



May 19, 2019
Revelation 19:11-16
Pastor Larry Adams
Jesus is King of Kings and Lord of Lords

Hi Everyone. Thank you for reading this message. At Golden Hills we are committed to exalting Jesus and preaching the Word. Your downloading of this message is a great encouragement to us, as we know that our ministry is going out to spread God's Word all over the world.

We want you to know, too, that in no way do we intend these messages to be a replacement for your involvement in a good local church, where, sitting under the authority of pastors and other teachers, you can learn to worship, grow and serve and be engaged with a body of believers where you can grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We realize also, that some of you may be in areas of the world where there is no local church. Therefore, we hope you are using this message to gather with your family or other believers, or people from the community and that it will be a great encouragement to you, as you hear God speak into your life, helping you to become disciples who are true, reproducing followers of Jesus Christ.

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I'm so grateful you are all here today. Thank you for coming out. The choir was singing "We are lifting up the Name of the Lord," because God is great in every situation and circumstance.

You've heard me say many times over the years that I love Jesus. I love Him. I own Him my life. I love to talk about Him. He is central to everything, not just in the word and the church, but in my life. Today, I want to spend a few moments talking about the glorious return of Christ, because He is coming again, you know. We all need to be living ready. John wrote the book of Revelation. It must have been a wonder, a mystery, when these things were opened up to him. John, who knew the Lord on earth probably as well as anybody could, was exiled on an island in the Mediterranean, called Patmos. It is a place where the Roman emperor and government would send people to die; they would exile them there. John said he was out there because of his testimony for Jesus. He was exiled simply because of his love for Christ. They had sent John out there to die, but what the Roman emperor didn't understand was – John couldn't die because he had eternal life in him, in the Lord Jesus.

So on a Sunday morning, John is down worshipping Jesus, and the resurrected Jesus shows up! On that island. He touched John on the shoulder and said, "John, don't be afraid. I'm going to show you some great and wonderful things. I want you to write these down for the ages to come." That's the book of Revelation. The things that were, the things that are and the things that yet shall be.

When you get to chapter 19, you have this powerful description of what it is going to be like when heaven is opened, and John could see the return of Christ. This is the way John wrote it (Rev 19:11-16)

¹¹ I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³ He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. ¹⁴ The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. “He will rule them with an iron scepter.” He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Let's pray for a moment: Father, we have just a shadow of Your greatness but one day, You'll return in all Your glory. Jesus, You are coming again! No one will miss it. Every eye will see You. We will stand in awe of Your greatness as You come to make everything right and to usher in Your kingdom. So today, as we open up this word, help us to put away all the other distractions, and have a mind and heart tuned to You, the great and glorious one who is King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and who is coming again. We'll thank You for all You'll show us, in Jesus' name, amen.

I grew up in an age of super heroes. Real super heroes. You might recognize some of these: Mighty Mouse, Tom Terrific, Roy Rogers, Sky King, Rocky J. Squirrel, Bullwinkle Moose. Now, if you're under 50 – you're probably thinking *what is he talking about? I never heard of any of those people!* And if you're over 50, you're probably thinking – *I watched them every Saturday morning! Those guys were amazing!* Because no matter what the crisis, when they showed up, they made everything right.

I never thought of myself as a super hero, until one rainy day at Cape Lookout State Park in Oregon, on the coast. We were having a youth retreat (Karla and I), high school and college kids. We were staying in tents, out on the coast and it was raining. Tents. In Oregon. Rain for three solid days. Karla and I were sitting in the car, trying to figure out how to make something out of this mess, when this young girl named Debbie – soaking wet, standing in the pouring rain, comes up to our car, taps on the window. I rolled it down. This is all she said, “Larry, we are sick and tired of this rain! You’re the youth pastor – do something about it!” (laughter) I thought wow! *I had no idea how the kids saw me!*

If you think about it, that’s what we want God to do, isn’t it? We look out into the world. The world is a mess. Violence, corruption, fear, hunger, marriages and families in turmoil, values being surrendered to the latest smut, right being called wrong and wrong being called right. Things can get so bad at times, that even people normally inclined to not even think about God – can find themselves crying out, “You’re God! Do something about it!”

