

# 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. 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 called it **rapid dominance**. The invader exhausts the occupier, and they lose the will to fight.

The colossal show of force paralyzed Iraqi resistance, and convinced them of the inevitability of their defeat. By the time American troops rolled in the locals had capitulated and accepted a new regime. The whole idea was to wage war with minimal bloodshed...

And 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, **our world belongs to God**. As its Creator, God gave dominion over the Earth to the first couple, Adam and Eve. Thus, when Adam rebelled against God, 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 our 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 Jesus do this in Revelation 5...* John said, **“Who is worthy to open the scroll and loose its seals?”** One of heaven’s elders 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. He holds the papers, *but has not yet taken possession*. **Ownership doesn’t always equal occupation.**

**So here's the situation come Chapter 19...** Earth is overrun with Satan, and demons, and evil men. The rebels have rejected God, and 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 his stuff, out on the street.

The book of Revelation forecasts 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. Hey, **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, and blasting seven trumpets, and emptying seven bowls* full of His wrath.

God's goal will be to exhaust the world's resistance, and hasten surrender to the inevitability of its defeat.

Chronologically now, 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 yet, it's all an act of mercy!* To lessen the carnage, God is trying to soften humanity's resistance... *But sadly, instead of repent, a rebellious humanity 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 been written. If you want to know who wins in the end 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 is determined to go to hell, so be it, but God is still to be praised for His heart and power 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, but in the end was revealed to be a tyrant. The world was duped!

Yet in contrast to *phony and false*, Jesus is “*true and righteous.*” He’s *genuine not counterfeit*. He’s *faithful not deceptive*. **Jesus is who He says He is, and does what He says He’ll do.** Jesus is all this world isn’t.

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 used to buy or sell, and to receive it you’ll have to compromise your soul. Folks will suppress any lingering longings for Jesus - the one, true Christ - and bow their knee to the Antichrist.

Chapter 18:18 predicted 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; while 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!"* 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 just 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 thunders, 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 the word is pronounced *in Spanish?* or

Mandarin? or Arabic? or Yoruba (Your-ra-ba)? The same, “Alleluia.” It’s a universal word. Even Heaven shouts “Alleluias”!

But that’s just half of Heaven’s shout. The triumphant chorus rings. “For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!” Earth’s impending collapse reminds Heaven Who it is that is capable of ruling. The Lord is “omnipotent” or all-powerful. **There is no problem He can’t solve!**

Wayne Valis worked in the White House as a special assistant to Presidents Nixon, Ford, and Reagan. When Wayne called it quits, his resignation was full of despair. Valis wrote, “I’ve come to believe... there is no ultimate solution to human problems. All you can do is 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.*

Governments consist of *frail, foolish* humans. While John declares, “The Lord God omnipotent reigns!”

In this political season here’s the best campaign slogan I’ve seen, “Jesus 2024, Our Only Hope!” Don’t misunderstand, it’s every Christian’s duty to vote, but the most important vote you’ll cast is for Jesus. Every day, in every way **vote Jesus** by how you live your life!

*For soon* the Omnipotent will flex His muscle and establish His kingdom. He’ll prove His ability to rule, *as heaven thunders, “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.” Here is the greatness of our God... He is 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 His Bride. *And you and I are that bride!*

Hebrew marriage rites came in three stages... **First** was the **engagement**. Parents would often arrange their children’s marriage when their kids were young...

The **second** stage was the **betrothal**. When the young people came of age the couple exchanged vows, and the groom left to prepare a place for them to live. Often this involved building a room onto his father’s house. From this point, they were legally married - *with the exception of sexual relations...*

Which was the **third** stage. Once preparations were completed the groom returned for his bride and took her home. And it was at the **marriage feast** that 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 who are in Christ are chosen by Him before the foundation of the world... Then when we put our faith in Jesus we take a vow. We become **betrothed**. We reserve ourselves for Jesus. And Jesus has now returned to Heaven. In His Father's house are "*many mansions*" or *rooms*. He's preparing one for us... And when He's finished, He's promised to return to take us to live with Him forever. In verse 8 we see the Bride at her **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."** The bride of Christ is 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 100,000 stitches. And here we learn that we too are making our wedding dress. When you meet Jesus you'll be clothed in your own "*righteous acts*." *And do you know what that means?*

**Some of you will be married to Jesus for all eternity in your sweatpants and hoodie.** *If you have any fashion sense at all - you won't let that happen! Do you want to wear a tattered T-shirt on your wedding day? We need to begin now to serve God with our time, effort, money, and passion... All you do for Him with love in your heart, weaves 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!*" And here's the question, *have you happily accepted your invitation?* Have you **saved the date!** I know we don't have an actual date. Jesus said, "**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 the wedding day.

Hey, the next big event on God's prophetic calendar is **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 Passover with His disciples. And it was at that *Last Supper* that 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.

Now in Revelation 19 the marriage is about to be consummated. The party begins! Jesus and His Bride will begin a celebration of love that will last for 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 "*he*" here is the mighty angel John saw in 18:21. And this angel



made a distinct impression on John. For one, he had quite an arm. He threw a huge millstone into the ocean announcing the fall of Satan's empire.

