

The Nations Come Before Him

How It All Ends

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Bible Text: Revelation 15

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When you read through Revelation 15 in days to come, I want you to be able to say, "Okay, I've seen this before." I want this to occur to you that this is not new material.

Psalm 86, 1 Bow down thine ear, O LORD, hear me: for I am poor and needy. 2 Preserve my soul; for I am holy: O thou my God, save thy servant that trusteth in thee. 3 Be merciful unto me, O Lord: for I cry unto thee daily. 4 Rejoice the soul of thy servant: for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. 5 For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee. 6 Give ear, O LORD, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications. 7 In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee: for thou wilt answer me. 8 Among the gods there is none like unto thee, O Lord; neither are there any works like unto thy works. 9 **All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee**, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name. 10 For thou art great, and doest wondrous things: thou art God alone.

If you didn't have the book of Revelation, you might get away with actually thinking at some point that this is symbolic or allegory, that you might actually get away with thinking, "Okay, this is just picturing a time when everyone will be saved or most everyone will be saved." But when you get to the book of Revelation, you understand, "Okay, this is a literal thing that's going to happen. All nations really are going to come and bow before the Lord."

Psalm 66 1 Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands. 2 Sing forth the honour of his name: make his praise glorious. Say unto God, How terrible art thou in thy works! 3 Through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee. 4 All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing to thy name.

So, twice now we've seen Psalm 66 and Psalm 86, we've seen that there is a level of expectation that there's coming a day when all the earth.

Psalm 96 O sing unto the LORD a new song: sing unto the LORD, all the earth. Sing unto the LORD, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people. For the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the nations are idols: but the LORD made the heavens. Honour and majesty are before him: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. Give unto the LORD, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the LORD glory and strength. Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts. O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth. 10 Say among the heathen that the LORD reigneth: the world also shall be established that it shall not be moved. 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad. 12 Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice. 13 Before the LORD, for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.

Think about the slippery slope if you make that allegorical or symbolic. We have a real problem if you do that. He went up physically, literally, in a body, after his resurrection. He says he's coming in like manner. So, these prophecies in Psalm 96, though they might have been poetic primarily to the original reader, once Christ came and the translucent prophecies became transparent, all of a sudden, we understand that this is going to have physical, literally fulfillment.

Psalm 97 The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof. Clouds and darkness are round about him: righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne. A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about. 4. His lightnings enlightened the world: the earth saw, and trembled. The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth. 6. The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory. Confounded be all they that serve graven images, that boast themselves of idols: worship him, all ye gods.

Check this out: if all idol worshipers are dead at Armageddon, we have a real issue here because there are people yet living in these passages after he comes.

Psalm 98 O sing unto the LORD a new song; for he hath done marvellous things: his right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory. 2. The LORD hath made known his salvation: his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen. He hath remembered his mercy and his truth toward the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.

Well, as much as David and this Psalmist might have been, as effective as they might have been at declaring the works of the God of Israel, they were not able to really effectively, definitely, literally say the whole earth knows about him. They might have poetically, everyone knows about Jesus. That's poetic license. We'll allow you to be exaggerative like that and generalizing but a literal fulfillment of this takes place at the Second Coming of Christ we find in the book of Revelation.

Isaiah 6:1 In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Above it, stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. 3. And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts, **the whole earth is full of his glory.**

Poetically true in Isaiah 6? Sure. Literally true in Isaiah 6? Nope, not until the Christ comes but we talk about how this is a forecast. What does this look like in the book of Revelation? This scene in Isaiah 6? Chapter 4. So, this should tell you that Isaiah is seeing a vision of something yet in the future. By the way, you might notice that there are 66 chapters in the book of Isaiah.

But I wanted you to notice in Isaiah 66:18, “For I know their works and their thoughts: it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory.”

When we get to Revelation 19, I’m going to spend a lot of time. We have in our mind that all the remaining people on the planet are definitely going to be in the Valley of Megiddo. That’s going to be difficult. That means that, of course, between now and then there is no population growth at all. Even if you take a chronological view of Revelation, is it likely that you’ll get less than 1 billion people on the globe? Probably not. Are you going to get them into the valley? Probably not. I know it’s not going to be as suburban as I’m about to describe it, but it’s not like these men decide, “Let’s go fight Jesus in the Valley of Megiddo. Come on, kids, load up. We’re going to get in the station wagon and drive over to Israel.” It’s not like that. There are people all over the planet that are not going to be affected by Armageddon and here is a good proof text in Isaiah 66.

Look at verse 18: Jesus is back, he has come, he is on the planet, he is exercising his will. Verse 19, “And I will set a sign among them,” those nations of verse 18, “and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and Javan, to the isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles.” Are you getting this? After Christ returns, evangelism is still taking place with those Jews that are converted at his coming. Why? Because the nations need to hear of his glory.

Verse 20, “And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts,” where? “To my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the LORD, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD.” Get this now: after he returns, he sends converted Jews out to the nations and they talk about their Messiah and they bring more Gentiles from the nations to see the King in Jerusalem.

Micah 4:1 But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be

exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And **many nations shall come, and say, Come,** and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Zechariah 14:1 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. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem. 5. And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark:...16. And it shall come to pass, **that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem** shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.

Malachi 1:11 For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my name shall be great **among the Gentiles;** and in every place incense shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering: for my name shall be great among the heathen, saith the LORD of hosts.

Why is all of this important? Because if we are resurrected, raptured, like Jesus says “after the tribulation of those days,” we’re going to have what? Glorified bodies, and we will not be procreating in the Kingdom to come. There is going to be a need for people with natural bodies in the millennial kingdom because we’re ruling and reigning with Christ, he has a glorified body and we will have glorified bodies and in the age to come, there is going to be a need for people who don’t have glorified bodies because Jesus said in Matthew 23, “In the resurrection they will neither marry nor be given in marriage.”

Revelation 5:9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation... You have made us unto our God kings and priests: and **we shall reign on the earth**...13. And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying. Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever.

Revelation 11:15. And the seventh angel sounded, and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and **he shall reign for ever and ever.** And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and

worshipped God, Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. And **the nations** were angry.

Revelation 15:1. This is our third week in this verse. “And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God. 2. And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints. Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest. 5. And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened. And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles. And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who liveth for ever and ever. And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.

So, we have this temple talk again. It keeps happening over and over in the book of Revelation to remind you that this book of Revelation has everything to do with the people of God making an Exodus out of the earth and then returning with their great Moses to take over. Okay?

Revelation 19:6 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.**

Revelation 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, and cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and **they lived and reigned with Christ** a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.