

GOD'S VISIONS AND DREAMS CANNOT BE DEFEATED!

REVELATION 19

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Revelation 19: 1-8: *The Te Deum*

The Book of Revelation as Book of Worship

The word "worship" or some derivation is found more in Revelation than any other book in NRSV Bible (app. 25 times)

The only place in the Bible where the word "Hallelujah" actually appears is in this chapter (19: 1, 3, 4, 6)

The designation of God as the "Almighty" appears nine out of the ten times it is found in New Testament in this book (II Cor. 6: 18; Revelation 1: 8; 4: 8; 11: 17; 15: 3; 16: 7, 14; 19: 6, 15; 21: 22)

Vss. 1-2, The Praise of Angels

Salvation, glory and power belong to God

Salvation awakens gratitude

Glory awakens reverence, awe

Power awakens trust

Judgments of God are true and just

God alone sees inmost thoughts and desires of humans

God alone has purity that can judge without prejudice

God alone has wisdom to find right judgment and power to apply it

Great harlot is judge because of corrupting influence

The greatest sin is teaching others to sin (Matthew 18: 6-7)

Vss. 3-5, The Praise of Nature and Church

Twenty-four elders, 12 patriarchs and 12 apostles: whole church

Four beasts: Bravest, strongest, wisest and swiftest in nature

Invoke and summon praise from servants of God

Vss. 6-8, The Praise of the Redeemed

Marriage of Lamb and Bride

Old Testament representations of covenantal relationship between God and chosen or redeemed people (Hosea 2: 19; Isaiah 54:5; Jeremiah 3: 14; Ezekiel 16)

New Testament: (Matthew 22: 2, 10-11, 25: 1; Mark 2: 19; John 3: 29; II Corinthians 11: 2; Ephesians 5: 21-22)

We cannot take a sacred symbol that describes the love, intimacy, joy and fidelity between God and God's people and apply it to unions and relationships that the Bible describe as sin.

The existence of love does not make a relationship morally right. There is such a reality as illicit love.

Love of money as root of all evil is sinful

Love of self to the harm of others and disregard of God's word is sinful

Some forms of heterosexual love is sinful

Everything legal is not moral
 Love and sincerity do not make something morally right. The word of God determines morality—not the Constitution; not legislation; not popular consensus; not the culture; not the media; not our personal feelings.

According to the scripture, same gender marriage and relationships are neither natural nor moral.

Position of this church and ministry: The primary human category is that of child of God. This church welcomes everyone as a child of God. Sexual preference does not make one any more or any less a child of God. However being loved, affirmed, welcomed and recognized and received as a child of God does not mean that all actions of God's children are accepted and affirmed. When any child of God does or says anything that the word of God does not accept then the responsibility of the church is to teach biblical truth with love and to correct erroneous practice and teaching with love and to declare that Jesus saves, redeems, and sanctifies anyone who repents of any practice that the Bible regards as sinful. We believe II Corinthians 5: 16-17 to describe the essence salvation, redemption, deliverance, liberation, and sanctification.

Vss. 9-10, Keeping Focus of Worship Intact

God, Not Messengers

Neither humans (pastors nor saints), nor heavenly beings (angels)

Messengers to be appreciated and affirmed, but not worshipped (I Corinthians 9: 13-14; I Timothy 5: 17-18)

Testimony of Jesus and spirit of prophecy: True prophet is one who brings both
 The revelation of who Jesus is (Savior and Lord; God incarnate in human flesh)
 and the truth that Jesus taught with love.

Vss. 11-16, Conquering Christ

Based upon Old Testament Messianic Image and Expectation as Conqueror
 (Matthew 3: 11-12)

Conquering generals rode white horses

Faithful and True, Absolutely trustworthy and absolutely correct through passage of time

Eyes of fire (Rev. 1: 14; 2: 18; Daniel 10: 6)

Crown (diadem, stephanos)

Unknown name (I(Y)HWH, tetra
 grammaton

Robe dipped in blood, victory over enemies

Sharp two-edged sword (Hebrews 4: 12)---word of God with power

Vss. 17-21, Judgment of enemies of Christ

Old Testament image , Ezekiel 39: 17-20

The war is always spiritual

Reminder: We either receive Christ now as Savior and Lord, or we will meet him later as Judge