

A Wedding in the Sky (Message #42)

Revelation 19: 1-10

Tonight we have come to a refreshing and exciting portion of Scripture after the dismal previous passages that dealt exclusively with the judgment and fall of Babylon. The first six verses are known as the Hallelujah Chorus.

This is a particularly special passage for the church. We are the redeemed, the bride of Christ and these verses deal with the marriage supper of the Lamb. Our hearts and minds shift from the despair of the Lord's wrath to the delight of our Lord's wedding.

This is no ordinary wedding. It is a wedding in the sky, a wedding literally made in heaven, the marriage of our Lord and His bride! I remember the joy and excitement of Sep.15, 1990, but this wedding will surpass all others. It is here that Christ will take the bride that He sacrificed Himself to secure. Let's take a few moments to rejoice as we look into the future to our wedding day, that [Wedding in the Sky!](#)

I. The Hallelujah Chorus (1-6) – It is here that we get our first glimpse at the excitement and rejoicing that will surround the marriage of the Lamb. For many a wedding day is filled with nervousness and intensely stressful moments, with the celebration reserved for after the ceremony, but here the celebration precedes the marriage.

- The word [Alleluia](#) is repeated again and again in the opening verses, revealing the atmosphere of the wedding celebration. This is simply an abbreviation for the word Hallelujah. The word comes from two Hebrew words-*halal* meaning “praise” and *Yahweh* meaning “Jehovah.” It simply means, “Praise Jehovah or praise the Lord.”
- The word hallelujah is common to every language; all nationalities express praise in the word hallelujah! Even those who don't know God offer praise as they say, Hallelujah! So let's find out what we are praising God for.

A. Praise for Salvation (1) – [And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:](#) Isn't it fitting that the redeemed begin to praise the Lord for His marvelous salvation? I truly believe it is here that the reality of what we have received will begin to set in. We will become keenly aware of the sacrifice that was made that we might be saved. We will see and behold the splendor that Jesus left to come to earth as a man. We will surely be mindful of the suffering of the cross, the empty tomb, and His resurrection.

- It is then that the reality of our Savior's mercy and grace settles into our hearts as we offer praise for all that He has done and the benefits we've received! The redeemed will shout His praise for salvation.

B. Praise for Victory (2-3) – For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. [3] And again they said, Alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever. The chorus offers praise for the purity and righteousness of God. He is just in all that He has done in judgment.

- There won't be a soul gathered there that hasn't suffered the affliction of sin and Satan. God was just in His judgment and we have finally been fully separated from the presence of sin and its evil influence.
- Each of us has battled sin and the flesh each day that we live, but we are going to a place that sin and Satan won't be welcome or present! We will stand and behold the One who secured the victory as He defeated death, hell, and the grave on the cross of Calvary!
- No more will we have to deal with the affects of sin. There will be no more ruined lives, battered children, or broken homes. There will be no more temptation to lure men away from what they know is right. Praise God the victory has been won and we will sing of our Redeemer, the One who conquered it all for us!

C. Praise of Worship (4-5) – And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia. [5] And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. Once again we find the 24 elders gathered around the throne, doing as they have always done, falling on their faces before God and worshipping Him!

- Keep in mind that they are a picture of all the saints of God. The hallelujah chorus will involve pure, unhindered worship of the Lord. I don't know about you, but I have never really worshipped like I would really like to. There is always something to hinder us living in a body of flesh. Many times we allow our pride to get in the way; we hold back on genuine heartfelt worship, but in heaven we will offer praise that the Lord deserves. We will have a glorified body that will be able to worship in a way that pleases and praises God!
- If we ever fully got a hold of what Christ had done for us, we would praise Him now. It would do us good to get in the habit with a practice session or two down here! These are saying **Amen**, so be it and I agree. It is biblical to say amen to the Word of God. If you agree with the preaching say amen!

D. Praise for Sovereignty (6) – And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord

God omnipotent reigneth. The Hallelujah Chorus concludes with praise for the reign of the omnipotent Lord. He is the Almighty, all powerful Lord. There is none beside Him. He alone stands as the God of the universe. We serve One who stands as the ruler of all things, great and small. **Is.45:6 – That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the Lord, and there is none else. Is.43:13 – Yea, before the day was I am he; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand: I will work, and who shall let it?** We will offer praise and honor to the God of heaven, the true and living God, the Savior of our souls, our God!

