

THROUGH THE BIBLE STUDY

REVELATION 19

“Shock and awe” is a military doctrine first employed by the United States in 2003 in the war with Iraq. On March 21st, 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 exhausts 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.

That's what happened in Iraq. By April 5th, in just two weeks, Coalition Forces had seized Baghdad.

I bring this up since what we've been reading about in Revelation is God's implementation of a “shock and awe” strategy. God will exercise a rapid dominance. He'll overwhelm the Earth in anticipation of an actual ground invasion. And 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 debt our sin had caused.

Then when He rose from the dead and ascended to Heaven, He 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 have rejected God, and have had their own way. *It's a jungle out there... but Jesus is the King of the Jungle!*

And one day, He'll prove the point! With papers in His hand and invasion in His plans, He'll come to put the devil and company, and all their stuff, on the street.

The book of Revelation is all about a future **shock and awe**. A final seven-year period of **rapid dominance**.

In the Great Tribulation, God will overwhelm the Earth. He'll cripple the infrastructure. **Babylon is fallen!**

From Heaven, a righteous Judge will riddle the planet with surgical strikes. He'll punish the evil systems of this world by *breaking seven seals, blasting seven trumpets, and emptying seven bowls* full of His wrath.

God's goal is to tap out mankind's resistance and hasten a surrender to the inevitability of their defeat.

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.*

This is **shock and awe!** God's strategy is to overwhelm the world before the ground forces arrive.

And it's an act of mercy! To lessen the carnage God tries to soften man's resistance. ***Yet instead of repent, mankind shakes its fist in God's face to the bitter end!***

Chapter 19 describes the final throes of this current age. The revolt launched by Satan 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 prepping 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 the 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." Babylon, the great harlot, represented a phony and false religious system.

The Antichrist claimed to be the Savior - in the end, he's revealed to be 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..." Or *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.

Babylon was a harlot - a wicked religious system - *a church without the Church*. This prostitute seduced the world to deny God and pledge allegiance to the Beast.

And she was helped by a commercial system, *also known as Babylon*, that extorted 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 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, and grieves her loss. Whereas, 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 Bible - mostly in the 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 his kingdom is 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.”*

Obviously, *“Alleluia”* is an English term, but do you know how it's pronounced *in Spanish? or Arabic? or Mandarin? or Yoruba?* It's the same, *“Alleluia.”* It's a universal word. 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 rules. 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. All the best humans can do is *trade more vexing problems for less vexing problems.*

The reason governments are so impotent is because they depend on *fallible, frail, foolish* humans. John declares Earth's only hope, *God omnipotent reigns!*

In this campaign season, I saw this yard sign, “Jesus 2020, Our Only Hope!” Go to the polls and vote, but every day, in every way **vote Jesus** by how you live!

Today, God sits on Heaven’s throne. For the moment, He’s allowing humans to be in charge, *in order to prove how incapable we are*. But the day is coming when the Omnipotent will flex His muscle and establish His kingdom. Here, the sound from heaven thunders 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, here the greatness of God... He’s both *omnipotent*, yet *intimate!*

*He’s High, yet 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 came in three stages...

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

The **second** stage was the **betrothal**. At the home of the bride, the couple exchanged vows; then the groom left to prepare a place for him and his bride to live. Often this task involved building a room onto his father’s house. From this point, the groom and bride were legally married, *with the exception of sexual relations*. The marriage wasn’t consummated until the feast.

Which was the **third** stage. Once preparations were complete the groom returned for his bride, swept her up, and took her home. At the **marriage feast** the couple celebrated with family and friends; then entered the bridal chamber to consummate their marriage.

And this is a beautiful overview of Jesus' dealings with His Bride, the Church... Our **engagement** was prearranged. The NT teaches that those of us in Christ were chosen before the foundation of the world...

When we put our faith in Jesus we took a vow, and we're **betroted**. We reserve ourselves for Jesus.

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

And verse 8 we see the Bride at the **marriage supper**, "**And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.**" She's dressed to the hilt!

