

THE BOOK OF REVELATION, REVISITED

Wednesday, December 16, 2020/First Assembly of God/Ft. Myers, FL
with Pastor Dan Betzer

DEADLY INTERLUDE (Chapter 10)

God's wrath in the Tribulation is divided into three sets of judgments:

1. The Seal Judgments – Chapters 6 to 8
2. The Trumpet Judgments – Chapters 8 - 10

I N T E R L U D E

3. The Vial Judgments – Chapters 16-18

Today we study Revelation 10 to 12: The Interlude just prior to the Vial Judgments. As of this study, we have passed into the second half of the seven-year period known better, perhaps, as The Great Tribulation.

Chapter ten is the hiatus, the interlude between the sixth and seventh trumpets. In this section, three personalities are introduced including the two witnesses who are not identified.

Revelation 10:1

And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire...

Is this mighty angel Jesus? Most great scholars say, "No." It is as the scripture clearly points out, a mighty angel. Christ does not appear in Revelation as an angel. He is clothed in what appears to be a cloud and a rainbow was upon his head. His face was bright as the sun is bright. His feet were like fire. How our pathetic depictions of angels falls so short!

Revelation 10:2-3

And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth, [3] And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.

1 This is probably the same book to which we were introduced earlier - in
2 the hand of God in chapter 5. He stands on the water and the land and by
3 so doing claims Planet Earth for God. Satan can no longer do here as he
4 chooses. This reminds me that when Columbus landed on an island in this
5 western hemisphere, he got off the ship and went to the shore to plant the
6 flag of Spain, claiming the land in the name of the king and queen who
7 sent him. In this case, the angel claims Earth for the Lord Jesus Christ.

8
9 The Tribulation is drawing to a close... so Satan's time is running out:
10 hence the name "the little book."

11
12 Revelation 10:4

13 *And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to*
14 *write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those*
15 *things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.*

16
17 It would be my first inclination to say nothing is hidden from us by God.
18 However, verse 4 denies that. Seven thunders call out, yet their message
19 is kept from us. Why? I don't know. It will be incredible one day in
20 Heaven to know all these things. Until then, we walk by faith. Right?

21 22 HOW CAN SOMEONE EAT A BOOK?

23
24 Revelation 10:9-10

25 *And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book.*
26 *And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly*
27 *bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. [10] And I took the*
28 *little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth*
29 *sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter.*

30
31 "Eating the little book" means to know it and receive its truths by faith.
32 Jeremiah knew about this: Jeremiah 15:16

33 *Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me*
34 *the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O Lord*
35 *God of hosts.* I am concerned that many professing believers today are
36 starving to spiritual death!

THE TWO WITNESSES (CHAPTER 11)



The Two Witnesses from the Book of Revelation, who preach in Jerusalem. And if any try to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouths and devours their enemies.

Revelation 11:3-5

And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. [4] These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God the earth. [5] And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner he killed.

Some claim these two witnesses are Elijah and Enoch. But... others have different viewpoints. We are not told who they are, but we are given scriptural concepts about them:

1. They will have the power to release fire to devour their enemies. I suspect that this means their message devours their enemies.
2. They will be able to shut up the heavens and cause no rain upon the earth. This is similar to what we read in the Old Testament regarding Ahab and Jezebel.

- 1 3. They will protect prophets of God during the Tribulation until
2 Antichrist has them arrested and executed.
3
4 4. That is, they will lie dead in the streets of Jerusalem for 3 ½ days. This
5 will doubtless strike fear in those Antichrist wants to intimidate.
6
7 5. The world (through TV and other media) will see them. This will add
8 to the mental horrors propagated by Antichrist.
9
10 6. The two will be resurrected from the dead and caught up to Heaven.
11 Can you imagine the terror that will sweep the lands?
12
13 7. Now comes a great earthquake in Jerusalem.

14
15 Revelation 11: 13

16 *And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of*
17 *the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand:*
18 *and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven.*
19

20 Mark it well; the Tribulation will be a seven-year period of massive
21 deaths. We read in Revelation 6 that one third of the world was slain. Then
22 a third of the population. Remember that first the Rapture took place and
23 all the followers of Christ were taken. So by this time, well over half of
24 the earth's population is gone, either to Heaven at the Rapture or in eternity
25 without God or hope.

