasted His bride! Jesus told His disciples that He wouldn't drink of the cup again until He drank it with His followers in His Kingdom.

Now in Revelation 19 the marriage is consummated.

The party has begun. Jesus and His Bride have started to celebrate a love that will last for all eternity!

He continues, ["He said to me, "These are the true sayings of God." And I fell at his feet to worship him."](#)

The *"him"* here is the mighty angel that John saw in Chapter 18:21. He made an impact on John. For one, he had quite an arm. He threw a huge millstone into the oceans announcing the fall of Satan's evil systems.

In fact, John was so impressed by this angel, and so overwhelmed by his revelation, that he falls at his feet to worship him. *Yet notice how the angel responds...*

["But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God!"](#) This angel is appalled

at John's worshipped. He's a servant - God's errand-boy, like John. *God alone is worthy of worship!*

Angels are awesome, magnificent creatures. See an angel and you'd be tempted to worship him - *but don't!*

There's only one angel who craves and relishes worship, and that's Lucifer or Satan - *the fallen angel.*

This angel tells John, "**For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.**" This is a strategic verse for people who study, and obey, and teach the Bible.

The spirit behind Scripture - the Bible's underlying theme - the burrow where all the rabbit trails lead - the subject of every predicate - is Jesus! The Holy Spirit intends for the *written Word* to point to the *living Word*.

Verse 11 shifts the focus from Heaven to Earth - from *a bridal suite* in Heaven to *a battle scene* on Earth.

John writes, "**Now I saw heaven opened...**" Earlier in Revelation 4:1 Heaven opened to let John and the Church enter. Now Heaven opens to let the Lion out...

Suddenly, John is "*on location*" in Israel to cover the final battle. He's standing on a hill overlooking the valley of Megiddo... The French general, Napoleon, stood over the same expanse, and remarked, "**All the armies of the world could maneuver for battle here.**"

According to verse 16 that's exactly what happens...

The armies of a worldwide coalition of nations under the Antichrist will gather in the Valley of Megiddo.

They're sites are set on Jerusalem. This is often called *the Battle of Armageddon*, but Megiddo is just the staging ground. This is **the Battle of Jerusalem**.

According to Joel 3:2 God will draw the nations to the holy city. "I will also gather all nations, and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat..." (or Kidron Valley next to the Temple Mount, east of Jerusalem)

"And I will enter into judgment with them there on account of My people, My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; *they have divided up My land.*" Notice God's beef with the nations. "*They have divided My land.*" They have no right to do so.

What we call the Holy Land belongs to God, and He can give it to whomever He pleases. It's *His* land!

Yet today, the world community pressures Israel to divide up the land God gave them, and give parcels to the Palestinians. Even when their Arab neighbors have more than enough territory for Palestinians to settle.

Even Jerusalem is a divided city - east and west.

And this angers the Almighty! Hostile troops will one day march into the Holy Land to fight for Jerusalem, but while camped near the mountain of Megiddo, or "*Armageddon*" - a strange, unexpected development occurs. Heaven opens, *and a new General appears...*

Verse 11 tells us, "And behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called **Faithful and True...**"

When Jesus wrote to the Church of Laodecia - *the lukewarm church of the last days* - He was called “**the Faithful and True Witness.**” Jesus’ promises are sure and certain. If they had repented they would’ve known.

But now their *last days’ lukewarmness* has devolved into *stone cold rebellion*. And *Jesus’ promise of judgment* is just as sure as is *His promise of salvation*.

John sees a man “**called Faithful and True**” on a white horse. The first time Jesus marched into the city of Jerusalem He was on the back of a burro. But He takes no donkey ride this time. He’s on a white stallion.

And don’t mistake this horse for a ceremonial steed.

The Romans liked to put their conquering generals on the back of a beautiful stallion that would prance, and strut, and play to the crowd - a show animal.

Instead this is a war horse - ready to charge! He’s bred for battle. He’s shaking his mane, and stomping his hooves. Hot breath is billowing out of his nostrils...

And we’re told of His Rider, “**In righteousness He judges and makes war.**” In Ecclesiastes 3:8 God tells us, “**There is a time of war, and a time of peace.**”

At his first entry into Jerusalem Jesus rode a donkey. He associated Himself with a beast of burden. Jesus came to serve - to bear our yoke. He came in humility.

But not now! This time He comes to “**judge and make war.**” Jesus comes the first time to *save* - but the second time to *slaughter*... Recall the effort Jesus makes throughout the Tribulation to preach the Gospel to mankind - *two prophets in Jerusalem, 144,000 Jewish evangelists, angels broadcasting from the sky*...

Yet mankind refuses to submit and end his rebellion. Think about it, puny little man tries to draw down on the King of the Jungle... It’s time the madness stop!

Isaiah 9:6 labels Jesus the “Prince of Peace,” but He gets that title only after He kills off all His enemies.

When Jesus returns to this Earth He’ll be coming to *kick butt, take names, and start breaking kneecaps.*

Moses made a stunning statement in Exodus 15:3, “The LORD is a man of war; the LORD is His name.”

