ENDGAME
A Study On Revelation (Week #198)

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
- 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)*

_____ Justice

- Immediate Literary Context
  - Revelation 19 describes Christ's climactic return as King of kings.
    - Verses 11-16 portray the Rider on the white horse executing righteous warfare.
    - Verses 17-18 summon the birds to a feast on defeated evil
    - Verse 19 shows the beast and his armies arrayed against Christ.
    - Verse 20 delivers the sentence; verse 21 records the remaining rebels' demise.
  - Revelation repeatedly employs courtroom and combat imagery (4:2-11; 11:18; 15:3-4) to frame God's judgments as both legal verdict and holy war,

culminating here in the definitive removal of the two principal human agents of global rebellion.

- _____ of Divine Justice
  - Biblically, justice (Heb. mishpat; Gk. dikaiosynē) is God's perfectly impartial, morally upright, covenant-keeping activity whereby He rewards righteousness and punishes wickedness.
  - Divine justice is never arbitrary; it flows from God's immutable holiness and is administered according to revealed standards (Isaiah 6:3).

Deuteronomy 32:4 He is the Rock; his deeds are perfect. Everything he does is just and fair. He is a faithful God who does no wrong; how just and upright he is! *(NLT)*

Psalm 89:14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne. Unfailing love and truth walk before you as attendants. *(NLT)*

Romans 2:5 But because you are stubborn and refuse to turn from your sin, you are storing up terrible punishment for yourself. For a day of anger is coming, when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. **6** He will judge everyone according to what they have done. **7** He will give eternal life to those who keep on doing good, seeking after the glory and honor and immortality that God offers. **8** But he will pour out his anger and wrath on those who live for themselves, who refuse to obey the truth and instead live lives of wickedness. **9** There will be trouble and calamity for everyone who keeps on doing what is evil—for the Jew first and also for the Gentile. **10** But there will be glory and honor and peace from God for all who do good—for the Jew first and also for the Gentile. **11** For God does not show favoritism. *(NLT)*

Exodus 34:6 The Lord passed in front of Moses, calling out, "Yahweh! The Lord! The God of compassion and mercy! I am slow to anger and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness. **7** I lavish unfailing love to a thousand generations. I forgive iniquity, rebellion, and sin. But I do not excuse the guilty. I lay the sins of the parents upon their children and grandchildren; the entire family is affected—even children in the third and fourth generations." *(NLT)*

- _____ Imagery and _____ Setting
  - The beast and false prophet stand as defendants whose crimes—idolatry, mass deception, persecution—violate both the First Commandment and the Deuteronomic death penalty for false prophets.
  - Their immediate confinement "alive" echoes Daniel 7:11 ("the beast was slain and its body destroyed and given to the burning fire," LXX) and signals a public, legal finality.

- Revelation's motif of books opened (20:12), thrones set (20:4), and witnesses summoned mirrors Ancient Near Eastern royal tribunals and Daniel 7:9-10.

Daniel 7:9 I watched as thrones were put in place and the Ancient One sat down to judge. His clothing was as white as snow, his hair like purest wool. He sat on a fiery throne with wheels of blazing fire, **10** and a river of fire was pouring out, flowing from his presence. Millions of angels ministered to him; many millions stood to attend him. Then the court began its session, and the books were opened. *(NLT)*

Exodus 20:3 "You must not have any other god but me." *(NLT)*

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. **5** The false prophets or visionaries who try to lead you astray must be put to death, for they encourage rebellion against the Lord your God, who redeemed you from slavery and brought you out of the land of Egypt. Since they try to lead you astray from the way the Lord your God commanded you to live, you must put them to death. In this way you will purge the evil from among you. *(NLT)*

- _____ and _____ Accountability of the Offenders
  - The beast (Revelation 13:1-8) personifies satanically empowered civil tyranny; the false prophet (13:11-17) embodies religious deception buttressing that tyranny. Each possesses intellect, will, and culpability.
  - Their miracles are counterfeit (13:13-14) and violate the prophetic test in Deuteronomy 18:20-22.

