



Lord of lords and King of kings

By Jeff Bedwell on November 16, 2021

READING: Revelation 17

Chapters 6–18 of the book of Revelation portray a time of earthly tribulation and heavenly conflict that centers around three cycles of seven judgments: seven seals (6:1–8:5), seven trumpets (8:6–11:1), and seven bowls (15:1–19:6). There are prophetic inserts between the sixth and seventh seal and trumpet judgments as well as a lengthy supplement between the trumpet and bowl judgments.

In addition, chapters 17–18 describe the overthrow of “the great harlot” and of Babylon the Great. After the three cycles of judgment and the wedding supper of the Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ returns to the earth in power and glory to overthrow the beast and the kings of the earth (chapter 19). Jesus comes in majesty to reign over the earth as the King of kings and Lord of lords.

In the book of Revelation, the dragon, the beast, and their followers are enemies of God and His people. While Bible scholars differ on the specific details, it appears these forces will take on God in the end—and such a move will not end well for them. *“They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful”* (Revelation 17:14, ESV).

That this battle will take place is clear, but just as clear is the promise the Lamb will win. The forces of evil may be powerful, and they may have great weaponry—but they are no match for the Lamb. He is, after all, the “Lord of lords and Kings of kings.” His titles themselves make it clear that no one can defeat Him.

Then, He includes those who are “called and chosen and faithful.” These are believers who have endured in obedience, and now they share in the victory. Those who die for their faith can trust the Lord will ultimately reign over evil and grant His followers victory. They will be overcomers not because of their good works, but because of His faithfulness to them to hold them in His hand. Triumph comes because of the Lamb—not because of any of us.

PRAYER: Father, thank You for the victory over sin, death and the devil that You make possible through the victory of Jesus Christ! May I honor and serve Him today as “Lord of lords and King of kings.”

TOMORROW'S READING: Revelation 18

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