took a bit of a detour in light of the season and special time of year that it is, of course, reflecting on Jesus' sacrifice for us, his death and certainly his resurrection, and I pray that you're walking in the power of his resurrection because it's there for us, it's extended to us, if we'll just embrace it, if we'll invest our hearts and lines into him. He meets us there. It's an awesome reality. But I'm excited to turn our attention back to our study in the Book of Revelation.

This has been an awesome adventure. And I'll tell you what, if you can't get excited about where we're at today in the Book of <u>Revelation</u>, something is wrong with you. Because this is what the Book of <u>Revelation</u>, by the way, if you recall, way back when we started this study, we defined what <u>Revelation</u> means. You've probably heard the Greek terminology, some say Apocalypse, but it's Apocalypse, it means the unveiling, the revealing.

That's what the Book of <u>Revelation</u> is about. It's an unveiling and revealing. And everything that we've looked at at this point is building up to what we're seeing today. And that's the revealing, the unveiling of Jesus Christ at His second coming.

Not the rapture of the church that happens before the tribulation hour begins, but at the conclusion of the 70th week of <u>Daniel</u>, the time of Jacob's trouble, the seven-year tribulation, Jesus Christ, the King of kings, and the Lord of lords is going to return to establish His kingdom on earth. Folks, that's what we're going to see today is His return. So in an exciting portion of the Book of <u>Revelation</u>, with only 1921 and 22 to conclude the sober, closing in or in the home stretch, and we're studying the Book of <u>Revelation</u>. Three weeks ago, we looked at verses one through verse 10.

We saw that amazing scope of worship and adoration to God and just people pouring out their hearts of the Lord. And you and I, by the way, are featured in what we studied before, because as those were part of the body of Christ and those who are in heaven at this time, but this is happening, but are part of that huge multitude worshipping the Lord, along with the angelic realm. And today, we're going to see another aspect that features Guess Who? You and I.

When I say you and I, those of us who were born again, God forbid that there's anybody here this morning that doesn't know Jesus, that if you were to draw your last breath today, that you would not be with Him. We pray that never happens. We pray that if you don't know Jesus, today, He will speak your heart about your need to know Him. But for those in this room today, who know the Lord, you're part of what is going to be unfolding here as we study today.

So let's jump in. We're going to read verses 11 through 21. Then we'll come back and we'll begin to look at these with more depth. Revelation chapter 19 verse 11 says this, then I saw heaven open.

That white horse was standing there. His rider was named faithful and true for he <u>Judges</u> fairly and wages a righteous war. His eyes were like flames of fire and on his head were many crowns. A name was written on him that no one understood except himself.

He wore a robe, dipped in blood, and his title was the Word of God. The armies of heaven dressed in the finest pure white linen followed him on white horses. From his mouth came a sharp sword to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron rod.

He will release the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty, like juice flowing from a wine press. On his robe at his thigh was written this title, King of kings and Lord of all lords. Then I saw an angel standing in the sun shouting to the bultures flying high in the sky, come gathered together for the great banquet goddess prepared. Come and eat the flesh of kings, generals, and strong warriors of horses and their writers.

Nava humanity, both free and slave, small and great. Then I saw the beast in the kings of the world that armies gathered together to fight against the one sitting on the horse and his army. And the beast was captured and within the false prophet who did mighty miracles on behalf of the beast, miracles that deceived all who had accepted the Mark of the beast and who worshipped his statue. Both the beast and his false prophet were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur.

And finally, verse 21 concludes the chapter. Their entire army was killed by the sharp sword that came from the mouth of the one riding the white horse and the bultures all gorge themselves on the dead bodies. Wow, what a neat way to conclude that chapter. Let us pray again before we jump into this.

Father, again, we thank you for this opportunity to study your word. And certainly some of the book of <u>Revelation</u>, although you want us to understand it, it is challenging. Some of it, Lord, we know it's symbolic and speaking metaphorically and so much, but the Lord is certainly literal. Today, as we work our way through these verses, we just want truth, Lord.

literal and real truth, Lord, and we also want the truth that's presented to us through anything that might be allegory, Lord, or symbolic. Jesus, all we want is truth because we know that your word is true. And we know that even this study today tells us that you were the one who was called faithful and true. So again, help us to work through this thoughtfully and carefully that we may know the truth of your word in Jesus' name.

Amen. Wow, some heavy stuff, huh? Some awesome stuff that begins in verse 11 with Jesus descending from heaven to return to the earth. And then the chapter, concluding with blood and mayhem, it sounds like, wow, this is heavy stuff.

Well, you know what? It is heavy stuff because it's going to be a time and history that's unprecedented as a Lord pours out his wrath on a God-rejecting world. And what I want to share with you today as we begin to unfold these verses is the reminder that God has not been quick to rush to judgment, folks. For centuries and centuries, God has poured out His grace and His mercy on mankind throughout this time frame even during the 70-tribulation.

