Rev233 - The Marriage of The Lamb - Revelation 19:1-10

<u>TODAY</u> – we are <u>going</u> to <u>see</u> <u>TWO</u> super <u>important events</u> that are <u>PLACED</u> <u>*RIGHT BEFORE*</u> - the <u>2nd Coming</u> of <u>Jesus</u>

In the Next Msg – (2nd half of Ch 19) - the Tribulation Ends, with the Battle of Armageddon & the Return of Jesus Christ

& in <u>Ch 20</u> the <u>1,000 Yr Millennium</u> - where <u>believer's will</u> <u>Reign</u> <u>With Jesus</u> on <u>Earth</u> - <u>Begins</u>

- & <u>today</u> in the <u>FIRST half of Ch 19</u> We see <u>TWO crucial events</u> that <u>seem</u> to <u>act</u> as <u>a BRIDGE</u>
- to <u>get</u> us <u>FROM</u> the <u>Judgment</u> we've <u>seen</u> in the <u>last 2 msgs</u> <u>TO</u> the <u>2nd coming</u> of <u>Jesus</u> Christ in our <u>NEXT MESSAGE</u>
- It <u>gets</u> <u>REALLY</u>, <u>REALLY GOOD</u> from <u>here</u> on & <u>Heaven KNOWS IT</u>
- & <u>there</u> are <u>going</u> to be some <u>MASSIVE HALLELUJAH'S</u> to <u>Kick off</u> all <u>the GOOD</u> that's <u>coming</u>

LET'S PRAY

In our last two Msg's we saw the <u>"World System of the Antichrist"</u> <u>Completely DESTROYED</u> <u>Today</u> (FIRST) we see <u>Heaven</u> absolutely <u>ERUPT</u> in <u>RADICAL WORSHIP & REJOICING</u>

IN RESPONSE to God's Judgment & Victory over the <u>"World System of the Antichrist"</u>

But - before we start - Let me explain

For the <u>SAKE</u> of just <u>ONE WORD</u> I'm <u>going</u> to <u>use</u> the <u>ESV today</u> - <u>instead</u> of the <u>NLT</u>

For ONE WORD - & that word is - HALLEUJAH !!

& <u>that word</u> - <u>HALLELUJAH</u> - <u>MEANS</u> "<u>Praise the Lord</u>" & the <u>NLT</u> <u>translates</u> it - "<u>Praise the Lord</u>"

But the HEBREW Word - HALLELUJAH - Has great ROOTS & is super powerful to shout out

So - Everytime We come to the word HALLELUJAH on the screen I really want you to SHOUT it out for me

LET'S PRACTICE - (1,2,3)

Revelation 19:1 (ESV) 1 After this . . . (Let's Stop there)

John starts a new section - by saying "After This" (Meta Tauta)

<u>which</u> has <u>been</u> <u>HIS SIGNAL</u> thru-out the book that <u>the scene</u> is <u>CHANGING</u>

& so - <u>AFTER</u> all the <u>Judgment we've</u> seen <u>Poured Out</u> on the <u>World System of the Antichrist</u> in the <u>past few Ch's</u>

<u>REV 19:1 - is the Turning Point</u> -<u>John</u> is <u>writing</u> about a <u>NEW SET</u> of events

<u>Ch 19</u> is the <u>CRESCENDO</u> of the <u>Book of Revelation</u> <u>IN a sense</u> – it is the <u>CRESCENDO</u> of the <u>Entire N.T</u>.

Because this <u>Ch</u> - <u>ENDS</u> with the <u>SECOND COMING</u> of <u>Jesus Christ</u>

So – John sets his "scene changing" divider – Meta Tauta

& <u>HERE</u> is <u>what</u> the <u>scene</u> is <u>Changing TOO</u>

Revelation 19:1 (ESV)

1 After this I heard what seemed to be the <u>loud voice</u> of a <u>great</u> <u>multitude</u> in heaven, <u>crying out</u>, "<u>HALLELUJAH</u>! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,

The Great Multitude in Heaven Crying out - HALLELUJAH !! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God

HALLELUJAH - is a Combination of TWO HEBREW WORDS

HALLEL (Praise) - YAH (short for Jehovah) - Praise Jehovah

& THIS is the ONLY PLACE in the N.T. where it's used !!

