

ENDGAME

A Study On Revelation (Week #193)

Pastor Jason Goss

Revelation 19 _____

- Crowd In Heaven
- Destruction of Babylon
- Wedding Feast and Celebration
- Angelic Interaction
- Fifth horseman
- Banquet of the Beasts
- Beast and False Prophet captured

Revelation 19 _____

- Fiery lake of burning sulfur

Revelation 19:20 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. (NLT)

Revelation 19:20 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*]. (NASB)

Revelation 19:20 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. (NKJV)

The Coming _____

- Who the False Prophet Is
 - The “second beast” of Revelation 13:11-18 –distinct from the Antichrist yet inseparably allied.

Revelation 13:11 Then I saw another beast come up out of the earth. He had two horns like those of a lamb, but he spoke with the voice of a dragon. **12** He exercised all the authority of the first beast. And he required all the earth and its people to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed. **13** He did astounding miracles, even making fire flash down to earth from the sky while everyone was

watching. **14** And with all the miracles he was allowed to perform on behalf of the first beast, he deceived all the people who belong to this world. He ordered the people to make a great statue of the first beast, who was fatally wounded and then came back to life. **15** He was then permitted to give life to this statue so that it could speak. Then the statue of the beast commanded that anyone refusing to worship it must die. **16** He required everyone—small and great, rich and poor, free and slave—to be given a mark on the right hand or on the forehead. **17** And no one could buy or sell anything without that mark, which was either the name of the beast or the number representing his name. **18** Wisdom is needed here. Let the one with understanding solve the meaning of the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man.[a] His number is 666. (NLT)

- A religious figure who lends spiritual legitimacy to the beast's political power.
- Operates by supernatural signs granted by Satan (Revelation 13:13-14).

2 Thessalonians 2:9 This man will come to do the work of Satan with counterfeit power and signs and miracles. (NLT)

- Ultimately judged and destroyed (Revelation 19:20), proving God's sovereignty over every counterfeit.
- Core _____ the False Prophet Employs
 - Counterfeit Miracles
 - ▶ "Performs great signs" (Revelation 13:13).
 - ▶ Mirrors God's true works to blur the line between truth and error (2 Thessalonians 2:9).

Exodus 7:10 So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did what the Lord had commanded them. Aaron threw down his staff before Pharaoh and his officials, and it became a serpent! **11** Then Pharaoh called in his own wise men and sorcerers, and these Egyptian magicians did the same thing with their magic. **12** They threw down their staffs, which also became serpents! But then Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs. (NLT)

- Idolatrous Worship
 - ▶ "Tells those who live on the earth to make an image to the beast" (Revelation 13:14).
 - ▶ Shifts devotion from Christ to a man-centered system.

Deuteronomy 13:1 "Suppose there are prophets among you or those who dream dreams about the future, and they promise you signs or miracles, **2** and the predicted signs or miracles occur. If they then say, 'Come, let us worship other

gods'—gods you have not known before— **3** do not listen to them. The Lord your God is testing you to see if you truly love him with all your heart and soul. **4** Serve only the Lord your God and fear him alone. Obey his commands, listen to his voice, and cling to him. (NLT)

- Authoritarian Pressure
 - ▶ Enforces allegiance through economic and social control (Revelation 13:16-17).
 - ▶ Blends religion with politics to demand unqualified obedience.
- Persuasive Speech
 - ▶ "Spoke like a dragon" (Revelation 13:11) —smooth, yet Satanic.

Genesis 3:1 The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, "Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?" (NLT)

2 Corinthians 11:3 But I fear that somehow your pure and undivided devotion to Christ will be corrupted, just as Eve was deceived by the cunning ways of the serpent. (NLT)

- ▶ Twists Scripture and appeals to felt needs.

2 Peter 2:1 But there were also false prophets in Israel, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will cleverly teach destructive heresies and even deny the Master who bought them. In this way, they will bring sudden destruction on themselves. **2** Many will follow their evil teaching and shameful immorality. And because of these teachers, the way of truth will be slandered. **3** In their greed they will make up clever lies to get hold of your money. But God condemned them long ago, and their destruction will not be delayed. (NLT)

2 Timothy 4:3 For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. **4** They will reject the truth and chase after myths. (NLT)

- How These Tactics Manifest Today
 - Spectacular _____
 - ▶ Hunger for the _____ can outweigh _____.
 - ▶ Claims of visions, healings, or prophetic words may exalt personalities rather than Christ.

