

## Revelation 19:1-10 | Come In!

### Intro

- First 2 paragraphs from Hamilton page 345
- **We are all like Natasha—easily dissuaded from what is best for us—and we need to be convinced that the one who is coming for us is worth the wait, so that we won't give into the seducers who would ruin our lives...**<sup>1</sup>
- This is what Revelation is doing for us here
  - Reminding us that **we are the bride betrothed**, and calling us to **be the bride**—not the **whore**
  - **The Mother of Harlots—Babylon** is the **seducer** that calls us to **whoring** (idolatry and immorality with the world)
    - But we are not harlots—we are the bride—**clothed in righteousness** from God
- **Babylon** is a seductress
  - Promising happiness and power and glory
    - But she is exposed as the destructive harlot—and she is judged
  - God saves His people by judging the great **Harlot** who seduced them and warred against them
    - Calls them to rejoice (**18:20**)

### Verses 1-4

- **Verse 1**
  - **After these things... A great multitude in heaven** (scene change)
  - **Hallelujah** = Praise Yahweh (the Lord)
    - 40x in Psalms 104-150 -- 4x in these 6 verses (only times in NT) **HUGE + CLIMACTIC**
    - **Psalm 104:35**, NASB
  - **Salvation and glory and power belong to our God**
    - Not Babylon—Not the whore
    - Babylon is a cheap perversion of God's nature and gifts
- **Verse 2**
  - **Because His judgments are true and righteous**
    - When God judges; He is right; He doesn't go against reality and what truly is and what ought to be
      - The **great harlot** was **corrupting the earth with her immorality** (v. 2)
      - God took **vengeance** (not wrong)
      - The **vengeance** is in accordance with His glory = **eternal**
- **Verse 3**
  - **Babylon, the whore's** punishment lasts **forever—her seductions have eternal consequences**
  - Hell lasts forever because God is infinitely great and glorious
    - Sin and rebellion against Him are immeasurable
    - That is why the call of the Book of Revelation is to **"Come out"**
      - **"Come out of her, my people, that you may not participate in her sins"** (18:4)
      - A saving, loving call

### What helps us to come out is this picture of judgment and promise of something better

- Evil, injustice, immorality, idolatry will only result in regret
- And if we do not repent and put our trust in Christ then our regret will last forever
- **We have to have these images of God's judgment sealed in our hearts so that when sin tempts us we see its smoke rising up from the ruins of Babylon**<sup>2</sup>

### Verse 5

- The call to give glory to God and **fear Him** -- **Fearing Him saves us from** fearing **Babylon**
- The glorious declaration of heaven is that though it appeared the **whore** and the **beast** would reign—they do not (**verse 6** = **The Lord God Almighty reigns**)

<sup>1</sup> James M. Hamilton Jr., *Revelation—The Spirit Speaks to the Churches* (Wheaton, Ill.: Crossway, 2012), 345.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, 350.

Our **betrothal** joyfully saves us from playing the harlot with Babylon

### Verse 7

- We are not going to go the way of **Natasha**—we are **the bride that has made herself ready**
  - That is our call—identity—destiny—desire
  - We have been **called out** of **Babylon**; away from the whore and are **brought to the Lamb**—the Glorious Bridegroom
  - We look forward to and live for this day
    - We do not live for the stuff of Babylon—We live for the Lamb! (**verse 8**) + Jude 24, NASB

We are the Bride of Christ – **That picture of intimacy and belonging**

- Consonant with Israel as the wife of Yahweh (**Isaiah 54:4-6**, NASB)
- Jewish Wedding Customs and Our Salvation Experience
  - The Betrothal
    - **Ephesians 1:3-4**, NASB
  - The Bride Price
    - **1 Peter 1:18-19**, NASB
  - The Contract
    - **2 Corinthians 5:1-2 and 5-6**, NASB
  - The Waiting
    - **John 14:1-3**, NASB
  - The Ceremony and Feast
    - **Revelation 19:7 and 9**, NASB

### Verse 9

- **Blessed** are those who are **invited**
  - **Come in!!!**
    - Cf. The call to **"come out"** of Babylon—The whore who seduced with lies
    - Cnt. **These are the true words of God** (i.e. called to and promised something far better)

**The question is:**

- Are we pursuing after **the true words of God** or the seductive lies of **Babylon**?
- **We are all like Natasha—easily dissuaded from what is best for us—and we need to be convinced that the one who is coming for us is worth the wait, so that we won't give into the seducers who would ruin our lives...**<sup>3</sup>
- We are truly loved and truly promised
  - The **Groom** is worth the wait
    - Stand firm against seduction and discouragement
  - And worth **preparing** ourselves for
    - Flee from immorality and lesser things
    - Again, we need to see this **picture of destruction and lasting worth** in Revelation
- **1 Peter 1:3-9**, NLT
  - We have such a great future
    - We stand to lose so much when we are seduced by the great harlot
  - Put your hope and expectation in Jesus and His love!
    - He and His promises transform our lives (**Hamilton, page 352**)

**How do we respond?**

- Start with worshiping Jesus and nothing else
- **Verse 10**
- The whole thing is about Him
- We belong to Him—He is our life—**Hold to Him**
- **Galatians 2:20**, NLT

<sup>3</sup> James M. Hamilton Jr., *Revelation—The Spirit Speaks to the Churches* (Wheaton, Ill.: Crossway, 2012), 345.