& it used FOUR TIMES in 6 Verses

& <u>REMEMBER</u> - <u>When</u> the <u>Holy Spirit</u> <u>wants</u> to <u>make</u> a <u>Point</u> - <u>HE REPEATS IT</u>

The Great Multitude in Heaven is Crying Out HALLELUJAH !!

<u>& in Revelation 19:2-3 - we see more of WHY they are (esv)</u> 2 for his judgments are true and just; for he has judged <u>the great</u> <u>prostitute</u> who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and has avenged on her the blood of his servants." 3 Once more they <u>cried out</u>, "<u>HALLELUJAH</u>! The smoke from her

goes up forever and ever."

The <u>2ND HALLELUJAH</u> - is for <u>Victory</u> over <u>The Great Prostitute</u> Who <u>Corrupted</u> the <u>Earth</u> - & Who <u>Killed</u> the <u>Saints</u>

& <u>The Great Prostitute</u> - <u>was Riding on the Beast</u> As <u>Symbol's</u> of the <u>World System</u> under the <u>Antichrist</u>

& <u>here</u> we see <u>THE SMOKE</u> from <u>God's Judgment</u> on that <u>Complete</u> <u>World System" goes</u> up <u>Forever & Ever</u> - (Eternal Judgment)

AS WE CONT - IN V.4 JOHN is trying to convey Just HOW MASSIVE This Heavenly WORSHIP EVENT is Revelation 19:4 (ESV)

4 And the <u>twenty-four elders</u> and the <u>four living creatures</u> fell down and worshiped God who was seated on the throne, saying, "Amen. <u>HALLELUJAH</u>!"

That's Three Times in Four Vs's - HALLELUJAH !!

This time from the 24 Elders - Who Represent THE CHURCH

AND the 4 Living Creatures - The WORSHIP LEADERS of Heaven

They <u>ALL</u> are <u>Falling Down</u> in <u>WORSHIP</u> -<u>Crying</u> out - <u>Hallelujah !! - - Praise The Lord !!</u>

Heaven is about Radical, Raise the Roof, all out WORSHIP !!

& <u>then</u> - <u>Just in Case</u> there's ONE Angel sittin in the corner somewhere playing VIDEO GAMES

Revelation 19:5 (ESV)

5 And from the throne came a voice saying, "Praise our God, <u>all</u> <u>you his servants</u>, you who fear him, small and great."

This is a **CALL** - to **ALL of Heaven** - To **Break Out** in **PRAISE**

HEAVEN KNOWS - The BATTLE between Satan & God is OVER - - Except for the FINAL STEP (see nxt wk)

& <u>Heaven</u> is <u>BREAKING LOOSE</u> in Full-Scale <u>Praise & Worship</u> - & it is a <u>BIG</u>, <u>BIG DEAL</u>! & <u>then</u> - <u>V.6 Carries</u> this <u>MASSIVE Worship Event</u> <u>RIGHT INTO</u> - our <u>next MAJOR Event</u> today

Revelation 19:6 (ESV)

6 Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, (what did it sound like?) <u>like the roar of many waters</u> and (what else did it sound like?) <u>like the sound of mighty peals of thunder</u>, (& what was this great multitute doing?) crying out, "<u>HALLELUJAH</u>! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.

When Heaven GOES OFF in WORSHIP

It's <u>Like</u> the <u>ROAR</u> of <u>Many Waters</u> Like <u>Standing</u> on the <u>Edge</u> of <u>Niagra Falls</u>

& It's <u>Like Mighty PEALS</u> of <u>THUNDER</u> Like <u>Standing</u> in a <u>thunder storm</u> - <u>seeing</u> the <u>lightning hit</u> & <u>FEELING</u> the <u>Thunder at</u> the <u>same Moment</u>

ALL of Heaven is CRYING OUT "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns

& THAT - IS a Great Lesson on WORSHIP - Right there !!

& in <u>V.7</u> - The <u>Rejoicing</u> & <u>Worship</u> - Goes <u>RIGHT INTO</u> the <u>Marriage of the LAMB</u>

Revelation 19:7 (ESV) \rightarrow \rightarrow

Revelation 19:7 (ESV)

7 Let us <u>rejoice</u> and <u>exult</u> and <u>give</u> him the glory, for <u>the marriage</u> <u>of the Lamb</u> has come, and <u>his Bride</u> has made herself ready;

<u>THESE VERBS</u> - <u>Rejoice</u> - <u>Exult</u> - <u>Give</u> are all <u>STRONG EXHORTATIONS</u> in the GRK - - (1 step < command)

& the word EXULT means - to LEAP for JOY !!!

