

CHAPTERS 19:11-21 & 20 SUMMARY

Chapter 19:11-21

Jesus is a warrior king as He sits on a white horse (Rev. 19:11-16). He is described as Faithful and True, something inherent in His nature (cf. Rev. 13:9, 14). As He goes out, He “judges and makes war.”

The Lord is identified as “The Word of God” (Rev. 19:13). This agrees with John 1:1-3, where He is the Word that was from the beginning with God and was God. The other designation applied to Him is “King of kings and Lord of lords.” He is above all and has the right to rule over all; none can overthrow Him.

The next scene described in Revelation 19:17-21 is that of the “supper of the great God.” There is an invitation to the birds to come and feast on the flesh of the Lord’s enemies (Rev. 19:17, 19). The beast, kings, and their armies gather for the battle, but are utterly defeated by Christ.

Chapter 20

In Revelation 20, we see the aftermath of the Lord’s victory. Satan is bound and cast into a bottomless pit (Rev. 20:1-3). The pit, key, and chain are all symbolic. They represent the fact that God limited the sphere of authority of the devil. He lost his allies, the beast and false prophet; and suffered loss in the victory of the saints.

What is the 1,000 years? Remember, the book is filled with signs; things that are representative of something else. The numbers in this book are often symbolic. The 144,000 of chapter 7 is not a literal number of those who are Christ’s. Rather, it represents all of the redeemed. The 1,000 years is not a literal time frame, but symbolic of a fully complete era in which Satan is limited in his sphere of operation.

In Revelation 20:4-6, we read of the reign of Christ. Then the revelation quickly fast forwards from the downfall of Satan and his cohorts in Roman times to some point in the future when he is cast into eternal punishment.

The final section of Revelation 20 is the judgment that pictures God sitting on a great white throne. All are judged by two books: the Book of Life and another book, which is God’s word.