God gives grace and mercy, the Holy Spirit is working. The harsh reality is that so many people still reject that grace and that truth even during this cataclysmic time where God's wrath is being poured out in stages as we saw in our previous studies, right? Through the seal judgment, God brings judgment, but He brings it in a measured element. Then He turns up a heat a little bit after He again has given a reprieve and people reject some come to faith in Him.

There will be a great harvest during the tribulation hour, but still the vast majority just like to up-turch history rejects the truth of who Jesus is. So He turns up the heat a little bit more till the final point here where He culminates His judgment upon the earth and again it hasn't been a rough to judgment. Lord is mighty and holy, He's righteous, He's certainly gracious and merciful. And remember, one attribute of God does not outweigh the other.

His attributes of grace and mercy do not outweigh his attributes of righteousness and holiness and judgment, and that's what's on display here. And again, the world receives it because it deserves it. It's not because God hasn't extended grace and mercy, He has above and beyond. He's just that the time has come.

And so, turning our attention back to 19, chapter 19, verse 11, we see this. Remember, this is <u>John</u>. <u>John</u> the Apostle, and he's had the amazing privilege of the Lord showing him all of this after this point. Can you imagine how overwhelming this would be, especially for a guy in the first century AD that's not familiar with what we have contempt rarely in terms of technology and warfare and all that stuff?

He's seen all this. So the stuff that will be involved in what will happen the last day certainly involves that modern day technology and armaments and all those things speaking even militarily. So he's viewing all this. And he says that when I saw heaven open and a white horse was standing there and its writer was named faithful and true for he <u>Judges</u> fairly and wages a righteous war.

When it says that I saw heaven open, remember back when we were beginning the study. In chapter 4, verse 1, he communicates the truth of the rapture, the catching up of the bride of Christ when he says there was a door open in heaven and I heard a voice that said, come up here. Now it's interesting to note from that point the body of Christ, the church is not mentioned anymore in the book of Revelation until after the seven year tribulation has been culminated. Till after chapter 19, during that time frame where the judgment of God is being poured out on the earth, the word Ecclincia which refers to the church is never mentioned.

Why? Because the church has been caught up in the God's very presence for that seven year period. But it's at the end of the seven year period now that heaven has opened again and instead of the bride of Christ, the body of Christ and caught up to be with Jesus now, Jesus is returning at what is called the second coming. Now it's interesting to note that within the body of Christ there are different eschatological viewpoints and of course that that's the big word eschatology means a study of the last things in times.

There are some of the body of Christ who believe that the rapture and the second coming are one and the same. Well when you do a thorough study it's impossible for those to be the same thing. There are two distinct events. The tribulation happens at least seven years before the culmination of the seven year tribulation and Jesus's return.

The tribulation period we know is seven years long. From the time of the rapture to the beginning of the tribulation there may be a little window of time there. It's certainly a possibility. But at the time that the peace treaty is enforced by the anti-Christ with the nation of Israel that is when the seven year tribulation truly begins.

And we know that three and a half years into that time frame that the anti-Christ will desecrate the Holy of Holies in a temple. By the way that God didn't ordain. God didn't consecrate or have this temple built. But it will be there.

But in the Holy of Holies there will be what's called the abomination of desolation. Now we know when that idolatry occurs, when that idolatist sit up there, the image of the anti-Christ and the people worship that exactly from 1260 days in that point, three and a half years to that point, to this time frame that we're ring about here is this that, 1260 days. Now no man knows the hour of the day of Jesus's return to catch her the brighter Christ in the rapture. But guess what?

We know the timing or we will know the timing. Well you know what you and I won't, thankfully because we'll be gone. But those who are alive will know exactly when Jesus's return will be specifically and especially from the midpoint of the tribulation. If they're reading the word during the tribulation hour and going, oh wow, that thing that just happened in the temple in Jerusalem with the Antichrist and all that, with setting that idol up there, we know that this 1260 days in Jesus's come back.

We know that that is going to happen specifically on God's timetable. But again, that's the distinction between those two events. With the rapture, nobody knows about it. We're caught up to be with him.

It'll be a mystery to the world. All of a sudden millions of Christians will be gone. And nobody else will see it. At the second coming, Jesus will come into cloud and it says, every eye will see him.

When the rapture occurs, there's no mention of God's judgment in relation to that. But after the rapture occurs at the conclusion of God's judgment, the second coming does occur. There's a whole list of things that you can look at. There are contrasts.

Do you see the distinctions between those two events? So we know that the tribulation began after the rapture. Now Jesus is concluding it. His heaven is opened.

And what did he see then? His heaven is opened. He sees a white horse. A white horse was standing there.

Now what does the white horse mean? What does that mean? Is this literal? Could be?

God can do anything you want. If Jesus wants to come back on a shiny white stallion, that's up to him. He certainly can. But we do know, if it speaks symbolically, that historically, <u>John</u> would have understood the culture in that day would have understood that dynamic.

You know, they didn't have tanks back then. They didn't have attack, cobra helicopters, those kind of things. They had horses. And they had chariots, had various things, but they understood the power of a horse.

Do you imagine if you were right or on a horse, don't you think you'd have advantage over just foot soldiers? Absolutely you would. But also, they knew that with it being white, it spoke of honor, it spoke of power, it spoke of authority. So that's what is really being spoken of here.