Well, the good news is – He has. The good news is – He will, in a way so powerful that nothing in heaven or on earth will ever be the same. Everything and everyone will be made right with God, or they will be destroyed. Jesus is coming back as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. In Revelation 19:11-16, John reveals Him as the King of all Kings and the Lord of all Lords, in absolute power and all divine power and authority, and all goodness and love. Revelation 19 is the description of what is going to happen when He arrives. Jesus peeled back the heavens and showed John of His return.

Set in the celebration in chapter 19 of what George Frederick Handel called, "The Hallelujah Chorus," the great heavenly celebration of angels and all the saints who are celebrating two great events – the first was the destruction of the great prostitute (Revelation 19:1)

After this I heard what sounded like the roar of a great multitude in heaven shouting:
"Hallelujah!
Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,
² for true and just are his judgments.
He has condemned the great prostitute
 who corrupted the earth by her adulteries.
He has avenged on her the blood of his servants."
³ And again they shouted:
"Hallelujah!
The smoke from her goes up for ever and ever."

John indicated in Revelation 18 that the prostitute was the great city of Babylon. The great city of Babylon is used in scripture to describe the whole world system that has arrayed itself against God.

Here John says Christ is coming to destroy all apostate religion and all the Satanic economic and political systems which have led the world astray and have polluted people's pure devotion to Jesus Christ, who have exalted systems and governments and people ahead of Christ. He is coming to make all of that right and to destroy all that has stood in the way.

But there is also a great celebration for what is called the Wedding Supper of the Lamb. In verse 6-9, John says:

⁶ Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting [if you don't like loud, you won't like heaven!] :
"Hallelujah!
 For our Lord God Almighty reigns.
⁷ Let us rejoice and be glad
 and give him glory!
For the wedding of the Lamb has come,
 and his bride has made herself ready.
⁸ Fine linen, bright and clean,
 was given her to wear."
(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God's holy people.)

⁹ Then the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!" And he added, "These are the true words of God."

The great feast that occurs when Jesus, the groom, is finally together with His bride, the church forever and ever. And they celebrate at a great wedding feast. Then the door of heaven is opened for John. He is allowed to see what will happen, and the one who will come to make everything right. He is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.

When Jesus came the first time, He came as a baby, born in Bethlehem. Many missed His arrival, but this time, John said, every eye will see Him.

When He came to Jerusalem the first time, He came riding on a donkey, in the triumphal entry, a mission of peace, to die as the suffering servant for the sins of the world. This time, He will appear on a white horse, a charger, leading a great army to judge and to make war and to establish His kingdom. When He came the first time, most often the question was asked, "Who is this?" When He comes the next time, He will be wearing a name on His robe and on His thigh that no one will miss – this one is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. Everyone and everything will surrender to His will and He will reign forever and ever.

That's why John reminds us that Jesus Christ is God Almighty who is coming again to make everything right.

The question is, how are we to live as we are waiting for His coming? John said, **you worship Him as King of Kings and you follow Him as Lord of Lords. We worship Him as King of Kings.**

If you go back in Revelation 19:9-12, John said

⁹ Then the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!"

And he added, "These are the true words of God."

¹⁰ At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For it is the Spirit of prophecy who bears testimony to Jesus."

¹¹ I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself.

We worship what we value most. Have you ever been to a mall or any kind of a parking lot, and seen a bright, shiny car parked across two or three spaces, taking up the room so that the doors won't get dinged? What you're seeing there is worship. Whoever owns that car is demonstrating what that car is worth to them.

Have you ever wondered about people who will buy expensive tickets, pay \$50 to park, fight traffic for two hours and go sit out in the cold on a hard bench, to cheer on their favorite team? There is nothing wrong with that, if that's what they choose to do, but what you're seeing is worship. They are demonstrating through all of that what that team is worth to them.

Have you ever marveled at the tenderness of a man or woman who stands by their aging spouse, caring for their beloved until they rest in the arms of Jesus? What you're seeing there is worship. They are demonstrating what that loved one is worth to them.

