

## **Revelation - Chapter 10 & 11**

### **The Mighty Angel, Two Fearless Witnesses & The Seventh Trumpet**

John has just experienced what is probably one of the longest periods of silence in heaven, thirty minutes, and then the seven trumpets were given to seven angels. God poured out His wrath as each trumpet blast sounded. There was devastation on the earth, then the seas, then the waters and then the heavens. The latter judgments produced demonic destruction of people. As the sixth trumpet sounds a total of over half of the world's population was killed (three billion using today's population count).

Limits are placed on the early judgments reminding us that God will still be exercising restraint allowing room for repentance and salvation even in the midst of wrath. The 144,000 Jewish missionaries will bring about the greatest revival every known.

Perhaps to give John and all readers since, time to assimilate the startling truths that have been revealed, John experiences the second interlude. John is also recommissioned for the second half of his prophetic role. During these interludes God comforts His people that He has not forgotten them, that He is still in control, and that they will ultimately be victorious.

#### **The Little Book**

John sees a massive angel arrive on a cloud with a rainbow around his head, face shining as brilliantly as the sun and feet like a pillar of fire. As he puts one foot on the sea and the other on the land he cries out in so loud he sounded like a lion roaring and seven peals of thunder rang out. John is instructed by God not to write down what the seven peals of thunder said. The angel then takes a vow before God that there will be delay no longer.

The angel has answered the question of the martyrs, "How long?" (Rev 6:10) and the prayers of the saints in Rev 8:3-5. The seventh trumpet is about to sound bringing the final judgment over a period of time which will include the seven bowl judgments (Rev 16:1-21). The time of God's patience is seen as having ended. The final number of the redeemed will be fulfilled and the judgment of the wicked will soon be complete.



Then the mystery of God will be fulfilled as God communicated to the Old Testament prophets. It is the end of the Gentile age and the destruction of Christ's enemies. Then the truth about God previously hidden will be revealed; the full manifestation of the divine power, majesty and holiness of God will be seen in the glorious return of Christ, the establishment of Christ's Millennial Kingdom and then the eternal state that will follow.



### **Measurement of the Temple**

John witnesses several events that appear to occur during the last three and one half years of the Tribulation Period, the Great Tribulation. He sees the temple of God and also two unusual witnesses of God.



John is given a measuring rod, a bamboo-like cane that grew abundantly along the banks of the Jordan River and could reach a height of twenty feet. He is told to measure the temple of God which refers to the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies, the inner parts of the temple. John is told not to measure the outer court. The outer court will be trampled by Gentiles under Gentile domination for forty-two months.

John is told that there will once again be a temple in existence during the Great Tribulation or the last three and one half years of the Tribulation period. As of John's writing of Revelation the second temple in Jerusalem had already been destroyed in A.D. 70 by the Romans. John's vision therefore is the third temple. In the book of Ezekiel we see the fourth temple built during the Millennial Period. God Himself will be the temple in the eternal state (Rev 21:22).

### **Two Fearless Witnesses**

John sees two fearless witnesses who will prophesy for exactly three-and-one-half years in Jerusalem, which has become so wicked and evil in the Tribulation it is described as "Sodom and Egypt" and also "where their Lord was crucified". This time period matches Daniel's prophesy of seven years and the seventieth week.



Their ministry will likely go from the midpoint of the Tribulation until just before the sounding of the seventh trumpet. They will preach the gospel, fulfilling Jesus' declaration that, "the gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world for a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come" (Matt 24:14). They will likely pronounce that the disasters falling on the world are the judgments of God and warn about God's final outpouring of judgment and that eternal hell will follow. They will also stop the rain for three-and-one-half years.

They will be hated and many will try to kill them. For three and one-half years they will have God's divine protection and no one will be able to kill them. When God lifts their divine protection they will be killed and laid in the streets of Jerusalem for everyone to see. The whole world will celebrate their death exchanging gifts in celebration. However, their worldwide party will be cut short when God brings the two witnesses suddenly back to life and they ascend into heaven.

### Seventh Trumpet

Next the seventh angel blew the seventh trumpet and John hears a great symphony of voices expressing unrestrained joy that the power of Satan is to be forever broken and Christ is to reign supreme.



The seven bowls of judgement are contained in the seventh trumpet; the destruction of earthly power is already under way. Heaven rejoices as if the long-anticipated day when Christ will establish His kingdom had already arrived, although some time on earth must elapse before that actually happens.

Christ is declared to reign forever and ever. Christ will reign during the Millennial Period and then continue to reign in the new heaven and the new earth. Never again will the earth be under the control of humans.



## Unbroken Fellowship

Also in the seventh trumpet is the promise to believers of unbroken fellowship with God forever. This fellowship is symbolized by the opening of the temple of God which is in heaven revealing the ark of His covenant. The covenant God has promised to men is now available in its fullness. This would have been unthinkable in the Old Testament temple when only the high priest entered the Holy of Holies once a year (Heb 9:7).



Then John hears again the sounds of judgment that are heard throughout the book of Revelation; flashes of lightning, sound and peals of thunder, earthquake, and hail storm. Heaven is the source of vengeance on unbelievers as well as covenant blessings for the redeemed.

## Summary

The message of the seventh trumpet is that Jesus Christ is the sovereign King. The consummation of the ages will occur as Jesus takes his rightful rule of the earth away from Satan. At Jesus' second coming He will bring covenant blessings to the redeemed, but eternal judgment to those who reject Him.

If you have not accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, it is not too late. You too can be counted in the redeemed and spend eternity with God in Heaven. Please pray the Scripture below:

*"that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation."*  
(Romans 10:9–10, NASB95)