Deuteronomy 18:20 But any prophet who falsely claims to speak in my name or who speaks in the name of another god must die.' **21** "But you may wonder, 'How will we know whether or not a prophecy is from the Lord?' **22** If the prophet speaks in the Lord's name but his prediction does not happen or come true, you will know that the Lord did not give that message. That prophet has spoken without my authority and need not be feared. *(NLT)*

  - Divine justice demands that leaders who consciously exploit God-given faculties to propagate blasphemy receive a more severe judgment.

James 3:1 Dear brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers in the church, for we who teach will be judged more strictly. *(NLT)*

Matthew 18:6 But if you cause one of these little ones who trusts in me to fall into sin, it would be better for you to have a large millstone tied around your neck and be drowned in the depths of the sea. **7** "What sorrow awaits the world, because it tempts people to sin. Temptations are inevitable, but what sorrow awaits the person who does the tempting. *(NLT)*

- _____ and _____ of the Sentence
  - Magnitude of offense: Global idolatry and murder of saints (13:7, 15).
  - Repeated opportunity foregone: The three-angel warning (14:6-11) and the trumpet/bowl judgments (chs. 8-16) offered space to repent (9:20-21; 16:9), yet they "blasphemed God."
  - Irrevocable obstinacy: Their rebellion intensifies to the end (19:19). Divine justice therefore transitions from remedial to retributive, paralleling Pharaoh's hardening (Exodus 7-14) and the Amorites' "iniquity… not yet complete."

Genesis 15:16 After four generations your descendants will return here to this land, for the sins of the Amorites do not yet warrant their destruction." *(NLT)*

- The Lake of Fire and _____ Punishment
  - "Lake of fire" (Greek: *limnē tou pyros*) appears only in Revelation, signifying the final, conscious, everlasting separation from God (Revelation 19:20).

Revelation 20:10 Then the devil, who had deceived them, was thrown into the fiery lake of burning sulfur, joining the beast and the false prophet. There they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. *(NLT)*

Revelation 19:14 Then death and the grave were thrown into the lake of fire. This lake of fire is the second death. 15 And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire. *(NLT)*

Revelation 21:8 "But cowards, unbelievers, the corrupt, murderers, the immoral, those who practice witchcraft, idol worshipers, and all liars—their fate is in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death." *(NLT)*

Revelation 14:10 must drink the wine of God's anger. It has been poured full strength into God's cup of wrath. And they will be tormented with fire and burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and the Lamb. **11** The smoke of their torment will rise forever and ever, and they will have no relief day or night, for they

have worshiped the beast and his statue and have accepted the mark of his name." *(NLT)*

Matthew 25:41 "Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, 'Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons." *(NLT)*

Matthew 25:46 "And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous will go into eternal life." *(NLT)*

  - The beast and false prophet are cast there 1,000 years before Satan (20:10), yet are still "tormented day and night forever and ever," refuting annihilationism and underscoring the permanence of divine justice.

- Consistency with Old Testament _____
  - Flood (Genesis 6-9): Universal, proportionate judgment; geological megasequences and polystrate fossils provide empirical corroboration of a rapid, catastrophic deluge consistent with a young earth timeline.
  - Sodom (Genesis 19): Targeted destruction after angelic verification of wickedness.
  - Korah's rebellion (Numbers 16): Immediate, visible punishment for mutiny against God's order.
  - Each precedent demonstrates transparent process, public vindication of righteousness, and deterrent purpose—mirrored in Revelation 19:20.

- _____ with New Testament Teaching
  - Revelation 19:20 concretely fulfills these anticipations.
  - Jesus depicts an eternal fire "prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41).
  - Paul foresees "the lawless one… whom the Lord Jesus will slay with the breath of His mouth."

2 Thessalonians 2:3 Don't be fooled by what they say. For that day will not come until there is a great rebellion against God and the man of lawlessness is revealed—the one who brings destruction. **4** He will exalt himself and defy everything that people call god and every object of worship. He will even sit in the temple of God, claiming that he himself is God. **5** Don't you remember that I told you about all this when I was with you? **6** And you know what is holding him back, for he can be revealed only when his time comes. **7** For this lawlessness is already at work secretly, and it will remain secret until the one who is holding it back steps out of the way. **8** Then the man of lawlessness will be revealed, but the Lord Jesus will slay him with the breath of his mouth and destroy him by the splendor of his coming. *(NLT)*

- Hebrews affirms the danger of an unrepentant heart.

