Introduction:

In recent weeks we've been looking at what I like to call **FUTURE HISTORY** (i.e. **YET UNFULFILLED PROPHECY**— the things that the **BIBLE** shows to be yet to come in the fulfillment of **GOD'S PLAN!**)

We saw a few weeks back the event that every **BELIEVER** should be anticipating and preparing for as we saw *THE REALITY OF CHRIST'S RETURN*— *THE RAPTURE OF BELIEVERS!*

We next saw *THE DAY OF THE LORD!* —*THE TRIBULATION PERIOD* on this earth once *BELIEVERS* are taken out of here! And then last week, *THE JUDGMENTS OF THE BELIEVER! Past, Present, and Future!*

Today we're going to glance up into the **HEAVENLY GLORY** presented in the first part of this **CHAPTER** just prior to **JESUS COMING BACK** to conquer **HIS** enemies at the **BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON!**

This chapter opens with the **HALLELUJAHS OF HEAVEN** sounding out! Let's look into these verses and witness the **HEAVENLY GLORY** revealed! **Read the TEXT!**

I. WE SEE THE ANTHEMS OF THE SAVED. (Vs. 1-6)
There are two words sounding out here!—AMEN and ALLELUIA (or Hallelujah)! These are two words that were given to us to assist us in our WORSHIP OF GOD!

These are **HEAVENLY** words!

- 1. My understanding from my study is that these two words are pretty much pronounced and translated the same in most every language!
- 2. These words are used by many different people to PRAISE GOD!
- 3. "AMEN" is a word of ASCENT and AGREEMENT with the WORD OF GOD!

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- a. When "Amen" occurs at the beginning of a sentence it means "Truly".
- b. When it comes at the end, it means "so be it", or "I agree".
- c. "Amen" is one of the most known words in the world.
- 4. "ALLELUIA" is used only here in NT! It gives GLORY to the LORD OUR GOD!

"ALLELUIA" is the equivalent of the HEBREW word "HALLELUJAH" which is translated as "PRAISE THE LORD" or "PRAISE YE THE LORD!"

Those of us who are **REDEEMED** need to be busy **PRAISING** the **LORD** here and now because **HE** is **WORTHY** to be **PRAISED!** AMEN!

Listen to me, when we get to **HEAVEN** we'll be **PRAISING THE LORD!** But understand that we shouldn't wait until we get to **HEAVEN** to **PRAISE HIM!**

Psalm 50:23-"Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me:"

Psalm 22:23- "Ye that fear the LORD, praise him;"

Hebrews 13:15— "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name."

We see four reasons for the **ALLELUIA** or **HALLELUJAH** that sounds out in **HEAVEN** found here in *verse 1!* These are some of the same reasons we should be sounding out *HALLELUJAH* here on the earth even now!

- A. We See The HALLELUJAH Of REDEMPTION! (vs. 1)
 These people ("much people!" BELIEVERS!) PRAISE
 GOD for all that HE has done for them!
 - 1. HALLELUJAH for the LORD GOD'S SALVATION!

We should **PRAISE the LORD** for the **CROSS!** For without **HIS CROSS** our sin debt would not be paid!

We should **PRAISE the LORD** for the **BLOOD!**For without the **SHEDDING of HIS BLOOD** there would have been, **NO REMISSION OR FORGIVENESS for our sins and NO REDEMPTION for our souls!**

We should **PRAISE the LORD** for the

<u>RESURRECTION!</u> For without **HIS**<u>RESURRECTION</u> we would not have one!

Paul makes this very clear in *1 Corinthians 15!*

We should **PRAISE the LORD** for the **WORD OF GOD!** For without **GOD'S WORD** we would know nothing of **OUR NEED** and nothing of **HIS PROVISION!**

We should **PRAISE the LORD** for **HIS HOLY**<u>SPIRIT GOD!</u> For without **HIS SPIRIT** we would not have been **CONVICTED OF SIN** or **DRAWN TO HIM!**

Those who have been **SAVED** ought to **PRAISE GOD** and **FOR HIS PROVISION OF SALVATION! GLORY TO GOD, HALLELUJAH, AMEN!**

2. HALLELUJAH For The LORD GOD'S GLORY!
Everything about the LORD GOD shows forth HIS
GLORY! But especially HIS SALVATION!

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- a. HIS GLORIOUS CREATION! (Psalm 19:1– "The heavens declare the glory of God!")
- b. HIS GLORIOUS RECREATION!
 (2 Corinthians 5:17 making us new creatures!)
- c. HIS GLORIOUS SON! (John 3:16)

 John 1:14— "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

John 1:18— "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him."

e. HIS GLORIOUS GOSPEL!