Isaiah 42:13, “The LORD shall go forth like a mighty man; He shall stir up His zeal like a man of war. He shall cry out, yes, shout aloud; He shall prevail against His enemies.” The *Prince of Peace* is no *pacifist!*

In 1 Thessalonians 4:17 Paul speaks of the rapture.

Jesus will come in the clouds for His Church. In verse 18 Paul adds, “Comfort one another with these words.” *The great snatching* is a comforting concept.

But not the second coming... it should scare you straight. You want Jesus to be *your Savior*, not *your Judge*. Love the Lamb! Don’t make war with the Lion!

On the day Jesus returns, the Antichrist and his allies will muster a formidable force. His armies will stretch across the floor of the theater. Their strategy is to oppose the true Christ. That’s when heaven opens...

God’s gladiator appear... Verse 12, “His eyes were like a flame of fire...” They’re burning with passion.

“On His head were many crowns.” At His first coming the only crown Jesus wore was a crown of thorns. Now He wears royal diadems. His head holds kingly crowns!

And “He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.” Maybe Jesus has His own private combat name. “Red Baron” or “Top Gun” - something like that.

King Richard I, of Old England, was known as “The Lionheart.” That would be a great nickname for Jesus.

Verse 13 tells us, “He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.”

There is an interesting passage in Isaiah 63:1-4.

Isaiah sees a man with blood-soaked garments. He asks, “Who is this who comes from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah, this One who is glorious in His apparel, traveling in the greatness of His strength?”

Apparently, the Battle of Jerusalem will spill over into all Israel - as far south as Bozrah, near the Dead Sea.

I love what this man says to Isaiah, “I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save.” This is none other than Jesus! Who else can claim He is “*mighty to save?*”

Then Isaiah asks Him, “Why is Your apparel red, and Your garments like one who treads in the winepress?”

And He answers the prophet, “I have trodden the winepress alone, and from the peoples no one was with Me. For I have trodden them in My anger, and trampled them in My fury; their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, and I have stained all My robes. For the day of vengeance is in My heart, and the year of My redeemed has come.” Isaiah *and* John both see the Savior with robes soaked in the blood of His enemies.

At His first visit Roman soldiers gambled for Jesus' bloody robe. When He returns His robe will be stained with the blood of soldiers fighting for a revived Rome.

Verse 14, **“And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.”** *Who makes up this army?* Probably four battalions...

First, is **the angelic guard**. The cherubim, and seraphim, and living creatures are God's special forces. Their helicopter like wings, ferocious grills, night vision eyes make them fierce fighters. And they've wanted a piece of the serpent since the day of his fall.

Second, are **the OT believers**. It's been a long time since men like Abraham, Joshua, David felt the rush of combat. They've have lots of time now to get psyched.

Third, are the **Tribulation saints**. These folks have fresh wounds. Just recently, they were martyred by the Beast. They took one for the team. Now, they would love nothing more than to get even with their nemesis.

And the fourth battalion of the Lord's army... *you won't believe it... get ready... it'll blow your mind...*

It's you and me! The Church will ride with Jesus.

Jude 14 proclaims, **“Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all...”**

Colossians 3:4 tells us, **“When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.”**

Realize this will be the mother of all battles. Jesus and Heaven's army faces off with Satan and His allies.

Modern armies of all the nations will be stretched out across Israel... *when a door will open in Heaven...*

And out gallops Jesus on His war mount. Behind Him, you and I, and ten-thousand of His saints, come hooping and hollering! *I plan to ride right behind Jesus!*

Imagine, when the call comes to *“mount up!”*

We'll pull ourselves from praise, and saddle up our steed. Suddenly the door will open, and like a plane descending out of a bank of clouds, the sky will open up before us. We'll see a hostile battlefield. Military hardware aimed right at us. Tanks will fire their rockets.

Missiles will launch. You'll hear surface-to-air zingers sailing past your head. Explosions, sizzling sounds... You think your heart might pound out of your chest!

Then suddenly, you'll look down and see a red dot of laser light on your shirt. You've been marked. You're a target. *(Maybe I've been watching too many movies.)* But a rocket has locked on to you... *Oh no, you're cooked...* That's when something amazing happens...

Verse 15, **“Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations.”**

This is the climatic conclusion in the galactic battle between God and Satan. Here's a showdown that's been brewing since creation - *the much heralded Battle of Armageddon...* no other conflict has been this hyped.

Yet the Super Bowl of the universe ends up a dud. It's no contest. Jesus wins in a *blowout... 777 to zip!*

2 Thessalonians 2:8 predicts the defeat of Antichrist, “Then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.” The dreaded Beast and his armies are torched with *breath and brightness!*

Jesus breathes on the Beast *the breath of death*. He blows the enemy away by breathing God’s Word.

His words, even His breath, is like a sharp sword.

Talk about a case of bad breath. This is breath that kills. The breath that breathed into Adam’s nostrils the breath of life... And breathed on the disciples and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit...” - now destroys the Beast.

