

## **The Book, the Temple, the Witness, the Trumpet, and the Battle in Heaven Revelation 10-12**

We are currently studying the Book of Rev. –Noted a key to Understanding is the DIVINE OUTLINE:

Ch. 1:19

A) Seen – Vision Ch. 1 /

1) Are / Ch. 2& 3 Church age

2) After This : After the Church age - Church Raptured in Ch. 4 – In Heaven in Ch. 5

B) What Follows is the time Known as the TRIBULATION Ch. 6-19

1) Then in Ch.19 Jesus returns & we are w/ Him / the Lord sets up His reign for 1,000 yrs. Satan is Bound

C) At the end of the 1,000 yrs / Satan is Loosed for a Season – He deceives some people / Then Great White Throne Judgment

1) Where Satan & all of his FOLLOWERS past Present & Future are thrown into the Lake of Fire

D) Ch. 21, 22 Jesus Creates a New Heaven & a New Earth / New Jerusalem – And We all live happily ever after

### **Now we are presently in the section of the book that deals with the Tribulation Period**

A) 21 Judgments that come in waves of 7 That Begins w/ the 7 Seal Judgments in Ch. 6 / Then Moves to the 7 Trumpet Judgments in Ch.8 Finally the 7 Bowl Judgements in Ch. 15

B) Now one thing I want to point out is a Pattern we have seen in the Flow of the Judgements

1) Between the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Seal / and the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpets has been a Pause in the Narrative / GAP!

C) And What we are given are some Parenthetical Chapters – or Sections that are put in Parenthesis

1) Purpose is to give us some deeper insight into what is happening and what is coming

Example: Between the 6<sup>th</sup> Seal in Ch. 6 & the 7<sup>th</sup> Seal in Ch. 8 / We have Ch. 7 where there is a Pause in the flow

A) There we were introduced to a new Group of People 144,000 Sealed Jews

B) And We are Also given some insight into the Martyrs / those People who would die for their Faith – During the Tribulation

1) Ch. 8 Opens w/ this Silence in Heaven for ½ Hr. as all of Heaven anticipated the Sounding of the First Trumpet & devastation to follow

C) First Trumpet Sounded : Resulting in a Destruction of the Greenery

1) 2<sup>nd</sup> Trumpet Sounded : resulting in 1/3 of Sea became Blood

2) 3<sup>rd</sup> Trumpet sounded : Resulting in Destruction of 3<sup>rd</sup> of Fresh water

3) 4<sup>th</sup> Great Signs in the Sky !!!!!

D) After the 4<sup>th</sup> Trumpet : 3 WOES ARE PRONOUNCED

1) 5<sup>TH</sup> Trumpet sounded Ch. 9:1-12 :resulting in Horde of Demons – Torment the earth for 5 1/2 months – 1<sup>st</sup> Woe

E) 6<sup>th</sup> Trumpet : Ch. 9:13-21 / 4 Demons let lose & given power to Kill a 3<sup>rd</sup> of Mankind

But just like w/ the 6<sup>th</sup> seal after the 6<sup>th</sup> Trumpet sounded there is a Pause in the Flow – another Parenthetical section

A) Where we are given some details concerning – what is happening on the earth & in Heaven at this time !!!

**B)Tonight we come to this second parenthetical section where we are given some insight behind the scenes**

C)Some key players in the story are introduced.

D)Tonight we are going to cover chapters 10-12 - A Book, a temple- two witnesses, a trumpet blast and a battle in heaven.

E)This sections began in Ch. 10 Mighty Angel w/ the Little Book – Preview of the Takeover in Progress (Lord laying claim to this Planet)

*10* I saw still another mighty angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud. And a rainbow *was* on his head, his face *was* like the sun, and his feet like

pillars of fire. <sup>2</sup> He had a little book open in his hand. And he set his right foot on the sea and *his* left *foot* on the land, <sup>3</sup> and cried with a loud voice, as *when* a lion roars. When he cried out, seven thunders uttered their voices. <sup>4</sup> Now when the seven thunders uttered their voices, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, “Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them.”

<sup>5</sup> The angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised up his hand to heaven <sup>6</sup> and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that there should be delay no longer, <sup>7</sup> but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets.

<sup>8</sup> Then the voice which I heard from heaven spoke to me again and said, “Go, take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the earth.”

