Revelation 19:11-21 KJV “And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.”

There is no doubt that if a person goes back and studies history that he will come up with several key events that shaped the lives of so many individuals. Many would disagree on some events and agree on others. Some of the great events that occurred in our history are:

- Inventing of the printing press by Gutenberg in 1450.
- World War I and II
But, the greatest event in the history of
this world is the birth, life, and death of Jesus
Christ. Whether a person agrees or disagrees
that Christ is the Son of God, they all can agree
that His life impacted the world in so many
ways. Jesus Christ is the single most important
person this world has ever known. But, His life
is not over because He is coming back again ac-
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following. Nothing just happens in
God’s plan, but is taken step by step.

The first part of His plan of redemption is
purchasing forgiveness for man’s sins. When
Christ came the first time, He came to take
away the sins of the world. John the Baptist
spoke about this when he called Christ, the
Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the
world.

John 1:29 KJV “The next day John
seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith,
Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh
away the sin of the world.”

Over two thousand years ago, Christ accompl
ished this when He fulfilled all of the Law and
died as the Passover Lamb on the cross of Cal-
vary. His blood and sacrifice made way for man
to receive forgiveness and mercy. By the blood
of the Lamb, man can now be redeemed from
his sins. He can receive salvation that is only
found in Jesus Christ.

Christ fulfilled the first part of the plan of
redemption - salvation for those who are willing
to receive this wonderful gift from God. How-
ever, God’s plan of redemption is not complete;
there is more to accomplish. God must judge
the world for its sin and wickedness. God must
judge those who have rebelled against Him,
rejected His Son, and have chosen to remain in
their sins.

So, there is a great difference between the
first and second coming of Christ. The first
coming, Christ comes meekly, riding upon a
donkey, the symbol of peace. The second com-
ing, Christ comes forcefully and mightily, riding
upon a white horse, the symbol of war. The
first coming is one of mercy and grace. The
second coming is one of vengeance and judg-
ment.

Here is a brief overview of what has hap-
pended and what will happen before and at the
second coming of Christ.

• First coming of Christ - brought salvation
to the world - John 3:16

John 3:16 KJV “For God so loved the
world, that he gave his only begotten
Son, that whosoever believeth in him
should not perish, but have everlasting
life.”

• Church age - from Pentecost to the
rapture of the Church - period of grace where
God is calling all to come to His Son to receive salvation - Revelation 2 - 3.

- Rapture of the church - when Christ comes back in the air to catch up the church into heaven so they will not go through the terrible judgment to come on the earth - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 & Revelation 4:1

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 KJV “But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”

- Tribulation Period - the seven-year period when God will pour out His judgment on a depraved and sinful world that has rejected His gift of salvation. This will be the most devastating time this world has ever experienced - Revelation 6 - 18.

Jude 1:14-19 KJV “And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him. These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men’s persons in admira-
horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.”

At the end of the Tribulation Period, John sees heaven open and a rider on a white horse come forth. It is the symbol of warfare that the King is not coming in peace but coming to judge the world. Christ came first in peace riding upon a donkey, second in judgment.

The first time that the door of heaven was opened is in Revelation chapter four when the rapture of the church happens. The Christians are brought up to heaven. The second time, the door of heaven opens is when Christ comes back with the saints.

A. His names
The rider on the white horse has several names given. The first name is Faithful and True. He is the only one that is always faithful. He will always keep His promises and words. He will not fail to complete every aspect, every promise, and every word. His words are true and His judgment is always right.

The world thinks that truth is relative. But the real truth is found only in Jesus Christ because He is the way, the truth, and the life. There is no greater truth than Christ.

Matthew 5:18 KJV “For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.”

Second name is a name that no one knows but He himself. It is part of the Lord that no man knows, but He himself.

Third name is the Word of God. This is the name that shows He is God. In John chapter one and verse one tells that Christ is the Word. By His words the worlds were created. By His words, Lazarus came forth from the dead. By His words, men and women were healed of their diseases.

Revelation 19:16 KJV “And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”

Fourth name is King of Kings and Lord of Lords that shows He is the sovereign Lord over the entire universe. There is no one greater than Him. There is not one that has greater authority than Him, because He is the Eternal One, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

B. His mission
Revelation 19:11-13 KJV “And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.”

He is coming back to judge and make war against all those who have rejected Him. He is coming back to bring an end to the rebellion of mankind. It began all the way back in heaven when Satan deceived some of the angels into rebelling against God and trying to overthrow Him. It continued in the Garden of Eden when Satan deceived Eve into rebellion against God’s word. It has continued throughout the centuries.

But, now, the Lord is returning to put an end to this rebellion and sin. He came in peace to redeem man. Now, He is coming in power to judge man.

C. His character
1. Piercing sight of God
His eyes are a flaming fire that pierces through any barrier to see exactly what is in the life and heart of man. Nothing is hidden from the sight of God. All things are open and naked before Him. No one can hide anything from the Lord.

So often, men and women think that as long
as no one knows what they are doing, they are getting away with it. They think that they have kept their sins hidden. They think that they are safe. But, God sees everything. He sees when men and women are laying in sin. He sees when man’s heart and mind is filled with bitterness and hatred. He sees when man’s heart is longing for perversion and depravity. Everything is open before His eyes; no one can fool God at any time. Truly He sees the real heart and life of man.

**Hebrews 4:13 KJV** “Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.”

2. **His kingship**

On His head were many crowns. The Greek word for crown here is diadem, which is the crown of a king. Only Christ is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He is the king over the entire universe, including the earth. There is no one above Him in authority or sovereignty. He is the only one who is able to wear the crowns of creation.