& WHY is it - That Heaven is REJOICING & LEAPING for JOY ??

Because the Marriage of the LAMB has COME !! and his Bride has made herself ready

The MARRIAGE of the LAMB has COME

ALL thru the Bible - God's Relationship with His people has always been likened - to MARRIAGE

Because the Marriage UNION - is the Most INCREDIBLE, INTIMATE, ONE FLESH union - that God created

In fact - God *Created Marriage* at this Intense INTIMATE Level

to <u>GIVE US</u> an <u>IDEA</u> (a picture) of <u>How</u> He <u>Created</u> our <u>Relationship</u> with <u>HIM</u> to Be

God uses MARRIAGE in the Bible

to <u>Illustrate</u> how <u>Incredible</u>, & <u>Intimate</u>, & One Flesh Our <u>Relationship</u> with <u>Him</u> - <u>CAN Be</u>, & One Day <u>WILL Be</u>

& <u>WE</u> (All True Believers) are - "<u>The BRIDE of Christ</u>"

- Now <u>Jewish Weddings</u> are <u>NOT LIKE</u> <u>Western</u> Weddings
- & Our Marriage to Christ Follows the JEWISH Wedding
- & there are clearly defines STEPS to **Complete** a **Jewish Marriage**

<u>STEP #1</u> - There's a <u>Marriage Contract</u> committed to <u>LONG BEFORE</u> the actual <u>Marriage</u> - called <u>The Betrothal</u>

- The **<u>Betrothal</u>** is <u>MUCH MORE</u> than our "<u>Engagement</u>" It's a <u>Binding Marriage Contract</u> – (even a <u>COVENANT</u>)
- & <u>if you</u> have <u>given</u> your <u>life</u> to <u>Jesus Christ</u> as your <u>Savior & Lord today</u> - then <u>you</u> Are <u>BETROTHED to Him</u>

The <u>Convenant</u> - The <u>Binding Marriage Cointract</u> Has <u>been</u> <u>COMPLETETED</u> - & <u>PAID IN FULL</u>

when <u>Jesus Died</u> on the <u>cross</u> for <u>YOUR Sins</u> & <u>Beat Sin</u> & <u>Death</u> & the <u>Grave</u> on <u>YOUR behalf</u>

& **if you** ARE **betrothed** to **Jesus thru faith** in him as your **Savior & Lord**

Then you are HIS

<u>& Jesus says in John 10:28 (ESV) speaking of you</u> 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.

<u>Now</u> - in a <u>Jewish Wedding</u> <u>During</u> this <u>Betrothal Period</u> - <u>TWO things</u> Happen

- <u>1)</u> The <u>Bride</u> begins <u>preparing herself</u> -<u>Especially</u> - her <u>Wedding Garments</u>
- 2) The Groom will Go & Prepare a Place for His Bride
- & <u>MOST OFTEN</u> this would be a <u>ROOM</u> <u>BUILT ONTO</u> His <u>Father's House</u>

where the BrideGroom would soon BRING His Bride

It's a big big house - With lots and lots of room A big big table - With lots and lots of food A big big yard - Where we can play football Its my Father's house This is exactly what Jesus is referring to with His Disciples in

<u>John 14:2–3 (esv)</u>

2 In my Father's house are many rooms . . . 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

<u>Jesus</u> was making a <u>Direct reference</u> to the STEPS of a <u>Jewish Wedding</u>

Which **perfectly Illustrates** our **UNION** with **HIM**

& he <u>says</u> to his <u>disciples</u> – <u>I am going</u> to go to my <u>Father's house</u> to <u>prepare</u> a <u>place</u> for you

You stay here and *prepare yourself* - & WATCH for me to return to take you to your <u>new home</u>

STEP #2 – is when **the GROOM** would **come** for **His BRIDE** – To **Take her back** to His **Father's House**

- BUT the Bride would <u>NEVER know</u> the <u>EXACT Time</u> that <u>Her BrideGroom</u> would <u>come for her</u>
- So <u>She would watch</u> for <u>the Signs</u> that the <u>BrideGroom</u> is <u>close</u> - is <u>coming</u> to <u>get her</u>
- & she would make herself READY along with her Bridesmaids

