

horse, even the sword which came forth out of his mouth: and all the birds were filled with their flesh.

Initial Questions 19:17-21

1. Discuss the imagery of the angel standing in the sun - vs. 17. Note the glory of the angel which would be necessary in order to identify the angel standing in the midst of the suns radiant brilliance.
2. Why does the angel call all of the scavenger birds to the great supper - vs. 17.
3. Discuss the various categories and statutes of the men mentioned in vs. 18.
4. Discuss the relevance of the imagery of war in vs. 19 in view of contemporary man's fear of the war to end man. (Optimistic men have spoken of past war as wars to end war, now pessimistic man is speaking of the war to end man).
5. What did God do to the beast and the false prophet - vs. 20?
6. Why did John use such sickening imagery to describe the horrors of God's judgment upon the unrighteous - vs. 21?

Overthrow and End of the Beast and the False Prophet Chapter 19:17-21

Verse 17

"One angel standing in the sun"----cried "to all the birds flying in mid-heaven, come, assemble to the great supper of God,"----Birds were omens of evil and destruction in the biblical world. These flying scavengers were looking for food. They were to find it in heaps of slain men.

Verse 18

All classes of men have fallen in the destruction of the great city. None escaped! The strongest men were not strong enough; the wealthiest were not rich enough to purchase their own safety. Kings and councilmen were powerless before the great god Thanatos. The scavenger birds knew nothing of their wealth or power, or prestige; all human flesh tasted the same to them. How humiliating to arrogant man! (See Ezekiel 39:17-20.)

Verse 19

John's vision included the beast, kings, and their armies. They had marshalled these armies to wage a final war with the

rider of the white horse. This will not be a local battle, but cosmic conflict. We encounter John's message of confident triumph.

Verse 20

All of the enemies of Christ receive God's just, righteous, and eternal punishment. The beast and the false prophet "were cast alive (*zontes* - literally living - into burning lake of fire with sulphur."

Verse 21

The sharp sword which proceeds from the mouth of the rider of the white horse slays "the rest." The hideous imagery reveals the extent of God's judgment. Note that God employs only the spiritual weapon of His word in this conflict. He has declared that all men will be judged according to His Word. The judgment which we receive will be "according to our works."

Discussion Questions
Chapter 19:1-21

1. What Psalms make up The Great Hallel - vs. 1?
2. What are the reasons for praising God mentioned in vs. 2?
3. Is anyone exempted from the command to praise God in vs. 5?
4. Where in the O.T. is God spoken of as the Bridegroom? Where in the Gospel records is Christ called the Bridegroom? Where in the N.T. is the imagery of the Bridegroom applied to Christ - vs. 7?
5. Where are three metaphors of a woman used in The Revelation - vs. 7? Discuss them.
6. With what has the bride of Christ been clothed in according to vs. 8?
7. Where in the Gospel records does Jesus speak a parable based on the imagery of the marriage supper - vs. 9?
8. Why was John rebuked in vs. 10?
9. What is the O.T. source of the imagery used in vs. 11?
10. What is the name of the rider in vs. 13?
11. What did the imagery of the birds signify in vs. 17?
12. Are all of Christ's enemies finally overcome according to vs. 20-21?