3. **Clothing is dipped in blood**

**Isaiah 63:1-6 KJV** “Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come. And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me. And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth.”

The blood here is not referring to His blood that was shed for the remission or forgiveness of sins. It is not referring to His sacrifice on the cross of Calvary. It is referring to His vengeance that is to be on the world that has rebelled against Him.

**Revelation 19:15 KJV** “And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.”

His vesture or garment will be splattered with the blood of those that He has judged and destroyed.

II. **The ones who follow**

**Revelation 19:14-16 KJV** “And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”

When Christ comes forth riding on a white horse, He will be followed with the armies of heaven.

There has been much disagreement as to who are the armies in heaven, which follow the Lord. Some have said that it is the angels of heaven. Others have held the position that it is the saints that follow the Lord.

**Jude 1:14-15 KJV** “And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly
committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.”

Jude tells us that the armies of the Lord are His saints. The church is coming back with the Lord riding on white horses. The church saints will be clothed in white and clean linen.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-10 KJV “And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.”

The second parts of His armies are the mighty angels of heaven that will come back with the Lord.

The armies of the Lord are mentioned but no weapons are mentioned. They do not fight the battle because the battle is the Lord’s. The armies of the Lord are merely spectators watching the Lord judged the rebellion of mankind.

III. The ones who are defeated

Revelation 19:17-21 KJV “And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.
And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.”

A. Weapons of the Lord

In verse fifteen, the Lord’s weapon is mentioned as a sword that goes forth out of His mouth. The sword is not by His side but rather the words of His mouth that is uttered.

Hebrews 4:12 KJV “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

The Word of God is powerful. It was by the word of the Lord that the heavens were created.

John 1:1-3 KJV “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.”

By His spoken words, He will destroy the armies of the Beast and all those who rebel against Him.

Also mentioned in this passage is the rod of iron and the winepress of His wrath. His vengeance destroys the nations of the worlds that have lifted themselves against the Lord.

B. Call for the vultures to feast

An angel cries out and calls all the vultures to come to the great feast of the Lord. The Lord puts down the rebellion and all the great men from the kings to the captains to the common men are destroyed. Their flesh is there as a great feast for the vultures to feed upon. The Lord will destroy both the great and small men
when He returns.

Isn’t it amazing that man will be part of the supper of God? For those who know Christ as their saviour, they will be invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb mentioned in verses 7-8. For those who rejected the Lord, they will be supper for the vultures that are called to feast upon their flesh.

C. Destruction of the armies of the world

The Beast (Antichrist) and his False prophet will lead the battle against the Lord. They will unite the world to rebel against the Lord as He returns.

This battle will have millions of causalities. Isaiah chapter thirty-four mentions that the land will be bathed in blood. In Revelation chapter fourteen, the blood is mentioned as being deep as the horse’s bridles and covering an area of 200 miles longs.

Isaiah 34:1–8 KJV “Come near, ye nations, to hear; and hearken, ye people: let the earth hear, and all that is therein; the world, and all things that come forth of it. For the indignation of the Lord is upon all nations, and his fury upon all their armies: he hath utterly destroyed them, he hath delivered them to the slaughter. Their slain also shall be cast out, and their stink shall come up out of their carcases, and the mountains shall be melted with their blood. And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling fig from the fig tree. For my sword shall be bathed in heaven: behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, and upon the people of my curse, to judgment. The sword of the Lord is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, and with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the Lord hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea. And the unicorns shall come down with them, and the bullocks with the bulls; and their land shall be soaked with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness. For it is the day of the Lord’s vengeance, and the year of recompenses for the controversy of Zion.”

Zechariah 14:1-3 KJV “Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.”

Revelation 14:18–20 KJV “And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.”

These armies will be destroyed and become the food for the vultures that are gathered to eat the great supper of the Lord.

D. Destruction of the Beast (Antichrist) and the False Prophet

The two main ones who go forth to deceive the world will literally be taken alive and cast into the Lake of Fire and Brimstone. They will give the armies of the world the false hope that they can defeat the Lord and gain the victory but it will end with them being destroyed.

These two will be picked up and dropped into the Lake of Fire. They will suffer a great
punishment by being cast alive into eternal torment and judgment.

Many have question the existence of a literal place of eternal punishment.

Is heaven literal? Yes! Is the Lake of Fire literal? Yes! It is the place for all those who have rebelled against the Lord and chosen to stay in their sins rather than accept the wonderful salvation found in Jesus Christ.

One thousand years after they have been cast in the Lake of Fire, they are mentioned as still being there. So hell is not annihilation or purgatory but a place of eternal torment.

IV. Lessons to learn

There are several questions that one must answer concerning the return of Jesus Christ. So often these questions are asked in the wrong manner.

A. Question is not “is He coming back”, but “when is He coming back?”

Really the question is not if Christ is coming back but when is He coming back? He is coming back at the appointed time. No one knows the hour or time of Christ return, but He is coming. It maybe today or hundred years from now, but He will return at appointed time.

Just as Christ came the first time, He is coming back again.

Acts 1:7-11 KJV “And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.”

B. Question is not “Is there eternity” but “where will you spend eternity?”

That is the question. Where will you spend eternity? Either you will spend eternity with Christ in the new heaven or earth or you will spend it with the Antichrist in the Lake of Fire.

One must seek Christ first. The only way to spend eternity in heaven is through Jesus Christ.

John 14:6 KJV “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

C. Question is not “should I live holy” but “how must I live holy as I see the Day of the Lord approaching?”

2 Peter 3:10-14 KJV “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwell-eth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.”