

Revelation: A Vision of the Coming King

Descriptions of the King Who Comes

Revelation 19:11-16

Introduction

Patient Waiting – our 60th Sunday since we began

Revelation 1:7 Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

Ever since we read and studied this text, we have been waiting for its fulfillment in **Revelation 19:11**. Jesus returns today, aren't you glad you aren't going to miss it! Good thing you got up and came to church today!

Prophecies Leading to this Moment

The Bible has around 325 prophecies, places in scripture that are connected to the events of **Revelation 19**. This is a really big deal in regard to the unveiling of a key piece of the scripture and His 2nd Return to set up the Kingdom.

Heavens Took Him, Now Open to Reveal Him

Acts 1:6 So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." 9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10 And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, 11 and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Q: Do you want to know the times or have power from on high?

At His ascension, they can't take their eyes off of the place where they last saw him and it was only until two angels spoke to them that they were brought back into focus. The last words of these two tell the Apostles that He "**will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.**" These words are fulfilled today in the text.

Returning to Claim What is His

Jesus has every right to planet earth for several reasons and in His return we are reminded of three reasons it belongs to Him...

(1) Creator – He spoke it into existence in **Genesis 1**.

(2) Cross – He is the Savior, Lord, Reconciler, Redeemer, etc. of those living here, who by faith trust in Him & His death on the cross.

2 Corinthians 5:18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

(3) Promised as His Inheritance

Psalm 2:8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.

So, He will return as the Rightful Returning King!

In His return he will reclaim the world as His.

Two Most Descriptive Texts of Jesus

1. Revelation 1:12-18

Revelation 1:12 Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. 14 The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, 15 his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. 16 In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength. 17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, 18 and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

2. Revelation 19:11-16

Let's now see the text and John's descriptions...

1. Descriptions of the Returning King – Revelation 19:11-16

19:11 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, King of kings and Lord of lords.

“saw”

This begins the **1st of 3 instances** in **Revelation 19** where John says “**he saw**” (**19:11, 17, 19**). John is so captivated by the vision of Jesus in all of its vividness that all He can do is make sure he described the sight exactly in the manner that He actually saw it. This vision of Jesus, for John and for our benefit, is by God’s design so that we would see the vastness of the glory of Christ. This description reveals not another kingdom based in man’s ways, but a Kingdom where Christ will sit on a throne and reign on the earth.

“heaven opened”

Three times in Revelation John is able to see heaven opened - the other two are:
(1) **4:1** **After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.”**

(2) **11:19** **Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple. There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail.**

This One Different than the First Two

Since this is the third time that John has seen opened, we should take note that in the first two heaven was opened so that John could see into it, but this time it appears that heaven was opened to let someone out.

At this moment of time in our lifetime, Jesus has been in heaven for the last 2,000 years seated at the right hand of the Father according to many New Testament texts – **Romans 8:34 ; Ephesians 1:20 ; Colossians 3:1 ; Hebrews 1:3, 8:1, 10:12, 12:2 ; 1 Peter 3:22**. Mentioned 8x in the letters of the New Testament.

Here is one of those that reveals Jesus ministry now...

Hebrews 8:1 **Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, 2 a minister in the holy places, in the true tent that the Lord set up, not man.**

This picture of Jesus on the White Horse is important as it indicates that this “seated work” of Jesus as the Great High Priest and Intercessor is now finished and something new and glorious is about to commence.

The King is about to come

riding out of the door in heaven!

As always we must see things in context of where they are placed in the Bible and I want to make sure that we see **19:10** as connected to **19:11**.

19:10 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. Every page and every book has as its aim Jesus! He is the point!

19:11 Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True,

This rider is the same one who is the testimony of God, the spirit of prophecy – Jesus Christ! He is the point of all things. The rider the testimony and spirit of prophecy!

- **Triumphant King – 19:11a**
19:11a and behold, a white horse!

Imagery from Revelation 6:2

We cannot overlook this picture of **19:11** and **6:2** and contrast these two riders on white horses.

