

A N

A D D R E S S .

delivered by:-

J. S. G.

in

LYMINGTON HALL,

West End lane, N.W.

on

LORD'S DAY EVENING,

7th. April, 1929.

--oOo--

Scriptures read:-

REVELATION:-

Chapters:-

Verses:-

XIX

XI to XXI.

XX

1 to 1V.

-----o))O((o-----

We have before us, dear friends, this evening, a most solemn event. It is given to us, you know, in what you might call "pictorial" language. But the picture is easily read - and no picture in scripture does away with the awful reality. Very often, people turn aside an account which is in God's word and say:- "that is only a parable - it is only a picture". I have often had that remark said to me in regard to the sixteenth of Luke: "that is only a parable" - "only a picture". I have replied:- "And what is it a picture of?" - "blessing?" What is it a picture of? Most awful misery! No, there is a lot, dear friends, in the sixteenth of Luke which is part of a picture; and it is a picture to convey to the mind the most awful realities that could be thought of; and that is:- the state of the dead after they have left this scene. And you know that picture gives us "tormented in this place". In this picture it is not that. It gives the coming of the Lord Jesus; not the great event of His coming in grace and shouting and calling His people away, that, we know from scripture, has taken place before - but the time when He comes. And when He does come - He comes for blessing. I would like every person to think of that for a moment. I have heard people say that the appearing of the Lord is for judgment. It is for blessing. But let me ask you a question:- how can a blessing be brought in? Let me ask you, dear friends; supposing you wanted to have Britain this night to be a country where persons can dwell in peace and everything in harmony - what would have to do? You would have to banish sin and everyone is sin. In other words, the blessing can only come by judgment.

You know, the nations of the world, they wont learn by grace. They will only learn (as we are told in scripture) "when His judgments are in the earth". Last Sunday evening we were looking briefly at the twentyone judgments which are the result of the rejection of the Lord Jesus; but this evening, we come to the "Wrath of the Lamb". And you know, dear friends, it will be a solemn moment when the Lamb comes forth and His wrath is executed. Let no one be deceived. Men can make light of it; men can pretend to do away with it. Just as certain as He once came in grace (and nothing but grace marked His coming) He is going to come in wrath, "the wrath of the Lamb". The wrath of the Lamb is going to fall. All we have had is govermental until you come to the vials where they partake of the character of Divine wrath. In that especially (as I said) it is the "wrath of the Lamb" which will be executed by Himself upon this part of the earth. Now I must go back a little and we must think first of His coming. He has come once. How different to this! Why, He was born in a manger! - entered the world a little babe - who would be afraid of a babe?. Simeon takes the babe in his arms, and what are his words?:- "Let me depart in peace for mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation";-Because of what faith could see in that babe. Now, dear friends, pass on. He grew up, and just for a time He was a very popular preacher - but it was only for a time. As He reached the conscience of the people they began to forsake Him. The crowd began to dwindle till at last - instead of welcoming Him, they cried:- "Away with Him! Crucify Him! ".

Now, dear friends, before we go to the scripture, let me ask you:- Do you know He has been - had His first coming?

For if you don't know that, you can never understand His second coming. What has He done by His first coming? He has put away sin sacrificially. "Sacrificially", what does that word mean? He Himself was the sacrifice to bear away sin - to take sin from under the eye of God - to meet the holy claims of God's throne - to meet sin as God looked at it. That He has done in taking away sin as God looks at it. He has met my deepest need. But don't think your or my need the most particular; that is only a very little thing. Why, dear friends, what Has He done for God? Sin came into God's universe; it offended His majesty; it was hateful in His sight. Christ has done the work so that God can move, and remove sin out of His universe - and that will be on the basis of the Cross. Now, dear friends, Jesus is seated at the right hand of God; and God offers to you, through Him, the forgiveness of sins. And that is what He has been doing for nearly two-thousand years - offering forgiveness of sins. Not the world, mark, but to save everything that is in the world. Don't run away with the idea that there will be any hope for the world. There is no more hope, my dear friends, for the world than there is for a soap bubble when it is broken. There is nothing but judgment for the world; but every individual in the world tonight is offered the forgiveness of sins. Now let me ask you:- have you received it - have you received it? What have I to do to have forgiveness of sins? Have I to lift up a finger? It would be a bad job if I had! I might not lift it up right - and then I should miss it! "If I could get forgiveness of sins as easy as that"; But you would never be certain you Had got it. A man told me once:- "Yes, my sins are forgiven". But do you know it? "When they called for penitents at the hall, I held up my hand". Will that give you forgiveness

