

The Final Curtain: The Coming of Christ – Part 1

Revelation 19:1–10

Continued Heavenly Joy over the Destruction of Babylon (19:1–5)

The Marriage Supper of the Lamb (19:6–9)

- In the OT, Israel was the wife of Jehovah (Isaiah 54:6, 62:5; Jer 31:32; Hosea 2:16, 19). In the NT Paul equates the Church with the wife or bride of Christ, though he never explicitly calls her that (2 Cor 11:2; Eph 5:23-32; cf. Rev 22:17).
- “A marriage was the single greatest celebration and social event of the Biblical world. Wedding preparations and celebrations in ancient times were even more elaborate and involved than those of today. They consisted of three distinct stages. First was the betrothal, or engagement. The second stage was the presentation, a time of festivities just before the actual ceremony. Those festivities could last up to a week or more, depending on the economic and social status of the bride and groom. The third and most significant stage was the actual ceremony, during which the vows were exchanged. At the end of the presentation festivities, the groom and his attendance would go to the bride’s house and take her and her bridesmaids to the ceremony. After the ceremony would come a final meal, followed by the consummation of the marriage ... Betrothed in eternity past, presented in the Father’s house since the Rapture, the Church is now ready for the wedding ceremony to begin. It will coincide with the start of the millennial kingdom and stretch throughout that thousand-year period, finally consummated in the new heavens and the new earth. In the new heavens and the new earth, the bride concept will be expanded to include not only the Church, but also all the redeemed of all ages as the New Jerusalem becomes the bridal city (Revelation 21:1–2, 9)” (MacArthur, 285; see also Thomas 2:368).
- “Righteous deeds are a manifestation of the inner life and are practically equivalent to character” (Thomas, 2:370).

An Angelic Rebuke and Reminder (19:10)