

“THE HALLELUJAH CHORUS”

Revelation 19:1-6

Pastor Keith E. Gephart

INTRODUCTION

This is the turning point of the Book of Revelation.

Next, we see the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, the Return of the King, the Battle of the Great Day of God, the Millennial Reign of Christ, the Great White Throne Judgment, and the New Heavens and New Earth.

Chapter 19 has two suppers [Contrast them]; two responses to Christ [praises; a host of blasphemy and bullets], and two rewards [dazzling robes vs. a blinding flash to destroy the wicked].

This text presents an astounding contrast with the dirges of 18:9-19. [Quote Seiss, p. 420 top]

Sin-cursed world: Reign of evil, sadness, pain, sickness, death, destruction; the Conflict of the Ages; Satanic power, ruined lives, martyred and persecuted believers, tribulation judgments.

But, when mighty Babylon falls, the cry goes forth to rejoice (18:20). In response to that cry, we now hear this “Hallelujah Chorus”: a 4-fold Hallelujah—**the only 4 occurrences of this term in the NT; 24 times in the Psalms.**

- I. THE GREAT MULTITUDE (1-3) [“Hallelujah” used twice—before and after their words, like several of the psalms.]
 - Note the “loud voice”—triumphant, exultant.
 - Note that they are in Heaven—have a clear perspective on God’s activity.
 - They were previously described in 7:9-16 in some detail.
 - A. For God’s Salvation, Glory, and Power
 1. Judgments are “true and righteous”
 - Evidenced by His judging of the “great harlot” (chs. 17-18) who had been “corrupting the earth with her immorality.”
 - Evidenced by His avenging on her—“from her hand”—the shed blood of His “bond-servants”
 2. Judgment on the Great Harlot is permanent (3) and total: “smoke rises up forever and ever.”
- II. THE ELDERS AND LIVING BEINGS (4)
 - A. Their humility—fell down.
 - B. Their praise and submission—“worshiped God who sits on the throne”—who Rules over the Earth.
 - C. Their words:
 1. “Amen” [“so be it; we concur with the words of the Great Multitude].
 2. “Hallelujah”—Praise [be] to Yahweh.
- III. THE VOICE FROM THE THRONE (5) (Maybe one of the 4 living beings)—An Exhortation given to “Give Praise to our God”—comparable to the word “Hallelujah”.
 - A. Bond-servants [Those already in heaven—as vv. 1-3; can also include those still on earth]

- B. Those who fear God—both small and great (their status when on earth, or while still on earth).
- IV. THE GREAT MULTITUDE (6) [Same group as in vv. 1-3; respond to the exhortation of v. 5]
- A. As the Sound of many Waters
- B. As the sound of mighty peals of thunder
- C. “Hallelujah, for the Lord our God, the Almighty reigns.”
He is Lord [may well represent Yahweh in this case], he is God, he is Almighty.
- For God’s reign, see Is. 9:6-7; Dan. 2:44-45; 7:13-14, 27; Lk. 1:31-33.

CONCLUSION

“Jesus shall reign, where ere the sun, doth his successive journeys run”!
Not in our hearts, or in the church, but in His literal kingdom in this place