of sins? NO, NO!. You can only get forgiveness by just receiving - receiving it from God, "through this Man", Christ Jesus. That is all- just receive it. Is it very difficult to receive? What is easier ~~that~~ than receiving? Have you ever been very, very thirsty? Perhaps you have not in this country. You have never known what it is to be thirsty from the terrible heat of some countries. But anyone can tell you what it is to get a refreshing drink when you are travelling through any hot country. And when the drink is given, do you hesitate? If anything, you put out both hands to get it! Did a craving for something- did that make you less thirsty? There is the chance to have it. Are you a thirsty sinner? If you are a thirsty sinner - just take it tonight. "Through this Man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins". Well now, dear friends, that has been preached and preached, and shall be - until the last days in the western part of the world. Now the western part of the world is where we are. You see, the "west" in scripture is always west of Jerusalem. And if you read your Bible, the points of the compass have Jerusalem as the centre. The western part of the world is this part. Well now, dear friends, in the west- Britain, France, Germany and all the countries from the Rhine to the Danube - are the countries where the great light of Christianity has gone. Now you will have to receive something - because I am not going into the scriptures tonight- to shew that when He comes, it will be simply the western part of the world that He will deal with, (He will deal with those where the light of the glorious gospel has gone forth) and judgment will fall upon it. You say, "how do you know that?" Well, a great many scriptures shew it and this will perhaps be sufficient to shew it to your mind:- After the Lord comes out of Heaven, the Lord will come out of Zion (and Zion was part of the City of Jerusalem) He

will come out of Zion and will deal with Assyria. Then a little while after this, He will deal with Russia; and Russia will be the last power He will deal with. That shews this 19th. chapter of Revelation is not universal - that it is largely the western part of the world. Now we will note briefly the different points in scripture. The first thing is, Heaven is opened. Ah! dear friends, Heaven has been opened - opened before. Heaven has been opened for Him to go in. And Heaven was opened to Stephen. And who did they see? "We see Jesus". Ah! but when Heaven is opened this time, it is not opened for a christian to see in, it is opened for Christ to come out, for Christ to come out. And when He comes out, He comes out upon a white horse. He went forth "conquering and to conquer". Here is One that comes out on a white horse. We shall easily see the meaning of that in a minute or two. What is a "white Horse" a figure of? If you like, it is a symbol of "victory". So that it is when Christ comes out on the white horse - the white horse in the picture - it says He is coming out victoriously. He is not coming out exactly "to conquer" - He has conquered; He is coming out, a just assured of victory. That is point one. Heaven opened, and, my dear friends, you know this western part of the world where they are so proud, they will be as blind as bats, they will have no idea of what is taking place and be so blind that they will have no idea of it. Heaven will open, and out will come the victorious Son of God. And then, dear friends, if He comes out on a white horse, He is the One that is "faithfull and True"; faithfull to God - true to God; and in righteousness, He "judges and makes war" Those wise people are going to do away with war! Can they do it? No! "War in Heaven" You will never do away with war on earth until you have had war in Heaven. You believe in war? No. I don't believe in war! But, my dear friends, you will never do away with it. Why does war come? Why did the last war come?