Picture of the Antichrist

Revelation 6:2 And I looked, and behold, a white horse! And its rider had a bow, and a crown was given to him, and he came out conquering, and to conquer.

This is the Antichrist who was also a ruler, but not a true one like Christ. 6:2 reveals to us that the Antichrist will come to power by peace (a bow with no arrows) and his crown will be given to him, meaning that his authority to reign is not inherent by nature.

As stated, John starts right off using very descriptive words to picture Jesus.

Examples from His First Coming

In his first coming, the things surrounding Jesus' life were quite different from this second one we are now beholding...

Philippians 2:5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Luke 2:6 And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

He was born in obscurity in a cave in Bethlehem.

Matthew 8:20 And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."

He had no home or bed to sleep in!

In His first coming, everything was wrapped in the most humble, simplistic, and at times hidden kind of ways. In this coming, He rides a white horse, has crowns, and an army following Him and everyone will see Him and know who He is.

Bold Visible Nature of the 2nd Coming

This is not how it will be anymore for John immediately pictures that this coming will not be like the first one as Jesus is coming as a King riding on a White Horse.

Come and Make Your Name Known

Isaiah 64:1 Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence—2 as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence!

Let's examine the significance of the White Horse

The Significance of the White Horse

To have a horse in the first century in a battle always indicated speed and honor to the soldier who rode on it, as most soldiers were foot soldiers. Only the elite rode to battle on horses and here ***we have the most elite warrior/conqueror that has ever been or will be.***

In first century Rome, there was something called the Roman Triumph, and it was the most prestigious honor the Empire could give to a victorious Roman general returning

from battle. It was always a public, celebrative, and triumphal procession. Its location was took place on the Via Sacra, which was the main street of Rome that led from the Forum all the way down to the temple of Jupiter, which was located on the Capitoline Hill.

The General would be mounted on a white horse, which was the symbol of a victorious triumph over the enemies of another nation. The rider on the White Horse was the focus.

The procession followed this order:

1. The Spoils from the Battle/War

The spoils from the war would be marched in first so that all could see what had been taken from Rome's enemy. These were given in part to Caesar and then to the general's army and friends.

2. Captives from the Campaign

Next through the streets of Rome, the captives who had been defeated and captured in the battle were forced to march both disarmed and in chains before the inhabitants of the city.

3. General on a White Horse

Third, this was the biggest spectacle of the day as next came the General on his white horse, who would be followed by his family, friends, and his army.

4. Execution of the Enemy

Afterwards, most of the prisoners were executed by the conquering soldiers of Rome.

Colossians 2:13 And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, 14 by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. 15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him

- **Faithful and True – 19:11bc**

19:11b The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war.

1st W – Who He Is

In our text today, Jesus is revealed to have 6 names or called 6 things. In each of them, they highlight the depth of who He is as our God.

(1) Faithful (2) True (3) Name know one knows (4) The Word of God (5) King of kings (6) Lord of lords

Faithful

The Greek word here is “pistos” – trustworthy, refers to one you can count on.

Jesus is faithful to His promise. Back in **Revelation 1:5** He is referred to in this way, **1:5 “and from Jesus Christ *the faithful witness*, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth”**. He is called the faithful witness here!

Jesus is the real King, not like the Antichrist who proved himself unfaithful as He breaks His covenant with Israel as seen in **Daniel 9:27** **And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”**

He is completely different than the Antichrist who solely relied on deception to come to power – **2 Thessalonians 2:9** **The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, 10 and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.**

He is trustworthy!

“and True”

When you look at history and in our lifetime, both people and politicians have had a hard time fully telling the truth and being honest, and a main reason for that is that they long to tell people what they want to hear, instead of the truth.

Satan is the author of lies – **1 John 3:8** **Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.**

This is not the case with Christ for He is true to all of His promises. The rider in **Revelation 6** will not be able to offer truth, only lies.

Jesus is the real true King! Just listen to these Scriptural affirmations of the “Trueness” of Jesus!

