

Revelation Lesson 23 Handout

Revelation 19

¹After these things I heard something like a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God;

²BECAUSE HIS JUDGMENTS ARE TRUE AND RIGHTEOUS; for He has judged the great harlot who was corrupting the earth with her immorality, and HE HAS AVENGED THE BLOOD OF HIS BOND-SERVANTS ON HER."

³And a second time they said, "Hallelujah! HER SMOKE RISES UP FOREVER AND EVER."

⁴And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sits on the throne saying, "Amen. Hallelujah!"

⁵And a voice came from the throne, saying, "Give praise to our God, all you His bond-servants, you who fear Him, the small and the great."

⁶Then I heard something like the voice of a great multitude and like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, saying, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns.

⁷"Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready."

1 Thessalonians 4:16–17 (NASB95)

¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

¹⁷Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with

The "witness under trial" issue was of major concern to evangelist Corrie Ten Boom, whose family suffered in Nazi prison camps during World War II for the crime of protecting Jews. Corrie Ten Boom preached that the pre-tribulation rapture would leave the Christian church ill-prepared for witness under persecution, just as it had in China when Mao Zedong rose to power, and warned that pre-tribulationism was the sort of false doctrine that Jesus warned about.

<http://www.watchmanspost.com/about.html>

BELIEF.	PRE-TRIBULATION 'RAPTURE' THEORY.	POST-TRIBULATION COMING & RESURRECTION DAY.
Return of Jesus to Earth	Two-part return, first to the air for Christians. Second part to Earth.	One only glorious, visible Return, to this Earth, after meeting all 'Saints' in the air. Believers taken for the meeting, & return.
Resurrection	'Church-age' Christians Only, (Not O.T. saints.) (Jews & others later.#)	All true Believers of all time raised in the First Resurrection-One only 'Resurrection Day' for 'Saints'!
Anti-christ, (False-Messiah)	Does not appear till after 'the rapture' of Christians.	Takes world control after world anarchy develops, (post Eze 38/39) before S/Coming.
Tribulation	Thought to be 7 years.	Tribulation in 2 parts of 3.5 years, 2nd severe but each day shortened - affects

		Christians.
God's wrath.	Tribulation & judgement believed to be the same.	God's wrath <u>not</u> same as Great Tribulation, after - and probably a much shorter time.
Spiritual salvation of the Jews.	Jews become Believers in Jesus when they see Him, at the time of the Rapture.	Jews will be delivered earlier at the time of the 'Ezekiel war' & 'all Israel will be saved by <i>Faith alone</i> * & bless the world. Isa.19: 25.
A SPECIAL INTERLUDE ~ *Possibly - a few months for the A/C to set everything up, during which the Gospel will spread fast in & from M.E. * ? Joel 2: 28 – 32. A time of great revival could come in here? *		
Jewish relationship with the Anti-christ.	Jews make a treaty with the Anti-christ for 7 years.	The Anti-christ will make a separate 7 year Treaty with Israel <i>not</i> to be part of A/C Global (One world) Government /UNO.
Jews return to Israel.	In the Tribulation as Believers, and send out 144,000 missionaries. #	A/C will order ALL Jews to return * to Israel, which will become holy & glorious, Isaiah 60:1-3, (& bless as a 'sheep' nation.)
More converts to Jesus?	The Jews will win many 'tribulation saints'. Both will suffer trouble.	After taking the Anti-christ's implanted evil Mark, no one can become a new Christian - they can only worship the Devil.*
Any hope for Christians? (The Church.)	Christians have all gone. (i.e. The Church.)	Many Christians will go to Israel, with Jews (Zechariah 8:23) but be protected there * also Jews during the period of Tribulation 'Bowl Judgements.' (Rev. 16:2) *
The 'Marriage Supper Of the Lamb'.	Christians enjoy it for 7 Years maybe in Heaven.	Possibly this will be during the Earthly reign of Jesus for 1000 Years -only a prelude to Eternity. *

The Millennium. (1000 year reign)	After the second part of the Second Coming.	After the great events of the one - event Glorious Second Coming.
Proponents	C. Missler, Grant Jeffery, Arnold Fruchtenbaum, Ron Gaff, Greg Laurie, Jack Kinsella, Jan Markell, Bill Koenig, Hal Lindsay, Jack Van Imp and many other Bible Teachers. Most Bible teachers	George Eldon Ladd, Alex Reese. David Pawson, Dr Gavin Finley, Richard Perry, Tim Warner, Kato Mivale, Dr Robt Gundry, Sheila Sternberg, R Totten. [For many very famous teachers please see here.] (G.O. Fellowship Beliefs ****)

But first:

**HERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE TWO MAIN LINES OF BELIEF & TEACHING,
ABOUT THE TIMING OF THE SECOND COMING OF THE LORD JESUS.**

The Post-Tribulation point of view is indicated in red.

One believes in two parts of the Second Coming.

-But another believes- in a one event only Second Coming.

One believes in 2, maybe 3 resurrection days for Believers.

-But another believes- in only one resurrection Day for all true Believers.

One believes the Christians (since Pentecost) will be raptured in a *first part* Coming.

