

REVELATION: HELP FOR LIVING, HOPE FOR LEAVING

Sermon no. 18

THE GLORY OF THE KING IN JUDGMENT

Revelation 11:15-19; 15:1-8

INTRODUCTION

While we all accept with delight that the Lord Jesus Christ is worthy of worship because of the salvation he brings, our passage today also affirms the truth that the King of Kings is worthy of worship because of the judgment He is sure to carry out at the end of the age.

1. THE KING WILL BE WORSHIPPED FOR HIS SOVEREIGN RULE, REV. 11:15-19

A. The Declaration of His Reign, Rev. 11:15

- i. His reign is the fulfilment of prophetic scripture, Ezek. 21:26-27; Isaiah 9:6-7; Daniel 2:35, 44; 7:14; Zech. 14:9; Luke 1:33
- ii. His reign will be inaugurated by the last of the woes, Rev. 8:13; 9:12; 11:14
- iii. His reign will begin with the take-over of His kingdom; both millennial and eternal, Matt. 4:8-9; Ephesians 2:2; John 12:31

God is God because He does what He says He will do and nothing and no one can stay His hand or change His course. Our God reigns. He is unassailably in control of all things. We therefore have nothing to fear and nothing to be anxious about. Psalm 91:1-2 says, "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust"

B. The Description of His Reign, Rev. 11:16-18

- i. His reign is worthy of our worship, Rev. 11:16; 4:10; 5:14; 7:11
- ii. His reign is anchored on His power, Rev. 11:17a; Rev. 19:6, 15
- iii. His reign is an ever-present reality, Rev. 1:4; 4:8; Rev. 11:17b
- iv. His reign will overcome the nations, Rev. 11:18a; Psalm 2:5-6
- v. His reign will be fair in its judgments, Rev. 11:18b

God's reign will be righteous and just. We need not fear any unfairness because all of His judgments are right. If we put our trust in Him we will be assured salvation. If we put our trust on ourselves or anything or anyone else, then we will be recipients of his righteous judgment. Psalm 19:9 says, "the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether"

C. The Delight of His Reign, Rev. 11:19

- i. His reign will be open for all His people, Rev. 11:19a; Hebrews 10:19-20

- ii. His reign will ensure the fulfillment of all His promises to His people, Rev. 11:19b; Ezekiel 36:24-28

God's grace and mercy appears even in the midst of judgment. He is the God of second chances. His heaven is always open to those who will come to Him with faith and repentance. Isaiah 55:6-7 says, "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." Jesus said in John 6:37, "All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out."

2. THE KING WILL BE WORSHIPPED FOR HIS CERTAIN JUDGMENT, REV. 15:1-8

A. The Announcement of The Judgments, Rev. 15:1

- i. The announcement is a great and amazing sign because it is the final judgment.
- ii. The judgment itself is perfect and complete as signified by seven angels bearing the seven bowls of wrath.

B. The Adoration of The Justified, Rev. 15:2-4

- i. Saints standing on the fiery glassy sea reflecting the glorious justice of God, Rev. 15:2
- ii. Saints singing the song of Moses — of deliverance and judgment; and the song of the Lamb — of Christ's amazing righteous deeds, Rev. 15:3-4

C. The Agents of The Judgments, Rev. 15:5-8

- i. Sent from the presence of God and His Word to punish those who did not heed it in order to purify the world, Rev. 15:5-6
- ii. Sent with the power of God to inflict a climactic judgment upon the enemies of God, Rev. 15:7-8

God's judgments at the end of the age will be certain and severe. But it will be fair treatment for those who will not believe in His only provision for our salvation — faith in His only begotten Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In John 3:18, Jesus told Nicodemus, "Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God."

CONCLUSION

For those of us who have already placed our trust in Jesus Christ alone for our eternal salvation, we will be worshipping him heaven-side; not just for his glorious salvation (Rev. 7:10); but also for His glorious judgment (Rev. 11:16-18). But for those of you who have not and will not put your faith in Christ alone for your salvation, these certain and severe judgments are being reserved for you, either as those resurrected from Hades, or those left behind for the tribulation. Choose Christ so you can join us in singing the wonderful songs of worship contained in this book.