

ENDGAME

A Study On Revelation (Week #187)

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Revelation 19 **OVERVIEW**

- Crowd In Heaven
 - Destruction of Babylon
 - Wedding Feast and Celebration
 - Angelic Interaction
 - Fifth horseman
 - Banquet of the Beasts
- ☐ Verses 17, 18 & 21: "Food's Ready!"

Revelation 19 **UPCOMING**

- Beast and False Prophet captured
- Fiery lake of burning sulfur

Revelation 19:17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, shouting to the vultures flying high in the sky: "Come! Gather together for the great banquet God has prepared. **18** Come and eat the flesh of kings, generals, and strong warriors; of horses and their riders; and of all humanity, both free and slave, small and great." **19** Then I saw the beast and the kings of the world and their armies gathered together to fight against the one sitting on the horse and his army. **20** And the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who did mighty miracles on behalf of the beast—miracles that deceived all who had accepted the mark of the beast and who worshiped his statue. Both the beast and his false prophet were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur. **21** Their entire army was killed by the sharp sword that came from the mouth of the one riding the white horse. And the vultures all gorged themselves on the dead bodies. (NLT)

Revelation 19:17 Then I saw an [one] angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in midheaven, "Come, assemble for the great feast of God, **18** so that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, both free and slaves, and small and great." **19** And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies, assembled to make war against Him who sat on the horse, and against His army. **20** And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire, which burns with brimstone [burning sulfur]. **21** And the rest were killed with the sword which

came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh. (NASB)

Revelation 19:17 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, **18** 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." **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. **20** 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. **21** 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. (NKJV)

What Is The _____ Of Revelation 19:17?

- The Great _____ of God
 - This macabre feast contrasts sharply with the marriage supper of the Lamb just described (Revelation 19:9).
 - ▶ Saints feast in celebration.
 - ▶ Sinners become the feast in condemnation.

Revelation 19:9 And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb." And he added, "These are true words that come from God." (NLT)

Revelation 19:17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, shouting to the vultures flying high in the sky: "Come! Gather together for the great banquet God has prepared. **18** Come and eat the flesh of kings, generals, and strong warriors; of horses and their riders; and of all humanity, both free and slave, small and great." (NLT)

- The phrase "great supper" affirms a literal, global climax when Christ crushes the armies arrayed against Him.

Revelation 14:17 After that, another angel came from the Temple in heaven, and he also had a sharp sickle. **18** Then another angel, who had power to destroy with fire, came from the altar. He shouted to the angel with the sharp sickle, "Swing your sickle now to gather the clusters of grapes from the vines of the earth, for they are ripe for judgment." **19** So the angel swung his sickle over the earth and loaded the

grapes into the great winepress of God's wrath. **20** The grapes were trampled in the winepress outside the city, and blood flowed from the winepress in a stream about 180 miles long and as high as a horse's bridle. (NLT)

Revelation 16:14 They are demonic spirits who work miracles and go out to all the rulers of the world to gather them for battle against the Lord on that great judgment day of God the Almighty. **15** "Look, I will come as unexpectedly as a thief! Blessed are all who are watching for me, who keep their clothing ready so they will not have to walk around naked and ashamed." **16** And the demonic spirits gathered all the rulers and their armies to a place with the Hebrew name Armageddon. (NLT)

Revelation 19:19 Then I saw the beast and the kings of the world and their armies gathered together to fight against the one sitting on the horse and his army. (NLT)

- Birds devouring flesh displays divine retribution that leaves no doubt about Christ's victory.

Isaiah 34:6 The sword of the Lord is drenched with blood and covered with fat—with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of rams prepared for sacrifice. Yes, the Lord will offer a sacrifice in the city of Bozrah. He will make a mighty slaughter in Edom. (NLT)

Jeremiah 7:33 The bodies of my people will be food for the vultures and wild animals, and no one will be left to scare them away. (NLT)

- _____ for Believers Today - Practical Takeaways for Believers
 - Confidence
 - ▶ Every promise of Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation, will be kept.
 - ▶ Christ's triumph is certain; our labor in Him is never in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:57 But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ. **58** So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless. (NLT)

- Urgency
 - ▶ Those outside Christ face the awful supper of judgment; now is the day of salvation.