When Jesus comes back on a white horse, and the white also speaks of victory, he's coming back victoriously. Jesus is coming back in victory. And you'll see, as we work our way through here, that it's really not a battle it occurs. And we'll define that as we move on.

But there's this white horse standing there. And this writer was named Faithful and True for a judge as fairly and a wager's a righteous war. We know who this writer is, don't we? It's Jesus.

The writer is Jesus himself. And I love how throughout God's word, we see these various titles ascribed to him. And I don't know about you, but when I read that it calls him Faithful and True, don't you love that? Don't you love that?

That's practical application folks for you and I today. When your world has been rocked to its core, are you having a challenging season? Aren't you thankful that you serve a God who will never be moved? That he is the rock, as Assam says, at a higher night, that he is a firm foundation that cannot be moved, and that he is faithful and true.

He will never let you down. When I read about his faithfulness, I'm so thankful that in my humanity and my tendency of the human being to blow it, that he extends his faithfulness to forgive us when we blow it. I love, first <u>John</u> 1.9, it says, that if we sin, if we confess our sin to him, that he is faithful and just to forgive us of our sin and to cleanse us from all in righteousness. See, we're the ones who struggle.

We're the ones who make poor choices, but he's the one who is faithful to forgive us, of our sins and cleanses us from all in righteousness. He is the one who is faithful and true. And it says that he is true, that everything about him is true. He is the way, the truth, and the life.

There's not one falsehood with Jesus. You know that in this day and age, there are so many people who call themselves Christian that are adopting new age practices, folks. Part of the apostasy that Paul warned about, part of what's happening in the last days today. Did you know there are people who adopt the philosophy of the Yen and the Yen?

You know what that is? Everybody's seen, and you see that with martial arts. It's that circle that's got the black swoop with the white dot in it, and then the white swoop with the black dot and the white. You know what I mean?

It says a little bit of the black dot and the white and the black. The philosophy behind that is, is that in everything that's evil, which is the black, that there's some good, and that within that white, everything that's pure, there's a little bit of evil. That's a lie. God is pure.

He's holy. There's no sin. There's no evil. Satan is as evil as the day is long, folks.

There's no goodness in his heart. And God is going to deal with him. God is going to deal with him. We'll see that as we work our way through here.

But he is true. And look what it says we move on. When it says that his name was faithful and true, why? Because he <u>Judges</u>.

Wow. Fairly. Again, I mentioned before that the judgment he's bringing. It's fair.

It's fair. The earth is getting what it deserves. The judgment that is be falling the earth and the people and the Antichrist, it's fair. I'm going to say, he wages a righteous war.

Right? It's a right war. It's okay. This is a good thing.

He is Yahweh, McKiddy, Shelley Seedcon, who some of those Hebrew names for his character in the Old Testament. It means he is our sanctification and guess what? Our righteousness. Yahweh, Sikhanu, our righteousness.

So when he comes, he comes as Yahweh, Sikhanu, and he wages a righteous war because he is holy. And this is right because that's part of his attribute of holiness. It man's justice. And first do it says his flames were like, or his eyes were like flames of fire.

And on his head were many crowns. The name was written on him that no one understood except himself. His eyes were like flames of fire. Let's be again about judgment.

Again, it says we're like. It doesn't say they were. This says they were like, but he's coming again to bring judgment. And that's exactly what that speaks of the flames of fire that bring judgment.

And on his head were what? Many crowns. Many crowns. So let's speaking symbolically, guess what about his sovereignty as the king of kings as we'll see that title iscribed him moving on.

And it's neat to note that within the Greek language there are two different names for crown. One is Fonus. And guess what? That is something that you're given.

For example, with those who were participating in the games back then, the Olympiad, those kind of things, the games that occurred when they went to get their wreath on their head. That was called as Fonus. It was like a crown. It was something they got because of what they did.

When you and I stand before Christ at the Bema seat, the judgment seat of Christ, the crowns we will receive are Fonus. They're rewards. But that's not the crown that he's wearing here. These crowns are diadems, diadema.

What does that mean? Sovereign, complete, total rulership. He's coming back wearing many crowns, meaning that all the kings of the earth will be subject to his authority because he is the king of kings and the Lord of lords. He wears the crown.

He wears all of the crowns in totality. A name was written on him that no one then understood except himself. Wow, that's interesting, right? You wonder what that is?

Some speculate, kind of dumb to speculate, as we don't know what it is. Have no clue except an intriguing thing might be this. Did you know that we call God from the Old Testament and we see the board, Lord, big L, big O, big Rd. We define that as being Yahweh, the self-existent one.

Within Hebrew alphabet, it's YHW, external vowels. And you'll notice with the Jewish people, the Hebrew people, they don't want to pronounce God's name. And by the way, it's actually unpronounceable. So you take a couple of vowels in there and we're able to come up with Yahweh.

That's the best we can do. Yahua. But it means self-existent one. It could be that this name that's unpronounceable because we really don't know it is the name that he's wearing.

