

UNRAVELLING THE BOOK OF REVELATION | SESSION 47 (PART 1)

# THE MATURE BRIDE OF CHRIST

THE ULTIMATE DESTINY  
OF THE CHURCH, PART 1

REVELATION 19:1-10



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Revelation 19 is the most exciting chapter in the Book of Revelation. It begins by giving us a **powerful prophetic picture of the Bride of Christ finally becoming mature here on earth** (Rev. 19:1-10). It then continues with and crescendos unto a **prophetic picture of the majestic splendour of Jesus at His Second Coming** (Rev. 19:11-21).

## **IN FACT, REVELATION 19 IS THE CLIMAX OF THE ENTIRE HUMAN HISTORY.**

Because this is the time the redeemed on earth will finally be mature as the Bride of Christ. There is only one generation of the redeemed who will be fully mature here on earth (Song 6:8-9). This is also the time when natural human history comes to an end and transits into the Millennial Age, which is the crescendo of the salvation plan of God.

### **Three key things about Revelation 19:1-10:**

#### *ONE*

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It gives us the **clearest picture of the Mature Bride of Christ through her three-fold response** in verses 1-3, 6 and 7. It reveals the **ultimate destiny** of who we are and what we will become.





## TWO

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### **It reveals God's Ultimate Purpose of Creation**

**God's ultimate purpose of creation** and His guiding principle through all human history is **to raise up a Bride who is worthy of His Son**. His **mission statement** is seen in Revelation 19:7 — to provide Jesus with a mature Bride who is wholehearted in love and equally yoked in partnership with Him.

Revelation 19 tells us why Jesus came the first time and why He is coming again the second time. He came looking for a Bride, and He is coming back for her!

There is a much bigger storyline for the redeemed and a much higher purpose for salvation. The **ultimate purpose of salvation** is more than just saving us from hell's fire or enabling us to be successful in our ministry, career, or becoming prosperous in our finances. **It is about us becoming the mature Bride for Jesus.**

Knowing this, we will know our goal in life — to prepare ourselves to be ready as His Bride!



## THREE

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**This passage emphasizes the necessity and requirement for believers to prepare ourselves (Rev. 19:7,9).**

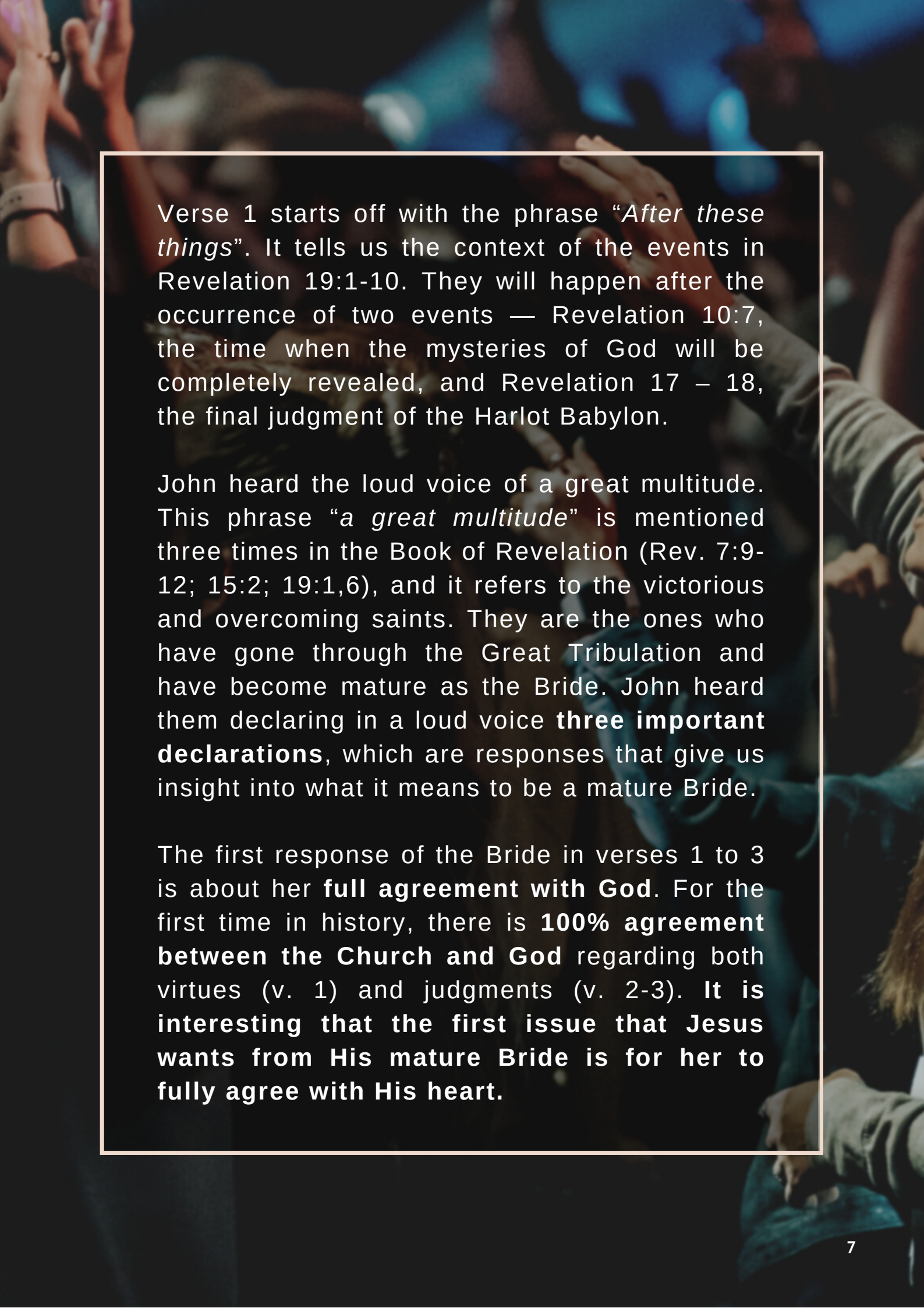
Without a shadow of a doubt, the Bride of Christ will be ready corporately. **However, there is no guarantee that we will be part of it individually. We all have the responsibility to make ourselves ready.**

