



STUDY TEXT:

Revelation 11:15-19 (KJV)

Revelation 11:15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

¹⁶ And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,

¹⁷ Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

¹⁸ And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.

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¹⁹ And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

APPLICATION POINT:

Assured, as the holy, prophetic shows the heralding of the Seventh Trumpet marks the beginning of the end to sin, Satan, death and all that which is known to be contrary to life in Christ with God.

THE SEVENTH TRUMPET

FOCUS TEXT: And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign forever. Revelation 11:15 (KJV)

Joyfully, the heralding of the Seventh Trumpet declared that the final stage of the Second Coming of Lord Jesus Christ had arrived. That is, the pace would be accelerated and intensified to bring the final end to the reign of sin, and the dominion of Satan.

Verse 15 promptly reported that a wonderful resounding declaration will be broadcast throughout the sphere of Heaven decreeing that the long-awaited milestone moment has arrived.

That is, although as incredibly inconceivable as it may presently appear, the future moment will inevitably arrive when all earthly kingdoms and seats of governance will be relinquished and surrendered into the custody of the sovereign ruler of Creation.

Specifically, the great announcement communicated: **“The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ.”**

Moreover, this spectacular moment will mark the fulfilment of the prophetic decrees of the O.T. prophets that predicted its eventual arrival. Citing the divine promise regarding the reign of His Son, **Daniel 2:44** declared: **“And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.”**

Then, on a later occasion in another “night vision” that was given to him to behold that pertained to this concurrent period

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described in Scripture as the Times of the Gentiles, Daniel wrote in **verse 7:13-14**: **“I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.**

“And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.”

Now honestly, it is unquestionably true that this fundamental bible truth is dismissed, ridiculed and flatly denied by secular and religious voices alike that reject the notion of Heaven intervening in the long since (history) established global affairs that are conducted in the general sphere of humanity.

In fact, regarding the key biblical teaching on the Second Coming of Christ their actions have been foreseen and are reflect in the key of **2 Peter 3:3-4** the alerts the watchful Christ follower: **“Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,**

“And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.”

If we believe the bible our hearts will become anchored in the assurance that the Lord will do exactly as He as declared.

Too, we also will be fully informed and instructed us in His Word as to how the unbelieving world will react (often violently) to the bible truth about the Second Coming of Christ.

In fact, **1 Thessalonians 5:3-4** alerts us: **“For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.**

“But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.”

The Exalted Praise of the Twenty-Four Elders

Immediately in direct response to the grand proclamation made by the Great Voices utter throughout the domain of Heaven verse 16 tells us: **“And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,”**

Now recall, this special body was first introduced back in Revelation **verse 4:4**. They were shown to us thus: **“And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold.”**

This imagery is widely believed to be the representative collection of the Glorified Body of Christ, who received their rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ; and are now numbered among the glorified population of Heaven (along with the holy angels-**Rev. 5:11**).

Too, this position aligns with the divine promise to the Church cited in **1 Thessalonians 5:9** which assured: **“For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ.”**

One key passage that strongly suggest that this is their (our) identify is shown in **Revelation 5:9**, where they joyfully rendered the affirming praise to the risen and glorified Lamb of God: **“And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;**

“And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.”

Now once more, in the present text we closely observe that they (us) have been watching the astonishing unfolding of the events the comprise the unleashing of divine wrath upon the earthly domain

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of the wicked, and specially upon the keynote evil rulers (i.e., the Beast & the False Prophet) that have bewitched and deceived the unbelieving of this period masses that have rejected the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

On this occasion the illuminating spotlight of Heaven again is directed toward them, and in particular reports their reaction to the wonderful announcements made by the Great Voices.

Notably their reaction is one of adoring praise, and too their enlightened expression is in full agreement with the jubilant character of the “hour.”

Specifically, they lifted their voices to rightly affirm in **verse 17** the timeless eternity, awesome divine omnipotence and supreme sovereignty of the Son of God, commenting: **“O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.”**

Interestingly, in **Isaiah 40:10** the Word of prophetic vision asserted: **“Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.”**

Then further in **verse 15** we are enlightened to recognize: **“Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing.”**

Taken together, both key prophetic texts combine to telegraph the pending future reign of Heaven over the various nations of the earth.

Yet, as further conveyed from the testimony of the twenty-four elders we are shown the enumeration a list of closure events that would shortly be shown in this final prophetic volume.

Specifically, they mentioned in **verse 18**:

- The anger (rage) of the nations and the aspects of divine wrath that will be associated with them.
- The pending arrival of the First Resurrection and impartation of heavenly rewards that will be associated with them.
- The final demise of the wicked destroyers of the earth.

Thus, we observe that at this point the final detail of the divine plan marking the closure of this period preceding the Millennium has been fully shared among the population of Heaven.

Recall in **John 15:15** the Lord Jesus endearing stated to His disciples: **“Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.”**

And unquestionably, we observe this keynote relationship dynamic activity in practice here as well.

A Panoramic View from Heaven’s Holy Temple

As the Twenty-four Elders complete their worshipful praise and testimony to the glory of God, we observe in **verse 19** that another spectacular event of divine affirmation was promptly demonstrated; namely, **verse 19b** majestically and solemnly described: **“the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament.”**

Thus, we are given an amazing glimpse of the biblical holy artifact that have historically symbolized the affirmed presence of God among His people.

On this occasion, its presentation is perhaps to endorse the divine approval of all that has been declared by the holy order of the Twenty-four elders.

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In times past the dramatic approval of Heaven was shown in association with the Ark, as was the case when it was finally placed in the new Holy Temple that was completed by Solomon.

In **2 Chronicles 5:7, 13** the inspired biblical record reported: **“And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD unto his place, to the oracle of the house, into the most holy place, even under the wings of the cherubims.”**

“It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD.”

Hence, we are given a vividly graphic reference portrait of heaven’s approval.

In this particular instance the celebratory backdrop is a spectacular unleashing of the attention-grabbing drama of the inherent power that has been infused in God’s natural world, as described in **verse 19c: “and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.”**

Now whether this awesome display occurred in Heaven and/or on the earth is something we have to await to truly know.

Nevertheless, clearly the sounding of the Seventh Trumpet marks the inaugural events that will culminate or end in the entry of Christ in the realm of this physical world.

Assured, as the holy, prophetic shows the heralding of the Seventh Trumpet marks the beginning of the end to sin, Satan, death and all that which is known to be contrary to life in Christ with God.

In **Revelations 1:7** the Lord forewarns and reminds every generation of hearers of God’s Word: **“Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which**

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pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.”