

GET READY! NOW!

Part 4 of PREPARING FOR JESUS. Revelation 19:6-10.
Peter Foxwell. Cornerstone Church. December 18, 2022.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Advent helps us to focus on the appearing or return of Jesus.

As Christians, we eagerly anticipate the return of Jesus.

Philippians 3:20 (ESV) Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it **we await** a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ ...

REVELATION 19:6-10

The wedding song.

6 Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, “Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. 7a Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come,

The wedding preparation.

7b ... and his Bride has made herself ready; 8 it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure”— for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

The wedding guests.

9 And the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” And he said to me, “These are the true words of God.” 10 Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.”

The symbolism used in Revelation 19.

- the Lamb, marriage of the Lamb, marriage supper of the Lamb, his Bride

INTERPRETING THE SYMBOLS

The Lamb.

- Jesus is called the Lamb 32 times in Revelation.
- The Lamb is King - Revelation 5:6.
- The Lamb is God - Revelation 5:8.
- The Lamb is Savior - Revelation 5:9-10.

Marriage, bride, and fine linen

- These are symbols borrowed from Isaiah 61-62. For example:

Isaiah 61:10 (ESV) I will greatly rejoice in the LORD ... for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Isaiah 62:5 (ESV) ... and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

The message of the marriage symbols is amazing.

- When King Jesus returns, we will live in the closest possible relationship to him forever, our God and our Savior.

GETTING READY FOR THE WEDDING

We get ready with the correct attitude - verses 6-7a.

- In light of his return, the correct attitude is to rejoice, exult, and give glory.
- The marriage symbol means we'll be one with Jesus.

Revelation 21:2-3 (ESV) And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the

dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God ...

- The best is yet to come

We get ready with the correct clothing - verses 7b-8.

- The dress code is specified: “fine linen, bright and pure.”
- On the one hand, fine linen is a gift God “grants” (v. 7) to us.

Ephesians 5:27 (ESV) (Christ died) so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

- On the other hand, fine linen is a result of our faithfulness - the righteous deeds of the saints.

Revelation 3:5 (ESV) The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life.

Revelation 19:10b ... your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus.

We get ready with the correct invitation - verse 9.

- Who’s invited? The bride, the saints, those wearing fine linen.
- Every true Christian is invited. And we’ll gather at the table.

Revelation 21:3 (ESV) He will dwell with them, and they will be his people.

CONSIDER THIS

- Am I invited?
- Am I excited?
- Am I committed?

FOR LATER

Consider. How true are the following statements in your life?

- I feel deep longing for Jesus to return so that I can be with him forever.
- I take time to meditate on the return of Christ and intensify my longing for him.
- I pray daily for grace to stand firm, to not compromise, to testify faithfully.
- I have repented of my sins, turning from them to trust in Jesus Christ as my God and Savior. I am a true believer, a saint who is washed in the blood of the Lamb and set apart for God, and I am included in the Bride of Christ.

Read for More Insights.

- Blessed, Chapter 9.

COMING IN JANUARY

On January 8, we'll begin our study of the entire book of Revelation. The studies will make the meaning and message of the book clear. We'll understand the times we live in and we'll have a good idea about God's plan for the world. We'll feel motivated to faithfully follow Jesus.

The Revelation study is divided into five series that will take us through to the summer of 2023. The first series is called **Encountering Jesus**. It covers Revelation, chapters 1-3.

Be sure to pick up a copy of **Blessed** from the book table. It's useful for personal study and for discussion in your small group