-But another believes- in one Resurrection Day for all O.T.& N.T. Believers.

One believes the Christians (since Pentecost) will be raptured before the Tribulation.

-But the other believes- many Christians will have to go through a time of Tribulation.

One believes the Tribulation is the same as God's Judgement.

-But the other believes- the Tribulation is separate from a time of Judgement.

One believes the Jews will be left behind after the Rapture.

-But the other believes- all true Believers will be on Earth, in the time of Tribulation.

One believes people will be able to become Christians in the time of tribulation.

-For this writer after taking the 'mark' there will be no more opportunity to change.

THE MORE RECENT CHURCH

Not only did the early Church teach that the Church would face Antichrist, and that Christ would return at the beginning of the Millennium, but in all of Church history, there never has been a pre-tribulation rapture teaching, until Edward Irving writes of it in the 1830s A.D. ---The pre-trib rapture teaching is a British-American invention which is only about 180 years old (and the mid-trib teaching is even more recent). Some of our grandparents could have heard the pre-trib teaching for the very first time. -- It is a brand new teaching compared to the age of Christianity.

Outstanding Bible Teachers in subsequent generations of Church history, who taught that the Church would encounter the persecution of the Antichrist here on earth before the Second Coming, include : **John Calvin, Martin Luther, John Knox, John Bunyan, Isaac Newton, George Whitefield, Charles Spurgeon, Charles Hodge, Henry Alford, J.Sidlow Baxter, F.F. Bruce, Thomas Chalmers, Adam Clarke, Jonathan Edwards, Jim Elliott, W.J. Erdman, Carl F. Henry, Matthew Henry, John Huss, Orson Jones, C.S. Lovett, J.Gresham Machen, Peter Marshall, Walter Martin, Gary Matsdorf, G.Campbell Morgan, Leon Morris, George Mueller, Ian Murray, B.W. Newton, John Newton, H.J. Ockenga, Bernard Ramm, Alexander Reese, A. Saphir, Demos Shakarian, A.B. Simpson, Oswald J. Smith, Jim Spillman, R.C. Sproul, Charles Spurgeon, Corrie TenBoom, S.P. Tragelles, William Tyndale, B.B. Warfield, Charles Wesley, R.F. Youngblood,** ---and premillennial posttribulationists also include : Bengel, Brooks, Cameron, Delitzsch, Derstine, DeWette, Ellicott, Ewald, Frost, Godet, Godwin, **Wayne Grudem, Robert Gundry, Joyner, Kellogg, Moorehead, Orelli, John Piper, Robertson, Rothe, Ryle, Spener, Stier, Trench, Volck, Van Ostersee, West, Whiston, Zahn, and many more.** -- None of these above-noted Bible scholars who lived before the 1830s (& Edward Irving) even heard of a pre-tribulation rapture.

Here is the order given:

Antichrist rises (Rev 13:1-4)

Power is given to him for 3 ½ years (great tribulation) by Satan (Rev 13:5)

He blasphemes God almighty (Rev 13:6)

He wages war against the saints (Rev 13:7)

The false prophet rises (Rev 13:11-18)

A vision of the 144,000 (Rev 14:1-5)

Angel declares that Babylon is fallen, is fallen.

(Headquarter city to the Antichrist) (Rev 14:8)

Revelation 14:8 (NASB95)

⁸And another angel, a second one, followed, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who has made all the nations drink of the wine of the passion of her immorality."

Revelation 14:14–15 (NASB95)

¹⁴Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and sitting on the cloud was one like a son of man, having a golden crown on His head and a sharp sickle in His hand.

¹⁵And another angel came out of the temple, crying out with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Put in your sickle and reap, for the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth is ripe."

Revelation 14:16–19 (NASB95)

¹⁶Then He who sat on the cloud swung His sickle over the earth, and the earth was reaped.

¹⁷And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, and he also had a sharp sickle.

18Then another angel, the one who has power over fire, came out from the altar; and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Put in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, because her grapes are ripe."

19So the angel swung his sickle to the earth and gathered the clusters from the vine of the earth, and threw them into the great wine press of the wrath of God.

20And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses' bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles.

Matthew 24:29–30 (NASB95)

29"But 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 the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

30"And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.

31And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

I see these two events happening at the end of the tribulation – not the beginning.

1 Thessalonians 4:16–17 (NASB95)

¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

¹⁷Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

Rev. 19:7¹¹ "Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready."

⁸It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

⁹Then he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' " And he said to me, "These are true words of God."

¹⁰Then I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

¹¹And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war.

¹²His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself.

¹³He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

¹⁴And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses.

¹⁵From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.

¹⁶And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

¹⁷Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds which fly in midheaven, "Come, assemble for the great supper of God,

¹⁸so that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders and the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great."

¹⁹And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.

²⁰And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone.

²¹And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh.

John 1:1-5 (NASB95)

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

²He was in the beginning with God.

³All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

⁴In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.

⁵The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

John 1:14 (NASB95)

¹⁴And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Revelation 20:14–15 (NASB95)

¹⁴Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

¹⁵And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Matthew 25:41 (NASB95)

⁴¹“Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;