

Some questions raised in Revelation 19-20

1. Why not jump straight from the fall of Babylon (Rev 17-18) to the descent of New Jerusalem (Rev 21-22)?
2. What is the chronological relationship among the “events” narrated in these two chapters?
3. How do these chapters echo/anticipate other parts of Revelation (intratextually)?
4. What echoes of Hebrew Scripture do we hear in these chapters (intertextually)?
5. What is the relationship between the “marriage supper of the Lamb” (19.9) and the “great supper of God” (19.17-18)?
6. How do the war scenes here relate to the one in Rev 13?
7. Why is Satan thrown in a pit for 1000 years (20.2-3)? And why then is he released, only to be thrown into the lake of fire (20.9-10)?
8. What is “the first resurrection” (20.5)? How does it relate to any other “resurrections”?
9. What is “the second death” (20.6)?
10. What are “Gog and Magog” (20.8)?
11. What are the various “books” that are opened (20.12)?
12. If all those not written in the book of life are thrown into the lake of fire (20.15; 21.8), then who are the people outside the gates of New Jerusalem (22.15)?