Matthew 24:24 "For false messiahs and false prophets will rise up and perform great signs and wonders so as to deceive, if possible, even God's chosen ones." (NLT)

2 Corinthians 11:12 But I will continue doing what I have always done. This will undercut those who are looking for an opportunity to boast that their work is just like ours. **13** These people are false apostles. They are deceitful workers who disguise themselves as apostles of Christ. **14** But I am not surprised! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. **15** So it is no wonder that his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. In the end they will get the punishment their wicked deeds deserve. (NLT)

Galatians 1:6 I am shocked that you are turning away so soon from God, who called you to himself through the loving mercy of Christ. You are following a different way that pretends to be the Good News **7** but is not the Good News at all. You are being fooled by those who deliberately twist the truth concerning Christ. **8** Let God's curse fall on anyone, including us or even an angel from heaven, who preaches a different kind of Good News than the one we preached to you. **9** I say again what we have said before: If anyone preaches any other Good News than the one you welcomed, let that person be cursed. (NLT)

2 Peter 2:9 So you see, the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their trials, even while keeping the wicked under punishment until the day of final judgment. **10** He is especially hard on those who follow their own twisted sexual desire, and who despise authority. These people are proud and arrogant, daring even to scoff at supernatural beings [*Greek: at glorious ones, which are probably evil angels*] without so much as trembling. **11** But the angels, who are far greater in power and strength, do not dare to bring from the Lord a charge of blasphemy against those supernatural beings. **12** These false teachers are like unthinking animals, creatures of instinct, born to be caught and destroyed. They scoff at things they do not understand, and like animals, they will be destroyed. **13** Their destruction is their reward for the harm they have done. They love to indulge in evil pleasures in broad daylight. They are a disgrace and a stain among you. They delight in deception even as they eat with you in your fellowship meals. **14** They commit adultery with their eyes, and their desire for sin is never satisfied. They lure unstable people into sin, and they are well trained in greed. They live under God's curse. **15** They have wandered off the right road and followed the footsteps of Balaam son of Beor, who loved to earn money by doing wrong. **16** But Balaam was stopped from his mad course when his donkey rebuked him with a human voice. **17** These people are as useless as dried-up springs or as mist blown away by the wind. They are doomed to blackest darkness. **18** They brag about themselves with empty, foolish boasting. With an appeal to twisted sexual desires, they lure back into sin those who have

barely escaped from a lifestyle of deception. **19** They promise freedom, but they themselves are slaves of sin and corruption. For you are a slave to whatever controls you. **20** And when people escape from the wickedness of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and then get tangled up and enslaved by sin again, they are worse off than before. **21** It would be better if they had never known the way to righteousness than to know it and then reject the command they were given to live a holy life. **22** They prove the truth of this proverb: "A dog returns to its vomit." [Prov 26:11] And another says, "A washed pig returns to the mud." (NLT)

- The "first wave" of the Holy Spirit:
 - ▶ The Pentecostal movement (Assemblies of God) is founded on doctrine (based on Scripture). That doctrine forms and dictates behavior and practice. Doctrine shapes experience.
 - ▶ Pentecostals tend to be fundamental, tend to come from lower sociological strata, and tend to emphasize doctrine as a litmus test differentiating insiders and outsiders.
- The "second wave" of the Holy Spirit:
 - ▶ The Charismatic movement seeks experience, and dangerously, that experience can either shape or ignore doctrine. The movement is driven by the experience of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, which also allows for their abuse, overexaggeration, or faking the gifts.
 - ▶ Charismatics - the term is elastic since it denotes those who share an experience rather than a doctrine. When it burst on the scene in the middle of the last century, some of the leaders were mainline Episcopalians, Baptists, and Lutherans.
 - ▶ Today, it has a higher percentage of Word of Faith types and is well represented among some of the ginormous, big-box independent churches. Whereas Pentecostals (e.g., AoG, Foursquare) lean in the direction of doctrine, charismatics are far more interested in experience and behavioral markers.
 - ▶ A mainline (or evangelical) congregation may have cliques of charismatics within it who meet in small groups together. This was especially true during the 1970s when the charismatic movement proved quite divisive in many mainline and evangelical churches. Much ink was spilled defending against charismatics (e.g., John Stott's justly famous book and John MacArthur's, which also dealt with Pentecostals).
 - ▶ One of the bywords of charismatic Christianity was uttered by J. Rodman Williams: "Doctrine divides, the Holy Spirit unites." Generally, the charismatic movement tolerated considerable doctrinal, ecclesiastical, and ideological diversity. Centering on an "experience" of the Holy Spirit allowed for casual acceptance of higher criticism, progressive social views, etc.