Work can be something totally different. We really don't know. But it does speak of the reality of who he is. And I don't know, maybe there's now a minute of this because God is so amazing, he's so awesome.

We'll only know him to a certain extent. I mean, when we get to be in his presence, we will be drawn to him. It'll be amazing for us and yet he is God. And maybe it's something that's just his and his alone that we may never in the scope of eternity ever really understand because he's so awesome.

Verse 13 says, He wore a robe dipped in blood and his title was the Word of God. It says a little morbid, huh? Your picture in that, I mean, you can't help it in theater, your mind. Picture this.

That he wore a robe dipped in blood. Now, here's the deal. Think about it. Has he come down yet?

Has he arrived on earth yet this point? Trampled the grapes of wrath. As we saw earlier on, as we'll see some verses about that, by the way. No, he hasn't arrived yet.

So what's with his robe dipped in blood? Can it be literal? It could be, but the reality is, it is speaking about the reality of his righteousness and his holiness. And as the judge, he's coming to meet out that judgment.

And it's not going to be a pretty sighted. Armageddon, when God brings judgment against the armies of the world, and he deals with the Antichrist and the false prophet. It's heavy duty stuff. And there will be much bloodshed, sort of speaking about.

In fact, it's interesting to know, go back and <u>Isaiah</u> with me. <u>Isaiah</u> 62. There's so many powerful, actually, as 63 is where we want to go. Throughout those chapters, in fact, in the book of <u>Isaiah</u>, there's so much about the last days.

There's so much about the millennial reign of Christ, and next week, as we jump into chapter 20, that's where we're going to start to get into, is the establishment of the millennial reign of Christ. And we'll start to see some of this stuff. But look what we find. And <u>Isaiah</u> 63 centuries, folks, centuries before what we're seeing happen here.

And by the way, even for us today, isn't this still future? Sure does. God's judgment be poured out at the end of the tribulation hour? Certainly, it's future event.

The verse once says this, who is this who comes from Egypt, from the city of Basra, with his clothing stained, what, red? Who is this in royal robes marching in his great strength? It is I, the Lord announcing your salvation. Remember, look at the word Lord, Yahweh, self-existent one.

It is I, the Lord announcing your salvation. And that's his name, to write Yeshua, Yeshua, with the Lord, is salvation. It is I, the Lord announcing your salvation, is I, the Lord who has the power to save. Why are you closed so red as if you've been treading out grapes?

I've been treading the wine press alone. No one was there to help me. In my anger, I trample my enemies as if they were grapes, in my fury, I trample my foes. Their blood has stained in my clothes.

For the time has come for me to avenge my people, to ransom them from their oppressors. I was amazed to see that no one intervened to help the oppressed, so I myself stepped into save them with my strong arm and my wrath sustained me. I crossed the nations in my anger and I made them stagger and fall to the ground, spilling their blood upon the earth. Wow, centuries before, this is to be fulfilled.

Still, a future event is this prophecy. You notice how it's spoken of, as like a past tense event, because for God, there is no time frame. You live outside of time in space. It's a reality to him right now, because it's a done deal with God.

So we have these prophecies centuries in advance. And we know also in Revelation 16 that God spoke of this reality, about the pouring out of the judgments and how he would deal with this. And all the way back in previous chapters, in chapter 14 and how he would harvest the earth actually, in chapter 16 is where we see the introduction and the word Armageddon, the name Armageddon introduced. In chapter 14 and verses 14 actually through verse 20, we see this language of how the harvest is brought in, not a harvest for salvation but of judgment.

And we see in verse 18 that says in another angel who had power to destroy with fire came from the altar. He shouted it to the angel with the sharp sickle, swing your sickle, now to gather the clusters of grapes from the vines of the year for they are ripe for judgment. By the way, that word ripe in the Greek meant overdue. They were overdue for judgment.

They was swollen to the point that they were, they'd actually gotten nasty. Have you ever been into a garden where the, whichever lying on the ground has passed the time of their past due, they're overly ripe and it starts to stink, it's nasty. Well, that's the kind of contagion here. They are ripe, they're overdue for judgment.

So the angel swung a sickle over the earth and lowered the grapes into the great winepress of who? Of God's wrath. The grapes were trampled into winepress outside the city and blood flowed from the winepress in a stream about 108 miles long and as high as a horses' bridal. So that's speaking of what is happening here at Armageddon.

So all this ties it together, very powerful imagery that we're seeing here. So again, when it says the war robed in blood, it's just speaking of the reality of his judgment and the blood of the flow as a reality of that. And I love this element though of the last half of that verse and his title was The Word of God. I know about you, but that's one of my favorite titles.

When the gospel of <u>John</u> begins, it starts out exactly like that in the beginning wasba word. Same word, logos or logos. And what that means, he is God. According to verse 14, a <u>John</u> chapter one, the word became flesh and well among us.

In the beginning was the word, it was with God, the word was God and everything that had been created according to <u>John</u> was created by him. Jesus created it all. So his title is The Word of God. Now hold on to that.