When Lydia Tayler got married, rather than shell out big bucks for a wedding gown, she knitted her own. It took Lydia four months and over 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 hoodie.*

If you have any fashion sense at all - you won't let that happen! You don't want to be stuck wearing a tattered T-shirt on your wedding day! Begin now to serve God with your time, effort, money, and 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 are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" The word "*blessed*" means "happy!"

Here's the big question... *Have you saved the date?*

I know we don't have an actual date. "*No one knows the day or the hour.*" But are you excited about leaving this world and moving in with Jesus? I've never met an engaged couple who wasn't ready for their wedding day. They were packed, eager, and full of anticipation.

Here's the next big event on God's prophetic calendar, *the rapture or snatching away of the Church.*

When God pours out His judgments on Earth, His Church will be in Heaven celebrating our marriage to His Son... Recall 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 and told His disciples He wouldn't drink of the cup again until He drank it with His followers in His Kingdom.

And now in Revelation 19, the marriage is consummated. The party begins. Jesus and His Bride begin a celebration of love that will last for all eternity!

Verse 9, "And 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 John saw in 18:21. And he'd 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 empire.

In fact, John was so impressed by this angel, he falls down 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 the prospect of being worshipped. He's just a servant - He's God's errand-boy. He deflects John's veneration. *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 is only one angel who craves and relishes worship, and that's Lucifer of old - *the fallen angel*.

This angel tells John, "*For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.*" Here's a strategic verse for serious Bible students. The spirit behind Scripture - its theme - the burrow where all the rabbit trails lead is Jesus! The *written Word* declares the *living Word*.

Verse 11 now 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 the Church enter. Now it opens for Jesus to come 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.*”

And 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. Their sites are set on Jerusalem. This is often called *the Battle of Armageddon*, but Megiddo is just a 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...*” (The Kidron Valley, east of Jerusalem, next to the Temple Mount)

“*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.*” And they had no right to do so!

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

And this has huge political ramifications for today.

The world community continually pressures Israel to divvy up the land God gave them and give parcels to the

Palestinians - *even when their Arab neighbors have more than enough land for the Palestinians to settle.*

Today, Jerusalem is a divided city - east and west.

And this angers the Almighty! In the last days, troops will march on Jerusalem to further divide Israel, but while camped near the mountain of Megiddo, or “*Armageddon*” - a strange, unexpected development occurs. Heaven opens, *and a new General appears...*

Verse 11, “*And behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True...*” The first time Jesus presented Himself to the nation He was on the back of a burro. He came in humility. Jesus came to serve. But He takes no donkey ride this time. He’s on a stallion - *and not just 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.

This though 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 came to save, but the second time He comes to slaughter. He comes to “*judge and make war*” with the armies of this world.

Recall the effort Jesus has made throughout the Tribulation to preach the Gospel to the world... *two prophets in*

Jerusalem, 144,000 Jewish evangelists, angels broadcasting from the sky... Yet mankind has refused to submit and end the rebellion. He's defiant.

Think about it, a puny little man tries to draw down on the King of the Jungle. It's time the madness ends...

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's coming to bust chops, 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 chimes in, "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." *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 he follows it up by saying, "Comfort one another with these words." The rapture is intended to comfort.

But not the second coming - *which happens after the Great Tribulation* - this vision should scare you straight.

You want Jesus to be your Savior, not your Judge.

Love the Lamb! Don't make war with the Lion!

In that day, the Antichrist and his allies will appear to be a formidable force. They'll be stretched across the theater floor gnashing their teeth - adding to their blasphemies - *strengthening God's case against them.*

When suddenly heaven will open. God's gladiator will appear... Verse 12 describes Him, "His eyes were like a flame of fire..." They're burning with vengeance.

"And 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 - kingly crowns!

And "He had a name written that no one knew except Himself." Perhaps Jesus has earned a combat nickname like "Red Baron" or "Top Gun." It was said the Crusader, King Richard I, of England was known as "The Lion-heart." *That'd be a great name for Jesus!*

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

Here's an interesting passage taken from Isaiah 63. Isaiah sees a man in blood-soaked garments, and 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 Jesus 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 who fight for a revived Rome.

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

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

Second, are **the OT believers**. Abraham, Joshua, David have had a long time since they’ve felt the rush of combat. They’ve had plenty of time to get psyched.

