

The 7th Trumpet

Revelation 11:15-19

I. Introduction:

A. The kingdom in view

1. The church age we are living in now ends abruptly with the rapture of the church which begins the tribulation period.
2. The tribulation is seven years in total, broken into two equal 3½ year periods.
3. The 1st 3½ years will be relatively peaceful as the antichrist will make a covenant with Israel, but midpoint of the tribulation antichrist will break his covenant with Israel.
4. He'll demand to be worshipped as god, then persecute & murder anyone who refuses.

B. Judgment of God

1. God's judgment will be poured out on the antichrist & his wicked followers.
2. God's judgements are identified in three sets of seven.
 - a. The seven Seal Judgments
 - b. The seven Trumpet Judgements
 - c. The seven Bowl Judgments
3. These judgments increase in intensity and severity as the tribulation progresses.

II. The sounding of the 7th angel (Revelation 11:15)

A. The Kingdom of Christ.

1. The sounding of the 7th trumpet brings unrestrained and open rejoicing in heaven.
2. This rejoicing is because the kingdom of Christ is about to be inaugurated on the earth.
3. The promise of the Kingdom of Christ runs throughout Old Testament history of Israel.
4. 2 Samuel 7: David desired to build a temple to honor God. God did not allow David to build the temple, but reserved that job for David's son, Solomon.
5. Because David wanted to honor God, God made a promise to him. (**2 Samuel 7:16**)
6. Jesus was born in King David's lineage. Jesus' eternal kingdom is this promise fulfilled. Then, in **Psalm 2** the establishment of the Kingdom of Christ is described.
7. When Jesus comes, He'll subdue all nations & break them to pieces with a rod of iron.
8. Zechariah 14:9: The prophet Zechariah said it as plainly as anyone in the Bible, that there is coming a day when Jesus will rule over the whole earth.

B. One Kingdom

1. The world is ruled and influenced by one person, Satan who's the prince of this world.
2. Satan is a usurper; he has taken what is not his. However, At the end of the tribulation Jesus will return taking back what is rightfully His at the battle of Armageddon.
3. Jesus will bound Satan and cast him into the abyss for 1000 years.
4. Jesus will cast the false prophet and the beast into the eternal lake of fire.
5. Jesus will then establish His kingdom on this earth for 1000 years.

C. Whose kingdom are you in?

1. You are either a citizen of Satan's kingdom or you are a citizen of God's kingdom.
2. To be a citizen of God's kingdom, confess & repent of sin, placing your faith in Jesus.

III. Elders: (Revelation 11:16-18)

A. Twenty-four elders

1. When John's vision began, he saw 24 elders sitting on 24 thrones around God's throne.
2. These elders, clothed in white robes & wearing crowns, represent the raptured church.
3. The raptured church in heaven will rejoice with the sounding of the 7th trumpet.
4. They'll fall before God's throne & praise Him for bringing in His kingdom & taking the earth back from Satan.
5. Application: Jesus taught us to pray for His kingdom to come. (**Matthew 9:6-13**)
6. The wickedness & injustices of this world will never be eradicated until Jesus establishes His kingdom in this world.
7. Only Jesus can change the heart of a man or woman.
8. Jesus is the only answer to sin and all the destruction sin brings to this life.

B. Praise for God's attributes

These 24 elders praise God for who He is.

1. – He is the eternal One.
 - a. He's from eternity past to eternity future, worthy to be praised because He's God.
 - b. He is the creator of all things. (**Revelation 11:17**)
2. – He is the judge.
 - a. The elders praise God because He has final adjudication over all things. (**Rev. 11:18**)
3. - The dead should be judged.
 - a. The Great White Throne judgment will be final court. This is the judgment of the lost
 - b. God will hold court one day and bring justice for every broken law, every sin.
 - c. The lost should give heed to this warning. Today is the day of grace and mercy.
- 4.- Rewards
 - a. Just as the lost will be judged for their sin, so the saved will be rewarded for their service to the Lord. Jesus will reward the prophets and the saints.
 - b. The saved long to hear the Lord's words, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

IV. Open Temple in Heaven (Revelation 11:19)

A. Mercy and Judgment

1. The scene in heaven is a reminder of both mercy and judgment.
2. The open temple with the ark of the covenant is reminder of God's promises.
3. God has promised to save all who will call on the name of Jesus and by faith ask for His forgiveness. We can enter the very holy of holies in Jesus.
4. But for those who continue to resist God and His mercy, there is judgment to come.
5. The lightnings, the noises, the thunderings, the earthquake, and the great hail are all connected to holiness and righteous indignation of God against sin.
6. Judgment will come upon this world & Jesus will bring in His eternal kingdom.