2 Corinthians 6:2 For God says, "At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you." Indeed, the "right time" is now. Today is the day of salvation. (NLT)

- Worship
 - ▶ Christ's victory is total; the Lamb who was slain returns as King of kings and Lord of lords (Revelation 19:16).
 - ▶ God's justice is as worthy of praise as His mercy (Revelation 15:3-4).

Psalm 98:8 Let the rivers clap their hands in glee! Let the hills sing out their songs of joy **9** before the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with justice, and the nations with fairness. (NLT)

- Sobriety
 - ▶ Eternal destinies are real; proclaiming the gospel remains urgent.

2 Corinthians 5:11 Because we understand our fearful responsibility to the Lord, we work hard to persuade others. God knows we are sincere, and I hope you know this, too. (NLT)

- Summary
 - ▶ Revelation 19:17 shows a literal angel, ablaze in the sun's brilliance, summoning carrion birds to God's final battlefield feast.
 - ▶ The scene guarantees Christ's visible, decisive victory over wickedness, contrasts the blessings of the redeemed with the doom of the rebellious, and calls believers to live in confident, reverent expectation of the Lamb's return.

**How Does Revelation 19:17 _____ God's _____
_____ Over Evil Forces?**

- The "Great Supper of God": Layers of Meaning
 - _____ Defeat: Corpses laid bare show evil's complete, humiliating collapse (Revelation 19:18-21).
 - _____ Justice: Ancient warfare left the dishonored unburied; God does the same to His enemies—justice is seen, not hidden.
 - _____: The wicked hoped to devour the righteous; instead, they become food.

Proverbs 11:8 The godly are rescued from trouble, and it falls on the wicked instead. (NLT)

Isaiah 49:26 I will feed your enemies with their own flesh. They will be drunk with rivers of their own blood. All the world will know that I, the Lord, am your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Israel." (NLT)

- Participation of _____: Even birds serve God's purpose, highlighting His absolute sovereignty.

Psalm 103:20 Praise the Lord, you angels, you mighty ones who carry out his plans, listening for each of his commands. **21** Yes, praise the Lord, you armies of angels who serve him and do his will! **22** Praise the Lord, everything he has created, everything in all his kingdom. Let all that I am praise the Lord. (NLT)

- _____ for Believers
 - Evil's apparent dominance today is temporary; Revelation 19:17 shows the moment God flips the narrative forever.
 - The same voice that summons birds will soon summon saints to the marriage supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:9). One supper is judgment, the other celebration—each perfectly just.
- Living in Light of the Coming Victory
 - Stand firm: the Lamb wins, and those with Him are "called, chosen, and faithful."

Revelation 17:14 Together they will go to war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will defeat them because he is Lord of all lords and King of all kings. And his called and chosen and faithful ones will be with him." (NLT)

- Proclaim truth boldly: if an angel can cry out over the battlefield, believers can speak up in the present age.
- Rest in God's sovereignty: every detail, even scavenger birds, is under His command; your life certainly is.

What role do the " _____ " play in the context of _____ ?

- Theological Highlights
 - Literal fulfillment—real birds are summoned to a real battlefield, displaying God's sovereignty over nature and nations alike.
 - Covenant consistency—Old Testament warnings become New Testament realities; the Lord keeps every word He has spoken.
 - Moral seriousness—sin culminates not in heroic last stands but in being carrion; holiness and obedience alone escape this fate.
- Encouragement for Believers
 - Christ's enemies are decisively defeated; no evil will survive His appearing.
 - God cares for His creation so completely that even cleanup is planned and purposeful.
 - Standing with the Lamb today means sharing His victory tomorrow, not the shame of those left to the birds.

How Can Believers _____ For Christ's Return As Described In Revelation 19:17?

- The Sobering Picture
 - This angelic summons happens moments before Christ's victorious return at Armageddon (19:11-21).
 - The "great supper of God" is a literal cleanup operation—birds consume the fallen armies that opposed the Lamb.
 - The scene underlines two unshakable truths: Jesus will personally conquer evil, and every person will stand on one side or the other of His victory.
- What This Means for Us
 - Because Revelation 19:17 is certain, believers must make sure they are numbered among those who ride with Christ (19:14) rather than those lying beneath His judgment.
 - Preparation is not passive; it is an active lifestyle that flows from saving faith.
- Steps to Be Battle-Ready
 - Confirm your allegiance to the Lamb

John 3:36 "And anyone who believes in God's Son has eternal life. Anyone who doesn't obey the Son will never experience eternal life but remains under God's angry judgment." (NLT)