What's the significance of his title being The Word of God? Well, we'll see. Verse 14 says, the armies of heaven dressed in the finest of pure white linen followed him on white horses. How does that relate to you and I?

If you're saved here, you're part of this group. You will be part of this company if you know Jesus in return to earth with him. Because once Jesus comes back and executes judgment, he will begin to establish his kingdom on earth and that kingdom will last for a thousand years. And those who are part of the bride of Christ will play a critical role in serving him and administrating his kingdom on earth.

And if we've been faithful in this lifetime, as we stand before the judgment seat of Christ, that's for the critical nature of the famous seat is if we've been faithful with a little in this lifetime, then God will bless us and serve us to him and in our responsibilities in his kingdom to come. How cool is that? So if you're Christian, you're part of this army. The armies of heaven dressed in the finest of pure white linen.

What is that pure white linen represent? Holiness, we've been sanctified by the blood of Jesus. We've been covered by his righteousness. So that's what that speaks of.

God's righteousness is holiness. It's on us. And we follow him on what white horses speaking again of victory, an honor and power that God gave to us. Now note this.

Jesus goes before us and you're going to see also that guess what? The armies of heaven don't participate in what's coming up. She just doesn't need her help. I love.

There's an old old worship song that says, victories are the battles of lords. So lift up your banner of praise. That's kind of the scene here. Jesus goes before us to execute judgment.

The victory is ours and the battles of lords. So lift up your banner of praise. How cool is that? So we'll be following him on white horses.

Those are part of the bright of Christ. All of those who made up the bodied Christ from the time Jesus instituted the new covenant. Verse 15 says, from his mouth, against speaking of Jesus, came a sharp sword to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron rod.

He will release the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty, like you just flowing from the wine press. So we've been introduced to this reality with some of the language we've already seen about the execution of judgment. And when it says from his mouth came a sharp sword to strike down the nations. Perhaps you've seen some of the medieval paintings.

Some of the the paintings have been made about the book of <u>Revelation</u>. Painting everything literally. And there's pictures of Jesus there with a sword coming out of his mouth. A literal sword coming that's not what it's talking about.

This is symbolic. This is an allegory. It's speaking about his word. We know that <u>Hebrews</u> 4.12 says, if the word of God is alive and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword.

Throughout God's word, we see it refer to that there are five times the book of <u>Revelation</u> that his word is referred to as a sword, a sharp sword. That's all he's saying here that from his mouth will come his word. And with his word, he will do what? Strike down the nations.

Certainly he can do this, can he? We're talking about the one who said, back in <u>Genesis</u>, let there be. There was. So as easily as he can create with his creative powers, he can bring destruction and judgment, righteous judgment through his word.

And he will. We know that even <u>2 Thessalonians</u> chapter 2 verse 8 speaks about the Antichrist. So when Jesus returns, he will destroy the person of Antichrist with his word, with the breath of his mouth. He will speak the word and it will be over.

The judgment will come. So that's what is speaking of here. The sharp sword is the word of God. It will strike down the nations.

He will rule them with an iron rod. Wow, this sounds kind of heavy-handed, right? Your picture in Jesus up there with a big rod going, hey, you're getting out of line. Well, you're knocking on the head.

I think it will be that way. But what is speaking about is his against supreme authority. And the reality that there will be absolute structure and holiness in his kingdom, okay? It's not speaking about heavy-handed.

In fact, back in <u>Revelation</u> chapter 12, it spoke about in that panorama of history that we saw when we studied the <u>Revelation</u> 12, when it spoke about the child who was born out of the woman in which it is real. That at some day he will rule and reign with an iron rod. It also equates that raining with the heart of a shepherd, a shepherd's staff. And Jesus is the ultimate pastor of the shepherd's heart.

So he will love us unconditionally with so much love, and yet he will have a standard in place though the demands. Obecents, but because of his grace and mercy and her desire to serve him, he won't be an issue because in that millennial kingdom, there won't be any sin for a while. But then in a depraved heart, some man, it'll begin, to take root again. At the end of the thousand year millennial reign, we'll see this as we move on and our studies to come in the next couple of weeks.

The evil will begin, the Flourish again, and Satan will be unleashed again because for that thousand year period until the end, he will be basically chained. He will not be in a place to influence the world situation. But because men's hearts are deceitful and desperately wicked above all things that <u>Jeremiah</u> said, sin will take root again and begin propagating. And that said, and know that man's hearts are that way.

Even without that influence of evil and the world was Satan gone, it's just innate within the heart of man to be sinful. But God is gracious and merciful. So when it says he will rule with a nine rod, he'll begin. It'll be a structure to his kingdom.

There will be an absolute authority. And voyages, the world need that. Look at the adharky and the mayhem and the chaos in the world. Look at man's hearts.

You know that in the history, the span of human history, that probably I think three or three or four percent that they can figure out for the last six thousand years has been a time where they can say there's been relative peace in the year. The majority of the time, the world has been at war at least nations have been fighting against each other on a fairly major scale. So voy will the world need that. Especially after the tribulation where there's been this period of time, it's just been all bets are off.

