

REVELATION SERIES - LESSON 15

REVELATION 10

Ch 6 - 18 - series of judgements God is going to pour out on the earth.

I believe according to Rev 4, that believers will be raptured and taken out.

After believers are taken out, then a series of judgements come upon the earth.

When you come to the end of Ch 9 and the 6th trumpet, it's worth noting that $\frac{1}{2}$ of the world's population is now gone.

We are now at a place where only $\frac{1}{2}$ the world's population are still alive.

Ch 10:1 - “I SAW” - this begins the longest vision given in the book.

So Ch 10, 11 & 12 is all one vision and it’s the longest recorded vision that God shows John.

We have a series of seals being broken and then we have Trumpets being blown and between the 6th and 7th Trumpets, there is this long interlude and pause.

We have a pause and it’s an expression of HIS mercy!

It’s almost like a place for them to catch their breath before another round begins.

At the beginning of Ch 10, John sees a “mighty Angel”.

“Another Mighty Angel”

Who is this “Mighty Angel”? Some similarities to Jesus’ description in Ch 1.

Vs 2 - Book or scroll

In Ch 1 of Revelation, there is a preview of the coming of Christ but doesn’t come until Ch 19.

Rainbow - is similar to “Rainbow” around the throne in Ch 4:3.

“Face like the Son” in Rev 1:16, it was Jesus.

“Feet like pillars of fire” in Rev 1:15, like Jesus.

“Bronze as if refined in a furnace”

Some scholars believe that this is actually Jesus. I don't adhere to that thinking and I want to give you reasons why I don't think it's Jesus.

1 - Jesus is not described as an angel in the book of Revelation.

I will concede there are times in the Old Testament that Jesus appears and is referred to as the "Angel of the Lord".

It's prior to Jesus taking on human flesh.

There are times before this that Jesus appears in the Old Testament.

Jesus appearing in O. T. prior to incarnation is referred to as a "christophany".

Even though He appeared as Angel of the Lord in O. T., He never appears as “Angel” in Revelation.

In Revelation he often appears as the “Lord” or as the “Lamb”.

Jesus refers to Himself as the “Lamb” - more than any other title in Revelation.

He loves to be seen as the “Redemptive Lamb”.

2 - Another Reason

Vs 1 - uses “Allon” = another of same kind”

“Heteros” = another of different kind, if it were Jesus.

3 - Another Reason - this mighty angel comes to earth between 6th - 7th Trumpets; Jesus does not come to earth until after the tribulation. It's not until Ch 19 that we see Jesus.

Probably Michael the “Arch Angel”. The only Arch Angel in the Bible is Michael.

“Michael’s” name means “who is like God”. This would explain the similarity of characteristics while representing God’s presence, authority and power.

Vs 2 - This is a mighty Angel and he has “one foot on sea and one on land”.

This angel has been given complete authority by God over land and sea.

Vs 3 - 4a

“Seven thunders uttered their voices”.

It could describe the voice of God.

Ps 29 when David describes voice of God there are 7 different ways David describes it.

Ps 29:3-9

In Ps 29 He talks about the “thunderous sound” of God’s voice and repeats that word voice 7 times.

So it’s very possible that these 7 voices are aspects of God’s voice.

This may end up being the 7 bowls but for the time being John hears it but told not to write it down.

Vs 5

Vs 6 - “Swore by him” - angel is going to take an oath.

Vs 6b - There is going to be a point in all of this where there is no turning back and God is saying here - Delay no longer.

Vs 7

The unfolding of God’s plan for the ages is about to be given and made known.

So God’s plan for the ages is about to be fulfilled here.

Vs 8 - Most commentators says this is John’s commissioning.

Vs 9 - Says He is to “eat it”.

“Make belly bitter but sweet as honey”.

It's the expression, “Bitter Sweet”, What's Bitter Sweet? The judgements are “bitter” sweet.

“Sweet”

Telling him to eat it, is really an instruction to feed on and ingest the word of God.

Ezekiel was instructed by God to do the same thing.

Ezekiel 3:1-4

So much like Ezekiel, it was sweet to his lips but bitter to stomach.

Ps 119:103

The word is this sweet nourishing thing for our souls but there is also this bitter part of it as well.

It's speaking of a day of reckoning that's coming.

Vs 10

Vs 11

In other words God is not done here and you're ingesting this scroll and it is as if you are to get this word into your heart and then go deliver it to the people.

Ch 11:1-14

This section in my Bible is labeled "Two Witnesses"

Notice that John is asked to go and measure the Temple of God.

John is writing this in the first century in the 90's A D. The temple has been destroyed for 20 years at this point.

It was destroyed in 70 A D by Titus Vespasian so the fact that John sees a temple tells us that there will be a rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem.

Daniel 9:27 teaches us that the Antichrist is behind the rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem.

Powerful, political world character comes on the scene and becomes the world's dictator and will establish a peace treaty among the Jewish people and other Religions.

He will break the peace covenant and proclaim himself to be God.

II Thess 2:4

At this point the eyes of Jewish people are opened and they realize they've been deceived by him.

However, the only thing there now, is a mosque that the Muslims built.

There will come a day the antichrist with great charm and charisma will persuade and get this to happen.

John sees a temple standing.

He then speaks about how the Gentiles will “trample it for 42 months”

Notice in Vs 2 42 months

Vs 3 = 1260 days

42 months = $3 \frac{1}{2}$ years & 1260 is $3 \frac{1}{2}$ years, if you use the Babylonian calendar like in Daniel Ch 9.

Babylonian calendar only had 360 days in a year.

1260 divided by 360 = 3.5 years.

Why Vs 2 is 42 months and Vs 3 is 1260 days?

Because it's distinguishing the first half of tribulation from the latter half of tribulation.

First half = 1260 days

Last half = 42 months

42 months, Gentiles are going to run across the Temple area.

Why? Because at the midpoint the Antichrist reveals himself and now the Gentiles are gonna take over Jerusalem. Therefore, the last 3 ½ years of tribulation are going to be the worst.

But leading up to the 1260 days (first half), John sees 2 witnesses.

There are 2 people sent by God and empowered by God to prophesy 1260 days and clothed in sack cloth.

What are the 2 witnesses of Revelation?

First thing to note is their:

(1) Location = Jerusalem

Vs 1 - Where Temple located

Vs 8 - Where Lord crucified

So it's Jerusalem

(2) "Prophesy" and "Sackcloth"

Those are biblical descriptions of those in bible sent to preach message of repentance.

(3) Duration = 1260 days = $\frac{1}{2}$ of tribulation.

So sent at beginning and they die in middle.

(4) Their protection - “Fire from mouth if anyone Attempts to harm them”.

(5) Their Identification