

Revelation 17:14, 19:11-16 – King of kings and Lord of lords

Table: Revelation 17:14, 19:11-16
Revelation 17:14, 19:11-16, AV1611 versus NIV/NKJV footnotes

Verse	AV1611	NIV/NKJV footnotes
17:14	<i>These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.</i>	<i>“...They will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will overcome them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings — and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers.”</i>
19:11	<i>And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.</i>	<i>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 makes war.</i>
19:12	<i>His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.</i>	<i>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.</i>
19:13	<i>And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.</i>	<i>He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God.</i>
19:14	<i>And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.</i>	<i>The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean.</i>
19:15	<i>And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.</i>	<i>Out of his mouth comes 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.</i>
19:16	<i>And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.</i>	<i>On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.</i>

Note that many of the notes that follow this table are from Dr Ruckman’s commentary *The Book of Revelation*, Bible Baptist Bookstore, 1970, Chapter 19, pp 386, 472-473, 492-493, 497-503.

Notes on Revelation 17:14, 19:11-16

1. Revelation 17:14. Note that the Lord Jesus Christ is called **“Lord of lords, and King of kings”** or **“KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS”** Revelation 19:16 3 times in scripture, the first time being in 1 Timothy 6:15. Note the **“the”** that qualifies the remaining references, Revelation 17:14, 19:16.

“Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;”

Revelation 17:14, 19:16 is ‘show time’ for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Revelation 17:12 shows that **“ten kings”** who are satanic rulers in the End Times and correspond to **“the toes of the feet”** Daniel 2:42 of the **“great image”** of Daniel 2:31-33 are the ones who **“shall make war with the Lamb”** at the Lord’s Return.

The Lord Jesus Christ shall defeat them because as **“Lord of lords, and King of kings”** He will fulfil Psalm 110:5-6 at His Return.

“The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath. He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill the places with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over many countries.”

Daniel 2:20-21, 4:35 affirm the Lord’s rule over earthly kings, including satanic earthly kings.

“Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:”

“And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?”

The “called, and chosen, and faithful” are “the armies which were in heaven” Revelation 19:14, which make up “the army of heaven.”

They are glorified saints, according to Revelation 19:8.

“And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.”

These saints are identified in Psalm 50:4-5 and 1 Peter 2:9 as Old Testament Jewish saints and New Testament Church Age saints respectively. They make up “the company of two armies” Song of Solomon 6:13. See Dr Ruckman’s commentary *The Book of Song of Solomon* p 251.

“He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people. Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.”

“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:”

The issue for anyone now is to ensure that the Lord Jesus Christ is his “blessed and only potentate” according to God’s calling by the Gospel in 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14, in order to become one of the glorified saints of Revelation 17:14, 19:14, in the right army. Compare Revelation 17:14, 19:14, 19. Don’t be caught on the losing side, Revelation 19:19-21.

It’s a genuine case of “No prisoners!” as in the 1962 epic film *Lawrence of Arabia*, starring Peter O’Toole, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lawrence_of_Arabia_%28film%29.

“But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

2. Revelation 19:11. The white horse Rider from heaven, copied as ‘the good guy’ in many seed plots, is “the Lord of glory” 1 Corinthians 2:8, James 2:1, Who is “the King of glory” Psalm 24:7, 8, 9, 10. Note especially Psalm 24:8, 10 and the Second Advent reference to “Selah.” See Dr Ruckman’s commentary *Volume I of the Book of Psalms* p 13 and subsequent references to “Selah.”

“Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.”

“Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah.”

Note also the testimony of Exodus 15:3, Psalm 19:9 and Revelation 1:5 with respect to the identity of the white horse Rider. Note that Revelation 1:5 cross-references to 1 Timothy 6:15, Revelation 17:14, 19:14 and shows why “they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful,” because they have been cleansed by “the blood of Jesus Christ” 1 John 1:7 i.e. “Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood.”

“The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name.”

“The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.” See point 7 on Revelation 19:16 and the Lord Jesus Christ as **“King of righteousness”** Hebrews 7:2.

“And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,”

3. **Revelation 19:12.** Revelation 19:12 cross references with Revelation 1:14.