Which is the Perfect Picture - of US & the RAPTURE

We <u>see</u> the <u>Signs</u> of our <u>Bridegroom's</u> Imminent <u>RETURN</u> & <u>so</u> we <u>make ourselves</u> <u>READY</u> - & <u>WATCH</u> for His <u>Appearance</u>

THIS is Exactly what the Parable of the 10 Bridesmaids in <u>Mat 25:1-13</u> is all about - <u>BEING READY</u>

- & <u>when</u> the <u>Time is RIGHT</u> The <u>Bridegroom</u> would <u>come</u> & <u>Take Away</u> the <u>Bride</u> & Her <u>Bridesmaid's</u>
- & <u>they would</u> make a <u>Grand Procession</u> back to the <u>Groom's home</u> <u>Where there</u> would <u>be</u> - the <u>Wedding Ceremony</u>

Then Step #3 - the Wedding Ceremony would usually occur IN the Groom's house – where he had made a place for her

But <u>AFTER</u> the <u>wedding ceremony</u> <u>Would come</u> - the <u>MARRIAGE FEAST (Supper)</u>

The Marriage Feast would often last 7 Days - OR MORE

where <u>all the guests</u> would <u>take part</u> in the <u>JOY</u> of <u>the Marriage</u>

The Marriage FEAST is a non-stop celebration of JOY

It <u>was</u> at a <u>Marriage Feast</u> <u>that</u> the <u>family RAN OUT</u> of <u>Wine</u> in <u>CANA</u> (<u>Jn 2</u>)

& Jesus performed his 1ST MIRACLE - Turning Water into WINE

<u>NOT BECAUSE</u> it was <u>Alcohol</u> -<u>Because WINE</u> is the <u>Symbol</u> of <u>JOY</u>

& the <u>Marriage FEAST</u> is <u>all about</u> <u>celebrating</u> the <u>JOY</u> of the <u>Marriage</u>

& so - Jesus was EXTENDING THE JOY of the Marriage Feast

Now - <u>The Length</u> of the <u>Marriage Feast</u> is <u>determined</u> by the <u>Wealth & Status</u> of the <u>Family</u> of <u>the GROOM</u> (not Bride)

The more Wealth & Status the Groom has <u>The longer & more extravagant</u> the <u>Marriage Feast</u> will <u>be</u>

So - when the Groom is JESUS - & His Family is the GODHEAD

HOW LONG do you think the <u>CELEBRATION</u> of this <u>Marriage Feast</u> might <u>LAST</u> ??

Well, it could be 1,000 Years - Right?

<u>Which</u> is how long we will <u>Reign with Christ</u> on <u>Earth</u> - During <u>the Millennium</u>

But look again - at Revelation 19:7 (ESV) 7 Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, <u>and his Bride has made herself ready</u>;

HOW do we make ourselves READY for the Marriage of the Lamb?

Well - Revelation 19:8 says (ESV)

8 it was <u>granted</u> her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"— for the fine linen <u>is the righteous deeds</u> of the saints.

The Bride goes thru <u>A LOT</u> to get <u>ready</u> for a <u>Jewish Wedding</u>

In Fact - The entire time the BrideGroom is preparing a place the Bride is preparing herself - & watching for His Return

- & <u>one</u> of the <u>KEY Preparations</u> for <u>the Bride</u> is <u>always</u> - <u>preparing</u> her <u>Wedding Garment</u>
- & so <u>V.8</u> says it is <u>GRANTED</u> to the Bride *to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"— for the fine linen is* <u>the righteous deeds</u> of the saints
- If you Belong to Jesus Christ today It has been GRANTED you, to prepare your own Wedding Garment
- Notice Our <u>Wedding Garment</u> is <u>NOT</u> the <u>*Righteousness of Christ*</u> It is the "<u>*Righteous DEEDS of the Saints*</u>"
- & <u>The Bible is clear</u> Our Salvation is <u>THRU FAITH ALONE</u> With <u>NO WORKS ADDED</u>

Your salvation is BY FAITH in Jesus Christ ALONE

So – WHAT ARE the 'Righteous DEEDS of the Saints"?

