

# Revelation

Chapter 19-20:3

Lesson 20

# Revelation 19:1-2

- ◆ <sup>1</sup> After these things I heard what sounded like a very great crowd in heaven saying, “Hallelujah! The salvation and the glory and the power of our God, <sup>2</sup> for true and just are his judgments; because he judged the great whore who corrupted the earth with her sexual immorality, and he avenged the blood of his slaves, (which was poured out) by her hand.”

# Singing Hallelujah

- ◆ The Apocalypse of Paul, likely written around the end of the 4th century <sup>AD</sup>, contains the following interesting discussion in ch. 30 about singing “Hallelujah.”

- ◆ And I said to the angel: Sir, what is "Hallelujah"? And he answered and said to me: You search and inquire into everything. And he said to me: Hallelujah is a word in Hebrew, the language of God and angels. And the meaning of Hallelujah is this: tecel. cat. marith. macha. And I said: Sir, what is tecel. cat. marith. macha? And the angel answered and said to me: Tecel. cat. marith. macha is this: Let us bless him all together. I asked the angel and said: Sir, do all who say "Hallelujah" bless the Lord?

◆ And the angel answered and said to me: That is so; and again, if anyone should sing Hallelujah and there are some present who do not sing (it) at the same time, they commit sin because they do not join in the singing. And I said: Sir, does someone who is doting or very old sin in the same way? And the angel answered and said to me: No, but whoever is able, and does not join in the singing, you know that he is a despiser of the word. And it would be proud and discreditable that he should not bless the Lord God his maker.

◆ Translation by Hugo Duensing and Aurelio de Santos Otero, *Apocalypse of Paul* in Edgar Hennecke, *New Testament Apocrypha*, ed. Wilhelm Schneemelcher, English trans. ed. R. McL. Wilson, rev. ed., 2 vols. (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1992), 2:729-30.

# Revelation 19:3-4

- ◆ <sup>3</sup> “And a second (time) they shouted, “Hallelujah! And her smoke rises forever and ever.” <sup>4</sup> And the twenty-four elders and the four living beings fell down and worshipped God, the one seated upon the throne saying, “Amen, Hallelujah.”

# Revelation 19:5-6

- ◆ <sup>5</sup> And a voice came from the throne saying, "Praise our God all his slaves [and] the ones who fear him, the small and the great." <sup>6</sup> And I heard what sounded like a very great crowd and like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder saying, "Hallelujah! because the Lord, [our] God, the Almighty reigns."

# Revelation 19:7-8

- ◆ 7 “Let us rejoice and exult and give him glory because the marriage of the lamb has come and his bride has prepared herself<sup>8</sup> and it is given to her to put on fine linen, bright and pure; for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the holy ones.”



# Revelation 19:9-10

- ◆ <sup>9</sup> And he (the angel) said to me, "Write this! Blessed are those invited to the supper of the lamb." And he said to me, "These are the true words of God. <sup>10</sup> And he fell at his feet to worship him. And he said to me, "Watch out do not do it! I am a fellow slave with you and your brothers the ones having witnessed concerning Jesus; Worship God. For the the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

# Revelation 19:11-12

- ◆ <sup>11</sup> And I saw heaven having been opened, and behold a white horse and the seated one upon it being called faithful and true, and in righteousness he judges and wages war. <sup>12</sup> And his eyes were [like] flame of fire, and upon his head were many diadems, having a name written which no one knows except him,



KING  
OF  
POWER  
AND  
LORD  
OF  
LORDS

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# Revelation 19:13-14

- ◆ <sup>13</sup> and being clothed in a robe having been dipped in blood, and his name is called the word of God. <sup>14</sup> And the armies in the heaven followed him upon white horses, wearing fine linen, white, pure.

# Isaiah 63:1-6

- ◆ “Who is this that comes from Edom, from Bozrah in garments stained crimson? Who is this so splendidly robed, marching in his great might?”  
“It is I, announcing vindication, mighty to save.” Is. 63:2 “Why are your robes red, and your garments like theirs who tread the wine press?” Is. 63:3 “I have trodden the wine press alone, and from the peoples no one was with me; I trod them in my anger and trampled them in my wrath; their juice spattered on my garments, and stained all my robes. + For the day of vengeance was in my heart, and the year for my redeeming work had come. 5 I looked, but there was no helper; I stared, but there was no one to sustain me; so my own arm brought me victory, and my wrath sustained me. 6 I trampled down peoples in my anger, I crushed them in my wrath, and I poured out their lifeblood on the earth.”