Because of greed - greed. And the next? Because of greed. And until you can get all men converted, you will have war. To stop war and to put it down, the Lord Jesus Christ will come out of Heaven, and in righteousness He will judge and make war. Now we have got Him described. And "His eyes" are like "a flame of fire". Have you ever notices a flame, how it goes round the wood and penetrates through it? That is like the eyes of this Person; they penetrate, nothing escapes them. And "on His head" He has "many crowns". Every one belongs to Him; and everyone that has a crown will have to receive it from Him - no one is able to take the crown from Him. The One that is going to come - He is going to give crowns! He will give crowns; and in righteousness the great King will then reign. And He has a name, and no man knows it. What a funny thing! Ah! He has. What name is that? "The Son of God", His Deity - no one knows it, no one can comprehend it. You can believe it, but that is all the human mind. We believe what we cannot AP-prehend - much less COM-prehend. And "He was clothed in a vesture dipped in blood". What has the world done for Him? Rejected Him, shed His precious blood. And here He comes as the "Rejected One" that has been slain, the One to make good - by judgment - His acceptance. And what name? - "called the Word of God". That is a most solemn thing. Do you know what that means? In the first chapter of John, He is called the "Word of God" - the revelation of God's mind in grace. But He is going to be the revelation of God in judgment. And just the same as the grace was worthy of God, so will the judgment be worthy of God. Just the same as He perfectly set forth the grace, so will the will of God be set forth in judgment. "His name is called the Word of God". Immediately we are reading about "armies" - not "army" but- "armies".

Who are the "armies" ?

First of all, there will be millions of saints. And if you look back at the 17th. chapter, I will tell you the description you have. They are called "faithful and true" - His faithful armies that He can depend upon - they follow Him. What other armies will there be? "All the holy angels". How many will there be? I don't know; hundreds of millions, billions, they will all come. Don't think the Coming of Christ a mere little thing. It will be the most marvellous thing that has ever taken place in the world's history. Heaven opens, Christ comes in victory and then He has armies of millions of saints; and millions - trillions of holy angels come in His train. What do they come upon? - white horses too; they are victorious. He is victorious and they are victorious! And they are "clothed in fine linen" - clothed in righteousness- the effects of sharing Christ's rejection, and they follow Him. "Out of His mouth - a sharp sword". What sword is that? That is simply His word. The sword, that is simply His word; and you know, the sword, it cuts both sides. That is just what His word does. Therefore the word "sword" is used as a figure of His word. He has a mouth. "Out of His mouth - a sharp sword" and that is His word. And He will smite the nations with it. We will see how He does it in a minute or two. "He shall rule them-" ( I will just give you a new translation for that) The word "rule" conveys something "arbitrary" ; and that is not the meaning of this. The Revised Version reads it "shepherd". "He will 'shepherd' them with an iron rod". All the tender care of the shepherd, but all as rigid as iron that does not bend. Absolute righteousness and all the tender shepherd-care. He is seen in grace - blessing in Heaven; He is seen in grace - blessing on earth. That is God's idea of rule. The king of this country ought to be like the sun in the heavens. When christ reigns, He will be like the sun in the heavens.

Look how it brings out the flowers. The grass will grow this weather; in fact, you can almost see it grow. That is how it will be when the Lord comes. His rule will be shepherd rule; and that, from His seat in the Heavens, Well now, He will rule them with a rod of iron. And now look:-"He treadeth the wine-press of the fierceness of the wrath of God". When you have the "winepress" in scripture, that is, "judgment when mercy is passed" - no mercy. The "winepress" in scripture is the figure of judgment with everyone wiped out by it. You know, dear friends, there is a little passage in scripture that has been mis-quoted or misapplied:- "He treadeth the winepress alone". That does NOT refer to the Cross; no, that refers to His coming in the future. He is going to "tread the winepress alone" And who is going to be cast into the winepress? The grapes are put into the winepress and are squeezed so as to squeeze the blood of the grape out. So, dear friends, there is going to be judgment - and there will be no escape or saving from it. And now look, it is going to fall especially ( as you can see ) upon the vine of the earth; that is, all mankind. The "vine of the earth" is the profession that started from Cain and has gone down and down - and will go on until this moment takes place. Every bit of false religion in connection with the western part of the world, it will be squeezed into the winepress and the judgment of God will wipe it out. Now He is the Victor, "and on His thigh, a name written King of Kings and Lord of Lords". And you see the mercy of God. Now you know, dear friends, very well, that as soon as there is a terrible war what a danger there is of pestilence. Ah! there will never be a war where so many will die as this one. They say that Napoleon was the death of a million; and millions (probably five or six) will be wiped out in a few minutes. We will see how it will take place and where it is that the

mercy of God comes in. If five millions can die in five minutes - one minute - a quarter of a minute, why - dear friends - what could be done with them?

