

## **REVELATION**

### ***Revelation 11:15-19: The Seventh Trumpet***

#### Introduction

- A. These verses set in motion the final events leading up to the return of Christ and the earthly millennial kingdom.
  - 1. The Day of the Lord's Judgement (16:1-21).
  - 2. Harvest of judgment on earth (16:19).
  - 3. Lamb's defeat of the kings of the earth (17:12-18).
  - 4. The final triumph of Christ at Armageddon (19:11-21).
- B. These verses announce not only the judgment on unbelievers, but also the coronation of Christ.
- C. Although the seventh trumpet sounds at 11:15, the judgments associated with it are not described until chapter fifteen.
  - 1. Chapter 12-14 are a digression (parenthetical), taking us back through the tribulation not from God's perspective, but from Satan's.
  - 2. Chapters four through eleven focused on Christ taking back what is rightfully His.
  - 3. Chapters twelve through fourteen focus on the ultimate human usurper.

#### **Praise for God's Sovereignty 11:15-17**

- A. There is an immediate response in heaven when the seventh trumpet sounds.
  - 1. Loud voices expressing exhilaration.
  - 2. It is the joy of triumph even though the triumph is not yet completed.
  - 3. The way they respond to divine truth is the way we should respond.
- B. Zeroing in on one particular group – the twenty-four elders.
  - 1. Representatives of the glorified, raptured church.
  - 2. Their joyous cry of praise is filled with gratitude.
  - 3. Their praise focuses on three of God's attributes:
    - "Almighty."

- “Eternality.”
  - “Sovereignty.”
- C. The use of the singular term “*kingdom of the world*” under one king.
1. The whole question of sovereignty is settled here.
  2. All the world’s diverse groups are in reality one kingdom.
  3. God ordained human government for the well-being of mankind (Romans 13:1) but these governments refused to submit or acknowledge His sovereignty (Acts 4:26).
  4. As he did at Babel, Satan will rule in the future over a united fallen humanity in one visible kingdom under Antichrist’s leadership (13:1-4).

**Thankful Worship (11:16-19)**

- A. The twenty-four elders are instantaneous in their response.
- B. The throne rights of the Lord are not only asserted but are assured.
1. Christ does not come to receive a constitutional monarchy, but absolute, unhindered power.
  2. Heaven’s ideal form of government for earth is theocracy.
- C. This is wonderful news for heaven but woeful news on earth.

**“And the nations were enraged” 11:18**

- A. The seventh trumpet vision reveals that the nations were defiant and enraged at the prospect of Christ’s kingdom.
1. Deep seated hostility.
  2. Psalm chapter two.
  3. Eventually they will assemble an army to fight God (16:14-16; 20:8-9).
- B. Knowledge of judgment should cause people to turn from their sins, but tragically this is not the case.
1. Romans 2:1-10.
  2. They apparently will reach that point at the final outpouring of God’s wrath in the plain of Megiddo (16:14-16).
  3. No salvation at Armageddon.

- C. The seventh trumpet not only signals God's wrath, but it indicates the time of judging the dead (11:18).
1. It will also be a time for God to reward His "bondservants, the prophets, and His saints and those who fear His name."
  2. Crowns: crowns of righteousness (2 Timothy 4:8), crown of life (James 1:12; Revelation 2:10), crown of glory (1 Peter 5:4).

**The Promise of His Presence 11:19**

- A. Promise of unbroken fellowship with Christ forever.
1. Opened to human view is the true, eternal temple in the heavens.
  2. It displays the Ark which symbolizes God's presence.
  3. Over and over things are opened in this book.
  4. The Ark is where:
    - Blood sacrifices were offered (Leviticus 16:2-16).
    - God spoke with Moses (Numbers 7:8-9).
    - Called in scripture the Ark of Testimony (Exodus 25:22).
    - The Ark of God (1 Samuel 3:3).
    - The Ark of God's strength (Psalm 132:8).
- B. Heaven is a source of vengeance on unbelievers, as well as a covenant of blessing for the redeemed.

Conclusion:

The message of the seventh trumpet is that Jesus Christ is the sovereign King.

With the second interlude concluded and the seventh trumpet sounded, we take a break from the narrative. When chapter twelve begins John tells us that it is allegoric.