- The "third wave" of the Holy Spirit:
 - ▶ A second Charismatic movement with roots in the Vineyard movement. This movement pushed even further, with early leaders saying that "doctrine divides, and the Spirit unites." The experience of the Holy Spirit also elevated "spiritual offices," which, in turn, enabled the abuse of those in authority.
 - ▶ Vineyard - In the US, the Vineyard has emphasized church planting. A few years back, they counted 600-650 congregations and about 150,000 members. Founded by a musician, it is not surprising that they emphasize music and probably attract people in the community due to their cool worship. However, as broad evangelicalism has gotten on board with the same kinds of contemporary music, that competitive advantage seems to have disappeared.
 - ▶ The New Apostolic Reformation (NAR) is a movement that emphasizes modern-day apostles and prophets, seeking to restore the church's authority and influence in society, while Vineyard Churches focus on a more traditional evangelical approach, emphasizing worship, community, and the work of the Holy Spirit. Both movements share a charismatic foundation but differ in their governance and theological emphasis.
- New Apostolic Reformation (NAR) theological issues.
 - ▶ An unbiblical religious movement that emphasizes experience over Scripture, mysticism over doctrine, and modern-day "apostles" over the plain text of the Bible.
 - ▶ Apostles are seen as the highest spiritual leaders, specially empowered by God. True maturity and unity, per the New Apostolic Reformation, is only found in those who submit to the leadership of their apostles. According to this teaching, as the church unifies behind the apostles, these leaders will develop greater and greater supernatural powers. Eventually, this will include the ability to perform mass healings and suspend the laws of physics. These signs are meant to encourage a massive wave of converts to Christianity. These apostles are also destined to be recipients of a great wealth transfer (in the end times), which will enable the church to establish God's kingdom on earth.
 - ▶ Promotion of the Hebrew Roots Movement - belief that the Church has veered far from the true teachings and Hebrew concepts of the Bible. Maintaining that Christianity has been indoctrinated with the culture and beliefs of Greek and Roman philosophy and that ultimately biblical Christianity, taught in churches today, has been corrupted with a pagan imitation of the New Testament gospels.

- ▶ Teachings can include heresy such as: Kings Kids, Little Gods, I Am doctrine, Word of faith, name it claim it, New Breed doctrine, or Sonship doctrine.
- ▶ Other errors of the New Apostolic Church include these teachings:
 - 1) Water baptism is necessary for the forgiveness of sins;
 - 2) Baptism is only the first of several steps toward becoming a “child of God”;
 - 3) Legitimate Christian baptism can only be administered by an apostle (i.e., a New Apostolic Church apostle, since they do not recognize apostles of other denominations);
 - 4) The gift of the Holy Spirit is received only through a New Apostolic Church apostle, and only after water baptism;
 - 5) It is through New Apostolic Church apostles that God forgives sins;
 - 6) Prayers and sacramental rites for the dead are effectual for the salvation of the dead.
- NAR Problematic Warning Signs:
 - ▶ The NAR is not an official organization. No structure, no governance, no accountability.
 - ▶ Self-appointed apostles. They are above earthly authority because God “put them there.” Again...no accountability.
 - ▶ Promotion of false prophets. When prophecies aren’t fulfilled, the alleged prophets usually respond that some God-ordained requirement wasn’t met for their promise to come true. The problem is that the Bible says a prophecy is either true or false; there is no grey area regarding prophecies.
 - ▶ Promotes dubious Bible translation(s).
 - ◆ The Passion Bible: Written solely by self-appointed apostle Brian Simmons of Passion and Fire Ministries. Simmons (an unqualified Bible translator) said in an interview with Sid Roth that he’d had a vision in which Jesus commissioned him to translate the Bible, gave him “secrets of the Hebrew language,” and showed Simmons books in a heavenly library.
 - ◆ One New Man Bible: Written by William J. Morford, is not a product of sound scholarship. It distorts the New Testament by imposing Hebrew categories on Greek texts, promotes theological errors such as denying the Trinity, and aligns itself with movements that undermine the gospel.
 - ▶ Claims people can learn to prophesy. They teach paying students how to activate them; for example, the gift of prophecy begins with exercises to bring forth their gifts, and prophecy begins with thoughts and then proclamations “of uplifting words, never bad news.”

