

THE GREAT WEDDING SUPPER OF THE LAMB, OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST REVELATION 19:01–10

Introduction

This is the great *Wedding Supper of the Lamb*, of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. This is the great supper where all of heaven will be present to celebrate the union of Jesus Christ and the believers who have followed Him down through the centuries. Everyone in heaven will be there: God, Christ, believers and the heavenly host. It is to be the most celebrated and joyful event ever experienced up to that point in history. Why? Because it is the great Wedding Supper of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, God's very own Son. God has planned a celebration for His Son above and beyond anything we could ever imagine or describe. It is to be the first time that *all the redeemed* of all ages have ever come together *at one time* to honour the Lamb who was slain to redeem the universe. Because of what He has done for man, He is deserving of all the honour and praise possible from all heavenly creatures. To give Him such glorious honour, God has planned the greatest celebration and banquet imaginable, the celebration that He calls the great *Wedding Supper of the Lamb* (v. 9).

- I. The Wedding Supper will be a supper of glorious praise (vv. 1-6).
- II. The Wedding Supper will focus upon the Lamb (v. 7).
- III. The Wedding Supper will have a pure and prepared Bride (vv. 7-8).
- IV. The Wedding Supper will be a blessed and glorious event (vv. 9-10).

I. *Revelation 19:01–06 Wedding Supper of the Lamb; Hallelujah of Victory, Worship and Glorious Praise*

The Wedding Supper is a supper of glorious praise. Everyone in heaven will be praising God and Christ at the great supper. Note that the praise centres around four *hallelujah's* in these verses (vv. 1, 3, 4, 6). Hallelujah simply means *praise God*. It is taken from two Hebrew words: *halal* which means *praise* and *jah* which is the name of God.

1. The supper will be the *hallelujah of salvation*. This is probably the heavenly host that will be singing forth this hallelujah (cp. Rev. 5:11; Heb. 12:22).
 - a. Salvation belongs to God: He is the One who has wrought salvation for believers and for the earth. The angels have been watching the plan of God for generations as it has unfolded for man's salvation. They were amazed time and again at God's unbelievable mercy and grace to man. They have witnessed the whole scene of temptation and trial, sin and evil — all of the struggle and conflict upon earth and within the soul of man. Standing there at the great *Wedding Supper of the Lamb*, the angels will see the most spectacular sight they have ever witnessed: the completion of God's salvation. Therefore, they will praise God as the God of salvation at the great *Wedding Supper of the Lamb*.
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2 Cor 9:15 *Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!*

1 Pet 2:9 *But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.*

Psa 37:39 *The salvation of the righteous comes from the LORD; he is their stronghold in time of trouble.*

Isa 12:2 *Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.”*

Isa 25:9 *In that day they will say, “Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.”*

- b. Glory belongs to God: He alone possesses glory. All the glory, light and splendour of heaven and earth flows out from His own Being. The very glory which will be given to believers in the glorious day of salvation will come from God. Therefore, the angels will praise God for His glory at the great Wedding Supper of the Lamb.

Rom 15:6 *So that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Cor 6:19-20 *Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; You were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your body.*

Psa 22:23 *You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you descendants of Jacob, honour him! Revere him, all you descendants of Israel!*

Psa 24:10 *Who is he, this King of glory? The LORD Almighty – he is the King of glory.*

Psa 29:2 *Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendour of his holiness.*

- c. Power belongs to God: He is the Supreme power in the universe. It is His power that has saved man and the world. Therefore, his power will be praised at the great Wedding Supper of the Lamb.

1 Chr 29:12 *Wealth and honour come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.*

Psa 107:22 *Let them sacrifice thank offerings and tell of his works with songs of joy.*

Psa 115:3 *Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him.*

Rev 7:11-12 *All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, Saying: “Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honour and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!”*

2. The supper will be filled with the *hallelujah of victory* (v. 2-3). The Lord Jesus Christ will triumph over all the ungodly and evil of the earth.
 - => He will destroy the godless politics of the world and the social, commercial, cultural and religious systems of the world.
 - => He will avenge the persecution and abuse of His dear followers upon earth. He will judge and destroy every evil, abusive and murdering person on earth, treating them in perfect justice, giving them a punishment equal to the suffering they inflicted upon earth.
 - => He will return to earth and establish righteousness upon earth.

Therefore at the great Wedding Supper of the Lamb, the angels will break out in praise to God for the great victory He has wrought upon earth. His judgments are true and righteous. His judgments are exactly matched to a person's evil. They are perfect, altogether true and righteous. Therefore, the angels will praise God for His glorious victory at the great Wedding Supper of the Lamb.

Phil 2:9-11 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light.

Rev 11:17 Saying: "We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign."

Psa 35:28 My tongue will speak of your righteousness and of your praises all day long.

3. The supper will be filled with the *hallelujah of worship* (v. 4). Note that the twenty four elders and four living creatures will offer this worship. They will burst forth in praise to God Himself, saying nothing but "Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah..." God is so wonderful that He Himself just deserves praise, not for any particular thing, but just because He is so wonderful. At the great Wedding Supper of the Lamb, those who are closest to the throne of God will burst forth in praising God just for Himself.