We cannot assume that we will suddenly and automatically be ready. In the Parable of the Wedding Feast in Matthew 22:1-14, one person came in without the wedding garment, and he was cast out because he had not prepared himself. Jesus ended the parable by saying, "*For many are called, but few are chosen.*" Let's take heed of the Lord's words and not be casual about preparation.

The **Primary Theme** of Revelation 19:1-10 is the **picture of a mature Bride as seen through her three-fold response:**

- a.** She **fully agrees** with Jesus because she **fully understands His heart, His leadership and His plans** (v. 1-3). She fully understands Him as the Bridegroom, King and Judge, especially as the Judge.
- b.** She **fully surrenders, yields and obeys** because she **fully trusts** (v. 6-7).
- c.** She **fully longs and yearns** for Him because she **fully loves**. The Lord will not come back until He has a Bride who fully longs and yearns for His return.





Verse 1 starts off with the phrase “*After these things*”. It tells us the context of the events in Revelation 19:1-10. They will happen after the occurrence of two events — Revelation 10:7, the time when the mysteries of God will be completely revealed, and Revelation 17 – 18, the final judgment of the Harlot Babylon.

John heard the loud voice of a great multitude. This phrase “*a great multitude*” is mentioned three times in the Book of Revelation (Rev. 7:9-12; 15:2; 19:1,6), and it refers to the victorious and overcoming saints. They are the ones who have gone through the Great Tribulation and have become mature as the Bride. John heard them declaring in a loud voice **three important declarations**, which are responses that give us insight into what it means to be a mature Bride.

The first response of the Bride in verses 1 to 3 is about her **full agreement with God**. For the first time in history, there is **100% agreement between the Church and God** regarding both virtues (v. 1) and judgments (v. 2-3). **It is interesting that the first issue that Jesus wants from His mature Bride is for her to fully agree with His heart.**