- ▶ Claims miraculous powers and visions. Members often claim they have the power to heal as normative miracles, part of the “greater works” Jesus gave to the church (John 5:20). This often leads to moments when NAR churches try to perform miracles and quickly hide when the miracles don’t come true. NAR churches also promote beliefs in strange spiritual phenomena, such as experiencing falling gold dust or angel feathers in services. Members like the late Beni Johnson embraced grave soaking, laying atop the grave of a noted Christian in an attempt to “soak up” their special anointing for themselves.
- When the Holy Spirit moves, it should not be:
 - ▶ _____ or _____
 - ▶ The Holy Spirit might overwhelm you, but He does not control you.
- _____ Spirituality
 - ▶ Blending Christianity with New Age practices, universalism, or occult symbols promotes an “all paths” theology that denies Jesus as the only way.

John 14:6 Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.” (NLT)

1 John 2:22 And who is a liar? Anyone who says that Jesus is not the Christ. Anyone who denies the Father and the Son is an antichrist. **23** Anyone who denies the Son doesn’t have the Father, either. But anyone who acknowledges the Son has the Father also. (NLT)

- Tech-Driven _____
 - ▶ Virtual reality, AI-generated wonders, and media manipulation can produce convincing “signs” that shape beliefs and loyalties.
- _____ Religion
 - ▶ Pressure to endorse ungodly policies under the banner of compassion or unity foreshadows enforced worship of the beast (Acts 5:29).

Acts 5:29 But Peter and the apostles replied, “We must obey God rather than any human authority. (NLT)

- Charismatic yet _____ Teachers
 - ▶ Leaders who draw crowds with motivational speech but downplay sin, repentance, and biblical authority embody the spirit of the false prophet.

Jeremiah 6:14 They offer superficial treatments for my people’s mortal wound. They give assurances of peace when there is no peace. (NLT)

1 John 4:1 Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world. (NLT)

- Why Even Believers Can Be Targeted
 - Jesus warned, "...to deceive, if possible, even the elect" (Matthew 24:24).
 - Spiritual apathy or ignorance of Scripture leaves gaps the deceiver exploits.

Hosea 4:6 My people are being destroyed because they don't know me. Since you priests refuse to know me, I refuse to recognize you as my priests. Since you have forgotten the laws of your God, I will forget to bless your children. (NLT)

- Desire for _____ can dull resistance to doctrinal _____ (Galatians 1:10).

Galatians 1:10 Obviously, I'm not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ's servant. (NLT)

- _____ for the Faithful
 - Anchor in Scripture
 - ▶ Test every message: "Examine the spirits to see whether they are from God" (1 John 4:1).
 - Exalt Christ Alone
 - ▶ Any sign or teacher who diminishes Christ's deity, atoning work, or exclusive lordship is false.

Colossians 1:18 Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So he is first in everything.

19 For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, **20** and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross. (NLT)

- Stay in Gospel Community
 - ▶ Mutual accountability and sound teaching shield against isolation-based deception.

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)

- Walk in the Spirit
 - ▶ The Spirit of truth guides into all truth and exposes error.

John 16:13 "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future." (NLT)

Galatians 5:16 So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. (NLT)

- Expect Counterfeits
 - ▶ Awareness that "Satan masquerades as an angel of light" keeps vigilance high without fostering fear.

2 Corinthians 11:14 But I am not surprised! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. (NLT)

- _____ Ahead
 - The final, literal false prophet will arise in the tribulation, but his spirit is already active.
 - Recognizing his methods helps believers resist present deception and stand firm until the day when Christ casts every enemy—including the false prophet—into "the fiery lake of burning sulfur," securing eternal victory for all who hold fast to the truth.

-
- ☒ 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?
 - ☒ Who is in the lake of fire when the beast and the prophet are sent there?
 - What is the lake of fire?
 - How can we disprove the doctrine of annihilation from this chapter?
 - Who are the "rest" in verse 21?