

“EARTH’S FINAL WOE”

Revelation 11:14-19

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INTRODUCTION

Review the two witnesses and the remarkable ascension.

God is not slack concerning His promise: the day of fulfillment comes on.

I. THE EARTH’S RESPONSE TO THE TWO PROPHETS (13)

A. Trembling: **4 different earthquakes described in Revelation:**

- At the 6th Seal (6:12)
- At the 7th Seal (8:5)
- At the 7th Trumpet (11:19)
- At the 7th Bowl (16:18)

Each shows the culmination of God’s tribulation judgments; the **same basic events** at the end of the tribulation.

- 1/10 of the city fell (city is Jerusalem)
- 7,000 people killed; Literally “the names of men”—i.e. people, carefully calculated
- In the 1st century had about 100,000 population.

B. Terror

Each other occurrence of this word refers to divine visitations—so here.

- Lk. 24:5—the women see the 2 angels at the tomb.
- 24:37—the disciples see Jesus in the upper room.
- Acts 10:4—Cornelius sees an angel.
- 22:9—Saul’s companions who see the light from Heaven
- 24:25—Felix as Paul preaches.

C. Testimony—cf. Rev. 14:6-7

- Seems to refer to genuine repentance and recognition of God.
- The conversion of the **remnant of Israel at the time of the 2nd Coming!**
- “The God of Heaven”—the invisible God of Judaism contrasted with the pagan gods—especially in post-temple period.

The second “Woe” is now past—one more to come quickly—the 7th trumpet (14).

II. THE SEVENTH ANGEL’S TRUMPET (15-19)

A. Its Symptoms

1. Great Voices Sounded (15a)

- These could be the *Great Multitude* of 7:7-9; and/or *the living creatures/beings of 4:6-9*; and/or *the angelic hosts* of Heaven.
- Contrast the **silence** after the breaking of the 7th seal (8:1).

2. Grand Elders Worship (16-17a)

- **Four** times they are said to do so in Revelation
- Note that they “sit on their thrones before God.”
- No Vanity, selfishness, pride of privilege—“fell on their faces” in humility.
- No vaunting of one’s authority in Heaven!
- a. “Give thanks”—God has answered prayers and finished His work.
- b. “The Almighty”
- c. “The Eternal One”—“Are and were”

Quote Seiss: p. 271

3. Glorious Temple Opened (19a)

- Not that earth can see into Heaven—but that Heaven can pour forth judgment and take claim on the Earth.
- This is the heavenly antitype of the earthly Temple.
- The restoration of men and God is about to occur.
- God will come to Earth, and Earth will be restored!

4. God’s Ark Revealed (19b)

- All of God’s promises and covenants have been kept.
- All has been done for the good of God’s people.
- All has been done for the judgment of the wicked enemies of God.

5. Grim Judgments are Enacted (19c).

- Harbingers of the Great final judgments—sounds, thunder, lightning.
- Brief mention of key elements: earthquake, hail—cf. chap. 6:12ff; 16:18ff.

B. It’s Statements

Use of Aorist Tenses: “It’s all over but the Shouting”—but here, even that has begun!

1. Change in the World Government (15b; 17b)

- “Kingdom of the World”=sovereignty, rule; also, the singular points to the unity under the Satanic leader of the last days.
- Has become *the kingdom of our Lord* and of **His Christ**—see Psalm 2:2.
- He will reign “forever and ever.” Joint sovereignty—the Son reigns through His Father; He submits to Him.
- You have taken Your **great power**. (17b).
- You have **begun to reign**.
- *Compare numerous OT prophecies: e.g. Dan. 2:35, 44; 7:14, 26-27; Zech. 14:9.*

Vain human efforts to prevent God’s Reign—READ SEISS—p. 274.

2. Destruction of Earth’s Destroyers (18d; 18a)

- Nations enraged—cf. Ps. 2:2—Long settled defiance and rejection.
- Thy wrath came—cf. Ps. 2:5, 9. See 6:16-17; 16:19. The nations get what they deserve.

- Destroy those who destroy the Earth—punishment fits the crime; cf. the punishment of the beasts of Daniel, and the beast of Rev. 13 etc.
3. Judgment of the Dead (18b)—cf. Rev. 20:11-15; can be both good and bad here.
 4. Reward of God’s Servants (18c)
 - “Bond-servants the prophets”—OT & NT—esp. tribulation prophets
 - “Saints”—of both testaments, but esp. tribulation saints
 - “Those who fear Thy name”—summary of the two groups; all inclusive.
 - “Small and great”—God is no respecter of persons; regardless of rank or importance, the all-inclusive nature of the group.

CONCLUSION

Are you prepared for the days of the sounding of the 7th trumpet?

Lord, haste the day!