

The End is a Beginning

"I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, so that **on you** may come all the righteous blood shed on earth,.. Truly, I say to you, <u>all these things will</u> <u>come upon this generation</u>." ~ Jesus (Matthew 23:34–36)

They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "<u>We have no king but Caesar</u>." John 19:15

 Pilate... took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." And all the people answered, "<u>His blood be on us and on our children!</u>" Then he... delivered him to be crucified.

 Matthew 27:24–26

"Jerusalem, the unfaithful wife of God, suffers capital punishment as a spiritual adulteress for denying her Messiah.... Her destruction avenges 'the blood of his servants'... causing the saints to rejoice in witnessing the conquering of the first great enemy of Christ and his people." ~ C. Marvin Pate

Celebration in Heaven

Revelation 19:1–3

¹ After this <u>I heard</u> what seemed to be the loud voice of **a great multitude** in heaven, crying out, "**Hallelujah!** <u>Salvation and glory and power belong to our God</u>, ² for his judgments are true and just; for he has judged the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and has avenged on her the blood of his servants." ³ Once more they cried out, "**Hallelujah!** <u>The smoke from her goes up forever and ever</u>."

"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come... But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city."

~ Jesus (Matthew 22:2–7)

Preparing for the Wedding

⁶ Then <u>I heard</u> what seemed to be the voice of **a great multitude**, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. ⁷ Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his <u>Bride</u> has made herself ready; ⁸ it was *granted* her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"— for the fine linen is the *righteous deeds* of the saints.⁹ And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are <u>invited</u> to <u>the</u> marriage supper of the Lamb..."

"...not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith." ~Apostle Paul (Philippians 3:9)

The Victorious King

Revelation 19:11–16

Revelation 19:6–9

¹¹ Then **I** saw heaven opened, and behold, **a white horse**! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. ¹³ He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the **armies of heaven**, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. ¹⁵ From his mouth comes **a sharp sword** with which to **strike down** the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, <u>King of kings</u> and <u>Lord of lords</u>.

"These four great beasts are four kings who shall arise out of the earth. But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, forever and ever." Daniel 7:17–18

"In the war between Christ and the emperor there is no sword in the hand of Christ, but only in his mouth; it is his word that is going to run sharply and swiftly through the world and destroy all that is false." ~ Philip Carrington

The End of World Empires

Revelation 19:17-21

¹⁷ Then **<u>I saw</u>** an angel standing in the sun, and with a loud voice he called to all the birds that fly directly overhead, "Come, gather for the great **supper of God**, ¹⁸ to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all men, both free and slave, both small and great." ¹⁹ And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to make war against him who was sitting on the horse and against his army. ²⁰ And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. ²¹ And the rest were slain by the sword that came from the mouth of him who was sitting on the horse, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh.

After Constantine's Edict of Milan in 313 AD, Emperors either tolerated or embraced Christianity, which continued to grow in popularity, until in 380 AD Emperor Theodosius I made it the official state religion of the Roman Empire.." ~ Colin Ricketts historyhit.com