26
27 So who are the 7000 men killed in the Jerusalem earthquake? Probably
28 people of note who have sided with Antichrist.
29

30 **NOW, FINALLY THE SEVENTH TRUMPET IS**
31 **BLOWN AND HEAVEN OPENS**
32

33 Revelation 11:15-18

34 *And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven,*
35 *saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our*
36 *Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. [16] And*

1 *the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon*
2 *their faces, and worshipped God, [17] Saying, We give thee thanks, O*
3 *Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou*
4 *hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. [18] And the*
5 *nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead,*
6 *that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy*
7 *servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that/ear thy name,*
8 *small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.*

9
10 One noted writer has proffered this: *“The blowing of the seventh trumpet*
11 *is of utmost significance, and it is of special relevance in the*
12 *understanding of the remainder of this book. It brings us chronologically*
13 *to the breathtaking entrance of eternity!”*

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15
16 We just closed our 30th Annual Christmas Keyboard Festival, five
17 concerts pertaining to the birth of Christ, which has always concluded
18 with Handel's great Messiah. Some of the anointed lyrics of that song
19 come from this passage of Scripture:

20
21 *“The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and*
22 *of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever.”*

23
24 Other passages in Scripture back up this claim such as:

25
26 Psalm 2:2-3

27 *The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel*
28 *together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying, [3] Let us*
29 *break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.* When we
30 get to Revelation chapter 19, we will see these prophecies quickly happen.

31
32 Now... the grand opening of eternity...

33
34 Revelation 11:19

35 *And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his*
36 *temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices,*
37 *and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.*

1 Now the church comes back into play. But note that it, the church, has
2 been missing on earth all through the deadly Tribulation.

3

4 **CHAPTER TWELVE - THE MAIN CAST OF THIS PERIOD**

5

6 While every chapter and verse of the Bible are God-inspired and relevant
7 to us right now, I personally believe chapter twelve is of vital importance
8 to us right now.

9

10 In case you have dismissed Israel from your thinking, **THINK AGAIN!**

11



12

13

14 Revelation 12:1-4

15 *And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with*
16 *the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of*
17 *twelve stars: [2] And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and*
18 *pained to be delivered. [3] And there appeared another wonder in*
19 *heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten*
20 *horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. [4] And his tail drew the third*
21 *part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the*
22 *dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to*
23 *devour her child as soon as it was born.*

1 Who is this woman? Contrary to the belief of some major churches today,
2 it is not the Virgin Mary. How do we know that? The identifying marks
3 of this woman are the sun, moon and stars. This reminds us of the passage
4 in Genesis 37:9-10: *And he (Joseph) dreamed yet another dream, and*
5 *told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more;*
6 *and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance*
7 *to me. (10) And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his*
8 *father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou*
9 *hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to*
10 *bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?*

11
12 The woman is ISRAEL and the child is JESUS! The writer of Hebrews
13 made it clear:

14
15 Hebrews 7:14

16 *For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda...* Our Lord Jesus was
17 a Jew. Paul adds in Romans 9:4-5

18 *Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and*
19 *the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the*
20 *promises; [5] Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the*
21 *flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.*

22
23 From His first breath as a babe, Jesus was the object of the worlds hatred
24 and desire to kill Him. Think back on my sermon from Sunday (Seven
25 Miles From Hell; the Death of King Herod the Great). John writes that
26 this woman of Revelation 12 travailed in birth.

27
28 Isaiah 66:7-8

29 *Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was*
30 *delivered of a man child. [8] Who hath heard such a thing? who hath*
31 *seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or*
32 *shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she*
33 *brought forth her children.*

34
35
36

1 WHO IS BEHIND THE ATTACKS -THEN AND NOW?

2
3 Revelation 12:3-6

4 *And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red*
5 *dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his*
6 *heads. [4] And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did*
7 *cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which*
8 *was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.*
9 *[5] And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with*
10 *a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.*
11 *[6] And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place*
12 *prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two*
13 *hundred and threescore days.*

14
15 The man-child brought forth is Jesus, the Christ of God. Satan hates Him
16 and is clearly identified in this 12th chapter.

- 17
18 1. He is called “great” because of his global power.
19 2. He is called “red” because of the fact that he is a killer.
20 3. He is called a “dragon” because of the viciousness of his character.

21
22 The seven heads and crown speak of his global power then and now, to
23 be ended with the coming of Christ.

24
25 John writes that the woman and her child would flee into the wilderness,
26 which certainly happened when Joseph and Mary whisked the infant into
27 Egypt to save Him from death at the hands of Herod.

28
29 THE WAR IN HEAVEN... WE PICK UP THIS NARRATIVE
30 BEGINNING WITH REVELATION 12:7 NEXT TIME.