Men would be helpless. God sent an angel who stood and cried to the fowls of the air to come together; and they will eat the carcasses. Yes, we shall see them eat the carcasses; they will be the carcasses of those slain. And you are brought now, dear friends, to the 18th. and 19th. chapters of Revelation:-

"that ye may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses and of them that sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great". They will be eaten up. Now we shall see through the next verse who they are. "And I saw the beast" (the great Roman Emperor - he will be the beast with all the power that he can raise and he will be in the land of Palestine. He will have his army there, and he will be there - as he thinks- to enforce his own will).

"the kings of the earth" (the ten under him which will have been reduced to eight at this time) "and their armies and they are gathered<sup>ER</sup> together to make war against Him that sits upon the horse and His army". And there they are- in open defiance of the Lamb. It does not mean that they have understanding as they are defying God - it is how the word describes it. They will be there to wipe out the few pious Jews that are there, this in open defiance against the Lord. When this takes place, the beast is taken- he is laid hold of- and, with him, the false prophet. (The false prophet will be Antichrist in Jerusalem) (sitting in the Temple and declaring he was God). He starts as a king, goes on with the greatest assumption in his place as the false prophet to please the first beast, the false prophet who wrought miracles before him to testify to them who had received his mark and worshipped his image. These both are cast alive into the Lake of Fire. And dear friends, these will be the two great leaders of this part of the world. And that is going to be the end of

Britain; that is what Britain is travelling on to. They will be very much like Britain has always been. Britain has always been too slow. There she was last time- she had no army ready and she had to make one. And about this time there will be something similar going on.....and these powers will put forth all they can to meet it. And the Roman Emperor is there and he will declare himself to be God. Both will claim divine honours. They are there, and they are there in rebellion and are put straight into the Lake of Fire without dying; yes, without dying. Three, you see, are going into the Lake of Fire - but without dying; three. What is after this? That is given in the Old Testament (Isah. Chap. 30.). The Assyrian will be taken in high-handed rebellion- and he will be cast alive into the Lake of Fire. What about their armies? All the rest - beside the two leaders - will be slain with the sword of "Him that sat upon the horse"- "which sword proceeded out of His mouth". "And the fowls of the air were ~~and~~ filled with their flesh". They all die. There was a dear man, dear friends, (who is now with the Lord) and he used to live in this city; and do you know what he said one night? We were having a Bible-reading - perhaps there were three or four-hundred there- He thought that all these aeroplanes were being made for the purpose of fighting the Lord. It will be beyond their power. Don't think such nonsense. There will be no fighting power in them. There was a little verse quoted today:- "He will destroy them with the brightness of His coming". Now the ~~word~~ word translated "destroy" is: Supposing you destroy a bottle. The bottle is no doubt destroyed - as a bottle But you still have the bits of glass. Annihilation is all humbug! None could do that but God; and He never does. Now the word "destroy" is not "annihilate". To "destroy" is:- it is no longer capable of fulfilling the ~~purpose~~ purpose for which it was made. Now here will be all those great men in Jerusalem, and - my dear friends- all the flower of Europe. This poor man that has just passed

