

Revelation 19
Rootwork
Here Comes Your Groom

- (Everyday) Before you begin your study time - spend time in prayer, preparing your heart and surrendering your will to the Spirit of God! Allow Him to have full access by not withholding anything He wants to do in and then do through you!!
- (Everyday) Remember, the enemy is going to try to keep you from being in the Word, he hates when we worship our God- Worship breaks his bondages over believers, so resist him and he will flee!!
- (Everyday) Spend time in adoration and worship daily after you have cleansed your heart and before you dive into the scriptures!! Proclaiming who God is and adoring Him lifts our eyes up and keeps our focus on what really matters...putting God in His rightful place and putting us in ours!
- BONUS- (If you have not done this already) if you were at the “Digging Deeper” conference and you would like to structure these scriptures, Copy and paste Revelation 19 into a word/pages document or write it out verse by verse, following the structuring handouts you received! If you were not and want to watch it, search “Digging Deeper” on our website and watch the mini conference. If you the handout, please email me and I will send it to you.
- Review chapter 18 and what you have learned about Babylon so far! Then read quickly through chapter 19 (we are only covering the first 10 verses so focus there) to get an overview and reminder of what it contains.

- Review your timeline of the events of Revelation! Where are we at right in these verses on our timeline?
- As we look at verse 1, what is John referring to when he says, “After these things?”
- This is a big transition into the chapter 19, what is the first thing John hears?
- Look up “hallelujah, Salvation, glory, power, and belong” in your Blue Letter Bible app (if you need help with this please let me know! This is a wonderful tool that will help you immensely in your Bible study time) then record what insight you learn!
- Then record what you learn about God by verse 1- who is God? What has He done? Who are you based on what God has done? How does that determine what you do?
- Look at the word Hallelujah- why do you think this is the only place where it is written in the New Testament? What is about this word that it is repeated 4 times right here in chapter 19? Why is this so significant?
- Look at verse 2, this verse explains why God is all the things mentioned in verse 1....look up the each word here in your Blue Letter Bible app! What does this tell you about our God? Immediately after the wrath of God is poured out on a Christ rejecting world, we are reminded that everything God does is right and true! Oh how thankful we are to be His children! Our God is good!!
- Based on verse 2, how does God view His saints? What are His thoughts about those who have put their trust in Him and have dedicated to be His bondservants? Write out your thoughts on this!
- Look at verse 3, and what? What does it say? What does this tell you about who God is?

- Look at verse 4, who is worshipping and rejoicing? Look up the word “worship” what does it mean? Look at your own life...how quickly is worship on the tip of your tongue? In good seasons and bad? Take some time to really look at your heart and determine what you have been worshipping? What occupies your mind and heart? Just like the well known quote says..”show me what you spend your time, resources, and thoughts on and I will tell you what you worship” That is a powerful thought and I will tell you what, the more you fall in love with the Lord and seek to honor Him- the less you even have to worry about making sure your worship is where it needs to be! It will naturally be the Lord!
- Read verse 5, what happens here? What does this voice or messenger say? Notice how he defines a bond servant here? Look up the meaning of the word “fear”! What do you find? It is mentioned 490 times to fear God....why is this so important?
- In class I shared and A.W. Tozer quote that said, “The fear of God is..astonished reverence! I believe that the reverential fear of God mixed with love and fascination, and astonishment and admiration and devotion is the most enjoyable state and the most satisfying emotion the human soul can know” You can tell Tozer was trying to put into English what that encompasses and had to just keep going because it is so hard to express! Yet we are called, we are commanded, we have the privilege of fearing God! Please take time to look up as many verses as you can find that tell us to “fear God” and record them! Then write out how this helps you in your own fear of God and how to walk this out daily! Remember...when we tolerate sin in our lives, sin against us, or sin to reign in any ways shape or form..we have a FEAR problem! Here are a few to get started:
 - Proverbs 1:7
 - Proverbs 8:13
 - Job 28:28
- Are there reasons you have a hard time understanding what the fear of the Lord means? If so why do you think you do?