2 Corinthians 1:20 For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.

Titus 1:1 Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, *2 in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began* ³ and at the proper time manifested in his word through the preaching with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Savior;

Hebrews 6:17 So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, *18 so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie*, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.

**Jesus is the sole person in the world
who is a true man of His Word.**

He keeps and has kept every single word that He has ever spoken!

Being faithful and true, Jesus can only do one thing in this arena – He will be the keeper and the one who carries through on all of His promises.

Also...

Being faithful and true, He therefore can only act in perfect righteousness. Which we will now examine.

He is faithful and true...

○ In Righteousness

Isaiah 11:3 And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

Everyone of his decisions are made in complete righteousness.

(1) Judges

(2) Makes War

We know that the Antichrist also will wage war, but it will be done out of extreme hatred and pride.

- **Hatred** – against the Lamb, Christ-followers, & the Jews.
- **Pride** – “I am god!”

2 Thessalonians 2:4 who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.

Jesus though, when He will wage war and it will be done out of holiness.

Both history and our time reveals that the world has been ruled by unrighteousness, but the righteous King is coming and He will war by the holiness standard.

The reality about Jesus & sin is this...

**He will never be at peace concerning sin
until He ultimately destroys it!**

• **Piercing Burning Gaze** – 19:12a

19:12a His eyes are like a flame of fire,

This is the same picture we see in...

Revelation 1:14 The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. *His eyes were like a flame of fire,*

Revelation 2:18 “And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write: ‘The words of the Son of God, *who has eyes like a flame of fire,* and whose feet are like burnished bronze.’

All 3 of these references to His “*piercing, burning gaze*” are symbols of His perfect and holy judgment.

His holy sight sees everything – burns through any and everything!

His inherent ability to see all things is intimately inseparable to His eternal nature of knowing all things. He is all-seeing and all-knowing.

He therefore sees and knows all things at once, as there is never any learning in Jesus for He just sees and intrinsically knows every aspect of everything.

His eyes here are seen as searching and penetrating and there is no way one can hide from it.

Truthfully, His heart and His eyes both burn in pure holiness.

Nothing will escape His gaze.

- **Collects Crowns – 19:12b**

19:12b and on his head are many diadems,

This word “diadem” is diadema, in one of the golden bands that the ruling authority of the Emperor of Rome wore. This is different from the crown ‘stephanos’, which means “victors crown”. It was typical for a king to have 1 diadem, but when John describes what he sees on Jesus’ head, there were “many diadems”.

When He was here the first time, He was given a Crown of Thorns as they mocked Him. From the soldier’s perspective, He had a fake royalty as we see their response in...

Matthew 27:27 Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. 28 And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, 29 and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” 30 And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. 31 And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

Plus...Mark 15:27 ; John 19:2, 5.

In **Revelation 6:2** the Antichrist “**was given a crown**”, revealing that it was not his true nature to be king for he had to be given one. He needed someone else to make Him king.

Diadems/Crowns

“And on His head are many diadems” or in other words – many other king's crowns. In the Ancient World a conquering King would collect the crowns of the rulers he had conquered and overtaken. With this in mind, the picture of Jesus with many diadems/crowns is that He has taken them all from the so-called kings of the earth and

He alone is wearing them indicating that He alone is the Sovereign Ruler of the world. This means that satan, the Antichrist, the 10 kings ruling alongside the Antichrist will all give their crowns up for they have been conquered.

This even happened in King David’s life when he conquered the Amorite people in **2 Samuel 12**. After he conquered, he put the king’s crown on his head with his crown as King of Israel.

In the end - Jesus will wear every single crown as there will be no sharing.

All of this reveals His power and authority as the Sovereign Lord who has the only right to rule the world.

- **Incomprehensible Name – 19:12c**

19:12c and he has a name written that no one knows but himself.

“He has a name written”

In the Greek with the verb tense, it literally means ‘a name having been written already’. This name was something already done in the past, not freshly done or given.

This whole idea is very intriguing. It is something that has already been written and at the same time, it is a name not yet revealed.

It is not completely clear in the text what this means other than this – Jesus is so unique in every manner of all things that He has a special name.