In fact, John was so impacted by this angel, here 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 or I would be tempted to worship him, **but don't!** There is only one angel who craves and relishes worship - that's Lucifer of old - *the fallen angel.*

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

One Saturday night I was on an airplane from California to Atlanta. I had taken a red-eye so I could preach the next morning at CalvaryCSM. I was working on my sermon, which was on this text, Revelation 19.

Well, unbeknownst to me, while I was typing on my computer, the young lady next to me was looking over my shoulder. Finally she blurted out, **"You can't say that. You can't say that. How can you say Jesus 'crushes His enemies' and 'breaks their stiff necks.' That doesn't sound very Joel Osteen-ish."** Now I'm not picking on Joel. *That's just what the lady said to me!*

It was obvious, in her mind she'd diluted Christianity, and limited the concerns of Jesus to our own prosperity and personal betterment. Her Christianity might've included: *feeding the poor, and caring for the elderly, and teaching children* - but she couldn't imagine a Jesus who cares about righteousness and justice and willingly judges rebellion. **Yet this is the Jesus revealed in John's Revelation!** Our Lord doesn't just have the heart to save, He has the backbone to judge.

Thus verse 11 shifts the focus from a *bridal suite* in Heaven to a *battle scene* on Earth. John writes, **"Now I saw heaven opened..."** In 4:1 Heaven opened to let the Church enter. Now it opens for Jesus to ride out...

Suddenly, John is a war correspondent *"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 this same expanse, and said, **"All the armies of the world could maneuver for battle here."** And according to verse 16 that's what'll happen.

The armies of a worldwide coalition of nations under the influence of the Antichrist will gather in the Valley of Megiddo, with their sites 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 in the last days God will draw the nations of the world to the holy city. “I will also gather all nations, and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat...” (That is, the Kidron Valley, just 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 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 is His land!* And this has huge political ramifications for today. The world community continually pressures Israel to divvy up the land God promised them. *Even though their Arab neighbors have more than enough land to create a Palestinian state, Israel is coerced to turn over more of their tiny slither.*

Today, Jerusalem is a divided city - east and west. *And apparently, this angers the Almighty!* In the last days, troops will march on Jerusalem to create further divisions, but while camped near the mountain of Megiddo, or “*Armageddon*” - a strange, unexpected event occurs. *Heaven opens. 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 Israel, 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.**” Ecclesiastes 3:8 tells us, “**There is a time of war, and a time of peace.**” At Jesus’ first entry into Jerusalem He came to save, but the second time, He comes to slaughter. Jesus comes to “**judge and make war**” with the armies of this world.

Recall the effort God has made throughout the Great Tribulation to preach the Gospel to lost humanity... *two witnesses in Jerusalem, 144,000 Jewish evangelists, three angels broadcasting from the sky...* Yet mankind refuses to submit and end the

rebellion. He becomes defiant. Think of it, puny little man tries to draw down on the King of the Jungle. It's time the madness stops!

Isaiah 42:13 declares, "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." Jesus is no *pacifist!* Isaiah 9:6 labels Him the "Prince of Peace," but He gets that title only after He kills all His enemies. When Jesus returns to Earth He'll come busting chops, taking names, and breaking kneecaps. The Lord is like "*a man of war.*"

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 champion 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 - many 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.*" The famous Crusader, King Richard I of England, was known as "*The Lion-hearted.*" *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.*" In Isaiah 63 the prophet 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?*" The Battle of Jerusalem will spill over into all Israel - as far south as Bozrah or the Dead Sea.

And 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, "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?* There’re 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 still fresh. They took one for the team. The 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 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 that call comes to “**mount up!**” We’ll pull ourselves from praise and saddle up our steed.

Suddenly the door will open, and like an airplane 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 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. This is the spiritual Super Bowl, *Armageddon!* Yet it *turns out* to be a *blowout*...

2 Thessalonians 2:8 predicts, “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 *the breath of death*, and it'll blow away the Antichrist. He destroys His enemy with a Word. 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...” - will breathe again and destroy the Beast.

Paul says Antichrist is destroyed “with the brightness of (Jesus') coming.” What His breath doesn't vaporize, the light of His glory will. His sheer brightness withers the Beast, and disintegrates the enemy's armies! You could say Antichrist will suffer from a case of *Son burn!*

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

Realize, sin is never a victimless crime. You don't steal in a vacuum. You steal from a shopkeeper. And 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 will 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.” Remember, in Revelation 14 there was blood, not wine, squirting from this winepress. Jesus executes judgment on sinners. And notice how Jesus takes this personally. He doesn't delegate the task. “He Himself” treads the winepress.

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

Thus, Jesus comes to judge, and He's dressed for the job, “He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written...” Ancient warriors would 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.*

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 His return. But at His second coming the armies of the earth have rallied. 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 will be the beastie boys.

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? Well, let me answer in 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 earthquake. It splits the mountain in two. Jesus busts through the Eastern Gate and onto the Temple Mount, where He cleanses the Temple, and reigns on Earth for a thousand years.

Finally, the prayer is answered which was prayed by followers of Jesus for centuries, “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.*

So a reclamation project 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.