And this been mayhem and chaos under the leadership of Antichrist. So he will rule with an iron rod. And look at he says he will release the fierce wrath of God. We've already seen that introduction from Isaiah.

The reality that his wrath which is deserved, that of the Almighty else should die will come. It will be and be the wrath because that wrath will be like juice flowing from a wine press. It'll be like helpless little grapes that are being trampled out in a in the old fashioned wine press. Those little grapes can't resist can they, the pressing of the people stepping on them.

They don't stand a chance. That's what's in view here. They don't stand a chance. Verse 16 says on his robe, the finger Jesus again, as his thigh was written this title, the King of kings, the King of all kings, the Lord of all lords.

Again, that ties back into his crowns again in his authority of all those who have been on the earth who've worn the title of a Lord. Oh, I'm so Lord so, so a little Lord fought the royal of those people who were those titles or have called themselves kings of

nations. Here's the real king. And here's the real Lord of lords not only in his authority, but because he is God, the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

And it just majestically communicates that reality of the one who was coming. Verse 17 says, then I saw an angel standing in a sun shouting to the vultures lying high in the sky, come gathered together for the great banquet God has prepared. Now this is another seemingly morbid area why? Because again, it's speaking about the judgment falling on humanity at that time and just the horrific scene that is going to be.

But before that happens, when this angel brings with proclamation, it says that he's standing in the sun and the imagery in the Greek language is that his brightness is so incredibly brilliant that he's even brighter than the sun. Anybody ever been dumb enough to try to look at the sun before? You can't really can you? I mean, you might look for a second and get in your eyes or so affected, you have to virtualize.

And even if you use really strong sun glass, you can't look very long. But the brilliance, the radius from the sanger because of God's presence, he's been in God's presence just like when Moses was and he came down from cyanide, that he's more brilliant than the sun. Well, he tells the beast, he tells the year, the fall of the year come, gathered together for the great banquet God has prepared. You know what's interesting about this?

In the verses prior to verse 11, we saw the marriage supper of the lamb, didn't we? The UNI will be part of that as we are united into Jesus in this wonderful marriage that will occur. And it's not the kind of marriages that we have, it's husband and wife, it's a spiritual reality. But we will be the wife of Jesus in eternity.

That's an incredible reality, but there's the marriage supper of the lamb. You want to be at that marriage supper. You don't want to be part of this supper because if the marriage supper of the lamb, we get to eat and feast. At this supper, you get to be eaten.

You don't want that. You don't want to be part of that. We'll see, right? And when he says in verse 18, he talks about the scope of it.

He says, come and eat the flesh of teens. Generals and strong warriors of horses and their riders and of all humanity, both free slaves, small and great. God is playing no favourites. All those who rejected his truth, who have turned their back on him and have ultimately mocked and cursed him, they rejected his mercy and the judgment has come.

And the scope of that is horrific. We can't even imagine how horrible this is. And the reality is speaking about the birds too. I know in <u>John</u>'s day in age and in antiquity, when they would have these battles of such a huge scope in some of these nations before.

And by the way, here at the Valley of McGito, the Valley of Jesuery, at Armageddon, there have been some major wars throughout history of note. Even Napoleon Bonaparte said that that was the most perfect environment and theater for a war that a man could imagine. And it is. So major wars have been fought there.

And the final war will happen there and the nation seem to have come together to fight each other. But what will happen is Jesus is descending, coming with the army

that guess what? They grouped together and they train everything that they have, all their military capabilities will try to train towards the Lord. That's hilarious.

And remember, we're not talking about spheres and stuff from antiquity in centuries ago, we're talking about modern military warfare. Nuclear weaponry, maybe even some stuff that's available now that our military infrastructure doesn't let us know about. Maybe there's enough time frame that they'll even be technologies employed that we're not even aware of yet. I doubt it, because I think we're really close.

We're certainly close to the rapture, the right of Christ. But the world is going to turn its attention to him and try to overcome him. And you remember earlier on when you studied from Psalms 2 what God's reaction is that he will laugh. He will laugh at man's futile attempts to defeat him.

But isn't that the nature of pride that man thinks he can do it every once? He can defeat God that even Antichrist who is possessed by Satan will try to overcome God. Folks is not going to happen. Verse 19, then I saw the beast in the kings of the earth world.

Remember the beast? Who is that? That is the Antichrist. That is the one who was literally possessed by the spirit of Satan.

Then I saw the beast and the kings of the world and their armies gathered together to fight against the one sitting on the horse and his army. Verse 20, and the beast was captured. So what will happen? He will be captured.

And with him the false prophet who did mighty miracles, I'll be half of the beast. The miracles that deceived all who accepted the Mark of the beast and who worshiped his statue. Both the beast and his false prophet were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur. That's the judgment that happens to those characters.

Now Satan himself, because he is a spiritual entity, a created being, though he possessed as Antichrist, that man who is Antichrist, this is his judgment. And the man who is also influenced by the demonic realm who is the false prophet, both of them will end up in the ultimate destination. And there will also be what's called the great white throne judgment that we will see in our upcoming studies that everyone will stand before who rejected God and the judgment will come and this will be their eternal destiny as well. And again, remember God is rich and grace and mercy, but his righteousness demands this kind of end.