“His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;”

Revelation 1:8, 11 with Revelation 1:14 therefore confirm the identity of the white horse Rider of Revelation 19:11, 12:

“I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.”

“...I am alpha and omega, the first and the last...”

Moreover, with **“eyes...as a flame of fire”** i.e. *real* X-Ray LASER vision, the Lord:

Sees the heart:

“But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart” 1 Samuel 16:7.

“For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars” 2 Chronicles 16:9.

Sees the future:

“The wicked plotteth against the just, and gnasheth upon him with his teeth. The Lord shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming” Psalm 37:12-13.

Sees everyone and everything:

“The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good” Proverbs 15:3.

“Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do” Hebrews 4:13.

Sees hell and destruction:

“Hell is naked before him, and destruction hath no covering” Job 26:6.

Sees the imagination:

“Then said he unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen what the ancients of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the chambers of his imagery? for they say, The LORD seeth us not; the LORD hath forsaken the earth” Ezekiel 8:12.

Sees all wrong-doing:

“Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance” Psalm 90:9.

“Then said he unto me, The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceeding great, and the land is full of blood, and the city full of perverseness: for they say, The LORD hath forsaken the earth, and the LORD seeth not” Ezekiel 9:9.

*“The biggest trick the devil ever pulled on you young people was to make you think that if the lights were blue and the smoke was thick or the music was loud, God couldn’t see. Well, let me tell you something, young fellow, you never put your hand where God didn’t see it. You will give an account as sure as you live and breathe” – Dr Peter S. Ruckman, *The White Throne Judgement*, p 7.*

See *Breath of Life*, a good prayer in response to Dr Ruckman’s comment and worth communicating to the lads, ingeb.org/spiritua/obreatho.html.

*O Breath of Life, come sweeping through us,
Revive Thy church with life and pow’r;
O Breath of Life, come, cleanse, renew us,
And fit Thy church to meet this hour.*

Sees prayer, so pray often:

“But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly”
Matthew 6:6.

The Lord has **“many crowns”** because He will have all the 5 crowns of scripture; **“an incorruptible...crown”** 1 Corinthians 9:25, a **“crown of rejoicing”** 1 Thessalonians 2:19, **“the crown of righteousness”** 2 Timothy 4:8, **“the crown of life”** James 1:12, Revelation 2:10, **“a crown of glory”** 1 Peter 5:4.

See the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 1572-1573.

In addition, the Lord will have the crowns of all the nations at His Return. He clearly has them in advance. That will constitute **“many crowns.”**

“And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever” Revelation 11:15.

“He had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself” because Revelation 19:12 cross-references to Judges 13:18.

“And the angel of the LORD said unto him, Why askest thou thus after my name, seeing it is secret?”

The Lord not only possesses this special intimacy Himself but He imparts it to each one of the **“called, and chosen, and faithful.”**

“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it” Revelation 2:17.

Revelation 2:17 suggests that the Lord has His own **“white stone.”**

4. ***Revelation 19:13. “He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood:”*** because this is what will happen at the Second Advent. The Lord will take **“the kingdoms of this world”** by force at the Second Advent, *not by evangelism before the Second Advent.*

John saw the blood *in advance* of the events described in Psalm 68:22-23, Isaiah 63:1-3, Revelation 14:19-20, see below, because John received ***“The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:”*** Revelation 1:1.

“The Lord said, I will bring again from Bashan, I will bring my people again from the depths of the sea: That thy foot may be dipped in the blood of thine enemies, and the tongue of thy dogs in the same.”

*“Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment.” “The people” of whom “there was none with me” are the Lord’s enemies i.e. they are *against* Him, Matthew 12:30, Revelation 19:11, as Isaiah 63:6 shows. “And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth.”*

Note the cross reference “I that speak in righteousness” to Revelation 19:11 “in righteousness he doth judge and make war” and Revelation 19:15 “And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations.”

It should be noted that the *“Word”* is intimately associated with the *“word”* and *“the word of God”* is *“the sword of the Spirit”* Ephesians 6:17. Note the embedded word word in sword that with slight rearrangement becomes words.

“And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.” Revelation 14:19-20.

