

King of Kings and Lord of Lords

Read Revelation 1:12-20; 11:15-18; 17:12-14; 19:11-16

The final chapter in the story of Jesus' kingship is told in the final book of the Bible, Revelation. The book is itself *"The Revelation of Jesus Christ"*, as the opening words tell us. By revealing Jesus for who He is, the book also reveals the destiny of this His world.

The sovereignty of Jesus Christ is written on every page of Revelation, so we can't pretend to cover our topic thoroughly. But let's look at a few passages that reveal Jesus' kingship with particular clarity and force.

John's narrative opens with a vision of Christ in all His heavenly splendor, walking among the churches (1:12-20). This magnificent reality colors all that the book says. His glorious presence overshadows all human history. All that is to happen flows from what God has done in Christ.

In chapter 11, with God's final judgment about to be enacted on earth, heaven already begins proclaiming Jesus Messiah's final and total victory:

"The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever" (v.15, NASB).

The twenty-four elders surrounding God's throne already start to celebrate:

"We give You thanks, O Lord God, the Almighty, who are and who were, because You have taken Your great power and have begun to reign" (v.17, NASB).

In chapter 17, in the beast's final days, he continues to futilely oppose Almighty God. The beast's earthly kings receive their authority for a very limited time, and they ride out to wage war on the Lamb. But His victory is already assured, for He is *"Lord of lords and King of kings"* (v.14, NASB).

Again in chapter 19, Jesus rides out in all His majesty, accompanied by the armies of heaven.

On His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "King of Kings, and Lord of Lords" (v.16, NASB)

Our God is sovereign over all reality, in every time and place. In Jesus Christ He will fully establish His loving reign in every heart and through all creation.

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