<sup>9</sup> So I went to the angel and said to him, “Give me the little book.”

And he said to me, “Take and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but it will be as sweet as honey in your mouth.”

<sup>10</sup> Then I took the little book out of the angel’s hand and ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth. But when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter. <sup>11</sup> And he said to me, “You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings.”

### **Intro: Divide this Chapter into 3 sections**

- 1. The Angel who looks like Jesus v.1-3**
- 2. The Message that was Sealed v. 4-7**
- 3. The Sweet & Sour Book that was to be Eaten V. 8-11**

#### **1. The Angel who looks like Jesus**

- A) John sees this giant Angel - who in his description looks very similar to the vision of Jesus John received in Ch. 1
- B) Face like the Sun / Rainbow around his head / feet like Pillars of fire / loud voice that roars
  - 1) He looks so much like it that many commentators have said this is Jesus and sort of a Preview of Coming attractions -

#### **C) I don’t think this is Jesus - for several reasons**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Why this is not Jesus -**

A) #1 V.1 Another Mighty Angel - (Grk word (*allos*) *Another of the same Kind* – takes us back to Ch. 8 / 7 Angels w/ the 7 Trumpets

B) We are still in the Trumpet Judgements/ This is Another of that same Kind same rank –

1) But If John was Talking about – Jesus – he would have used the grk word *heteros* for another = *another of a Different Kind*

C) Jesus is above the Angels

2<sup>nd</sup> Reason this is not Jesus is because – although Jesus did appear in the O.T. as the Angel of the Lord – never does in the N.T.

A) And whenever Jesus is Mentioned in the Book of Rev. / John always gives Him AN UNMISTAKABLE TITLE

B) Ch. 1:5 *the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth.*

Ch. 1:11 *Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,* / CH. 2:18 *Son of God,* / Ch. 3:7 *He who is holy, He who is true,*

1) Ch. 3:14 *the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God:*

C) We could go on & on – Different Titles that Jesus revealed Himself to John as (Never Vague Never abstract)

3<sup>rd</sup> reason is it is inconceivable that Jesus the 2<sup>nd</sup> Person of the trinity would take the Oath that is recorded in v.6

6 and *He* swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that there should be delay no longer,

A) Especially since we are told by Paul in Col. 1:16-17 speaking of Jesus

16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

B) So for those reasons I don't think this Angel is a reference to Jesus

1) *Which would cause one to question well why does He look so much like Jesus –*

C) It is a Principle of scripture that declares you become what you worship !!!!

Psa. 115: 4 *But their idols are silver and gold, made by the hands of men.*

5 *They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but they cannot see; 6 they have ears, but cannot hear, noses, but they cannot smell; 7 they have hands, but cannot feel, feet, but they cannot walk; nor can they utter a sound with their throats. 8 Those who make them will be like them, and so will all who trust in them.*

And that is what we see here I think this Angel looks a whole lot like Jesus because he has been in the Presence of Jesus

A) He is becoming like the one He worships /

B) Great principle for us to consider too - The closer we get to Jesus - the more than we resemble him -

1) Peter and John they would tell they had been with Jesus

C) Paul declared in 2 Corinthians 3:18 as we behold Jesus we are being transformed into his image.

Now This description signifies that He comes in w/ all the Authority of Heaven behind Him

A) Notice that the Angel puts his feet – Oceans & the Land – this signifies a take over

B) The World has been under the control of Satan the god of this world long enough – here the Lord is saying *I'm putting my foot down – IT'S OVER*

C) This symbolizes the Final takeover of planet earth is about to be set in Motion (as the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet is sounded, 7 Bowl judgements are unleashed)

## 2. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Message that is sealed

4 *Now when the seven thunders uttered their voices, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them."*

A) John hears the thunders & starts to write these down but is told to stop – which is kind of odd – since this is the book of Rev. – Unveiling

B) The reaction of my friend Josh Blevins - You've got to be kidding me! This is the most intense cliffhanger in all of the universe. Honestly, this side of heaven there are very few things my human mind wants to know more than what the thunders said!