Psa 57:5 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.

Psa 107:32 Let them exalt him in the assembly of the people and praise him in the council of the elders.

4. The supper will be filled with the *hallelujah of God's omnipotent reign* (v. 5-6). A voice will cry out from the throne of God to all the servants of God and to all who fear and reverence Him — cry out for all the heavenly host to praise the Lord our God for His *omnipotent reign*. The Lord our God, the Lord Jesus Christ, is going to reign in sovereign power upon the earth and He is going to reign forever and ever over the new

heavens and earth. And note: He is going to reign in omnipotent power, supreme over all. The prayer of God's people, "Your kingdom come," is about to become a living reality upon earth forever and ever. At the great *Wedding Supper of the Lamb* all of heaven will be stirred to praise the Lord God for His omnipotent reign.

1 Cor 15:25 For he must reign until he has put ail his enemies under his feet.

Phil 2:9-11 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Rev 11:17 Saying: "We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign."

Rev 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down."

Rev 19:6 Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns."

Psa 2:6, 8 "I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill." Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession.

Psa 97:1 The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice.

Jer 23:5 "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land."

Dan 7:14 He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

2 Chr 20:6 And said: "O LORD, God of our fathers, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hand, and no one can withstand you."

II. Revelation 19:07 Wedding Supper Focused on the Lamb

The Wedding Supper will focus upon the Lamb Himself, the Lord Jesus Christ. Note that all attention at the supper is to be focused upon the Lamb. In most weddings and wedding suppers upon earth, the attention is centred upon the bride. But this will not be true at the great Wedding Supper of the Lamb. The Lamb of God, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, will be the great focus. The reasons are clearly stated:

- => It will be the Lamb who will be the cause of our gladness and rejoicing.
- => It will be the Lamb who deserves glory. We would not even be there if it were not for Him.
- => It is the Lamb for whom the supper is named; it is His supper, the great *Wedding Supper of the Lamb*.
- => It is the Lamb who stirred the bride to make herself ready.

Thought 1. If Jesus Christ is to be the focus of attention in that day, how much more should He be today? Jesus Christ is deserving of our attention, all of our attention, all of our lives, all of our service, worship and praise.

Luke 9:23 *Then he said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."*

Luke 14:26-27 *"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters — yes, even his own life — he cannot be my disciple. And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple."*

Rom 12:1-2 *Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

1 Cor 6:19-20 *Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; You were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your body.*

Phil 3:8 *What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ.*

III. Revelation 19:07–08 Wedding Supper of the Lamb; Righteousness of the Bride

The Wedding Supper will have a pure and prepared bride. Note two significant points.

1. The bride, the church, the followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, prepares herself. How? This includes everything that a believer does to become acceptable to God.
 - a. A believer prepares himself by receiving the Lamb of God as his Saviour. A person will not be acceptable at the Wedding Supper of the Lamb unless he accepts the sacrifice of the Lamb as the sacrifice for his own sins. He has to come to the Lamb in order to enter the supper of the Lamb. If he does not come to the Lamb then he will never enter the supper. If he does not live with the Lamb while on earth, then when the Lamb appears at the supper, the person will not be there. He will be excluded and shut out.

- b. A believer prepares himself by following the Lamb. The Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ, sacrificed Himself to the ultimate degree. He gave up His life totally and died for man. Therefore, man is to sacrifice himself to the ultimate degree. Man is to die to self and live entirely for the Lamb of God. The believer is...
- to work and labour to the point of exhaustion as the Lamb worked and laboured.
 - to live righteously and godly just as the Lamb lived.

When the believer denies himself totally and takes up his cross daily and follows Jesus Christ, then he prepares himself for the great *Wedding Supper of the Lamb*. The believer has given all his heart and life to Jesus Christ. Therefore, he will be prepared to share in the great Wedding Supper of the Lamb.

2. A believer prepares himself by righteous deeds or acts (v. 8). The word “righteous” (*dikaionata*) here means righteous deeds or acts. This would mean two things.
- a. The believer acts righteously, *does the right thing* when he receives Jesus Christ as his Saviour. It is then that God accepts the belief of the person *as righteousness*. God actually takes a person’s faith in His Son and *counts his faith as righteousness*. Why? Because the person believes that the sacrifice of the Lamb, the death of the Lord Jesus Christ, was for the sins of the world. The person believes that Jesus Christ died for his sins, as his sacrifice, as his substitute. He believes that the penalty and judgment of his sins have been paid for by Christ. Therefore, he is free of sin and made acceptable to God. God takes his faith and *counts his faith as righteousness*. God counts him righteous in the righteousness of Jesus Christ. This is what is called *imputed* righteousness, righteousness that is given or put to one’s account before God. It is a righteousness that is counted and credited to the believer. Therefore, when the believer is ready to attend the great *Wedding Supper of the Lamb*, he will be given the clean and white clothing necessary to enter the supper. Note: the fine clothing is actually said to be the righteousness or righteous deeds of the saints.