“His name is called The Word of God” because His name *“is secret”* Judges 13:18, Revelation 19:12 but it is the same designation for the Lord Jesus Christ as *“the Word”* in John 1:1, 3 times, 1:14, 1 John 5:7 and *“the Word of life”* 1 John 1:1.

The designation is important with respect to the application in Revelation 19:15, see point 6. It is how *“The Word of God”* will rule, according to Ecclesiastes 8:4.

“Where the word of a king is, there is power: and who may say unto him, What doest thou?”

That is why God saw to it that His Book would be translated under the authority of a king with a Jewish name, *Jacob*, anglicised to *James*. God then gave to *“the life of the world”* John 6:51 the *Authorized King James Bible*.

See www.timefortruth.co.uk/content/pages/documents/1311767565.pdf *The KJB Story 1611-2011 Abridged*.

5. Revelation 19:14. See remarks under Revelation point 1, Revelation 17:14. Note also Revelation 19:8.

“And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.”

“The bride, the Lamb’s wife” Revelation 21:9, see also Revelation 19:7, has been through *“the judgment seat of Christ”* Romans 14:10, 2 Corinthians 5:10 where *“the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is”* 1 Corinthians 3:13 and *“the church”* i.e. *“The bride, the Lamb’s wife”* has been fully cleansed according to Ephesians 5:25-27.

“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”

That is *“the fine linen...the righteousness of saints.”*

6. Revelation 19:15. Revelation 19:15 shows how ***“The Word of God”*** ministers ***“the word of his mouth”*** Jeremiah 9:20 at the Second Advent as ***“the King of kings, and Lord of lords”*** 1 Timothy 6:15, in fulfilment of Psalm 2:6-12. See also point 1, John 6:15, study on John 6:15-21.

God will make His Son King at the Second Advent and the Lord Jesus Christ will acquire His Kingship by force and rule by force as a military dictatorship.

“Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel. Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him” Psalm 2:6-12.

Never underestimate the power of ***“the word of God”*** from the mouth, Matthew 4:4, of ***“The Word of God”*** according to Hebrews 4:12.

“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

It is best to own Him as King now, according to Isaiah 33:22, also after the manner of Queen Victoria.

“For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us.”

When Britain was greatest, she had a King James Bible-believing monarch at the helm, Queen Victoria, who said to one of her clergy, E. W. Farrar, after listening to him preach a message on the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, *“Dean Farrar, I should like to be living when Jesus comes, so that I could lay the crown of England at His feet.”* See *Halley’s Bible Handbook*, Revised Edition, p 447.

See point 4, Revelation 19:13 for remarks on the remainder of Revelation 19:15.

7. Revelation 19:16. The Lord’s name ***“KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS”*** is written on ***“his vesture”*** to be visible, according to Isaiah 33:17, which also speaks of ***“a better country, that is, an heavenly:”*** Hebrews 11:16.

“Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty; they shall behold the land that is very far off.”

The Lord’s name ***“KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS”*** is also written on ***“his vesture”*** because ***“his vesture”*** is associated with ***“the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ”*** 2 Peter 1:1. See also point 5 and Revelation 19:8.

The following scriptures associate clothing or attire and righteousness and typify or directly apply to ***“Jesus Christ the righteous”*** 1 John 2:1.

“I put on righteousness, and it clothed me; my judgment was as a robe and a diadem” Job 29:14, with Psalm 19:9 ***“The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.”***

“Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness; and let thy saints shout for joy” Psalm 132:9.

“And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins” Isaiah 11:5.

“For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloke” Isaiah 59:17.

“I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels”
Isaiah 61:10.

“Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;” Ephesians 6:14.

Note further that the Lord Jesus Christ is ***“King of righteousness”*** - and ***“The Prince of peace”***
Isaiah 9:6, as typified by Melchisedec, Hebrews 7:2-3.

“To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace...made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually.”

The Lord’s name ***“KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS”*** is written on His thigh because that is the place of greatest bodily strength. Genesis 24:2 states ***“And Abraham said unto his eldest servant of his house, that ruled over all that he had, Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh:”*** because ***“Abraham is making Eliezer [Genesis 15:2] swear by his strength.”***
See Dr Ruckman’s commentary *The Book of Genesis*, pp 492-493.

Psalm 71:16 links both righteousness and strength with respect to the Lord Jesus Christ.

