MARANATHA GLOBAL BIBLE STUDY THE BOOK OF REVELATION // JOEL RICHARDSON

DAY 67: THE RETURN OF JESUS

"I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. 12 His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. 13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. 14 The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." [a] He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. 16 On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS."

(Revelation 19:11-16)

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I. A PROPHETIC SNAPSHOT

- A. For many, this passage is the only clear picture of the return of Jesus (v. 11-16)
- B. This might actually be more of a prophetic snapshot; an icon (v. 11-16)
 - 1. Lists a series of points, descriptions, that don't need to be taken literally
- C. Iconography was originally used to communicate the Bible to those who were illiterate
 - 1. Iconography is often not meant to be a historical representation
- D. It is not likely that Jesus will actually have a sword coming out of His mouth (v. 15) which leads to the conclusion that this passage is likely meant to be more of an icon

II. CULMINATION & VINDICATION

- A. The culmination of all Biblical hope is brought about in Revelation 19
- B. We also see the vindication of God's people against the enemies of God
- C. The foundation of Messianic Prophecy is rooted in Genesis 3:15
 - 1. Meaning, the prophecy that there will be a savior for Israel
 - 2. He is human, He is born
- D. The same imagery used in the Old Testament to describe the coming of the Messiah, Yahweh, is used in Revelation 19
 - 1. Deuteronomy 33:2, 26 and Genesis 3:15
 - 2. We can now see that Yahweh and the Messiah are one in the same

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III. RIDING A WHITE HORSE

- A. Like white linen, the white horse is costly and pure (Revelation 19:11)
 - 1. Righteous acts earn white robes, white horses
- B. The Lord is riding on a chariot with thousands of others (Psalm 68:17)
 - 1. He may not be riding on the actual horse, but the chariot
- C. Coming in fire, His chariots like the whirlwind (Isaiah 66:15)
 - 1. Like the pillar of clouds
- D. "Rode on your horses, on your chariots of salvation" (Habakuk 3:8)
 - 1. He's coming back on both
 - 2. Horses pull chariots
 - 3. Potentially a chariot-throne with wheels

IV. FAITHFUL & TRUE

- A. The rider is called Faithful and True (Revelation 19:11)
- B. All Biblical hope, our entire faith, rests on the fact that God is faithful to His promises
- C. Let us not let go of our hope because He is faithful and true (Hebrews 10:23)
- D. He made us and His promises can be trusted
- E. His words are trustworthy and true (Revelation 21:5)



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