# Wisdom of Solomon 18:15-16a

- <sup>15</sup> your all-powerful word leaped from heaven, from the royal throne, into the midst of the land that was doomed, a stern warrior <sup>16</sup> carrying the sharp sword of your authentic command, and stood and filled all things with death,

# Revelation 19:15-16

- ◆ <sup>15</sup> And out of his mouth proceeds a sharp sword, in order that with it he might strike the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron, and he tramples the winepress of the wine of the furious wrath of God the Almighty, <sup>16</sup> and he has upon the clothing and upon his thigh having been written a name, "King of kings and Lord of lords."

# Revelation 19:17-18

- ◆ <sup>17</sup> And I saw one angel standing in the sun and he cried out [in] a great voice saying to all the birds flying in mid-heaven, "Come, gather unto the great supper of God, <sup>18</sup> in order to eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of generals (Chiliarchs) and the flesh of the mighty and the flesh of horses and the ones seated upon them and the flesh of all both free and slave and small and great."



# Ezekiel 39:17-20

- ◆ As for you, mortal, thus says the Lord GOD: Speak to the birds of every kind and to all the wild animals: Assemble and come, gather from all around to the sacrificial feast that I am preparing for you, a great sacrificial feast on the mountains of Israel, and you shall eat flesh and drink blood. <sup>18</sup> You shall eat the flesh of the mighty, and drink the blood of the princes of the earth—of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bulls, all of them fatlings of Bashan. <sup>19</sup> You shall eat fat until you are filled, and drink blood until you are drunk, at the sacrificial feast that I am preparing for you. <sup>20</sup> And you shall be filled at my table with horses and charioteers, with warriors and all kinds of soldiers, says the Lord GOD.

# Revelation 19:19-20

- ◆ <sup>19</sup> And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies having been gathered to wage war against the one seated upon the horse and the armies with him. <sup>20</sup> And the beast was seized along with the false prophet, the one performing the signs before him, with which he deceived those receiving the mark of the beast and the ones worshipping his image. Both of them were cast alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.



# Revelation 19:21

- ◆ <sup>21</sup> And the rest were killed by the sword of the one seated upon the horse, that extended from his mouth, and all the birds were fed from their flesh.

# Revelation 20:1-2

- ◆ <sup>1</sup> And I saw an angel descending out of heaven having the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. <sup>2</sup> And he grasped the dragon, the ancient snake, which is the devil, and the satan, and he bound him a thousand years



# 1 Enoch 10:4-6

- <sup>4</sup> And secondly the Lord said to Raphael, "Bind Azaz'el hand and foot (and) throw him into the darkness!" And he made a hole in the desert which was in Duda'el and cast him there; <sup>5</sup> \* he threw on top of him rugged and sharp rocks. And he covered his face in order that he may not see light; <sup>6</sup> and in order that he may be sent into the fire on the great day of judgment.





# Revelation 20:3

- ◆ <sup>3</sup> and he cast him into the abyss and shut and sealed it over him, in order that he might not deceive the nations any more until the thousand years were completed. After these it is necessary to release him for a short time.



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# Binding of Satan

- ◆ Augustine understood the binding of Satan at the beginning of the millennium in light of Jesus' words in Matt 12:29: "How can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his property, without first tying up the strong man?" According to Augustine, This binding of the Devil was not only effected at the time when the Church began to spread beyond the land of Judaea into other nations, at various times; it is happening even now, and will continue to happen until the end of the age. The binding of Satan occurs "in the case of every man who is snatched away from him."

# Interpreting the Millennium

- ◆ In discussing John's imagery of the millennium as a reward for the martyrs, Henry Barclay Swete gave some cogent advice for modern interpreters who try to provide details about the millennium. Swete wrote, "When, under what circumstance, or by what means this happy result [the millennium] should be attained, St. John does not foresee, and has not attempted to explain. It might have been well if students of his book had always followed the example of this wise reserve."

Henry Barclay Swete, *Commentary on Revelation* (Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1977; reprint of the 3rd ed. published by Macmillan, London, 1911, under the title, *The Apocalypse of St. John*), 266-67.