“I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD: I will make mention of thy righteousness, even of thine only.”

Song of Solomon 5:15 describes the strength of the Lord Jesus Christ with reference to His legs.

“His legs are as pillars of marble, set upon sockets of fine gold: his countenance is as Lebanon, excellent as the cedars.”

The Lord as ***“KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS”*** is the strongest of kings and lords. The Lord Jesus Christ is ***“the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David”*** Revelation 5:5, see also Revelation 22:16, Who as ***“KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS”*** will occupy ***“the throne of his father David...for ever”*** Luke 1:31-33.

Proverbs 30:29-30 therefore typifies the Lord Jesus Christ as ***“the Lion of the tribe of Juda.”***
Note the reference to seven, a number repeatedly associated with God in scripture, from Genesis 2:2 onwards and with the Lord Jesus Christ especially in the Book of Revelation. See Revelation 1:4, 11, 12, 13, 16, 20 etc.

“There be three things which go well, yea, four are comely in going: A lion which is strongest among beasts, and turneth not away for any;”

Psalm 72:11 will therefore come to pass at the Second Advent. See also Psalm 2:10-12 and point 6 above, 68:12, 14, 76:12, 89:27, 102:15, 110:5, 138:4, 148:7, 11, 13, 149:8.

“Yea, all kings shall fall down before him; all nations shall serve him.”

See also 1 Samuel 2:10 and Isaiah 63:1* with respect to ***“the strength of the LORD”*** Micah 5:4, see also Psalm 71:16 above, and the Second Advent. *See point 4 and Revelation 19:13.

“The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the LORD shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed.”

“Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength?”

8. The NIV is deficient in:

- 8.1. Revelation 19:11. The NIV's alteration of "**righteousness**" to "*justice*" breaks all the cross references to the Lord Jesus Christ as "**King of righteousness**" Hebrews 7:2. See points 2, 7.
- 8.2. Revelation 19:12, 13a. Changing the AV1611's past tense to the NIV's present tense implies that the single distinct vision that John saw in those scriptures is a perpetual or present continuous event, which Revelation 19:12 is not. It is a single event, which is yet future, with the Lord Jesus Christ in a particular form as the white horse rider. The Lord *can and does* appear "**in another form**" Mark 16:12, where "**His eyes**" are not "**as a flame of fire.**" See Song of Solomon 5:12.

"His eyes are as the eyes of doves by the rivers of waters, washed with milk, and fitly set."

John is describing Revelation 19:12 as part "**of all things that he saw**" Revelation 1:2. He gives a witness statement in the past tense. Observe how the witnesses use the past tense in 2 Kings 1:8 in order to report what they *saw* in the recent past, which then elicits a correct response in the *present* tense.

"And they answered him, He was an hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather about his loins. And he said, It is Elijah the Tishbite."

The NIV has no warrant for adding "*on him*" in Revelation 19:12. See remarks under point 3 and Judges 13:18, Revelation 2:17. Revelation 19:16 *reveals* the name, singular, as "**a name**" that is written "**on his vesture, and on his thigh.**" It is "**KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS**" *known to anyone who can read Revelation 19:16.*

Alteration of "**man**" to "*one*" implies that even God the Father does not know this name, which is highly unlikely in the light of Mark 13:32, indicating that the Father always has perfect knowledge that *even the Lord Jesus Christ was not privy to* during His earthly ministry.

"But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father."

- 8.3. Revelation 19:13. "**His name is called The Word of God**" because "**it is secret**" Judges 13:18* so it has to be *called* by a name that is *not* secret, in accordance with John 18:20.

"Jesus answered him, I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing."

*The name may be "**JEHOVAH**" Exodus 6:3, Psalm 83:18, Isaiah 12:2, 26:4 *because Jesus is Jehovah saves*, Matthew 1:21, see also Dr Ruckman's commentary *The Book of Matthew* p 19.

The NIV slights the Lord Jesus Christ by downgrading "**The**" to "*the*." See Isaiah 9:6, where the NIV/TNIV/NKJV each slights the Lord Jesus Christ, attacking the uniqueness of His Deity.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

Note Isaiah 45:5, which the NIV/TNIV/NKJV editors did not.

"I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me:"