- Do you have a hard time living in that fear if you do understand what that means? Why or why not?
- Read verse 6, what else does it say John heard? Look up each word of their praise and record what you see! Then look up and see where these words or this phrase of worship is used anywhere else in scripture! Record what you find in context and don't forget to add it to your "Who is God?" Journal!
- Read verse 7-10 together! We have another transition- when does this take place on our prophetic timeline?
- Look up any words in verse 7 that you want to give more insight on! Be sure to look up "made herself ready" and record what you find!
- Read verse 8, look up the word "clothe" and record what you find! Does this remind you of any verses in scripture you know? Try and do a search about being clothed, or clothing yourself and record what you see!
- What is the fine linen given to the bride? Look up anywhere where we are called to have righteous acts and how do we do that?
- Read verse 9 and 10, what happens here? Look up any words for more insight! Who is invited here?
- In verse 10 why do you think John responds that way? What does the angel tell him to do? Record what you find on the word "testimony" why do you think the Lord added the phrase "the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy..what does that mean?"
- Below I am going to walk you through the marriage supper of the Lamb- the love story that God has given us as we are the bride of Christ Jesus! Spend some time as you take this in during your quiet time to really sit on, rejoice in, and then walk out the reality of what God has done for you! What a beautiful love story, and we get to be His bride!!

- Bride in Hebrew is colah- “the perfect one” and bride groom is chatan- “the one who joins Himself to” - God is the one who reaches to us!! We are all born to be the bride- to be joined - we long for it - we are not made to be alone!
- The Jewish Wedding - The (sanctification- set apart): called simcha (a joyous occasion).
- Jewish Marriage- 3 Stages
 - **1) Engagement Stage-** (Kiddushin)
 - **2) Betrothal Stage-** (erusin)
 - **3) Wedding Stage-** (nissuin)
- **1) The Engagement stage-** shiddukhin- the bride and groom would often be engaged before they were born. It was the decision of the fathers
 - Read Gen. 24:1-4 - this is an example of this!
 - Every time in the OT- Hebrew - where a man would choose his own wife it was a disaster!(Samson, Jacob) and they would have to work for it! Isn't that the same thing with us- when we try to do life apart from God's commands we set ourselves up for a lot of work! A lot of extra unnecessary work and if we would have just obeyed in the first place, it would have been easier and sooo much BETTER!! Can you name a time where you have walked through that? Are you walking through that now? Is it time to just stop and go back to the simplicity of just being obedient?
- **2.) Betrothal Stage-** the girl is anywhere from 12-14 years old during this stage- (like Mary and Joseph)- this would often be the first time the bride and groom would see each other and they would meet in the presence of the fathers.
 - The bridegroom would make a journey from his house to the brides house - he comes humbly - offering a gift -

- The father of the groom and the father of the bride would negotiate - the gift - **a mohar or a dowry**- a **price** had to be paid for the bride- it was given for the protection of the bride and the reward of the father- that would set her free from the constraints of her home.
- The Dowry or Mohar price was based on THREE things-
 - 1) The father's wealth
 - 2) The worth of the bride
 - 3) The work of the groom
- They would then set the **Contract** before them- in Hebrew it is called Ketubah or Tanaim- means "written" The ketubah includes the provisions and conditions of the proposed marriage:
 - The groom promises to support his wife to be.
 - The bride stipulates the contents of her dowry - financial status.we see this in- look this up and record what you see! Gen. 24:52-53.
 - Despite the fact that this was an "arraigned marriage", it appears that the consent of the bride was very much a part of the ketubah
 - She is then asked- "will you go with this man?"
- **The cup** is a symbol of the two becoming one- the agreement of the wedding-
 - It was laid out on the table before both fathers, the bride and the bride groom. The mohar, the covenant. And the cup!
 - If the bride chooses to agree to this- she drinks of the cup- and when she puts that cup down, he makes the promise that he will not drink the cup again until the wedding is finalized