1 Timothy 1:11— "According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust."

HALLELUJAH For the LORD GOD'S SALVATION...GLORY...

3. HALLELUJAH For The LORD GOD'S HONOR!
GOD alone, above anyone and all that is in this
universe, is WORTHY of HONOR! Yet so many
HONOR others and take HONOR themselves without
giving any HONOR to the LORD!

4. HALLELUJAH For The LORD GOD'S <u>POWER!</u>

a. Saving Power!

Romans 1:16—"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

Hebrews 7:25—"Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."

b. Keeping Power!

1 Peter 1:5—"Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

c. Resurrection Power!

1 Corinthians 15:22—"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

We See The HALLELUJAH Of REDEMPTION!

B. We See The HALLELUJAH Of RETRIBUTION! (vs. 2-3)
Praise the LORD for HIS unerring JUDGMENT!
HALLELUJAH!

GOD makes no mistake in **JUDGMENT!**

Understand that when **GOD JUDGES** this earth with the **TRIBULATION JUDGMENTS** that are detailed in this **BOOK**, there will be no mistakes in any of them!

Vs "For true and righteous are his judgments."

(Specifically, this **HALLELUJAH OF RETRIBUTION** is for how the **LORD JUDGES BABYLON** in **Revelation 17** avenging the blood of the **LORD'S** servants at her hand!)

But all of HIS JUDGMENTS are both TRUE and RIGHTEOUS!

When **GOD JUDGES** the **UNBELIEVERS** at the **GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT**, there will be no mistakes! People want to find fault now even before it ever happens! But there is no fault to be found!

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When **GOD JUDGES** the **BELIEVERS** at **JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST**, there will be no mistakes!

We See The HALLELUJAH OF REDEMPTION...RETRIBUTION...

C. We See The HALLELUJAH Of REALIZATION! (vs. 4-5) We see the 24 elders prostrate here along with the four beasts before the throne of GOD.

(Earlier in this **BOOK** these 24 elders are mentioned and they're last found prostrate in *Revelation 5:14!* They represent the **REDEEMED OF GOD!**)

When we get to **HEAVEN**, our **SALVATION** will be **FULLY CONSUMMATED** and we will finally be all that **GOD SAVED** us to be! **HALLELUJAH!**

D. We See The HALLELUJAH Of The REIGN OF CHRIST! (vs. 6)

The time of the **LORD JESUS' MILLENNIAL REIGN** on the earth is now at hand.

He is about to descend from **HEAVEN** with **HIS SAINTS** to rule and to reign on this earth for a 1000 literal year period.

PRAISE GOD for the day when JESUS will reign in RIGHTEOUSNESS on the EARTH! (HALLELUJAH!)

WE SEE THE ANTHEMS OF THE SAVED...

- II. WE SEE THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SUPPER. (Vs. 7-9)
 Two things will follow the RAPTURE for the SAINTS OF GOD!
 - 1) The Judgment Seat of Christ. (1 Corinthians 3:10-15)
 - 2) The Festival Of The Marriage Supper.
 - 1. Rapture Catch us up!
 - 2. Judgment Seat Clean us up!

3. Marriage Supper - Cheer us up!

(The oriental background for the marriage supper.)

1. Betrothal - engagement.

(Different than engagement today) (Ill. Back during these times your spouse was usually chosen by your parents!)

The legal consummation of the marriage was made by the parents of the bride and of the groom, with the payment of the dowry.

- 2. Preparation The groom would go back to his Father's house to prepare a place for his bride and himself.
 John 14:2-"I go to prepare a place for you..."
- **3. Presentation** The bridegroom and His friends would go and get the bride and take her to the home that he had prepared for them.
- **4. The Festival** The length and lavishness of the marriage celebration would depend on the wealth of the bridegroom.

Let's Look At The Marriage Supper here:

- 1. We See The Centrality Of The Bridegroom (vs 7)
 - (Ill. Bride is usually foremost!)
 - (Ill. Society page, parties, showers, "Here Comes The Bride"; The groom is totally unimportant!)

In Heaven, though, **JESUS** is the center of attention!

- 2. We See The Coming Of The Bride (v. 7) (Ill. The Bride's preparations!)
- 3. Righteousness Explained (v. 8)
 - a. Personally we have none!

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Isaiah. 64:6—"But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away."

b. Positionally (in CHRIST) it has been provided to us! 2 Corinthians 5:21–"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

Romans 3:21-24—"But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; 22Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: 23For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; 24Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: "

Conclusion:

Comment on verses 9.

Those who go are indeed blessed! Are you going to be there?

Only if you know **JESUS** as your **LORD** and **SAVIOUR** will you be there! You have to be "*IN CHRIST*" to be there!

The only way to be "IN CHRIST" is by REPENTANCE and FAITH!