Notice too, Paul tells us the Antichrist is destroyed “*with the brightness of (Jesus’) coming.*” What His breath doesn’t vaporize, the light of His glory will...

The sheer brightness of His coming melts - it withers the Beast and disintegrates the armies of the enemy!

The Antichrist will suffer from a case of *Son burn!*

Then “**He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron.**”

Here’s an echo of Psalm 2. It’s part of God’s answer to the dilemma of sin. Sin touches people around you.

Sin is not a victimless crime... You don’t steal, or lust, or hate in a vacuum. You steal from a storekeeper.

For God to be merciful to the storekeeper, He has to restrain the thief. This means if sinners don’t get saved and *stop sinning*, then *the sinner has to be stopped*.

And when Jesus returns He'll forcibly stop sinners.

He'll rule with a rod of iron. As a result, planet Earth will be a better, safer, happier - more peaceful place.

For **“He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.”** Notice how Jesus takes this all so personally. **“He Himself”** treads the winepress... In chapter 14 we saw that blood, not wine, squirts from this press. Jesus will crush sinners.

We think we sin against ourselves - *“I’m not hurting anybody.” That’s seldom true... But even if our sin is private, it’s still an offense against God’s will and God’s wisdom. At its core all sin is a fist in God’s face...*

Verse 16, **“He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written...”** Ancient warriors decorated their faces and limbs with body paint. It provided a menacing look.

Here Jesus has a title scripted down his thigh. You can see it when He rides across the battlefield.

It reads, **“KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.”**

The earth has been littered for millenniums with so-called kings and lords – but there is only one King of all kings and Lord of all lords... Jesus Christ is the champ, and He’s returning to Earth to take on all challengers!

Revelation 19 depicts Jesus not as *Baby Jesus, or Gentle Jesus, or Jesus blessing children, or breaking bread...* This is Jesus breaking the stiff necks of evildoers who won’t stop sinning against God and man.

If He's King He has to take action! We can't walk into the eternal state with people hellbent on robbing, raping, cheating, swindling. That's not Heaven, it's Hell.

I'm sure you've seen the bumper sticker, "[Visualize World Peace.](#)" When I read the Revelation of Jesus in chapter 19 I visualize world peace, *but here's how...*

Jesus annihilates Satan and all who join his rebellion... He retakes the reigns of a run-away planet... He conquers His enemies, establishes His kingdom, and enforces obedience to His sovereign will.

Then and only then, will we [realize world peace.](#)

Verse 17, "[Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great."](#) Here's an invite to another supper.

The Church feasts at *the marriage supper of the Lamb*, while birds and vultures feast *on the flesh of the fallen*. Birds fly to the battlefield to peck at the corpses.

Verse 19, "[And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.](#)" At the rapture Jesus comes as a thief in the night. He surprises this evil world. No one expects Him.

But at His second coming the armies of the earth rally against Him. The nations are resisting His arrival.

Jesus is coming to defend Jerusalem. According to Zechariah 14 this all happens over the Mount of Olives.

Imagine, one day Earth squares off with Heaven – mankind squares off with God...
Pity the puny man!

“Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.”

The demonic duo - *the satanically-inspired ruler and the apostate religious leader* (who paved his way) are thrown into hellfire... And this isn't Hades - a temporary torment - it's Gehenna, an eternal lake of fire.

Jesus said God created this lake for the devil and his angels. But its first inhabitants are these two stooges.

Chapter 19 closes, “And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.” And you might think, *how can God take a life?*

Last night I was on an airplane working on today's Bible Study. The young lady next to me was looking over my shoulder. Finally she blurts out, “How can you say Jesus *“crushes His enemies” and “breaks their stiff necks.”* That doesn't sound very Joel Osteen-ish.”

I'm not picking on Joel - that's just what she said!

And let me tell you how I answered her... What God does to these rebels He did to His only Son. The Father sentenced Jesus to death by crucifixion.

The wages of sin is death, and Jesus died in our place. At the cross these bowls of wrath were satisfied.

That means every death at Armageddon is a senseless suicide. Men don't have to die. They do so because they reject Jesus and put themselves under God's wrath. *I hope no one today makes that mistake.*

King Jesus is returning to planet Earth! *Literally... Actually... It's real... It'll happen... You can count on it...*

Look over Jerusalem, and He'll split the eastern sky!

With the breath of His mouth and the brightness of His coming Jesus will defeat the Beast and his army.

Jesus will touch down on the Mount of Olives. From the spot where He ascended, there He's coming back.

And the mere weight of His big toe will trigger a colossal quake. It'll split the mountain in two. Jesus will bust through the Eastern Gate and onto the Temple Mount. He'll cleanse the Temple, and reign 1000 years.

Finally, the prayer will be answered, *"Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven."*

The war is finally over! Jesus has evicted the rebellious squatters and retaken possession of the planet, *but He's torn up the place in the process.*

And now the reclamation begins!

Here's a wonder of redemption - everything that sin has damaged, Jesus intends to restore. He fixes it all.

Chapter 19 closes with the universe under new management. And in chapter 20 now that the King of the Jungle controls the jungle, He makes it a paradise.