

ENDGAME

A Study On Revelation (Week #52)

Pastor Jason Goss

Revelation 11:7 When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them. **8** And their dead bodies will lie on the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. *(NASB)*

Revelation 11:7 When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. **8** And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. *(NKJ)*

Revelation 11:7 When they complete their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the bottomless pit will declare war against them, and he will conquer them and kill them. **8** And their bodies will lie in the main street of Jerusalem, the city that is figuratively called "Sodom" and "Egypt," the city where their Lord was crucified. *(NLT)*

Rise of the _____

- Jerusalem
 - "Sodom"
 - Isa1:9; 10;3:8,9; Jer23:14; Deut 32:30-33
 - "Egypt"
 - Ezek 23:3,4,8,19

Isaiah 1:8 Beautiful Jerusalem stands abandoned like a watchman's shelter in a vineyard, like a lean-to in a cucumber field after the harvest, like a helpless city under siege. **9** If the Lord of Heaven's Armies had not spared a few of us, we would have been wiped out like Sodom, destroyed like Gomorrah. *(NLT)*

Ezekiel 23:1 This message came to me from the Lord: **2** "Son of man, once there were two sisters who were daughters of the same mother. **3** They became prostitutes in Egypt. Even as young girls, they allowed men to fondle their breasts. **4** The older girl was named Oholah, and her sister was Oholibah. I married them, and they bore me sons and daughters. I am speaking of Samaria and Jerusalem, for Oholah is Samaria and Oholibah is Jerusalem. *(NLT)*

WHY????

- Invulnerable
 - They are invulnerable until their testimony is completed.
 - this is common among the great prophets - when their time is up, their enemies kill them.
 - Moses and Elijah had their previous ministries interrupted.
 - So are you!
- Antichrist now in power.
 - Note the origin of this beast.
 - The beast, "wild animal", is definitely demonic, whether or not he is a person or spirit.
 - Satan himself would be a good guess.
 - There will be 2 more beasts in chapter 13.
 - These are wholly unlike the "beasts" we saw around the throne of God.
 - And notice that he is able to overcome them—in contrast to the church.
 - vs. Mt 16:18.
 - More on him in Chapter 13. (13:7, 15)

Revelation 11:9 Those from the peoples, tribes, languages, and nations will look at their dead bodies for three and a half days, and will not allow their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb. **10** And those who live on the earth will rejoice over them and celebrate; and they will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who live on the earth. **11** And after the three and a half days, the breath of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who were watching them. **12** And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they went up into heaven in the cloud, and their enemies watched them. (NASB)

Revelation 11:9 Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. **10** And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth. **11** Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. **12** And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them. (NKJ)

Revelation 11:9 And for three and a half days, all peoples, tribes, languages, and nations will stare at their bodies. No one will be allowed to bury them. **10** All the people who belong to this world will gloat over them and give presents to each other to celebrate the death of the two prophets who had tormented them. **11** But after three and a half days, God breathed life into them, and they stood up! Terror struck all who were staring at them. **12** Then a loud voice from heaven called to the two prophets, "Come up here!" And they rose to heaven in a cloud as their enemies watched. (NLT)

Holiday

- A CNN exclusive??
 - Everyone sees.
 - Everyone rejoices: it's Christmas without Christ.
 - People buy "Happy Dead Witnesses Day" cards.
 - The _____ for rejoicing: we can go back to comfort in our sin.
 - Those who dwell on earth celebrate
 - belong to the world.
 - Two witnesses resurrected (physically)
 - 3.5 days
 - Two witnesses resurrected (spiritually) - Heavenly Ascension
 - Terror for those watching
 - Notice: John changes to past tense (verse 11)
 - Enemies are in great fear, but there will be no more judgment coming from the witnesses.
- Israel has a restored Temple.
 - Temple desecrated during? before? after?
 - Israel (Jerusalem) is the center of attention
 - John is to prophesy again concerning (not "before") many peoples, nations, tongues and kings.
 - Rev. 10:11
- The loud voice
 - This is all audible and visible to their enemies.
 - These are the same enemies of the Cross, that explain away and discount the death, resurrection, and visible ascension of Christ.
 - There will be no denying this.
 - This is all to be taken literally