C) It seems that God in scripture seals things from our understanding - because he knows we couldn't handle the info

D) Or we would get very distracted by it -

E) So what was uttered ? We don't know - Find out later -

## 3. The Sweet & Sour Book that was Eaten

A) Several passages that liken the Word to food !!!!  
Jer.15 : 16 *Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart;*

Psa. 19:10 Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

Heb. 5 – Meat of the word

1Pet. 2 Pure Milk

A) But the word that is our spiritual food – has both a SWEET & SOUR effect on our lives

1) Some parts of the Word are Sweet - Psalms – HAGADAZ BAR  
Hebrews Steak / Eph. Pizza (Favorite Passages)

B) Some passages you study – *RIGHT ON !!! YES LORD / AMEN !!!*  
*Preach it Brother !!!!!*

C) But there are other passages – can rub us the wrong way – Conviction

1) Wives submit to Your Husbands - Irritates some (Lewis Talbot)

Interesting from my vantage point - I can sometimes see this happening in real time

A) Preaching a message: If it is sweet - I see heads nodding - might hear a few Amen's - smiles - Yes - Preach it Rob

B) But then there are the times when - look on faces is different - grimaces - frowns -

C)Body language is different - squirming - checking their watches - why it is sour

1)Convicting - making them uncomfortable

The Message of the book of Revelation is both sweet and sour

A)Pictures of Jesus in glory - the worth of Lamb - the rapture - the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming - Sweet

B)But the picture of the wrath of the lamb - Sour - hard to fathom

C)Song Let me tell you about my Jesus - We love to tell of his LOVE - HIS SACRIFICE - redemption

D)Harder to talk about his coming judgment - WHOLE STORY!

E)So chapter 10 Mighty Angel with a little book

### Chapter 11 A Temple and two witnesses

Intro: There are many scenes in the Bible that I am looking forward to seeing when we get to Heaven – (Hope replayed or God’s Time)

A) God parting the Red Sea – ( Look on their faces )

B) Shad .... In the Fiery Furnace – (The Look on Nebuchadnezzar’s Face)

1) The Resurrection / Peter showing up at the Door - prayer meeting

C)Those are some of the many scenes that I am anxious to look back at

D) But the scene we are looking at today in Rev. 11 is another one that I am anxious to see –

1)But I believe we will be raptured before this - We will see this first hand

Read v.1-14

Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, “Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. <sup>2</sup> But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot *for* forty-two months.

John was given a measuring rod – consisted of a reed plant – grew in Jordan valley 10-15 ft. long / walk staff

A) John was told to take that Staff & to "*Measure the Temple of God...*"

B)The reason that John is told to do this is two fold - #1 Measuring speaks of Ownership ( Property Lines )

C)In Zechariah 2 there is an instance where the city of Jerusalem is measured just prior to being judged.

1)In Ezekiel 40 the Temple of God is carefully measured with a reed.

D)There is also another instance of measuring in Revelation 21, where the New Jerusalem is measured.

E)In all of those cases the act of measuring primarily seems to signify that the objects or areas being measured belong to God in some special way.

1) So it speaks of OWNERSHIP

What is interesting about this scene is - presently there is no temple in Jerusalem

So John is seeing into the future here-

A)We can conclude that the Jewish temple is going to get rebuilt on the temple MT

B)The temple MT in Jerusalem is the most highly contested piece of real state in the world today

C)If you have traveled to Israel you have witnessed this.

Ever since the war in 1967 the Jewish people have had control of Jerusalem - all except for the temple mount.

A)See back in the late 600’s the Muslims built a Mosque on the temple mount. The Doom of the rock Mosque

B)After the war in 1967 General Moshe Dayan allowed the Arabs to keep control of the temple Mt - although the rest of Jerusalem belonged to Israel

C)So if you go on the temple MT today - you have to hide your Bibles - you can’t pray -very guarded - very intense - only so many people at one time

But during the Tribulation somehow the Jews are going to get permission to build a temple on the temple MT site.

A) Most Bible teachers who take the Book of Revelation literally believe this will happen - during the Tribulation time

B) Daniel 9:27 - Daniel talks about a 7 year period in History that is yet to come - where the Anti-christ is going to make a Cov with Israel for 7 years

C) Most Scholars believe that it will be during this time that the Anti-christ is going to solve this conflict in the middle east - Jews and the Arabs

D) And he is going to find a way for the Jews and the Arabs to co-exist on the temple MT.