- She pledges herself to him by drinking the cup- she is saying- you have my heart and my allegiance to you- I am yours
- He pledges himself to her by the Mohar- the price-
- Before the actual wedding where the groom comes to gather his bride- They would then have The Mikveh - or Ritual Immersion to prepare for betrothal it was common for the bride and groom to separately take a ritual immersion.it was symbolic of spiritual cleansing!
- **This is such an amazing picture for what God did for us! This is His LOVE STORY to us- the whole Bible in one picture!! How stinking amazing is that!**
- In our wedding, our Bride Groom is Jesus Christ - the Messiah - the Savior of the world!! Read 1 Cor. 6:11 and record what you find! Look up any words for more clarity and insight especially “washed” “justified” and “sanctified” record what further detail you get from that!
- **1.) Our Engagement** -- God the Father chose us to be the virgin bride for His Son before the world began! From creation He had a plan- Adam and Eve- fall - then God made first sacrifice! He was preparing the Mohar from the first sacrifice for sin!
- **2) Our Betrothal--** Jesus made the journey from His house in heaven to ours to cleanse us from sin- that was the First Coming!!! Bringing a gift- the Mohar- He offered Himself as the Mohar!!

- Read the following verses and record what you learn: (please go through these slowly and take your time looking at them in context and detail) then look up any more that reveal the gift of God through Christ Jesus our Lord - there are SO MANY!! ENJOY!!
 - 1 Peter 1:18-19
 - Hebrews 9:22
 - Ephesians 1:7
 - 1 John 1:9

- **He has to pay a mohar**...based on three things:
 - 1) **The Wealth of the Father**- How rich is God? What could He give? Read the following verses and record your thoughts and what you find:
 - 1 Cor. 6:19-20
 - Ephesians 1:7
 - 2 Cor. 5:21
 - Isaiah 53:5

 - It cost Him greatly for you to be His bride!! He paid the ultimate price and gave Himself! Stop here and just praise God- worship Him for what He has done and how He made a way! Write in your who is God journal! There is so much here that can answer those questions that redefine your identity! (Remember the 6 cow woman- he saw her as a 6 cow woman so a 6 cow woman she became)
 - “An objects value is always determined by the price paid for it... God’s payment for us tells us how much we are worth to Him, we are worth the life of His Son.” Chip Ingram

 - 3.) **The Work of the Groom**- how much work did Jesus do? Obedience to the Father and becoming our sin and taking on the full wrath of God?!! a whole lot more than Jacob and far more painful than Sheckham! His pain was beyond what we could fathom!

- When they would then sign a contract - the agreement put on the table along with the mohar and a cup. They are now legally married! Then before the wedding they would be cleansed in the The Mikveh - or Ritual Immersion- which is a picture for us of baptism! Look up the following and record:
 - Acts 2:38
 - Acts 22:16
 - 1 Peter 3:21
 - John 3:5
 - Mark 16:16
 - Matthew 28:19
 - 1 Corinthians 12:13
 - Acts 2:41
 - Romans 6:3-4
 - Galatians 3:27
- They then would not drink again of the cup until the marriage ceremony! Read Matt, 26:26-29 and write what new insights do you have now that you see this in a new light?! How does this change your perspective?
- In The last supper He was putting it all on the table-
 - The bread (the price paid),
 - the contract- His promise to us (The Word of God),
 - The cup

- All of it was on the table as a beautiful picture for us that He showed He was all!!!
- Read Matt 26:39, what else do you see about the cup? What happened here? What was Jesus saying?
- Our marriage is secure because Christ was obedient to the Father, and He loved us as His bride! What kind of love is this? Write out your response of gratitude that Jesus chose to drink the cup of God's Wrath signifying "I do" to being the only link between God and man, "I do" to being our only Blessed HOPE!
- Once the marriage is secure- The bride then would wear a veil signifying she was taken, and so no one would look at her lustfully. She was set apart until her Groom came to get her! And the Groom would supply materials for the bride to get ready for her Groom!! This gift is called the Mattan- (gift to adorn her) celebration of the Mattan- Hebrew feast- Shavuot- in Greek is called Pentecost- so this gift we are given as His bride is the HOLY SPIRIT!!
- In that one year period - the bride would consecrate herself - and prepare holy garments for the upcoming marriage. The bridegroom is making preparations to return for His bride - and has given the materials for the bride to prepare her gown! To make herself ready!
- We are in this very stage right now! Jesus has given us the HOLY SPIRIT to adorn ourselves - without it- our acts are like filthy rags!
- Read John 14:16-17 -record your thoughts! Then do a scripture search of what we are given, when we are given the Holy Spirit ...then what He produces in our lives!
- THEN while the bride is making herself ready- the bridegroom would go back to his father's house and prepare their home - their little mansion (Hebrew) an add on to his father's house- the place for the bride and groom to live! Read and record John 14:2!

