

What Happens When a Church Worships | Part 9

Lesson 4

Revelation chapters 19-20

April 30, 2023

Why Do We Worship God?

INTRODUCTION

Turmoil and devastation of Revelation chapters 17 and 18 are past; joy and enthusiasm of chapters 19 and 20 have arrived. Praise of God is never-ending, a wedding feast is celebrated, Christ has victory over the beast, Satan is dropped into the Abyss, and martyrs reign with Jesus.

Regrettably, scenes appear that are unsettling: Satan has been released from the thousand-year sentence, and with the troops of Gog and Magog, he attempts once again to subdue God's people. "But fire came down from heaven and devoured them" (Revelation 20:9b). The lake of fire is the devil's final destination.

Then the books are opened; judgments begin. Imagine the thoughts of those indicted! Could this trial have been averted had they rejected disbelief? Might they not be facing doom had they recognized, revered, and praised God and His Son?

Yet, avoiding damnation is not the only reason to worship our Creator.

Memory verse: "Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roaring of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder. Shouting: Hallelujah! For Our Lord God Almighty reigns."—Revelation 19:6

Pray, and read Revelation chapters 19-20. What questions or observations do you have about this passage?

OBSERVATION: What do the passages say?

1. Why is the multitude in heaven shouting?
(Psalm 135:3-5; Revelation 19:1b-3)
2. What joyous event is announced in Revelation 19:7-9 to which people are invited?
(2 Corinthians 11:2b)
3. Who is the rider on the white horse, and what action does he take against the beast and the kings of the earth? (Revelation 19:11-16, 19-21)
4. After the devil has been locked and sealed into the Abyss for one-thousand years he is released to create more havoc until what happens? (Revelation 20:7-10)
5. What record does the *book of life* contain, and what is the fate of those whose names are not included in the book? (Revelation 20:12, 15)

4. In Matthew 25:31-33, Jesus says that when He sits on His glorious throne, He will put the sheep on His right hand and the goats on the left. Although not named as such, who are “the sheep and goats” of Revelation 20:11-15?

APPLICATION: How do the passages apply to your life?

1. Even though we are not living in the thousand-year period when Satan will be imprisoned (Revelation 20:7), how can we, from one day to the next, “lock up” the devil to keep him at distance from us and our families?

2. Is it difficult to “wrap one’s head around” the concept of the church being the bride of Christ (Revelation 20:7-9, 21:9-10)? Daily challenges test marriage; positive attributes meet those challenges. For those not yet married, consider your parents’ marriage. List the essentials that make marriage a blessed union and are the same needed to sustain faith in Christ.

3. As we anticipate the incredible joy that emerges when Christ returns, how can we keep our hearts and minds on that event to ensure our joy is evident even now?