Perhaps this is similar to what was said to the church at Pergamum in **Revelation 2**. **Revelation 2:16** **Therefore repent. If not, I will come to you soon and war against them with the sword of my mouth. 17 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, with a new name written on the stone that no one knows except the one who receives it.’**

It is a very exclusive name and perhaps it is a name that we will learn and know in the

Millennial Kingdom. It is not clear though!

Q: What is the purpose of this?

When John looked at Jesus and saw this name, John knew it was a name but it is possible that when John saw it, he could not understand the word or it was a word not known to any man or woman.

Perhaps the name is so majestic, grand, deep, full, and awesome that it is just incomprehensible!

• **Warrior King – 19:13a**

19:13a He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood,

If you will remember with me for a moment, the first time Jesus came and just before His death, they gambled for the ownership of His robe at the foot of the cross...

Mathew 27:35 And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots.

He won't be stripped of this robe this time as there will be no humiliation in His 2nd Coming, just a triumphant coming, conquering, and then reigning!

The first time He came, blood poured from Him and He wore His own blood.

The second time He comes, He will wear the blood of His enemies after He has trodden them in the winepress of the wrath of God's fury!

dipped in blood

In the Greek the tense means "having been dipped" and it is also the same word as "baptize". A better understanding of the word could be stained in blood!

Q: Whose blood does He wear? What does this mean? (3 Possibilities)

1. His Blood – pictures the shed blood at the cross

He won't shed blood again and the context is not about salvation, but the judgment of

His enemies.

2. Blood of His enemies – foreshadowing the winepress of God’s wrath
Isaiah 63:3 “I have trodden the winepress alone, and from the peoples no one was with me; I trod them in my anger and trampled them in my wrath; their lifeblood spattered on my garments, and stained all my apparel. 4 For the day of vengeance was in my heart, and my year of redemption had come.

3. Already been in Battle through the ages

Special Notice

He robed is already dipped in blood and the Battle of Armageddon has not even taken place yet, so what does this mean? The fact that He already has a blood-spattered robe! In history there was much battling against God’s enemies – Pharaoh, Philistines, etc.

- **Word of God – 19:13b**

19:13b and the name by which he is called is The Word of God.

Q: What are “words”? Ultimately they are expressions of thoughts and feelings, etc. Jesus is the Word of God, so the expression of who God is!

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

1 John 1:1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— 2 the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— 3 that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 1:1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. 3 He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4 having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

So according to those 3 texts, **Jesus is the perfect expression of the heart and mind of God since He is truly God.** He is not part God, but completely God Most High!

John 14:8 Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.”
9 Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? 10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. 11 Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

“Word”

The Words of God that we encounter in the book of Revelation are tied to the meaning of the very word “revelation”, which means to “reveal”.

Understanding this, the meaning is clear in this section from John in regard to what He is seeing – Jesus is the perfect manifestation of God Himself. Therefore Jesus is the supreme and sovereign God.

Ex. The Bible – These very pages reveal Him and are about His glory. If we truly want to know Him, then there is no other choice but to know the words of the Bible for they more than anything else, reveal the glory of Jesus. The greatness of His majesty.

Author and Finisher of our Faith

Hebrews 12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

The Bible reveals Him who both founded and perfected our faith.

- **Accompanied King – 19:14**

19:14 And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses.

He does not come alone!

And the armies of heaven

The word 'armies' is a word that means **"troops" or "armed forces"**.

This is Not the Rapture

What we are reading here is clearly not the Rapture for in the rapture the church meets Him in the air and here the saints are already in the air following Him on white horses themselves. Here the armies of heaven are coming from heaven, not going to heaven.

Jesus here is coming in judgment to establish His kingdom on the earth.

arrayed in fine linen, white and pure,

They are wearing the same clothing as the Bride of Christ that we see in...

19:8 it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"—. Notice that their clothing is not typical of soldiers and armies. There is no camouflage, they are carrying no weapons, and they are wearing "pure white linen garments" that will stand out to everyone.