Now, this is the first righteous deed that a person is to do. If he does this righteous deed, then he will be accepted into the great Wedding Supper of the Lamb.

- b. The believer is also to do other righteous deeds. He is to serve the Lamb of God to the fullest degree possible. Every believer is aware that not all believers do this; not all believers serve God with all their heart, soul and body. In fact, some believers do little for Christ. Therefore, note verse eight carefully: the bride of Christ — all believers — will be in heaven. They will be accepted and made perfect in the righteousness of Christ. They have robes that are white and pure. But note: when they get ready to attend the great *Wedding Supper of the Lamb*, God will give believers another garment that is made of fine linen that will be bright and clean. What is the other garment? It is...
- the garment of righteous deeds and acts.

- the garment of reward.
- the garment that shows position and responsibility.
- the garment that rewards one for faithfulness.

Remember: Christ and Scripture declare emphatically that there will be positions in the new heavens and earth, degrees of labour and service, of responsibility and duty assigned to all of us. The unfaithful and half-faithful will not be assigned as high a position as the faithful: they will not be as greatly rewarded. We shall all be perfected and glorified in heaven, but we will not all rule and reign in equal positions. The whole universe, both heaven and earth, are to be remade, perfected and made alive. The Lord Jesus Christ is going to have His followers looking after the universe for Him. What and how much we will be assigned to oversee and reign over depends on our faithfulness now. These robes for the great *Wedding Supper* will be the robes of righteous deeds and works — the robes that will show the position of our authority throughout eternity. They will, no doubt, determine where we will be sitting at the great Wedding Supper. (See *Reward*, Rev. 14:13.)

Mat 10:22 *“He who stands firm to the end will be saved.”*

Rom 14:10 *You, then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you look down on your brother? For we will all stand before God’s judgment seat.*

1 Cor 3:11-15 *For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man’s work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames.*

1 Cor 15:58 *Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.*

2 Cor 5:10 *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.*

2 Pet 3:17 *Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position.*

Rev 3:19 *Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent.*

John 4:35 *“Do you not say, ‘Four months more and then the harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.”*

IV. Revelation 19:09–10 Wedding Supper, A Glorious Event

The Wedding Supper will be a blessed and glorious event, the most glorious event ever held in history. Note two things.

1. The Wedding Supper will be the most blessed celebration in all of history. The idea is *greatly blessed*. Note: there are those who say the guests refer to a separate group other than the bride, that is, the church. But this is unlikely. This is the supper of the Lamb, not of the Lamb and the Bride. The Lamb is the One who has called all guests to the great supper. In fact believers, the bride, comprise some of the major guests at the supper.

The supper will be a blessed event for one reason: all of the heavenly host will be there, all believers and all angelic beings, and both God and Christ. It will be a blessed event, a glorious and spectacular celebration, because everyone is there — all believers are gathered together in the great banquet hall of God — all are gathered together for the *very first time* in history.

Thought 1. It stirs the heart to think there will be periodic suppers throughout eternity when Christ will gather us all together for celebration. Imagine all of us being called together from our various duties and kingdoms from all parts of the universe, called together for a great supper celebration. What a glorious thought! May God stir our hearts to serve our Lord ever so diligently, day and night. Being with our Lord and God in heaven and in eternity, in the new heavens and earth — it will all be worth it when we see Jesus.

Mat 22:4 *“Then he sent some more servants and said, ‘Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.’”*

Luke 14:16 *Jesus replied: “A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests.”*

1 Cor 2:9 *However, as it is written: “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him.”*

Rev 19:9 *Then the angel said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!’” And he added, “These are the true words of God.”*

Rev 21:7 *He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son.*

2. The Wedding Supper will be blessed because it is for the purpose of worshipping God and Him alone. This is clearly illustrated for us by what happened to John. Remember: John was still a human man, not a redeemed man. The Lord was giving him a vision of the end time and its events. John is so caught up in the majestic splendour and celebration of the supper that he falls down at the feet of the great angel to worship

him. But the angel tells John not to worship him or anyone else, but to worship God alone. There are two reasons given for this.

=> First, all creatures, even the majestic angels of heaven, are only servants of God. They may be majestic beings, but they are not God.

=> Second, Jesus Christ Himself is the One who bears testimony of the truth. Christ and Christ alone possesses and shares the truth. The only truth that the angels and servants have is the truth borne by Christ. Therefore, He and He alone is worthy of worship. No angel or any other creature possesses the truth. Therefore, worship God and God alone.

***Mat 4:10** Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”*

***John 4:24** “God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.”*

***Rev 14:7** He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.”*

***Rev 22:9** But he said to me, “Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers the prophets and of all who keep the words of this book. Worship God!”*

***1 Chr 16:29** Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name. Bring an offering and come before him; worship the LORD in the splendour of his holiness.*

***Psa 95:6** Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.*

***Psa 96:9** Worship the LORD in the splendour of his holiness; tremble before him, all the earth. ■*