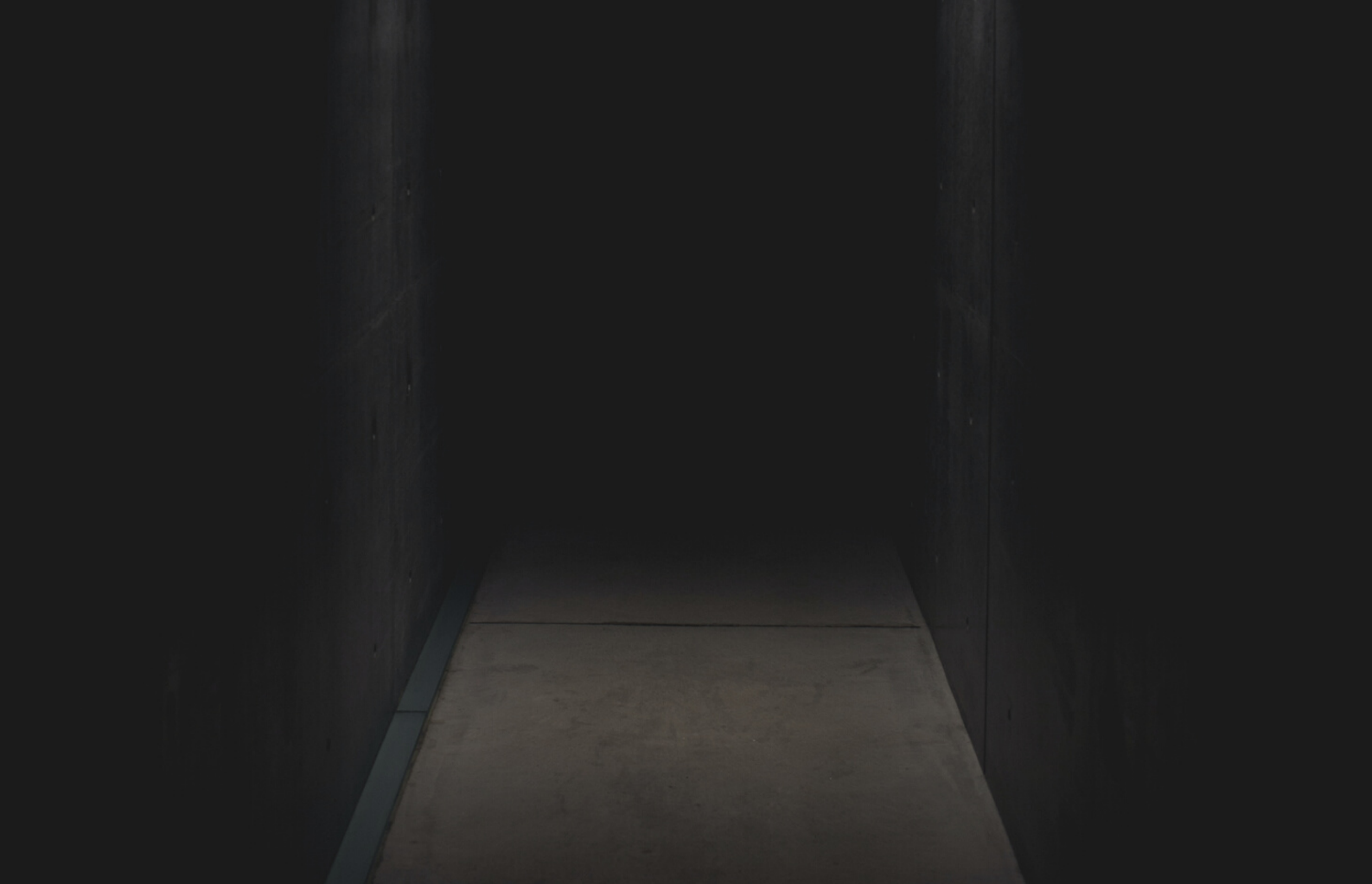
## VERSE 1

In verse 1, the Bride agreed with the virtues that belong to the Lord. In verses 2 and 3, she agreed with **God's temporal and eternal judgments.**

**JUDGMENT IS THE MOST DIFFICULT AREA OF AGREEMENT FOR THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST BECAUSE WE DON'T FULLY UNDERSTAND GOD'S HEART.**

Matthew 24:10 tells us that many believers will be offended with God at the End of the Age because they cannot understand the judgment of God.