Hebrews 10:31 It is a terrible thing to fall into the hands of the living God. *(NLT)*

- Christ's Resurrection as Judicial _____
  - The historically validated resurrection (minimal-facts bedrock: empty tomb, post-mortem appearances, sincere transformation of early opponents) provides forensic assurance that the Judge at Armageddon possesses divine authority and precedent-establishing credentials.

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)*

- Philosophical and Moral _____
  - Objective morality requires a transcendent Lawgiver.
    - Widespread human conscience aligns with the declaration that certain actions—blasphemy, murder—merit punishment.

Romans 2:14 Even Gentiles, who do not have God's written law, show that they know his law when they instinctively obey it, even without having heard it. **15** They demonstrate that God's law is written in their hearts, for their own conscience and thoughts either accuse them or tell them they are doing right. *(NLT)*

  - Finite human courts sometimes fail; ultimate divine adjudication safeguards moral realism and prevents cosmic injustice.
    - The immediacy of the beast's sentence silences the charge that evil might elude final accountability.

- Archaeological Corroboration and Historical _____
  - First-century inscription "Pontius Pilatus… Prefect of Judea" (Caesarea) reinforces New Testament historical precision.
  - Patmos' physical ruins of Roman exile compounds harmonize with second-century testimonies (Irenaeus, Eusebius) that John authored Revelation there. Established factuality of surrounding data elevates confidence in eschatological elements.
  - Tel Dan stele confirms the "House of David," dismantling claims that biblical kings were mythic and buttressing Revelation's Davidic-Messianic expectation.

Revelation 5:5 But one of the twenty-four elders said to me, "Stop weeping! Look, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the heir to David's throne, has won the victory. He is worthy to open the scroll and its seven seals." *(NLT)*

Revelation 22:16 "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this message for the churches. I am both the source of David and the heir to his throne. I am the bright morning star." *(NLT)*

- Miraculous Judgments as Historical _____
  - From Elijah's fire from heaven (1 Kings 18) to Herod Agrippa's sudden death (Acts 12:23, also attested by Josephus, Antiquities 19.343-350), Scripture records God's capacity for spectacular intervention against blasphemy—foreshadowing the fiery terminus of the beast and false prophet.

- _____ with the Global Flood
  - Peter links the Flood with future fiery judgment.

2 Peter 3:5 They deliberately forget that God made the heavens long ago by the word of his command, and he brought the earth out from the water and surrounded it with water. **6** Then he used the water to destroy the ancient world with a mighty flood. **7** And by the same word, the present heavens and earth have been stored up for fire. They are being kept for the day of judgment, when ungodly people will be destroyed. *(NLT)*

  - Stratigraphic features—continent-wide sedimentary layers, marine fossils atop the Himalayas—demonstrate a world-engulfing catastrophe, furnishing empirical precedent for God's ability to execute planet-wide justice culminating in Revelation 19-20.

- _____ Implications
  - Divine justice offers hope to the oppressed, restrains private vengeance, and motivates evangelism: if eternal punishment is real, proclaiming Christ's redemption becomes urgent (Martyrs in Revelation 6:9-11).

Romans 12:19 Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the Lord. *(NLT)*

Revelation 22:17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." Let anyone who hears this say, "Come." Let anyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who desires drink freely from the water of life. *(NLT)*

- Believers emulate God's righteousness by living holy lives while trusting His timing for final rectification.

1 Peter 1:15 But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. **16** For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy." **17** And remember that the heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites. He will judge or reward you according to what you do. So you must live in reverent fear of him during your time here as "temporary residents." *(NLT)*

- _____ Application
  - The same passage that seals the beast's doom precedes the "marriage supper of the Lamb" (19:9).
  - Justice and mercy converge: those who reject the Lamb face the fire; those who receive His atonement share His feast. The historical resurrection validates the invitation, and observable design in creation (fine-tuned cosmic constants, coded DNA) removes excuses for unbelief (Romans 1:20).

- _____
  - Revelation 19:20 showcases divine justice as holy, proportionate, public, and irrevocable. Rooted in God's unchanging character, authenticated by the risen Christ, attested by reliable manuscripts, foreshadowed by past judgments, and harmonized with moral intuition, this sentence against the beast and false prophet assures that evil's tenure is temporary and God's righteous reign eternal.

_____

- ☑ 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?