Third, are **Tribulation saints**. Their wounds are fresh. They took one for the team. These martyrs would love nothing more than to get even with the Beast.

*And the fourth battalion of the Lord’s army... you won’t believe it... get ready for it... 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.”

Here is the mother of all battles. Jesus and Heaven’s army faces off with Satan and His allies. Modern armies of all the nations are stretched out across Israel when a door opens 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 keep my horse tight 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 launch. You’ll hear surface-to-air zingers sailing past your head. Explosions, sizzling sounds surround you. Your heart is pounding out of our chest!

Then suddenly, you look down and see a red dot of light on your shirt. A laser has marked its target. A rocket has locked on to you... *Oh no, you’re cooked.* That’s when something absolutely amazing happens...

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

Remember, this is the final act in the galactic battle between God and Satan. This is the showdown that’s been brewing since creation. No other battle has been given such hype and hoopla. This is the spiritual Super Bowl, *Armageddon!* Yet it *turns out* to be a *blowout...*

2 Thessalonians 2:8 predicts its outcome, “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.” Jesus will breathe on the Beast, or Antichrist, and blow Him away. It’s *the breath of death*. He destroys the enemy by breathing God’s Word. His word, even His breath, is like a sharp sword.

The God who breathed life into Adam’s nostrils... who breathed on His disciples and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit...” - breathes again and destroys the Beast.

In the same passage, 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 Jesus’ coming also withers the Beast, disintegrating the enemy’s armies!

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

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

Understand, sin is not a victimless crime. You don’t steal or lust in a vacuum. You steal from a shopkeeper. When you lust you treat a woman less than a person. She becomes a toy you use, not a person you respect.

For God to be merciful to the shopkeeper, 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. In the words of Psalm 2, He’ll rule with a rod of iron. You’ll comply or else. And 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.” In Revelation 14 there’s blood, not wine, squirting from this winepress. Jesus executes judgment on sinners.

Notice how Jesus takes this personally. He doesn’t delegate the task. “*He Himself*” treads the winepress.

Realize, sin isn’t just breaking the rules, it’s a fist in God’s face. It’s rebellion against His will, and an affront to His wisdom, and a snub of His love. And when you do it continually and refuse to repent, it gets personal.

There comes a point when *Jesus has to take action!* Who would enjoy heaven if it was spent with people hellbent on defying God, and doing evil, and abusing others? That wouldn’t be Heaven, it would be hell.

Thus, Jesus first comes to judge, and He’s dressed for the job, “He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written...” Ancient warriors decorated their faces and limbs with paint. It made them look menacing.

Here Jesus has a title scripted down his thigh. You can see it when He rides His horse onto 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!

You’ve seen the bumper sticker, “Visualize World Peace.” When I read Revelation 19 I visualize world peace, *but here’s how...* Jesus annihilates Satan and his rebellion. He retakes

the reigns of a run-away planet. He conquers His enemies, and 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 will fight Heaven - mankind will square off with God... *Pity the puny humans!*

“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 notice, this isn't Hades - what's been a temporary torment - it's Gehenna, the lake of fire. Jesus said God created this lake for the devil and his angels. Its first inhabitants are these two stooges.

The chapter 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? Well, let me answer in a way you might not expect...*

What God does to these rebels He's done to His own Son. The Father oversaw Jesus' death on the cross.

The wages of sin is death - thus, Jesus died in our place. And because of His death, men today don't have to die. They do so only because they reject Jesus. Each death at Armageddon will be a senseless suicide.

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

The OT Prophet Zechariah tells us Jesus will touch down on the Mount of Olives. Where the mere weight of His foot will trigger a colossal quake. It'll split the mountain in two. Jesus will bust through the Eastern Gate and onto the Temple

Mount, where He'll cleanse the Temple, and reign on Earth for a thousand years.

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

The war is over! Jesus has evicted the squatters and retaken possession, *but He tore the place up in the process.* Now a reclamation begins! Everything sin has damaged, Jesus will restore. Chapter 19 closes with the universe under new management. In Chapter 20, the King of the Jungle turns the jungle into a paradise.