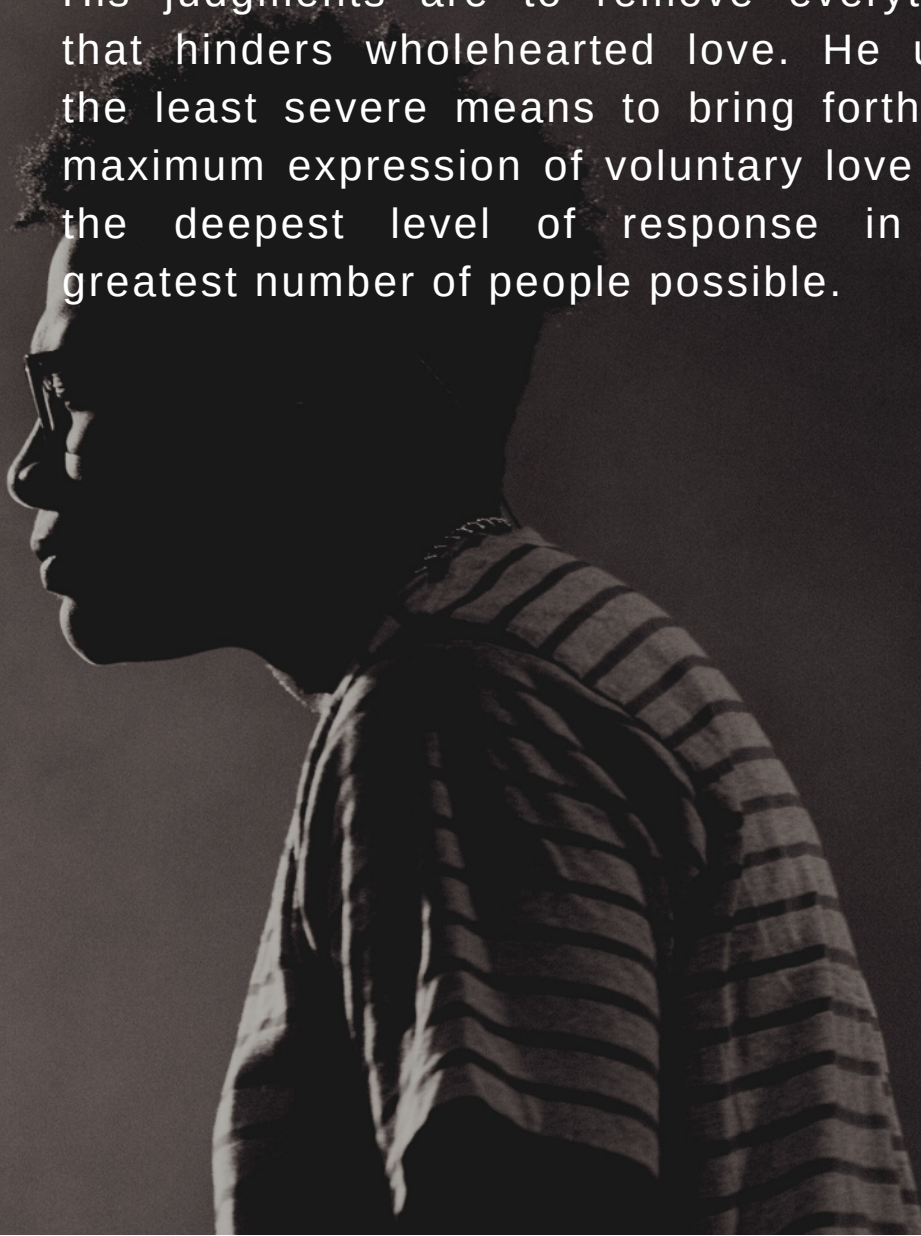
The lack of understanding of the judgment of God will make us **vulnerable to confusion, deception and offense**. One of Satan's strategies is to **lie about God's judgments by saying that they contradict love**. He will accuse God and cause us to buy into his narrative.

Here the Bride is not offended. She knows God's heart perfectly and understands Jesus as the Judge. This is important because God is looking for a Bride who can fully understand His heart so that we can partner with Him in releasing judgments through intercession (Isa. 63:1-4). If we do not have understanding, we will end up resisting Him!

## VERSE 2

In verse 2, the Bride declares that **Jesus' judgments are true**. They are true to His wisdom and true to His love. They do not contradict His promises but help to fulfil His promises to the nations. They do not contradict love, but they are rooted in His tenderness, mercy and goodness.

His judgments are to remove everything that hinders wholehearted love. He uses the least severe means to bring forth the maximum expression of voluntary love and the deepest level of response in the greatest number of people possible.



## **THE BRIDE IS ALSO DECLARING THAT JESUS' JUDGMENTS ARE RIGHT.**

They are not too severe and not too lenient, not too early and not too late. They are precise and accurate in bringing forth righteousness. The nations and inhabitants of the earth will learn righteousness through His judgments (Isa. 26:9).

Verse 2 also tells us two reasons why the Lord judged the Harlot-Babylon — she had perverted the nations and oppressed the people of God. In verse 3, the Bride went on further to agree fully with the eternal judgments of God.





## VERSE 4

In verse 4, we see the angelic hosts and the saints in heaven agreeing with the judgments of God. **It is a powerful scene because for the first time, there is 100% agreement between the Church on earth and the angels and saints in heaven. This represents the fullness of maturity of the prayer movement on earth.**

When there is full agreement with God, with one another, and between heaven and earth, God is going to release the most powerful anointing and severe judgment upon the earth to bring forth righteousness and justice.

Indeed, the angelic hosts and elders are excited and overwhelmed at finally seeing God's promise of a mature Bride come to pass. And we are now racing towards the eschatological fulfilment of this scene.

We must let this picture of the mature Bride mark our hearts. This is who we are! This is who we will be!

Let's wrestle with the difficult issues concerning the understanding of and agreement with His judgments now so that we will eventually arrive at the place of the Bride in Revelation 19, declaring, "*We agree! True and righteous are Your judgments, Lord!*"

CONTINUED IN  
**SESSION 47 (PART 2)**



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