Now for years this seems like an impossibility - because many Jews believed that the former temple sat where the Doom of the Rock Mosque is now.

A) But in 1970 a man by the name of Dr. Asher Coffman, started studying the temple mount

B) After 16 years, he wrote a book that said he believed the Holy of Holies sight is actually a few hundred yards to the North of the Dome of the Rock

C) He believes this because tradition holds that ark stood on bedrock on the temple mount.

1) The bedrock inside the Dome of the Rock, is jagged.

D) But there is another place bedrock comes up on the temple mount and there it is smooth at a place called the Dome of the Spirits,

1) and it is slightly Northwest of the Dome of the Rock

Also in the Mishnah, a book of Jewish traditions and commentary on the Torah,

A) The Mishnah records that the Holy of Holies, lined up directly with the East Gate of Jerusalem –

B) Now the Doom of the Rock doesn't line up with the Eastern gate at all

C) But the spot where the Doom of the Spirits is Does.

And because of this many Bible scholars believe that when Antichrist comes on the scene,

A) he will pick up on Dr. Coffman's work, and propose they build the Jewish temple to the North - where the Doom of the Spirit is

B) The only problem with this is then you would not have room for the outer court of the Jewish Temple for it would be in the Dome of the rock,

C) you could have all of the critical parts where sacrifices are made and certainly the holy place and Holy of Holies

1) but you could not have the outer court and so some have suggested this third temple simply won't have that outer court

And I think this is so interesting when we look at verse 2 of Revelation 11 which is prophetically looking at this third temple that will be rebuilt,

A) John is told when measuring to leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months." – Revelation 11:2

B) God tells John not to measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles- isn't that amazing!!!

C) God is able to look into the future, see the things we will be facing, and tell us how things are going to work out

42 Months or 1,260 days is 3 1/2 yrs Jewish calendar is 360 days - which would make up the time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> 1/2 of the Trib. Known as the Great Tribulation.

A) Abomination of Desolation happens

B) When the Anti-Christ turns on Israel & heavily Persecutes the Jews

C) Now after being told to measure the temple - John Sees two witnesses

<sup>3</sup> And I will give *power* to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth." 3 1/2 yrs

A) So these two are prophesying for 3.5 yrs -

B) Don't take the Mark - the coming of the Lord is at hand

C) Dressed Not Armani Suits – but SACKCLOTH - mourning - serious business

D) Their wearing of sackcloth will be an OBJECT LESSON for the World / of their great Sorrow for the Wickedness of the World

1) This would be a special sign to the Jews w/ whom it was a custom to wear Sackcloth in times of great MOURNING & DISGRACE

E) It would be an indication to them of the Lord's Heart concerning their Spiritual Condition !!!!

<sup>4</sup> These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth.

A) This is a picture in the book of Zechariah of two olive trees who never run out of oil

B) Oil is symbolic in scripture of the Holy Spirit - so this is a picture of how these 2 men will be empowered by the Holy Spirit - for the whole 31/2 years

C) God anointing will be on them - and his protection will be around them

<sup>5</sup> And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner.

<sup>6</sup> These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

Who are these guys?

A) Most scholars believe these guys are Moses and Elijah

➤ now why do they believe that?

B) Couldn't they be just two random guys?

➤ Absolutely they could be

C) But In Malachi, there is a verse referring specifically to Elijah coming back to earth before the Messiah

"Behold I will send you Elijah the prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord" – Malachi 4:5

D) So it would seem that One is for sure Elijah -

E) The other one? Enoch - didn't die - others think Moses

Elijah and Moses are my guess because they do similar things to what those two did

A) Elijah prayed and it didn't rain in Israel for 31/2 years - here we read that there is no rain for the entire 31/2 years of their prophecy

B) Remember Moses brought plagues on Egypt - water turned to blood - and again in v.6 told - plagues and water turning to blood

C) Plus in Matthew 17 - Sneak Preview - The MT of Transfiguration

D) So for 31/2 years these guys are going to be untouchable -

V.<sup>7</sup> When they finish their testimony, (Us too) the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit Revelation 9:11 - Powerful Demon (Abaddon) will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. <sup>8</sup> And their dead bodies *will lie* in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. <sup>9</sup> Then *those* from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. <sup>10</sup> And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

Crazy the wickedness in the world at this time - but even today - we glorify violence

But something amazing happens after three days -

<sup>11</sup> Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. <sup>12</sup> And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." (A Rapture taken into heaven alive) And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them. <sup>13</sup> In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven.