away was, without doubt, a great soldier - perhaps next to Napoleon. Ah! there will be greater than them here. Such will be the array. But directly they see Christ come out of Heaven - no power left in them! They will just finish. His word will go forth and the two leaders will be put into the Lake of Fire and every<sup>one</sup> of the rest will die. They may, in the other part of the world, through fright. They will die. There will be no fighting. Simply the word of the Lord - everything will go. The Lord does not need aeroplanes! He only needs just to speak the word and it will be. That is going to be the end of all the armies of Western Europe; that is, up to the Rhine and the Danube. They will be all united in Jerusalem in open defiance against God, and then when the Lord appears and judges out of Heaven, He judges the whole of the west. He starts where there has been profession. Let me just for a moment (for the sake of those who might like to look it up in the scriptures) make a distinction between the judgment out of Heaven and the judgment out of Zion. The judgment out of Heaven is when He judges that part of the world where there has been christianity. The other part of the world will be judged when the Remnant of Israel will be delivered. Directly after this, Satan is put into the bottomless pit - not yet into the Lake of Fire. There is perhaps, a person here tonight who does not believe in eternal punishment. Every one that doubts eternal punishment denies the plain statement of scripture. There are the two men and we see them a thousand years after they have been put there. They are not burned up yet? No! still there! And they will be, eternally, "day and night for ever and ever". "Oh, but" they say "that means the age of ages" All right. That is simply to no end whatever; that is all.

.....French Field Marshall Foch.

Well now, Satan is put into the bottomless pit. The saints of God are seen reigning with Christ a thousand years; and thus salvation is brought in for the world - salvation brought in by judgment. And the other nations will be subdued by Israel (the Lord being with them) and they will be brought into blessing. Now, dear friends, in closing, I must ask you once again:- In view of the fact that Christ may call us away tonight, who is ready to go with Him? Are you ready - are you ready? Most of you have heard me tell this little tale before; I will tell it again. Two little boys went to bed and one said:- "I can't understand what father means about the magnet". Oh! said the other. "I can. If you had a saucer and put a lot of sand into it and some steel filings, and then held the magnet over it, the steel filings would leave the sand and jump toward the magnet". That is how it is going to be. Christ is the magnet; and when He shouts, all the filings will go. Will you be ready to go - will you be ready to go? Or, my dear friends, on the other hand, if He shouts tonight and you are left behind!- Are you aware that if He shouts - no salvation tomorrow? You wont be able to find a real christian; all gone! I had preached - it was in St. Louis - and I had been there and went to the door to shake hands. And this night I had been preaching about the coming of the Bridegroom. A young lady was there. I didn't notice who she was; it so happened - as far as I was concerned - no doubt God overruled it. I said:- "Are you ready if He comes?". She passed out - she went home - went to bed. "Are you ready if He comes" ! And when she got to bed she went to sleep and, I think it was about two o'clock, she awoke. ~~and then she was preaching on the~~ And she thought;- "how quiet everything is". And then the preaching on the coming of the Bridegroom and the going in of the "ready" ones - it came vividly before

her. "Oh!" she said, "I wonder if He has come?" She got out of bed and went to her mother's room. The bed was empty! Her mother, her father had gone! "Oh!" she thought, "I will cry. But what is the good of crying? It is too late. I will beg of Him to hear me. But it is too late! Shall I commit ~~xi~~ suicide? She didn't know what to do. At last she thought, "I know, I will go to Mrs. So-and-so's house. I will go there; and if she has gone, I shall know there is no hope for me". She hurriedly slipped on a few garments and knocked at the door of this person. There, to her joy, who opened the door? - her mother! This very neighbour had been taken ill. It is a great mercy sometimes to be ill - a great mercy. She was taken ill and they had sent for her father and mother: they were called out of their bed. "Oh!" she said, "I am glad that you are here". And then she told them. "Ah!" - she told her mother - "it is Christ for me now". "I cannot have any risk any longer". "I must have Christ for me". She decided for Christ there and then. Yes: my dear friends, make no mistake, if you trifle, if you put it off, one of these mornings, nights or days, Christ will call His own away and you will be left behind. Oh! be wise; join, if you never have before, in our little hymn:-

My heart is fixed, Eternal God, Fixed on Thee;  
 And my immortal choice is made, Christ for me!  
 He is my Prophet, Priest and King  
 Who did for me salvation bring;  
 And while I live, I mean to sing Christ for me!

Let others boast their heaps of gold, Christ for me!  
 His riches never can be told; Christ for me!  
 Their gold will waste and wear away,  
 Their treasure perish in a day;  
 My portion never can decay, Christ for me!