- The father will continually inspect the building and he alone decides the time of the wedding! The bride and groom would not know when it would be! Read Matt 13:32! Just like Jesus- He goes to prepare a place for us and only The Father knows when it is time.
- This period of time is called - Nissuin - the word comes from the Hebrew verb - hsn (nasa) - which means , "to carry." This is a graphic description - **as the bride would be waiting for her groom to come - to carry her away to her new home!**
- The bride would hear rumors or warnings that it looks like he is getting close and so she would gather her bridesmaids and her bridal party and they would be getting ready every - Wednesday evening usually - fully dressed and ready to go waiting for the grooms arrival!
- Read Matt 25:1-13 and record in light now of the ancient Jewish wedding!! Why didn't 5 of them have no oil? What happened? What are we to learn from this? Are you ready?
- **3.) Our Wedding Stage**-The day He is crowned- "day of espousal" (solomon) When it is time- the father would tell the son, he would go get his wedding party and his Shoshban (best man) and his trumpet and they would go through the city yelling, "the groom is coming" and sounding the trumpet!
- Read the following verses and record how stinking amazing it is in light of the Jewish wedding:
 - 1 Thess. 4 :16-18
 - Luke 12:35-40
- She grabs her gown and her wedding party- runs out and marches to the canopy for the ceremony - they take the cup and drink it and brake it (signifying the shattering of the Jewish temple for the Jews- but for messianic Jewish believers - it signified Jesus's body was broken for you- it is finished- no other payment is needed and it is done!) - the contract is then read and now they are married!

- Then they go to the “little mansion” where they consummate the marriage. All the family and friends would wait in the living room! The shomer or the shushbin - Best friend of the groom- would be standing outside the bedroom waiting to hear from the groom! The Shoshban would stand outside the door of their room waiting for a “yay” or a “nay”. A “yay” meant she was a virgin and the groom would hand the bloody sheet to the best man and they would keep it as a sign of purity and union of the marriage, and all the friends and family would then get to feasting and partying. If it was a “nay” the party would go home, and the girl would be stoned to death.
- Read the following verses about the examples we have of the shushbin: what further insight does this give you? How amazing is that?
 - 2 Cor. 11:2
 - John 3:29
- **We are not virgins, we have sin, BUT the blood of Christ has covered our sheet-** His blood is our symbol of purity!! We are clean because of the sacrifice He made to take our place!! Do a scripture search on the sprinkling of blood for the forgiveness of sins! write these in your who is God journal and what you learn of Him!
- If this marriage is confirmed by my purity- I deserve divorce, I deserve to be stoned- but it is NOT- this marriage is confirmed not by my sinlessness but by HIS!! Praise and worship Him for what He has done!!
- After the “yay” the partying begins and the family party for 7 days! The bride never leaves the “little mansion” but the groom freely goes in and out, celebrating and getting food and gifts for his bride and serves her for 7 days straight! After we are raptured Jesus will serve us not for 7 days but 7 years!!
- Read Luke 12:35-37 and write it out!! Wow!! What a beautiful revelation of what God has done and what we are to do!! Are you lamps lit? Are your eyes up? Our Groom is coming soon!

- After the 7 days the groom takes his bride out to present her to the world as his bride! Just like us, after the 7 years Jesus comes back with us and presents us as His bride forever and ever!!! This is the 2nd coming of Christ! Read Eph. 5:27 and record!
- What stage are we in right now? What should we be doing? Are you preparing your gown and making yourself ready?
- Remember The validation of our relationship with our bridegroom doesn't depend on our sinlessness - but on HIS!!! Our WORTH depends only on what our Bridegroom has paid for us...that is who we are- and that is how we should walk!!
- Read Isaiah 61:10 and rejoice greatly!! You are invited and if you have placed your faith in Jesus Christ you have been given garments of salvation and a robe of righteousness! Get dressed, it is almost time to see our Groom!