<sup>14</sup> The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly.

QUICKLY = SOON – expresses immanency of the last WOE -

<sup>15</sup> Then the seventh angel sounded: note: not silence but rejoicing And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdoms of this world have become *the kingdoms* of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!”

Why Rejoicing?

A) BECAUSE – WE ARE COMING TO THE END!

B) Like going to the Dentist – He says – Hang in there I am almost Done!!!

1) HEART LEEPS

C) Here HEAVEN gets Excited – Because It is Almost Over !!!!!

D)The sounding of the 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet sets in motion the Final events leading up to the Return of the Lord Jesus Christ

**Q. Is the 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet the “Last Trumpet?”**

A)This is where our Bros/ sisters in the Mid-trib camp say the Rapture occurs since Rev 11 is at the 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet - the last trumpet of the trumpet Judgments

B)Our Bros/sisters in The Pre-wrath camp puts the rapture also after the seventh trumpet but in Chapter 14 -

1)We will deal with that view next week when we look at chapter 13-14

C)But part of the reason why both groups take this view is because of the sounding of this 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet which they assume is the last trumpet.

So they refer to what Paul said in 1 Corinthians 15:51-52

<sup>51</sup> Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—<sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

Mid-trib - folks say - You notice that when this trumpet sounds in Revelation it is Followed by - Celebration in Heaven v.15-19/ Church is there

A)They say see here is the last trumpet - and they are celebrating in heaven.

B)So This must be when the rapture takes place.

C)So is the 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet in the book of Revelation the last Trumpet that Paul was referring to in 1 Corinthians 15?

1)Although I respect those who hold that view - I don't think it is and this is why.

This is what we read in 1 Thessalonians 4 - Paul is talking about the rapture of the church.

<sup>16</sup> For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up Harpazo in the grk - Raptus in latin - caught up snatched away - taking into heaven - alive - that what a rapture is. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup> Therefore comfort one another with these words.

Notice when this happens - there is the voice of an archangel and the Trumpet of God.

A)The Trumpet blast in the book of Revelation are trumpets of Angels - Angels are sounding these trumpets

B)An Angel blows the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet - signaling the last wave of judgment is coming

C)But Paul says the Last Trumpet - at the Rapture is the Trumpet of God - and not an Angel.

So the question would be - is there another time in Scripture where - God is seen to be blowing a trumpet? - glad you asked

A)Answer is Yes - Exodus 19 - When the 10 commandments were given at MT Siani

<sup>16</sup> Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that all the people who *were* in the camp trembled. <sup>17</sup> And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. <sup>18</sup> Now Mount Sinai *was* completely in smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire.

What Israel saw and felt in the thunder, lightning, the cloud, the smoke, and the earthquake was terrifying;

A)but each of these are natural (though frightening) phenomenon.

B)Yet the sound of the LOUD trumpet did not come from the camp, but from heaven itself.

C)No wonder that all the people who were in the camp trembled.

1)This was the first trumpet blast of God

D)The Last Trumpet of God will be at the Rapture when the Voice of God like a Trumpet says to the Church *Come up here !!!!*

Another thing I would mention is that many scholars believe that -

A)Paul did say in 1 Cor 15 that the rapture would happen at the last trump

B)But they argue that there is no way Paul referring to the trumpet judgements because the book of Revelation was written 32 years after Paul the apostle already died

C)And The revelation of the coming trumpet judgments hadn't been given to the church when Paul wrote I Corinthians –

1)so this cannot be what he is referring to

What they believe Paul is referring to when he says the rapture will be at the last trump was a common military phrase

A)that everyone would have known in the first century when Paul was writing

B)When a Roman military camp was to be broken up whether in the middle of the night or in the day, a trumpet was sounded.

1)The first blast, called the First Trump, meant “Strike the tents and prepare to depart.

