

## **Section Two: The Kingdom of God on Earth (Present)**

### **Category C: Bema – Kingdom Intelligence Report #6**

Topic: The Context

Technically, the context for the Bema will not involve the Kingdom of God on earth. Our evaluation as Christians will occur in heaven. Once we are taken up by our Lord to meet Him in the clouds, from that point onward, we will always be with the Lord (1 Thessalonians 4:17). Therefore, common sense would dictate that the Judgment Seat of Christ will take place somewhere in heaven, shortly after the Rapture, but prior to the Second Coming of Christ, as recorded in Revelation 19:11-16. If Revelation 4:1 is symbolic of the Rapture, the Church is then portrayed in heaven worshipping God, (represented by the twenty four elders in Revelation 4:4-5:14). So it is reasonable to conclude that the Bema will be occurring in heaven, while the Tribulation, (as recorded in Revelation 6:1-19:21), will be taking place on earth.

The book of Revelation may not provide the kind of precise and detailed chronology for those with a personal agenda to advance; but the sequence of events is sufficient to support the above scenario for the context of the Bema. The Apostle John also provides us with the end result of our evaluation as Christians, in Revelation 19:7-9 –

**“Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready. It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, ‘Write, Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.’ And he said to me, ‘These are true words of God.’”**

The very next event recorded for us in Revelation is the return of our Savior and Lord to planet earth. It is more than likely that the Church collectively, will be returning with Him. In Revelation 19:14, the Lord will be accompanied by the armies of heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. Who else could this be other than the bride of Christ, as previously described in Revelation 19:8; and confirmed in Revelation 5:9-10 –

**“And they sang a new song, saying, ‘Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth.’”**

While we have already been warned by the Apostle Paul on more than one occasion about not judging one another, in regard to inner motives and disputable matters; the following pearl of wisdom, provided by C.T. Studd, is highly appropriate for concluding our study of the Bema:

**“Only one life, twill soon be past, only what’s done for Christ will last.”**

**THERE WILL BE AN ADDITIONAL POST THIS WEEK IN OUR VARIOUS PLATFORMS, ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, IN REMEMBRANCE OF WHAT OCCURRED IN OUR NATION’S CAPITAL ONE YEAR AGO, ON THAT DAY.**