I. The Hallelujah Chorus (1-6)

II. The Heavenly Ceremony (7-9a) – As the chorus concludes, the wedding ceremony begins. The marriage of the Lamb is come; the day generations of saints have longed to see, the day that we wed our King! Notice:

A. The Bridegroom is Praised (7a) – **Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him:** We have all attended weddings and waited with anticipation for the wedding march, the time when the bride would make her entrance. It is the highlight of weddings in our culture, but this wedding will be unlike any we've ever known. As the Bridegroom stands to take His bride, He will be the focus of attention. He will be the One whom the hallelujahs were reserved for.

- Can you imagine the joy of that time? Consider all the times that you have been faced with adversity, all the times that you were in the midst of a storm, all the times that you were weary from the journey and yet the Lord came to comfort you in your time of need. I have felt His presence near me in many situations of life. I couldn't begin to tell all that the Lord has done for me in my Christian life, but I have never beheld His presence.

- I realize that we will behold Him as He calls for the church in the rapture, but this will be a day of unrivaled beauty and overwhelming joy as we behold the Lamb that was slain for our transgressions, step out to take us unto Himself as His bride! The bride will offer unending praise for the Bridegroom. We will stand astounded at His love for an unworthy bride.

B. The Bride is Presented (7b-8) – **for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. [8] And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.** At the weddings I've attended, people always talk about how beautiful the bride was. She has put forth much effort to look her best for her groom. As the church is presented as the bride of Christ, she will never be more beautiful than she is at that time.

- She hasn't been perfect; there were times when she failed to meet the Groom's expectations, but she is loved of Him and she is beautiful in His eyes. He loved her enough to die for her. She is the object of His affection.
- She is presented in [fine linen, clean and white](#). This speaks of her purity before the Lord. Living in a body of flesh, we all fail and come short of the glory of God. We stand righteous because of the blood that has been applied, but on that day all sin will be gone. We will be as God intended, holy and pure, free of sin. [Ep.5:27 – That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.](#)

C. The Guests are Present (9a) – [And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.](#) As the wedding ceremony commences, it will be surrounded by a host of guest looking on. The called are those who are invited to the wedding. The Lord has prepared an enormous guest list. Many scholars believe the called are those who were saved prior to Pentecost and after the rapture, the OT saints and the Tribulation martyrs. Can you imagine those who will be present to celebrate the marriage of the Lamb?

- It will include all of the heroes of the faith, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Joshua, David, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and so on. Those who saw the Lord through types and pictures will be present to celebrate His wedding. All of those who chose to serve the Lord rather than the pleasures that the beast could bring will also be present. It will be a celebration for all of God's people to enjoy together. The wedding of the Son will be a glorious event!

I. The Hallelujah Chorus (1-6)

II. The Heavenly Ceremony (7-9a)

III. The Honest Confirmation (9b-10) – As John witnessed the marriage of the Lamb concluding, he was given a confirmation to pen down. Notice:

A. The Certainty of the Promise (9b) – [And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.](#) All that John had witnessed would surely come to pass. [These are the true sayings of God.](#) It has been a glorious scene and it will take place just as God had revealed it. The church will one day stand before the Bridegroom as His blood bought bride.

- We have encountered much prophecy in Revelation and each of those prophecies will come to pass. The Word of God will stand when the world is on fire. The world may scoff and doubt. We may be ridiculed and belittled for our faith, but one day all that God has promised will come to pass.
- Many times the Bible uses the phrase, [and it came to pass](#), this will be no exception. The wedding in the sky will be reality for us one day and we will begin our 1,000 year honeymoon with the Lord.

B. The Center of all Prophecy (10) – [And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.](#) Once again John is so moved by what he has seen that he falls at the feet of an angel about to offer worship. Once again the angel stops John as he is just a servant as well. It is here that the angel reminds John that all he has seen, every single event and every single prophecy is centered on Christ.

- The Revelation is the unveiling of Christ Himself. The Bible is the HIM Book. He is found in every book of the Bible. He is present in all generations. Much prophecy of the OT pointed to His first advent and sacrificial death. Each of those was fulfilled. The prophecy that John has received as well as others concerning His second coming and the blessings of the redeemed will also come to pass. Jesus is the focal point of our faith. He will be the center of heaven!

I look forward to the day that I stand as part of the bride of Christ. I plan on being included in the wedding in the sky. What about you? Have you made preparation to be part of the bride? Those who are saved will be presented as His bride, but those who reject Him will not even get to be a guest at the wedding. If you plan to stand with the bride of the Lamb, enjoying the marriage supper, you must be born again.