C)The next trumpet blast called the Second trump meant, “Fall into line”

D)and then there was a third blast, which was not called the third trump, but it was called and known all over the Roman world as the “the last trump”

1)and when it sounded it meant “It is time to march away”

So many believe Paul was using a familiar phrase they all would have understand in the first century –

A)He was not referring to the yet to be revealed trumpet judgments in the book of Revelation blown by angels, not by God,

B)Paul says it is God blowing the last trump, but it simply means at the rapture it is time to leave

**C)So for those reasons I don't think we can use the argument that this 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet is the “LAST TRUMPET”**

Back to our text:

A)Heaven is rejoicing - the end is near - Jesus is going to return - he is going to set up his Kingdom on earth rule for 1,000 years

B)Notice how they put this: - And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdoms of this world have become *the kingdoms* of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!”

C)*The KINGDOMS HAVE BECOME* : - This is what they call a PROLEPTIC PHRASE –

1) *It describes a future event that is so certain that it can be spoken of as if it had already taken place.*

Ex. Isa. 53 5 *But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.*

A) Now Isa. Wrote this several hundred yrs before Christ was even born – but He wrote it in the Past tense

B)Because it was as Certain as if it had already HAPPENED

C)Another Ex. In Rom.8:30 Paul makes the statement that we have been Glorified ? (You don't look Glorified to Me)

1) But that Reality is so Certain that it is used Proleptically

Now Why do I say this: Because in Heaven they are so certain this is coming down they are saying: *"The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord* A) CERTAINTY- That is how they speak in Heaven – Proleptically –



B)How do WE speak ? Listen you are either Proleptic or You are Spiritually Dyslexic:

C)What mean ? There are those who speak w/ a certainty : - This is a hard season - but I know God is working - work out for goo

But at other times we can be Spiritually DYSLEXIC :

A) Everything is just Backward “ I don’t know what is going on – I don’t understand what is happening it makes no sense to me”

B) It is the Eyore Mentality/ *I don’t know where God is in this – I don’t know what He is doing*

1) *What is the use of Praying – why even Worship – Woe is me – Life is a Mess*

C)Eyeore’s - or the Tiggers - one sees the light at the end of the tunnel and thinks it is a way out - the other thinks it is a train

But it is much more than having a Positive attitude – Spiritually speaking it is Those who realize God is in control & they give Him Glory

A)In Heaven they speak Proleptic

B)Even in the Middle of the Tribulation it is so certain He is Coming / He is at Work / He is doing what He said He would do!!!

C)Phil. 1: 6 *being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;*

D)So in the Midst of whatever Situation that person says – *God in His Faithfulness is doing a Work & He will be faithful to bring it to Completion*

E)Those who are Proleptic – rejoice in times of Trial – those who are not don’t they just complain / moan / grumble

Heaven is speaking Proleptic - they are rejoicing

<sup>16</sup> And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshipped God,

<sup>17</sup> saying:

“We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty,  
The One who is and who was and who is to come,  
Because You have taken Your great power and reigned.

**Note the EXPRESSION OF WORSHIP that is given: 4 things**

A)V.15 **It was Loud** – *Loud voices in Heaven: One Comm. Said “It wasn’t GUTLESS WORSHIP” I like that !!!*

B)Word Loud – focuses not on the Volume / not that God is old & hard of Hearing – But the Expression in the Grk – signifies Great & Intense / Boisterous / 1)Strong & Mighty

**2<sup>nd</sup> Humble** v. 16 *And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshipped God,*

A)What a Beautiful Combination : Strong Boisterous but w/ a sense of Humility -

**3<sup>rd</sup> Affectionate** V.16 *They fell down & worshipped*

A)Worship = Proscuneo – To turn & to Kiss / (Affectionate / Emotional)

**4<sup>th</sup> Thankful** - v.17 *We give you thanks -*

*In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you!*

B)Worship in heaven is expressive - Loud - humble - it is affectionate - grateful

C)Great example for us.

<sup>18</sup>The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come,  
And the time of the dead, that they should be judged,  
And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints,  
And those who fear Your name, small and great,  
And should destroy those who destroy the earth.”