2 Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves to see if your faith is genuine. Test yourselves. Surely you know that Jesus Christ is among you; if not, you have failed the test of genuine faith. (NLT)

- Clothe yourself in righteous deeds

Revelation 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and let us give honor to him. For the time has come for the wedding feast of the Lamb, and his bride has prepared herself. **8** She has been given the finest of pure white linen to wear." For the fine linen represents the good deeds of God's holy people. (NLT)

- Pursue holiness with _____

1 John 3:3 And all who have this eager expectation will keep themselves pure, just as he is pure. (NLT)

2 Peter 3:11 Since everything around us is going to be destroyed like this, what holy and godly lives you should live, **12** looking forward to the day of God and hurrying it along. On that day, he will set the heavens on fire, and the elements will melt away in the flames. (NLT)

- Stay alert and sober-minded

Matthew 24:42 "So you, too, must keep watch! For you don't know what day your Lord is coming." (NLT)

1 Thessalonians 5:6 So be on your guard, not asleep like the others. Stay alert and be clearheaded. (NLT)

- Engage in faithful _____

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (NLT)

Jude 23 Rescue others by snatching them from the flames of judgment. Show mercy to still others, but do so with great caution, hating the sins that contaminate their lives. (NLT)

- Cultivate unwavering _____
 - ▶ Hope fuels perseverance when culture grows hostile.

Titus 2:13 while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed. (NLT)

- Staying Watchful Day by Day
 - Start each morning acknowledging, "This could be the day."
 - Build rhythms of Scripture intake—promises blessing to those who read and heed.

Revelation 1:3 God blesses the one who reads the words of this prophecy to the church, and he blesses all who listen to its message and obey what it says, for the time is near. (NLT)

- Gather with believers who sharpen expectation.

Hebrews 10:24 Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. **25** And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. (NLT)

- Keep short accounts with God and people—confession and reconciliation maintain readiness.

- Invest treasure in kingdom work; your heart follows your investments.

Matthew 6:19 "Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. **20** Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. **21** Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be." (NLT)

- Encouragement from Other _____
 - Refuge today means triumph tomorrow.

Psalm 2:12 Submit to God's royal son, or he will become angry, and you will be destroyed in the midst of all your activities—for his anger flares up in an instant. But what joy for all who take refuge in him! (NLT)

- Judgment for rebels, reward for followers.

Revelation 22:12 "Look, I am coming soon, bringing my reward with me to repay all people according to their deeds. (NLT)

- Our citizenship is already in heaven; we await the Savior who will "transform our lowly bodies."

Philippians 3:20 But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. (NLT)

- Living with _____
 - Every headline hints at the day when the sky will split, and the rightful King will appear. Revelation 19:17 reminds us that His victory is certain and His judgment thorough.
 - Live therefore as citizens of that coming kingdom—clean, courageous, and expectant.

What Is The _____ Of The Angel Standing In The Sun In Revelation 19:17?

- Immediate Literary Context
 - Revelation 19 describes the climactic victory of Christ the King over the wicked world system embodied in "Babylon," the beast, and the false prophet. Verses 11-16 present Jesus descending as the rider on the white horse. Verse 17 introduces a heralding angel who summons carrion birds to a feast of execution in a covenant-lawsuit. The placement between Christ's appearance and the beast's defeat frames the angel as a divine town-crier announcing certain judgment.

- Symbolism of the Sun in Scripture
 - Universal witness – the heavens “declare” God’s glory; the sun traverses the sky for all to see.

Psalm 19:4 Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world. God has made a home in the heavens for the sun. **5** It bursts forth like a radiant bridegroom after his wedding. It rejoices like a great athlete eager to run the race. **6** The sun rises at one end of the heavens and follows its course to the other end. Nothing can hide from its heat. (NLT)

- Righteousness and judgment – the “sun of righteousness” rises with healing for believers but burns the wicked.

Malachi 4:1 The Lord of Heaven’s Armies says, “The day of judgment is coming, burning like a furnace. On that day the arrogant and the wicked will be burned up like straw. They will be consumed—roots, branches, and all. **2** “But for you who fear my name, the Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in his wings. And you will go free, leaping with joy like calves let out to pasture. (NLT)

- Shekinah-like brilliance – Christ’s face shines “like the sun” at the Transfiguration, previewing His eschatological glory.

