

Sing Hallelujah Revelation 19:1-6

We have many reasons to give thanks to God. Most likely the best loved oratorio, and most often performed at Christmas time is George Frederick Handel's The Messiah. Of all the choruses in the total composition the "Hallelujah Chorus" probably takes first place.

You may remember, so moving is its composition that at the first performance the Queen of England rose to her feet when the "Hallelujah Chorus" was sung. Think what it will be like when the multitudes of the redeemed will sing Hallelujah together. Amen!

Jesus warned once. He said, "Marvel not if the world hates you. You know it hated me before it hated you. But be of good comfort, I have overcome the world." Yes we can sing hallelujah because we are assured of final victory. Our Lord has overcome the world. Amen!

Notice how many times in these six verses the multitude of heaven SAY ALLELUJAH in Revelation 19:1-6.

1 And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:

2 For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand.

3 And again they said, Alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever.

4 And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia.

5 And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great.

6 And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

Let's meditate on two outstanding ATTRIBUTES of God as revealed in this text.

The first Attribute; His Holiness

God's holiness is basic to His character. It tempers every act He performs. He cannot lie and cannot sin. Holiness in the Bible means, "Separation from and hostility to all evil and defilement." So God must, and will, destroy the harlot, that religious counterfeit.

The text tells how the multitudes in heaven will say, "Hallelujah." And they will do so with respect to His holiness. The holiness of God effects salvation. Our salvation was accomplished by Jesus on the cross. There He shed His blood to make an atonement for our sins. When we accept that death, salvation can be our experience.

The holiness of God effects His glory and honor. His glory is described in Revelation 4:2 and 3. "And immediately I was in the spirit; and behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne. And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald." Wonderful, precious, glorious, resplendent!

In Revelation 15:8, we note a further description of His glory, “And no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.” The brilliant glory of God was demonstrated when Jesus was transfigured. His clothes were whiter than any fuller on earth could white them. And His face was like the sun with the glory of God.

The holiness of God also effects His power. The word used for power here in Revelation 19:1 is the strongest word in the New Testament. It is self possessing power that belongs only unto God. Salvation and glory, honor and power unto the LORD our God.

The holiness of God also effects His justice. His holiness calls for hostility against evil. God’s justice is required. As a holy God He must put down the creature’s self-corrupting revolt against Him.

Notice verse 2, “For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great harlot, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. And again they say, Allelujah and her smoke rose up forever and ever.” Thus the holiness of God will be totally vindicated.

God has set boundaries for our actions by His holiness. Any infringement upon His holiness requires God to respond in righteous judgment. Revelation most clearly pictures this for us.

The second Attribute; His Omnipotence

Note the last sentence of verse 6, “For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.” Omnipotence is basic to His nature. Either God is all powerful or He is not. No other religion teaches the omnipotence of God as does the Bible. Our Bible begins with the words, “In the beginning God” And the Bible restates that truth in many places.

His omnipotence calls for response in this climax of hallelujahs. The voice from heaven urges His servants to praise God in awe and reverence. Most likely His servants are the redeemed, though more may be implied. All His servants and all who fear Him, but all in reverence, the small and the great, all levels of society join in praising God.

And then from a great multitude, notice, a great multitude that sounded like the voice of many waters, and the voice of mighty peals of thunder said, “The LORD God omnipotent reigneth.” How different from those who knew and refused to repent.

I refer to chapter 16, verse 11. Those suffering from the bowls of wrath knew from whence the wrath came, but they “blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds.” And after the great storm of hail stones from heaven, we are told they blasphemed God because of the plague of hail.

Oh, what a difference. Here are the redeemed bringing praise and honor and glory unto God, “for the LORD God omnipotent reigneth.” God has bounded man’s actions by His omnipotence. Any revolt against that omnipotence requires God to respond in righteous judgment.

The judgment of the harlot will eliminate the apostate, anti-God religious organization. It deals with the spiritual and religious attitude of the human creature. That judgment will manifest how God must act as the all-holy and all-powerful God. In this we should take great courage for His grace has provided salvation for all who believe.