Q: Why are they dressed this way? It will not be their fight for it will be Christ's alone. *With a Word, The Word of God will slay his enemies.*

He fights and we follow!

This is the posture of the saints as Christ begins His return.

Q: Will everyone see His coming?

Matthew 24:27 For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 28 Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather. 29 “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 30 Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Yes, they will all see Him!

Two Groups Come Accompany Him:

1. Saints

Already established.

2. Angels

Matthew 13:41 The *Son of Man will send his angels*, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, 42 and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

Matthew 16:27 For *the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father*, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.

Matthew 24:31 And *he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call*, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

2 Thessalonians 1:7 and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, *when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels* 8 in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. 9 They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, *10 when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints*, and to be marveled at among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed.

He will return with the saints and the angels.

- **Sovereign Over the Nations – 19:15**

19:15 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.

This is an extreme action verse with lots of things going on in regard to the nations of the earth.

Three things He will do with the nations when He returns to the earth that we will see shortly.

From his mouth comes a sharp sword

Because He is The Word of God, He will speak and slay His enemies. *In the Greek this word for “sword” is also the same word for ‘javelin’, for it is one that is light and long enough to be thrown like a spear.*

In the context, it is used as a sharp instrument of war with which Jesus will strike down the nations in His judgment of their rebellion. He will use it to establish His rule.

He has created with the Words of His mouth and here He destroys with the Words of His mouth!

A Spiritual War

Notice that Jesus does not use military weapons, but the sharp sword from His mouth which is obviously His Word.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. 13 And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

You see, this is a spiritual war that Jesus will wage with the truth of His nature as Sovereign Lord. He will not use man’s weapons of destruction.

Those who reject Jesus will be slain by the judging power of His Word.

(1) Strike

“with which to strike down the nations”,

Malachi 3:2 But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. **3** He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. He will clean and purify the nations.

1 John 3:8 Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

(2) Rule

“and he will rule them with a rod of iron”.

He now only uses scripture to describe Jesus.

Psalms 2:9 You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.”

Isaiah 11:4 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. **5** Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

he will rule them

This is a shepherding phrase in the Greek as it the word ‘poimainw’, which means to “shepherd”. He will shepherd the nations.

If he rules, then it indicates that He is staying and carrying out His reign.

with a rod of iron

Shepherds always carried with them sticks, but here Jesus will rule with a “**rod of iron**”. The meaning here is that during the Millennial Kingdom He will be unbreakable in His reign. It will be an inflexible righteous reign of King Jesus!

(3) Tread Upon them

“He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty”.

He alone does this work, as it will not be done by the army dressed in fine linen, but by Christ alone. It will be so complete that the Armies clothing of white remains pure white, it will not be stained at all.

Isaiah 63:1 Who is this who comes from Edom, *in crimsoned garments* from Bozrah, he who is splendid in his apparel, marching in the greatness of his strength? “It is I, speaking in righteousness, mighty to save.” **2** *Why is your apparel red, and your garments like his who treads in the winepress?* **3** *“I have trodden the winepress alone, and from the peoples no one was with me; I trod them in my anger and trampled them in my wrath; their lifeblood spattered on my garments and stained all my apparel.”* **4** For the day of vengeance was in my heart, and my year of redemption had come. **5** I looked, but there was no one to help; I was appalled, but there was no one to uphold; so my own arm brought me salvation, and my wrath upheld me. **6** I trampled down the peoples in my anger; I made them drunk in my wrath, and I poured out their lifeblood on the earth.”

Joel 3:13 Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Go in, tread, for the winepress is full. The vats overflow, for their evil is great. **14** Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.

- **King of kings and Lord of lords – 19:16**

19:16 On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written

on his thigh

This symbolizes stability, power, and strength.

King of kings and Lord of lords.

He alone has the right to rule the earth, for it was promised to Him by the Father...

Psalm 2:7 I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you. 8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

Here He calls the kings of the earth to serve and love Jesus!

Psalm 2:10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. 11 Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. 12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

We are to long for His coming:

2 Timothy 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.