Worship is the tangible expression through actions and priorities of what someone or something is worth to you, and what is of highest value to us in our lives, is what we are devoted to. The car, the game, the loved one.

How much would others say that God is worth to you? Or to me? When they watch the priority of our lives. People use the language all the time. They don't realize what they're saying, but they use it all the time. They watch this kind of devotion and say, "Man! That guy worships his car!" or "That guy worships the Forty-Niners." Or "He worships his job." They aren't saying that they think those things are 'god' to them, but they are saying that those things are of high value to them. They put a lot of time and priority and energy, a lot of devotion in it. It's obvious what is of value to them.

I can't help but wonder at times, when my neighbor sees how I live and people around the church see how I live and my family sees how I live – I wonder if any would look at me and say, "Man! That guy worships God!" and "God is obviously of highest priority to him, above everyone and everything. God is the one he values most." That's the way God intended all of us who are Christians to live, with Jesus in the ultimate place of worship. Because no person, no place, no thing is to have a higher place of worth in our lives than Jesus Christ. He is the King of Kings.

Look how John describes Him – He is faithful and true (v 11). So, when He metes out justice and makes war, it will be true and right and altogether just. No one will question the motive or see that there is anything wrong with this judgment. He will be faithful and true to Himself and to us and to all that is right and true. He is faithful and true.

His eyes, John said, are like blazing fire. This all-seeing God will expose all secrets, and His gaze will penetrate to the thoughts and motives of the heart. He misses nothing! Every sin will be judged. Every good deed will be rewarded. He sees everyone and everything perfectly, in holiness and justice and right. His eyes are like blazing fire.

On His head, John said, are many crowns. Many crowns! He is sovereign over everyone and everything. Over every ruler, every tribe, and every nation. It will be very obvious when Jesus comes. Nobody is higher than this king!

He has a name written on Him that no one knows but He Himself. The name represents the sum total of all a person is and does. But there is a name on Jesus that is going to speak of who He is in a way that, so far, none of us has ever seen. A name so great that it hasn't been revealed yet. But when it is revealed, everyone in all creation is going to fall down and worship before Him.

This is the Jesus who is our king. This is the Jesus who will hold the highest place then. This is the Jesus who is to hold the highest place in our lives right now, because to allow anyone or anything in His rightful place, to value anyone or anything more than Jesus – makes that person or thing into an idol. It makes the people who worship those things into idolaters. Sometimes, the idol of choice, and most often worshipped – is self. It's not what God wants; it's what we want. It's not what God thinks; it's what I think. It's not what God thinks should happen; it's what I think should happen. It's not God's money; it's my money. It's not God's house; it's my house. They're not God's kids; they're my kids. It's not God's marriage; it's my marriage. We worship the God of self.

That's why Paul told the Colossian church (3:1-4)

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.² Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.³ For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.⁴ When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Hold onto that. You are going to appear with Him in glory. We'll come back to that in a minute.

Paul told the Philippian church that this worship of Jesus, keeping Him in first place, is a life-long pursuit. That's why he said (Phil 3:12-14)

¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do:

Here is the guy who wrote half of the New Testament! Devoted to Jesus, near the end of his life, he said, I'm not there yet, but I want to be like Jesus and I'm pursuing Him with all my heart. He is clearly number one in my life.

Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

People, the prize is Jesus Himself. I assure you that heaven will hold no prize greater than Jesus Christ. Heaven would cease to be heaven, if Jesus were not there. He is the King of Kings. He alone is worthy of worship now and forever. This is how we are to be living when Christ comes again – as King of Kings, when He comes to make everything right, that we would be worshippers of Him and the place of highest worth.

Not only worship Him as King of Kings, but we follow Him as Lord of Lords. John said (Rev 19:13-16),

He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. ¹⁴ The armies of God were following Him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written:
KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

You've heard it said, we follow Jesus as Lord of all, or we do not follow Him as Lord at all. He is Lord of all or He is not Lord at all. I've wrestled with that over the years. Years ago, I was confronted by God, because I had to make a decision who was going to run my life. Some of you have heard this story before, but I think it bears repeating.

