

I. Chapter 19 in Review

- A. Revelation chapter 19 is a major shift in the timeline and events of God's orchestration of humanities redemption. The Holy Spirit showed John multiple facets of the beauty and glory of Jesus that will be primarily longed for and displayed at His Return.
 - 1. Jesus returns to the planet whose inhabitants are given totally over to the celebrating and exploring the depths of their depravity. Their satanically inspired quest to eradicate any form of godliness and truth from the earth will culminate with the greatest military force ever assembled to destroy ethnic Jews and level the city of Jerusalem.
- B. Chapter 19 ends with Jesus appearing on the battle scene just when all seems lost; liberating the Jews and the city of Jerusalem, and destroying the Antichrist empire and all his followers in the greatest battle the world has ever seen.

II. Understanding the Condition of the Earth

- A. Jesus returns to a planet devastated by the effects of decades of fallen human process, raging lawlessness, unparalleled war, and devastation from God's righteous judgments.
 - 1. Resurrected and raptured saints who joined Him in the procession from the sky to the battlefield now gather in Jerusalem in great celebration to declare Jesus the rightful King of the earth. As they look upon the devastations of war and judgment both inside and outside the battered walls of the city they realize there is much work to be done to fulfill the promise of the restoration of all things.
 - 2. Another important aspect to understand about the dynamics of humanity at the return of Jesus is that there will be people alive on the earth who did not worship the Antichrist or Jesus. Without this understanding in place many of the scriptures concerning the millennial age do not make sense.

III. The Process of Restoration under the Leadership of Jesus

- A. Most people assume that at the coming of Jesus the earth will be supernaturally restored as in the days of creation by a word from His mouth and a wave of His hand. However scripture speaks of these days of restoration through the clear language of human process through the means of relational dynamics and governmental structures orchestrated by Jesus. (Is. 49:7-13)

- B. The book of Revelation is relatively silent as to the process and dynamics of restoring the earth. It is summed up in the statement “And they lived and reigned with Christ for 1000 years.” I believe there are two reasons for this lack of detail concerning the millennial age.
1. The book of Revelation is centered around the Glory of Jesus at His coming it is not centered upon the glory of His kingdom once it is installed.
 2. There are over 100 chapters in the bible that speak of these dynamics clearly and John would have had an assumption that his audience was familiar with the promises of restoration because it is the paramount promise of the Bible. (Heb. 5:9-6:20)
- C. Some of realities of the millennial kingdom and the social dynamics of the 1000 years of restoration are as follows..... (Job 5:17-2. 36:24-38, 37-48; Jer. 33; Is. 2:1-4, 11:1-10, 51:1-3, 61:1-7; 65:17-25; Dan. 7:9-27; Amo. 9:13-15; Zec. 8:19-23; Mat. 19:28, 25:14-46; 1 Cor. 6:2-3)
1. Establishing a world-wide governmental leadership structure to oversee restoration
 2. The rebuilding of cities and homes
 3. Repairing and cleansing of earth’s resources
 4. Discipleship and evangelism of the nations
 5. Establishing perfect righteousness in areas such as: Education, Economics, Marketplace, Agriculture, and Creation Management.
- D. The progression and plan of restoration..
1. Satan Bound and Imprisoned – The very first thing that Jesus does upon the defeat of the Antichrist and his armies is command that Satan be captured, bound in chains, and thrown into the bottomless pit.
 - a. At the onset of the establishment of His Kingdom Jesus will eliminate the element of lying deception against truth in order for righteousness and the knowledge of God to flourish.
 2. Restoring the Earth - Starting with the city of Jerusalem and the land around it Jesus will begin to restore the earth and humanity to righteousness in every sphere. I believe it will take 1000 years of His perfect rule to fully restore the earth to righteousness in order to position

it fully to embrace all of heaven thus fulfilling the mandate of heaven and earth becoming one. (Mat. 6:10)

3. Testing the Nations - At the 1000 year mark of His earthly rule Jesus will release the adversary of love (Satan) to test the hearts of humanity who came to believe in Him after His return. There is much to be gleaned from this prophesied reality and the results of it. We see both the reason why God allows Satan to deceive the earth now, and we see clearer the depraved state of humanity under the curse of death.
4. The Final Rebellion - A great host (Millions; like the sand of sea) of untested hearts will be deceived by Satan upon his release. They will choose themselves and their own desires over Jesus and once again rebel against His leadership. Just like their fathers 1000 years before them they will gather together and make war upon Jesus and His capital city of Jerusalem. (Ez. 38-39:16)
5. Satan Judged – After the final rebellion of man Satan will be cast into the eternal lake of fire where he will be tormented forever.
6. The Judgment Seat of Christ - A complete and final eternal judgment of every individual who ever lived is the final step of the restoration of all things. (Jhn. 5:28-29; Rom. 2:5-10; 2 Cor. 5:6-10; Col 3:24-25)
 - a. For the believers in Jesus – They are not declared righteous by their own works but rather by the works of Christ on their behalf their righteous choices and actions made as a result of love are rewarded. (Pro. 11:18; Is. 49:4, 62:11; Mat. 6:4, 10:42, 16:27; Lk 14:14; 1 Cor. 3:8, 4:5)
 - b. For non-believers this is a devastating event where their own works are called into account. They are judged according to the goodness and righteousness of God and are therefore found lacking. We live in a day where the realities of eternal torment are so offensive that even in the church they are relegated to superstition and hyper literalism. However, the scriptures pull no punches on the realities of eternal judgment for those who willingly choose it. (Is. 3:11; Rom. 2:5; Mat. 10:28; Mar. 9:43-48)

IV. All Things Made New

“Now behold, I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first earth and the first heaven had passed away.” (Rev. 21:1a)