Matthew 17:2 As the men watched, Jesus’ appearance was transformed so that his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as light. (NLT)

- Standing in (ἐν " en) the sun therefore pictures the angel enveloped in a sphere of blazing visibility, assuring that God’s sentence is public, unavoidable, and cosmically endorsed.
- Angelology and _____ Heraldry
 - Throughout Revelation, angels function as emissaries (1:1), interpreters (17:7), and executioners (16:1). This angel serves as a kerux (herald), echoing ancient Near-Eastern battlefield protocol: a victor’s envoy first announces judgment on the vanquished before the army moves in. By situating him in the sun, John fuses heavenly authority with unshadowed disclosure.
- The _____ Center Stage: The Sun as _____
 - Astronomically, the sun is the gravitational center of our solar system. Placing the angel there metaphorically positions God’s decree at the center of reality. From that vantage, all creation receives the summons; no hemisphere, latitude, or cultural border hides from the verdict.

Acts 17:30 "God overlooked people's ignorance about these things in earlier times, but now he commands everyone everywhere to repent of their sins and turn to him. **31** For he has set a day for judging the world with justice by the man he has appointed, and he proved to everyone who this is by raising him from the dead." (NLT)

- The _____ Feast of Birds
 - Old Testament background:
 - ▶ God commands birds and beasts to feast on the slain of Gog.

Ezekiel 39:17 "And now, son of man, this is what the Sovereign Lord says: Call all the birds and wild animals. Say to them: Gather together for my great sacrificial feast. Come from far and near to the mountains of Israel, and there eat flesh and drink blood! **18** Eat the flesh of mighty men and drink the blood of princes as though they were rams, lambs, goats, and bulls—all fattened animals from Bashan! **19** Gorge yourselves with flesh until you are glutted; drink blood until you are drunk. This is the sacrificial feast I have prepared for you. **20** Feast at my banquet table—feast on horses and charioteers, on mighty men and all kinds of valiant warriors, says the Sovereign Lord. (NLT)

- ▶ Covenant curses warn Israel that disobedience leaves corpses "food for every bird of the air."

Deuteronomy 28:26 Your corpses will be food for all the scavenging birds and wild animals, and no one will be there to chase them away. (NLT)

- The Revelation scene fulfills these texts in a universal sense. The angel's invitation underscores the covenant principle that rejection of God's Messiah ends in public shame. (Jeremiah 7:33)
- Public, _____ Proclamation
 - The loud voice (φωνῇ μεγάλῃ) implies urgent, unignorable proclamation parallel to:
 - ▶ Loud: μεγάλῃ; (Greek - megas [meg'-as]); great, loud, greater, greatest, large, big, fierce;
 - ▶ Voice: φωνή; (Greek - phóné [fo-nay']); voice, sound, voices, sounds, utterance, blasts, cry; a tone (articulate, bestial or artificial)
 - ▶ An angel with the "eternal gospel" flying "in mid-heaven" for every nation.

Revelation 14:6 And I saw another angel flying through the sky, carrying the eternal Good News to proclaim to the people who belong to this world—to every nation, tribe, language, and people. (NLT)

- ▶ An angel “with great authority” illumines the earth, announcing Babylon’s fall.

Revelation 18:1 After all this I saw another angel come down from heaven with great authority, and the earth grew bright with his splendor. **2** He gave a mighty shout: “Babylon is fallen—that great city is fallen! She has become a home for demons. She is a hideout for every foul spirit, a hideout for every foul vulture and every foul and dreadful animal. (NLT)

- ▶ Together, these passages show God’s commitment to openly reveal both grace and judgment; secrecy would impugn His justice.

Romans 3:4 Of course not! Even if everyone else is a liar, God is true. As the Scriptures say about him, “You will be proved right in what you say, and you will win your case in court.” **5** “But,” some might say, “our sinfulness serves a good purpose, for it helps people see how righteous God is. Isn’t it unfair, then, for him to punish us?” (This is merely a human point of view.) **6** Of course not! If God were not entirely fair, how would he be qualified to judge the world? (NLT)

- Judicial Overtones and _____ Lawsuits
 - In biblical jurisprudence, a herald announces verdicts. The angel stands not merely as observer but as court officer.