When Karla and I were given the opportunity to come to Antioch to help start a new church 35 years ago (more than that now), I didn't want to come. It's not secret. I did not want to come. I had never heard of Antioch. I didn't want to live in California. I was living in Oregon. I had picked out a nice spot for a house. I loved the ministry there. I wanted to be a youth pastor. I loved our church. I liked being connected to the school I had attended there. I had everything laid out for my life. Coming down here was a major interruption. That's why we told the folks, no – we're not interested. That was in May of 1983. But the core group here, and others, kept forging ahead. They invited us again in September of that same year. I remember telling Karla – honey, we have to go back down to California and put this thing to rest. This is not going away. So we came down. It was a Saturday night. I was supposed to speak to this group the next morning and tell them we're not coming. We stayed at the Motel 6 in Pittsburg (California). (This was way

before Wal Mart and Taco Bell were there – it was a God-forsaken place over there, back in the early 80's).

I was miserable that night because deep inside, I knew God wanted me to come here, but I didn't want to. If any of you have ever been grateful that we came, you thank God for it, but also thank Karla because it was she that night whom God spoke through to me, when she said to me, "Larry, one reason you're so miserable is – you know God wants you here, but you're not willing." Whoa.

So I got up, slightly delighted at what she had just said (laughter). I walked out the door and closed it behind me – a bit firmer than normally. I went for a walk. A beautiful moonlit night. Gas trucks driving by. The stench of the paper mill and oil wells and the chemical plant nearby. Papers were blowing up against the fence. I was standing out there, looking at the moon. I've never heard God speak audibly, but this was the closest I've ever heard. It was so clear. He said, "Larry if you don't want to take this for Me, you don't have to. But don't ever call me 'Lord' again."

It broke me. I realized in that moment, He wasn't the Lord of my life. I was the Lord of my life. I was telling Him where I wanted to live, the house I wanted, the ministry I wanted, what I thought was best and what I was willing and not willing to do. Jesus reminded me – it doesn't work that way. You're not the Lord. But if you think you are, don't call ME 'Lord' again.

It tells us in Rev 19:14 "¹⁴The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean." Just like the armies of heaven following Him as Lord, at His Second Coming, we'll be a part of that great army that is appearing with Him in His glory, following Him as Lord then. He wants us to be following Him as Lord now.

Following Jesus in humble obedience is acknowledgement of His lordship. Following Him is no burden because of what He has done and what He is going to do and who He is. Because of what He has done – look at what John said (v 13) "He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood." Remember what Jesus showed doubting Thomas, when he couldn't believe that Jesus had really risen from the dead? John 20:27-28

²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." ²⁸ Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

See – for all eternity, we'll be reminded of His sacrifice. You'll see those nail holes in His feet and hands, and the wound in His side. When He comes, He'll be dressed in a robe dipped in blood, the blood He paid to save me and you from our sin. No one in heaven will ever forget the blood He shed in His battle with Satan, sin and death so you and I could be free.

But also, it is a reminder of what He is yet going to do. He is wearing the blood-stained robe of judgment. When He comes to destroy all wickedness and the nations that opposed Him. He is coming to rule them with an iron scepter. He treads out the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. God is a God of love. He loves you more than you know. And He has paid a great price, but when people reject all that at the end, and they still oppose Him, they'll be crushed under the power of this coming King.

He has written on His robe and thigh, King of Kings and Lord of Lords. No one will ever question His authority to do this.

That's why, in 2 Peter 3:3-14, Peter said

³Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. ⁴They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." ⁵But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water. ⁶By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. ⁷By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

⁸But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

¹¹Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹²as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

¹⁴So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

Peter and John didn't write these things to scare us. They wrote these things to prepare us. In fact, if you're sitting here today, and those words terrorize you, it might be an indicator of just how far you are from Christ being lord of your life. John said, when he saw these things, he saw that people who are living with Jesus as lord are looking forward to His coming.