So that's what's going to happen. The beast will be captured. The false prophet, all these armies that are gathered. Jesus is going to deal with them with his word.

It's going to be done just like that. And after he's done, according to Zechariah chapter 14 verses 1 through 4, he will set his feet down on the mound of olives. In fact, let's go there. This will be a great place to be able to wrap it up today.

Zechariah says incredibly powerful, prophetic book from the Old Testament. As you're turning there to chapter 14, just a reminder that so much what we're seeing happening in Israel today is spoken of in Zechariah chapter 12, that the nations of the earth have come against Israel and primarily Jerusalem. But Israel, as it stands right now, is really been left without a friend. We're not a friend of Israel anymore.

We're not the friend that we used to be. Under our current administration, we've turned to extortion and blackmail to try to get them to be part of the treaty over there

and we're actually siding with the Palestinians far more than the Israelis. God has been gracious to America, according to the promise from <u>Genesis</u>, for God told Abraham that I will bless those, bless the enemy, and will curse those the curse, the God saving grace has been blessing America. Keep your eyes open, folks, for what may be fall our country and then not to just the future because of what our government is doing by abandoning Israel and forcing Israel.

And when I say extortion and blackmail, what I mean is what our administration has been telling Israel is that if you want help detouring Iran to do what we tell you to do, give up land for peace, be a part of this process, this peace process, and do what we tell you to do. It's been communicated to them if you're not willing to do that then deal with Iran on your own. Wow, we're living an interesting days, folks. Don't close your eyes because you don't want to mess it up.

It's going on exciting days. And we know then was Zechariah 14 then, when Jesus does come to establish his millennial kingdom, this is what will happen. Watch for the day of the Lord is coming when your possessions will be plentered right in front of you. We've seen that.

I would gather all the nations spied against Jerusalem. The city will be taken and the house is looted and the women raped. Half the population will be taken into captivity and the rest will be left among the ruins of the city. That's what's going to happen during the time frame of the tribulation hour.

But then the Lord will go out to fight against those nations as he has fought in times past. And on that day his feet shall stand on the mound of allies east of Jerusalem. And the mound of allies will split apart making a wide valley running from east to west. Half the mound will move toward the north and half towards the south.

Do you know that geologically today geologists see that the way the mound of allies is structured has got that perfect natural split. It's like waiting for this event to occur. Though when Jesus returns, he's going to do something to this world that's going to change the geography of the world, the topography. It's going to be amazing what he does.

He's going to restore the earth to a time of like it was in the Garden of Eden. The way he intended it to begin with during the millennial reign of Christ the earth will be an amazing place like God intended it before sin came upon the scene. But that is what is going to happen. What is so important about this reality?

After Jesus was resurrected we've celebrated that fact, right? Last Sunday, resurrection Sunday. Jesus visited the disciples after his resurrection. He was seen by over 500 people in his ministry.

After that period of time that he was with the disciples he did what? He ascended. And some angels told the guy said, hey, what you doing? Stan air gawking up?

What are you doing looking at that for? You know, he's going to come back in like manner. Well guess where he ascended to heaven from the mound of allies. So that point that he ascended to heaven from the ascension, this is exactly where he's going to return to at his second coming.

To set his feet down on the mound of allies and to begin to establish his kingdom on earth for a thousand years. I don't know about you guys, but I'm excited about that truth and that reality. I'm so thankful to be part of the bride of Christ now knowing that

God is not a point of those who are his to wrath. I mean, that we're not supposed to be here for the judgment.

Your sin was judged on the cross of Calvary and because you accepted Jesus as gift of eternal life, you don't have to face judgment. We are accountable for the way that we live our lives. That's why there's the Bama seed of Christ, the judgment seed for believers. It's not an issue with salvation there.

You are saved. That's why you're standing there. But for the people that we know and love or friends or neighbors or family members, if they're absolutely happened tomorrow, then what we see during the tribulation hour, everything that we said he would be something it would be an experience for them. If they were to choose Jesus during the tribulation hour, the best majority of those people who accept Jesus, it'll be worth it, but they'll lose their lives.

They'll lose their lives. They're laid down their lives because of Christ. It doesn't have to be that way. It's exciting again to know that as this chapter concludes in Revelation 19, this is their entire army was killed by the sharp sword.

Remember, that's the word of God. They came from the mouth of the one riding on the white horse. He comes in victory, the white horse, and then the boulders, all gourds, themselves on the dead bodies. I had mentioned before that in antiquity and times past when these major battles happened, they didn't go out and pick up all these bodies.

Some of them, they would bury, they depend on what extent they wanted to bury their friends and their family members. But in these large scale battles, those bodies just laid there. They were fair game for the birds and the beast to come into on them, non-eminent. That's just the gruesome reality of history.

And so <u>John</u> could relate to that in history because of being a man from 1st century 80. But that's the scope of things here too as well. And even <u>Isaiah</u>, I mean, <u>Ezekiel</u> speaks so that reality relates to God and Meghog and that invasion. So that's a heavy thing that's happening, but it's only for those who don't know Jesus.