Isaiah 34:1 Come here and listen, O nations of the earth. Let the world and everything in it hear my words. **2** For the Lord is enraged against the nations. His fury is against all their armies. He will completely destroy them, dooming them to slaughter. **3** Their dead will be left unburied, and the stench of rotting bodies will fill the land. The mountains will flow with their blood. **4** The heavens above will melt away and disappear like a rolled-up scroll. The stars will fall from the sky like withered leaves from a grapevine, or shriveled figs from a fig tree. (NLT)

Micah 6:1 Listen to what the Lord is saying: “Stand up and state your case against me. Let the mountains and hills be called to witness your complaints. **2** And now, O mountains, listen to the Lord’s complaint! He has a case against his people. He will bring charges against Israel. (NLT)

- The gruesome feast fulfills lex talionis; the persecutors who denied the saints’ burial (two witnesses) now suffer the humiliation they inflicted.

Revelation 11:9 And for three and a half days, all peoples, tribes, languages, and nations will stare at their bodies. No one will be allowed to bury them. (NLT)

- _____ Theology and Intelligent Design Implications
 - The scene presupposes a literal, designed cosmos in which the sun functions purposefully.
 - ▶ Solar stability, fine-tuned luminosity, and gravitational constancy make the angel's station conceivable only within an intelligently ordered universe (Meyer, *Signature in the Cell*, ch. 18).
 - ▶ The passage also anticipates ecological balance: scavenger birds serve as divine "cleanup crew," an example of foresight in the created order.

Genesis 1:14 Then God said, "Let lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. Let them be signs to mark the seasons, days, and years. **15** Let these lights in the sky shine down on the earth." And that is what happened. **16** God made two great lights—the larger one to govern the day, and the smaller one to govern the night. He also made the stars. **17** God set these lights in the sky to light the earth, **18** to govern the day and night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. **19** And evening passed and morning came, marking the fourth day. (NLT)

- Historical and Archaeological _____
 - Lachish Relief (c. 701 BC) – Assyrian carvings display proclamations over defeated foes with birds hovering, visually paralleling Ezekiel's and John's scenes.
 - Qumran War Scroll (1QM 12:13-15) – angelic participation in end-time battle documents Second-Temple expectations that align with Revelation's portrait.
 - These finds corroborate the cultural plausibility of angelic herald imagery.
- _____ Focus
 - The angel's announcement magnifies Christ's victory, not the angel himself.
 - ▶ By occupying the sun—imagery often associated with Christ—the messenger reflects (not rivals) the "King of kings and Lord of lords."

Revelation 19:16 On his robe at his thigh was written this title: King of all kings and Lord of all lords. (NLT)

- ▶ The sun motif thus refracts Christ's glory through His servant, reinforcing the principle that created beings exist to amplify the Creator's majesty.

Colossians 1:16 for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. (NLT)

- Pastoral and _____ Implications
 - Evangelistic urgency - the universal reach of the message models comprehensive gospel proclamation.
 - Sobriety about judgment - divine justice is as public as divine grace; both motivate holiness.

2 Peter 3:11 Since everything around us is going to be destroyed like this, what holy and godly lives you should live, **12** looking forward to the day of God and hurrying it along. On that day, he will set the heavens on fire, and the elements will melt away in the flames. (NLT)

- Assurance - believers who witness escalating evil know that a fixed day of vindication is already scheduled.

Acts 17:31 For he has set a day for judging the world with justice by the man he has appointed, and he proved to everyone who this is by raising him from the dead." (NLT)

- _____
 - The angel standing in the sun functions as God's blazing herald, ensuring the judgment decree is visible, cosmic, and unassailable.
 - The image intertwines themes of universal witness, covenant justice, Christ's supremacy, and the ordered grandeur of creation, inviting every reader to repent, believe, and glorify the risen Lord who will soon consummate His reign.

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- ☒ For what is the horse a symbol?
 - ☒ In what way is the white horse in verse 11 different from the white horse in Revelation 6:2?
 - ☒ Who is the Word of God?
 - ☒ Where else in Revelation is the appearance of our resurrected Lord described?
 - ☒ What insights can we gain from these descriptions?
 - ☒ Who makes up the armies of heaven?
 - Who is the animal or the beast?
 - Who is the false prophet?
 - What is the lake of fire?
 - Who is in the lake of fire when the beast and the prophet are sent there?
 - How can we disprove the doctrine of annihilation from this chapter?
 - Who are the "rest" in verse 21?

Timeline of the End of the Age