How we live really matters. Those who live for Jesus don't need to be afraid. Peter said, if you follow Jesus as lord, you'll look forward to seeing Him as Lord then. We'll rejoice because He is ushering in a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

But it isn't just a joy to follow them because of what He has done and what He will do – but also because of who He is. Verse 13 says He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and His name is the Word of God.

Jesus is the Word. He is the fullness of God in human flesh, the very revelation of God Himself. He is the Word, the living word and the scriptures are His written word, the very revelation of Christ Himself.

Remember in John 5 when Jesus talked to the crowds, he said (5:39) "³⁹You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, ⁴⁰yet you refuse to come to me to have life." When you read

the Bible, you are hearing God speak. It is God's testimony about His Son. Every book of the Bible reveals Him. This is why I love to read this word. If you love Jesus, you discover Him on every page in here! He is everywhere. This is the revelation of Jesus Christ.

In Genesis – He is the seed of the woman.

In Exodus – He is the Passover Lamb.

In Leviticus - He is the atoning sacrifice.

In Numbers – He is the smitten rock.

In Deuteronomy – He is the prophet.

In Joshua – He is captain of the Lord of Hosts.

In Judges – He is the deliver.

In Ruth – He is the kinsman-redeemer.

In Samuel, Kings and Chronicles – He is the ruler.

In Nehemiah – He is the restorer.

In Esther – He is the advocate.

In Job – He is the mighty God.

In Psalms – He is the savior, the shepherd and the sovereign.

In Proverbs – He is the wisdom.

In Ecclesiastes – He is the goal.

In the Song of Solomon – He is the groom.

In the Prophets – He is the coming one.

In the gospels – He is the God-Man.

In Acts – He is the risen one.

In the epistles – He is the head of the church.

In Revelation – He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords who is coming again to reign!

That's our Jesus!

That's the Jesus I'm following – what about you?

The Bible says that those who believe His word and follow Him will never be put to shame. Those who reject His word and refuse Him, will by that word, be destroyed. That is the word – the sword – that is coming out of His mouth!

People – the Bible depicts that in these last days, the armies of earth who oppose Christ, who represent these kingdoms opposed to God – are going to gather together to try to stop the coming of Jesus Christ. They are going to come with their armies, and their nuclear weapons, their missiles, and bombs and their tanks and helicopters and their fighter jets – all of these things!

It says in Psalm 2 – “The Lord looks down from heaven and laughs!”

The whole world is held together by His power. The whole world, the universe is held together by the word of His power. When will we wake up and realize that this Jesus is the only one – all He has to do is speak a word, and everything we know will cease to exist! This is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords we follow. The one who is in love with you. He gave His life for you on the cross.

It says (Revelation 17:14) “¹⁴ They will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will triumph over them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings—and *with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers.*” I want to be in that army. Don’t you?

So let me ask you: is this the Jesus you are following as the lord of your life? It isn’t just people who call Him “Lord.” Jesus said there are a lot of people who give Him lip-service. They call Him “Lord,” just like I did at one point in my life (but He wasn’t the Lord; I was).

That’s why in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said (Matthew 7:21-22)

²¹ “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’

Didn’t we go to church? Didn’t we teach Sunday School? Didn’t we drive the bus to camp? Didn’t we do all that? He will say, (v 23) “I never knew you. Away from Me, you evildoers!”

There is no replacement for having a personal relationship with this God – to worship Him as King and to follow Him as the Lord of your life. When He returns to make everything right, no one is going to miss who He is. Remember how Revelation begins? (Rev 1:7-8)

⁷ “Look, he is coming with the clouds,”
and “every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him”;
and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.”
So shall it be! Amen.
⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

John said (V 16)

¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written:
KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

No one will miss Him. But to be sure to have life, you must be sure not to miss Him now.

It's amazing to me how many people, so-called experts, biblical scholars, historians and others – keep gathering together to try to diminish the truth of who Jesus is. So many people believe these people.

