



# river west church

## Marriage Supper of the Lamb

Revelation 19:1-10

Pastor Guy Gray

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### **When the Gospel Shines Brightest**

The light of the Gospel shines brightest when illuminated against the darkest background. That's why the Gospel dazzles us in the Book of Revelation. God pulls back the curtain on reality. Thick trouble is set before us on every page. But that just sets the stage to illuminate the brilliance of the Gospel.

This is the power of Revelation 19. Suddenly, God's good news breaks out like the morning sun. Revelation slammed us with three chapters of pitch black intensity – bowls of wrath, the whore of Babylon, the fall of Babylon. Then, in a flash, we are lifted up to the glory of God. There couldn't be a greater contrast; the thick sludge of the whore of Babylon, and the radiant splendor of Jesus and His bride. See this, and the Gospel will move you.

### **Sing Hallelujah – Times Four**

Revelation 19 is the only place in the New Testament where the word Hallelujah appears. Really? Yes, it's true. God held it back until Revelation 19. We say and sing the word Hallelujah all the time. Use a word enough and if you're not careful it can lose its impact. But God had a special plan for this word in the New Testament. God waited. He told the whole story of the Gospel first. He put Jesus before our eyes. He put His love on display. He explained the Gospel in detail. Finally, He opened our eyes to the ultimate future, the final victory of Jesus over sin, death, hell, Satan and all the injustice of this world. In Revelation 19, there's just no way to hold it back for one more moment. So God lets it ring out – Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! That's right, four times in the space of ten verses of chapter 19. When you see the wonder, the brilliance of the Gospel, this is how you feel in your bones. You know you have to join the chorus – loud, strong, continuously, lifting your voice, lifting your heart. Praise Him!

### **Rescued for Relationship**

Next comes the pinnacle moment. God Himself presides over a cosmic wedding. Best of all, we're invited. Better than that, we're called to be the bride of Christ! Every page of the Bible, every miracle, every prophecy of salvation, it all leads here. And wonder of wonders – it's personal. It's a wedding and it's the story of redemption. And, here's the brilliance of the Gospel, you and I have been rescued for relationship.

The Gospel makes us marvel at God. It shakes us with a theological vision of God's reality. It humbles us with the reality of our sin. It shocks us with the cross of Christ and then thrills us with the victory of Easter Sunday. But the Gospel isn't just a set of profound ideas about God and what He has done. Beyond all that, it is an invitation to a relationship. God calls us to be His bride. God throws a wedding feast. Can you see yourself in the picture?

Let's take some time with Revelation 19 and see the glory of God and the radiance of the Gospel. May God use it in our hearts to stir up our faith and our love for Jesus!