It seems - that the Righteus DEEDS is a clear reference to how we live for the Lord AFTER we receive Salvation by faith

So - Your **FAITH ALONE** in **Jesus Christ** -"Covers You" IN His **Righteousness** - For Salvation

But HOW you WALK in that Salvation

<u>Determines</u> whether <u>you'll be wearing</u> a White <u>POTATO SACK</u> - <u>OR</u> something <u>a Little Nicer</u> - As the <u>Bride Of Christ</u>

- The <u>12th Msg</u> in this <u>REV Series</u> was <u>called</u> *"Judgment, Rewards, & Loss"*
- & <u>we looked</u> at <u>the fact</u> that <u>HOW</u> we <u>Live for Christ</u> here <u>DOES have</u> an <u>Impact</u> - On <u>our Eternity</u> with Him <u>there</u>

& this Vs (Rev 19:8) is another clear reminder of that truth

<u>Now</u> - in <u>every Wedding</u> - there's <u>The GROOM</u>, <u>The BRIDE</u>, <u>AND</u> those</u> who are <u>INVITED</u> to <u>the Celebration</u>

- <u>& have you ever seen a Wedding where the Bride & Groom</u> Are <u>whisked off</u> somewhere <u>Beautiful</u> for the <u>Wedding Ceremony</u> & then <u>come back</u> to have a <u>Big Reception</u> <u>in town</u>?
- Well <u>Many Scholars</u> believe <u>THAT IS</u> Exactly what <u>happens</u> with the <u>Marriage of the Lamb</u> - & the <u>Marriage FEAST</u> (Supper)

Revelation 19:9 (ESV)

9 And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those <u>who</u> <u>are invited</u> to <u>the marriage supper of the Lamb</u>." And he said to me, "These are the true words of God."

It <u>COULD BE</u> – that The <u>Marriage of the Lamb</u> is in <u>HEAVEN</u> But, <u>The Marriage Supper of the Lamb</u> is on <u>EARTH</u>

- <u>So</u> the <u>Bride & BrideGroom</u> are <u>Whisked Off</u> to the <u>GLORY of HEAVEN</u> - for the <u>Actual Wedding</u>
- & <u>then</u> we <u>come back</u> to <u>Earth</u> for the <u>1,000 yr Celebration</u> of <u>The Marriage Supper</u> - also <u>known</u> as - <u>The Millennium</u>
- <u>So</u> if <u>The Church</u> is the <u>Bride of Christ</u> <u>WHO</u> are those who are <u>INVITED</u> to the <u>1,000 yr MARRIAGE SUPPER</u>?
- They are the Believers who SURVIVE the Tribulation on Earth & who will Enter the Millennium in their Natural Bodies
- & <u>they</u> are <u>especially</u> <u>those of ISRAEL</u> Who will <u>Believe</u> <u>EN MASS</u> <u>during</u> the <u>Final Days</u> - & <u>Especially</u> at <u>The 2nd Coming</u>
- The Millennium will be The Greatest WEDDING FEAST of All Time & Eternity

& the O.T. SAINTS will be there

& the <u>BELIEVERS</u> who come <u>thru</u> the <u>Tribulation</u> will be there & All of <u>Believing ISRAEL</u> (who come thru the Trib) will be there & the <u>BRIDE of Christ</u> (<u>US - the NT Church</u>) - <u>WE</u> will be there & it <u>will be</u> a <u>1,000 yr Celebration</u> with <u>Jesus Christ</u> on <u>Earth</u> <u>Just</u> to <u>KICK OFF</u> Our <u>Eternity with Him</u>

Now Finally - in v.10 - The Apostle John is SO OVERWHELMED he falls down at the feet of the Angel in Worship

Revelation 19:10 (ESV)

10 Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God." For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

TWO Quick Lessons to End today

1) **DO NOT worship** any **THING** or **ANY PERSON** - or Even **ANY ANGEL** - *Worship God Alone*

2) The last sentence in vs 10 . . . For the <u>testimony of Jesus</u> is the spirit of prophecy.

Means The PURPOSE of Prophecy

- Is to Give us a CLEAR Testimony of WHO Jesus Christ is
- & <u>In This Ch</u> <u>Jesus Christ</u> is the <u>BrideGroom</u> of <u>the Church</u>

So & <u>I PRAY</u> today that <u>YOU</u> have been "<u>Betrothed</u>" to <u>Jesus Christ</u> | PRAY that you are Waiting & Preparing

for <u>Him</u> to <u>Come</u> & <u>Take you</u> - to His <u>Father's House</u> For the <u>Marriage of the Lamb</u>

So that you can come back to Earth - to Take Part in The 1,000 Yr - Marriage SUPPER of the Lamb

& Most Important of All

If you Haven't Yet Been "Betrothed" to Jesus
You CAN be, TODAY

Let's Pray