I remember picking up the paper some years ago, and the headline caught my attention: *Scholars say Jesus Didn't Promise a Second Coming*. So I read this article about a group that gathered in San Francisco, biblical scholars who overwhelmingly agreed that Jesus Christ never promised to return and usher in a new age, and they say He would have been appalled about becoming a cult figure and a new religion, the group said...

About 100 scholars, theologians and historians discussed the teachings of the historical Jesus, in the three-day seminar, agreed that Jesus did not promise a second coming in which He would bring in a new age as the leader of God's kingdom. Gospel writers and later followers of Jesus were the ones who predicted a second coming of Jesus, most scholars participating in the "Jesus Seminar" said. Twenty-six of the thirty scholars voting after the discuss on the second coming, said they strongly disagreed that Jesus expected to return and usher in a new age. The group also voted overwhelmingly that the language used to describe the future kingdom of God in the New Testament is mythic and symbolic, and recommended that people should not believe in, nor look forward to, a second coming and a new age.

People – you may not like this word, but you know what God called them? Fools. Professing to be wise, they have become fools, and exchanged the glory of God for this nonsense. People – I don't know which Jesus they are following, but I can tell you – that's not the Jesus John saw. That's not the Jesus that met me that night over in Pittsburg. That's not the Jesus of this Bible. That's not the Jesus of this church.

John said (Revelation 19:11-16)

¹¹ I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³ He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. ¹⁴ The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written:

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The question is – do you know Him? Do you know this Jesus? Because if you do, you will worship Him as King. No one or nothing will have a higher place in your life than He does, and you will follow Him as Lord for what He has done and what He is yet to do, and just for who He is. You'll look forward to the day of His coming when all will be made right, finally. And all will worship and follow Him. Because you see, He is the King of Kings. He is the Lord of Lords. His name is Jesus. I love Him. He is going to reign forever and ever and ever. And all of God's people said, "Amen." (applause)

God – thank You. I don't have all the details. I don't know all the timing, but I don't need that, all I need is You. Just You and the Word, the Holy Spirit of God. Thank You God for all that You are and all that You've done. Thank You Jesus for being our savior. You are more than we deserve. You're still saving people who believe in You because You love them.

That's why, if you're here today, and you're not sure you have a relationship with God, I want you to know – He is still offering salvation by faith to those who believe in Him. Not by works. Not by earning this. Not by going to church or getting baptized, or taking Communion. This is by believing in Jesus. This Jesus.

The Jesus of the Mormons won't save you. The Jesus of Jehovah's Witnesses won't save you. The Jesus of the many cults and distortions out there will not save you. The prosperity Jesus won't save you.

THIS Jesus will save you – the King of Kings and Lord of Lords; God in human flesh.

So it you're here today and you know you're a sinner, and you believe He died on the cross to save your from your sins (because there is no other way) and then He was buried and rose again on the third day, conquering sin, death and the grave. If you believe that today, then you have a gift – the gift of God. Open up your heart to Him and ask Him to come in. For as many as receive Him, to them He gives the right to be called the children of God.

You can pray to Him like this, right now, in your heart: *Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that You died on a cross for my sins because You love me. I believe You were buried in a tomb, but the grave couldn't hold You. Three days later, You rose again, victorious, conquering sin and death and the grave, for me. And You are alive. So Jesus, I ask You, please come and live in me. Wash away all of my sins. Forgive me. Teach me to follow You as King of Kings and Lord of Lords all the days of my life. I will look forward to the great and glorious day of Your coming.*

If you prayed that or anything like it in your heart, God heard you. He knows the cry of faith. Christ comes to live in you. He applies that payment to you – your sins are forgiven. You are brought into relationship with God. It's a new beginning. We want to help you with that. If you prayed today, please come to the prayer room. We'll pray with you and rejoice with you, that Jesus Christ, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords has come to live in your heart.

God, thank You for being who You are. Thank You for being so clear, so powerful, that those who trust in You will never be disappointed. I pray, God, that our song will be an indicator of our worship, and of our trust in You as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Thank You for those who have given their hearts to You today. This is why You came, and why we look forward to Your coming. We love You, Jesus. Thank You for Your love for us. In Your precious name, amen.

