

Revelation 11

Review the events leading up to *Rev. 11*

- What did John see in the interlude between #6 and #7 trumpets?** A huge angel, straddling the land and the sea
- What does the angel promise?** Now is the time
- Instructions to John?** Eat the little book
- Description?** Sweet in the mouth, bitter in the stomach

Revelation 11.1-6

V1 – **What was the first "action" John did in Revelation?** Eating the little book in *Rev. 10*

- This is his second action in the book
- Measuring rod = yardstick, etc.
- Why measure the temple?** To know its value
- Temple?** A symbol for the church of Jesus Christ (parallel to the literal temple in the Old Testament) – in other words, a symbol for God's faithful people

V2 - **Court?** Place for Gentiles

- Are we Jews or Gentiles today?** Generally Gentiles
- Would some members of the 7 churches of Asia be outside in the court?** Yes, "Jezebel," the Nicolaitans, Balaam, Balak, false teachers, etc.
- 42 months?** Three and a half years
- Symbol of three and a half years?** Persecution against the church in the first century, but also brings memories of the destruction of Jerusalem 67-70 A.D.
- A terrible time – See *Works of Josephus*, p. 847, 855

V3 – **1260 days?** About 3½ years

V4 – Old Testament leaders were sometimes referred to as olive trees

- Example: *Zech. 4.14* – Zerubbabel and Joshua
- 2 olive trees?** 2 saints in good standing with God

V5 – Two witnesses are protected – fire comes from their mouths

- Which Old Testament prophet brought down fire from heaven on the prophets of Baal and on the messengers from King Ahab?** Elijah - *1 Kings 18* and *2 Kings 1*

V6 – **Who were the two prophets?** Elijah – able to stop the rain (See *1 Kings 17.1-4*, *1 Kings 18.41-46*) and Moses – water to blood, plagues, etc. (See *Exod. 7.20-25*)

Revelation 11.7-10

V7 – The beast (in contrast to the Lamb)

- Where did he come from?** The abyss (remember the locusts earlier)
- What did the beast do?** Kill the two prophets
- This represents the destruction of Jerusalem (70 A.D.)

V 8 – What does Sodom represent? Worst form of sin
-What would Egypt represent to the Jews? Oppression, slavery
-Which other city? Jerusalem (where Jesus was crucified)

V 9 - What do the murderers think about the two witnesses? End of their movement, dead and gone forever
-The beast? Represents the Roman power to kill Christians

V 10 – Why celebration? Over the death of the two prophets
-Does the world hate the church of Christ today? It should (if we are standing for the truth)

Revelation 11.11-14

V 11 – What happens in the vision? God redeems his martyrs
-Why "great fear"? At the power of God and his people

V 12 – See 2 Kings 2.11 – Elijah was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind
-Are we reminded of anything else? The ascension of Jesus into heaven

V 13 – When do most people give glory to God? When they are terrified (as in the middle of an earthquake, etc.)

V 14 – See Rev. 8.13 – Last 3 trumpets

Revelation 11.15-16

V 15 – The seventh trumpet sounds (the completion of the second cycle: 7 seals, 7 trumpets)

Read Daniel 2.36-45

-Gold head = Babylon

-Silver chest = Medo-Persian Empire

-Bronze thighs = Alexander the Great (the Greek empire)

-Iron and clay feet = the Roman Empire

Remember *Matt. 4* when Satan offered Christ the kingdoms of the world

-**Why would it have been foolish for Jesus to have accepted Satan's offer?** – Because all the kingdoms of the world will eventually fall and just be dusty memories in the history books of the world!

-It is a long way from *Daniel 2.44* to *Rev. 11.15*, but with the persecution of the First Century Christians, the Lord's church was eternally established

-**What is the significance of Rev. 11.15?** Our allegiance is first to the church of the Lord Jesus Christ, then comes our obedience to the country where we live

Many people get that principle backwards! But it is only the kingdom of Christ that will last forever – until the end of the world, and then it will be handed over to the father

-**Read 1 Cor. 15.24** - that passage does not apply to the U.S. or to Russia or to Canada or to

China or to Great Britain or to any other country in the world (except the church of Christ)
Rev. 11.15 is the turning point of the book of *Revelation* – the church has suffered up to this point, but now it is time for the Empire to suffer
-the kingdom of Christ will truly reign forever

V 16 – **When was the last time we saw the 24 elders?** *Rev. 7.11*

-**Why did they worship God at this point?** They knew that what John said was correct
-The kingdom of God takes authority over all other nations, and it will last forever

Revelation 11.17-19

V 17 – The prayer of the 24 elders

V 18 – **What else were they thankful for?** That God would carry out vengeance on those who would dare to persecute his people

V 19 – The appearance of the Ark of the Covenant!

-**When did the Ark of the Covenant disappear from human history?** *2 Kings 25.8-10* – at the destruction of Jerusalem in 586 BC (when the Babylonians broke through the walls of Jerusalem and destroyed the city)

-We have had the Harrison Ford movies (*Raiders of the Lost Ark*, etc.) about chasing down the Ark of the Covenant – that is all fictitious

-The Israeli government thinks the ark is buried under the Dome of the Rock mosque in Jerusalem, but that is wrong also

If we are blessed in making it to heaven, by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for our sins, we will get to see the Ark of the Covenant ourselves – what a great day that will be!

Summary: the climax (or key verse) for the *Revelation of Jesus Christ to the Apostle John* is *Rev. 11.15*

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