It's only for those who rejected his truth and his love, his extension of grace. And again, knowing that this is something that is to happen in the future, there's time for us to reach our neighbors, to reach our loved ones, to share the love of Jesus with them. We know that according to verse 10 of Revelation 19, one of my favorite verses from the word, that it tells us why prophecy exists, right? Why a third of the Bible is prophetic in nature.

And it says for the essence of prophecy is to give a clear witness for Jesus. Again, there's so much happening in the world today that is prophetically relevant, so much of a God prophesied that what happened in the last days has happened before our eyes. There is a prophetic, perfect storm brewing folks. Now, we governmentally, as there's a trend towards one world government, but also economically, as our country is tanking and going down and all the things are happening to increase the burden on us as Americans for taxes and everything else.

It's overwhelming. And the reality is our infrastructure cannot bear what's happening. It will collapse. It's something drastic isn't changed.

But that could be very much a part of God's prophetic plan, because we do not see the United States of America by name or any way shape or form listed in God's word in entime's prophecy. So the sad reality is, it's an exciting reality, but the sad reality is, is what is happening before our eyes. America being turned into a second rate country that's no longer a world superpower, happening so quickly, a move towards socialism is staggering. But it fits the scenario of America not being this major superpower anymore and all the nations just coming together to get along and foster this idea of socialism, counting before our very eyes, folks.

What about the issue of all the earthquakes and natural disasters even? Every day, there's like one at seven or greater on the Richter scale somewhere around the world. It's unprecedented. What is happening?

You can research it out. The scale on which seismic activity is happening is increasing more and more and more it has for years and years and years. And Jesus himself said those are part of the birth pangs that there will even be earthquakes on a greater scale all over the place. All of these things are telling us that the birth pangs are increasing with great intensity folks fly because Jesus is about to catch his bride up and to initiate the 70th week of <u>Daniel</u> to finish his plan for the nation of Israel and to deal with the world.

Are you living in his resurrection power? If you're not, you better start. You better start. I'm not a doomsday guy by any means.

I'm not a gloom and doom kind of guy. I'm not by any means. But the word of God tells us the proponent for see the challenging or evil day approaching and they make preparation. What can we do to be prepared?

Seek the Lord. Make sure that you're he's really seated on the throne of your hearts that he really used your king and or Lord. That he's not somebody you just take off a shelf like the wood medicine out of a medicine cabinet when things are going bad. But you love him with all your heart and there's a death relationship with him because things in America could get interesting folks.

Things could become challenging here before we're out of here. Maybe not. I hope not. I hope in God in His grace and mercy that we'll have a turnaround in some ways but the way things are trending right now.

If it's not stopped, if that trend is not intervened on, the practical common sense tells us it's unsustainable. Something's going to happen of a major consequence in this country that will affect us economically and every other way. So be seeking the Lord with all your heart. This could be the church's finest hour before he comes back.

Why? Because your family, your friends and neighbors, if they don't have their head in the stand right now, they know that something's going on. People are worried. People are frightened that don't know Jesus.

You and I shouldn't be frightened. I think it's an incredibly exciting time to be living in. I know my redeemer lives. I know that my salvation is secure.

I know that if my life were needed to be laid down, I know where I'm going to spend forever. I think it's an amazing and exciting time. As the people are looking for answers as they are afraid, we have the truth that we can hold out to them. Holding out the word of truth, the word of God, the truth of Jesus Christ, to lost and having and dying people.

And if they see peace and comfort and security in your life because of the death relationship you have with Jesus, they'll want that. They'll want that. So let's let this little light shine, right? Let it become a raging inferno, Lord.

Let's pray. If I'll let that become a raging inferno, it's the light of Jesus Christ in and through us. To an ever-darkening and an ever-changing world, Lord, we see the instability. We see the rapidly declining societies, the economic systems, so many things happening in the world today, Lord, it is an exciting time because we know that you've told us that that would be the state of the world.

Lord, we can't say that it's going to be tomorrow or the next day, only you truly know. And again, your word tells us no man can know the hour of the day of your return to catch us up, but you said we should know the times and the seasons. And Father, if we're not in them, then I don't know what's going on. This is just the tip of the iceberg, then whoa.

But we do know, just like the birth pains will increase when a woman is close to giving birth. Jesus, you gave us that analogy, and certainly that's happened today. Let us be found faithful as individuals. Let us be found faithful as families to you and your word, your truth.

Let us be found faithful as men and women of character, of godly character who let your truth emanate from us, Lord. Provide opportunities for us to share the truth of your love, of those around us that we know who don't know you yet. And Father, help us to have the courage to do this. Help us to not be so self-centered and so focused on ourselves that we're afraid and unwilling, Lord, to share so great salvation.

Jesus, give us courage and powers by your grace to live the life that you called us to. And again, just have your way. Have your way, Father. And just as that awesome prayer that you taught the disciples to pray says, may your kingdom come, may your will be done on earth as it isn't heaven.

Fures is the power and the kingdom and the glory forever and ever. Amen.