

Revelation

(A Chapter-by-Chapter Overview of God's Picture Book)

Lesson #11: Revelation Chapters 10 & 11

Review

What We've Observed So Far

Chapters 1-3 - Introduction and Jesus' letters to seven churches in Asia Minor.

Chapters 4-5 - Vision of heaven, the scroll with seven seals, and the Lamb who is worthy to break the seals.

Chapter 6 - The Lamb opens six of the seven seals.

Chapter 7 - An interlude

Chapter 8 - The opening of the seventh seal introduces the seven trumpets.

These trumpets introduce actions from God against the ungodly.

Trumpets 1, 2, 3, & 4

Chapter 9 - Trumpets 5 & 6 use the imagery of supernatural locust exacting 'harm' on all who are 'unsealed'.

Revelation 10 and 11 - Interlude Encouraging Suffering Saints

Chapter 10

Verse 1

Images here show the grandeur of God.

Verses 2-4

angel standing on land and sea - a 'power pose'

little book - representing a message about to be communicated

seven thunders/do not write it down - The implication is that the message of the thunders serves as repetitions of the other messages (trumpets, seals, etc.).

Verses 5-7

raised right hand - demonstration of power and authority

there shall be no more delay - This seems to answer the question of the saints under the altar in chapter 6.

Time vs Eternity

It is important to remember that we live in the 'time realm' and God operates in the 'eternity realm'. 2 Peter 3:8-9

The Message of the Little Book

Verses 8-9

John becomes directly involved in this 'object lesson'.

The imagery of a messenger of God 'consuming a scroll' is also found in the Old Testament. (Ezekiel 3:1-2)

sweet and sour - this 'consumed scroll presents a paradox.

Verses 10-11

John consumes the 'sweet and sour' message and, in chapter 11, will share it.

Chapter 11

Verse 1-2

the 'measured' and 'unmeasured' - Here we have another descriptive distinction between the righteous and unrighteous.

the nations - another name giving to those without a right relationship with God.

trample the city for 42 months – Emphasizing that suffering is _____.

Verses 3-4

While the '*trampling*' is taking place, the '*witnessing*' is also taking place.

two witnesses – The 'measured' are now called the 'two witnesses.'

two olive trees – another description of the 'two witnesses'

This imagery is designed to show the _____ of their message.

Two Witnesses (Deuteronomy 17:6; Matthew 18:16; 2 Corinthians 13:1)

Olive Trees/Lampstands (Zechariah 4:1-6)

The two witnesses are the 'two-olive-trees' kind. They have direct and full supply from God.

The two witnesses represent the _____ of the church.

Verses 5-6

fire from their mouths – The attempt to hurt them backfires; sin brings its own judgment.

power to shut up the heavens – an image of Moses and the plagues of Egypt

An Unexpected Twist

Verse 7

the beast - This 'character' in the narrative will be more prominent in following chapters.

from the Abyss – identified as being doomed

overpower and kill them (two witnesses) – God doesn't cause it, but he permits it.

Verses 8-10

Sodom, Egypt, where their Lord was crucified – This brings to mind the experiences of God's people when they met tremendous opposition.

three and a half days – This is a temporary time.

they that dwell on earth – the unrepentant

gloat and celebrate - These people feel justified in what they did to God's people.

A Vision of Hope

Verses 11-13

Death is not _____ for Christians.

The Seventh Trumpet

Verses 14-19

The kingdom... has become the kingdom of our Lord – these words are found in Handel's Messiah (the Hallelujah Chorus)

and the twenty-four elders – calling back to chapters 4 & 5

The song of praise celebrates the _____ of God.

flashes of lightning, peals of thunder - more imagery of the glory of God