**v. 18 Takes us to the end of the Millennium –**

Preview of the Great white Throne Judgment (Final Things )

<sup>19</sup> Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail

It is coming - it has started - Quickly chapter 12  
Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. <sup>2</sup> Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to

give birth. <sup>3</sup> And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. <sup>4</sup> His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. <sup>5</sup> She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne. <sup>6</sup> Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

Interesting scene that John is seeing here:

**Who is the Woman?** There have been a number of suggestions: the most popular being it is the Virgin Mary

A) But there are two problems w/ that Picture : the First being that Mary is seen here having Pain in Heaven / where there is no pain

B) 2<sup>nd</sup> In v. 6 tells us that Mary Fled into the Desert to a place prepared for her by God – where she would be taken care of for 1,260 days

1) But That never happened to Mary

C) So Who is this woman ? – How she is clothed in v. 1 gives us a Clue  
*a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars.*

This takes us back to Gen. 37 – Joseph’s Dream – where the Sun the moon & the 12 stars are referred to for the *first time* in a *figurative sense*

A) Study of Hermeneutics – (Laws of interpreting scripture) – One such Law is the Law of First Mention

A) The way something is first used in Scripture sets the tone for its interpretation throughout scripture

Well there in Gen.37 Joseph has a Dream that the Sun & the Moon & the Stars were Bowing down to Him – (Family interpreted as them)

A) Who was Joseph’s FATHER? Jacob – named Changed to Israel – his 12 sons make up the 12 tribes –

B) So By cross referencing to Gen. 37 This helps us to identify the woman as

the nation of Israel.

*5 She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.*

The Son she gives Birth to = Jesus

A) Which coincides w/ what the O.T. scriptures Prophesied – that From the Seed of Abraham & of the Lineage of David come the Messiah

B) The one who would rule the nations w/ a Rod of Iron – Psa. 2

C) Now Although Jesus was Born of the Virgin Mary – the Bigger Picture is that the Messiah was going to come from this tiny nation – small people

1) And at the time of the Birth of Jesus Israel was in great pain / being under the heel of Rome & suffering much under Roman Rule

**So we have identified the Woman & her Son / Israel & Jesus Christ**

**The next main Character we see is the Fiery Red Dragon**

A) Now there should be no confusion as to who this Dragon is because he is identified clearly for us in v.9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

B) We noted in our study on Sunday Dragon = Fierce Tyrant

C) Ezekiel 28 and Isaiah 14 how Satan who was once an angel was kicked out of heaven - pride

D) He thought he was going to overthrow God - So he was kicked out - V.4 tells us 1/3 of the Angels were booted with him

1) Demons

We also noted that John gives us this composite description of the Devil and his tactics names he uses here.

A) Serpent of old, now reaching back to Genesis 3

1) Speaking of how cunning he was and crafty and subtle and treacherous. - THE FALL

B)He's also given the most common name we know him by, the devil.

1)The devil is a word that means slanderer.

C)You might say gossip, one who defames another,

D)He is also called in this passage, Satan, which means enemy or adversary.

E)And the accuser of the brethren

So just put those names together and here's what you have, the composite description of the devil.

A)He's a fierce tyrant who is very subtle, very crafty, who slanders and defames Accuses you and is your enemy.

B)John describes this dragon as having - 7 heads and 10 horns - he looks monstrous

1)Now many scholars believe that the seven heads represent the seven kingdoms that have been controlled by Satan since Israel was a nation

➤ Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, and this future empire which emerges during this time

C)The ten crowns represent the fact that this new kingdom will most likely be divided into 10 parts, some sort of a ten nation federation

D)This dragon stands before the woman wanting to devour the Child- Jesus

E)This has been Satan's strategy from the beginning and will continue through the tribulation time

Way back in the Garden of Eden, Satan has known that God was going to bring the Messiah through the Jewish nation, and that would mean his ultimate defeat

A)He has always been seeking to kill the offspring of the woman

B)Pharaoh ordering Jewish babies killed, the oppression from Assyria, Babylon, Rome, and Herod the great killing the babies

1)these are more than just random things,

C)but Satan coming against God's people, to stop the work of the Lord – somehow, if he could just wipe out the Jewish people, maybe he could win?

Prior to the coming of Jesus - He is was trying to prevent the Messiah coming

A)Not that Jesus has come - Died and rose - Lives - and is going to return - Satan is trying to cut off his reward -

B)Part of which will be the Jewish people returning to God.

C)Now on Sunday we looked in detail at the future war in Heaven -Satan is permanently banned from heaven -

Comes to earth with Great Wrath - That is where we will pause tonight and pick up the story next week - move into 13-14