Revelation 10:11 Then I was told, "You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, languages, and kings." (NLT)

Matthew 24:15 "The day is coming when you will see what Daniel the prophet spoke about—the sacrilegious object that causes desecration standing in the Holy Place." (Reader, pay attention!) **16** "Then those in Judea must flee to the hills. **17** A person out on the deck of a roof must not go down into the house to pack. **18** A person out in the field must not return even to get a coat. **19** How terrible it will be for pregnant women and for nursing mothers in those days. **20** And pray that your flight will not be in winter or on the Sabbath. **21** For there will be greater anguish than at any time since the world began. And it will never be so great again. **22** In fact, unless that time of calamity is shortened, not a single person will survive. But it will be shortened for the sake of God's chosen ones. (NLT)

Mark 13:14 "The day is coming when you will see the sacrilegious object that causes desecration [the abomination of desolation] standing where he should not be." (Reader, pay attention!) "Then those in Judea must flee to the hills. **15** A person out on the deck of a roof must not go down into the house to pack. **16** A person out in the field must not return even to get a coat. **17** How terrible it will be for pregnant women and for nursing mothers in those days. **18** And pray that your flight will not be in winter. **19** For there will be greater anguish in those days than at any time since God created the world. And it will never be so great again. **20** In fact, unless the Lord shortens that time of calamity, not a single person will survive. But for the sake of his chosen ones he has shortened those days. (NLT)

Daniel 9:27 The ruler will make a treaty with the people for a period of one set of seven, but after half this time, he will put an end to the sacrifices and offerings. And as a climax to all his terrible deeds, he will set up a sacrilegious object that causes desecration, [the abomination of desolation] until the fate decreed for this defiler is finally poured out on him." (NLT)

Daniel 11:31 "His army will take over the Temple fortress, pollute the sanctuary, put a stop to the daily sacrifices, and set up the sacrilegious object that causes desecration. (NLT)

Daniel 12:11 "From the time the daily sacrifice is stopped and the sacrilegious object that causes desecration [the abomination of desolation] is set up to be worshiped, there will be 1,290 days. (NLT)

Revelation 11:13 And at that time there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell; seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven. **14** The second woe has passed; behold, the third woe is coming quickly. (NASB)

Revelation 11:1 13 In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven. **14** The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly. *(NKJ)*

Revelation 11:13 At the same time there was a terrible earthquake that destroyed a tenth of the city. Seven thousand people died in that earthquake, and everyone else was terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven. **14** The second terror is past, but look, the third terror is coming quickly. *(NLT)*

Second Terror _____

- Earthquake
 - A great earthquake occurred when the 6th seal was opened (6:12)
 - A greater one when the 7th bowl is poured out (16:18-20).
 - The greatest fault line on the earth runs east of Jerusalem down the Jordan called the Great Rift Valley, running underneath the Dead Sea into Africa.
- "Tenth": expressly declared that the tenth belonged to the Lord.
 - Lev 27:30-34
 - God is very particular about what belongs to Him.
- Terrified _____ gave God glory... _____
 - Although they glorify God, they do not repent
 - They do not put their faith and trust in God
 - They do not make the change of heart and life that signals a believing life.
 - How often is this true?

Leviticus 27:30 "One-tenth of the produce of the land, whether grain from the fields or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord and must be set apart to him as holy. **31** If you want to buy back the Lord's tenth of the grain or fruit, you must pay its value, plus 20 percent. **32** Count off every tenth animal from your herds and flocks and set them apart for the Lord as holy. **33** You may not pick and choose between good and bad animals, and you may not substitute one for another. But if you do exchange one animal for another, then both the original animal and its substitute will be considered holy and cannot be bought back." **34** These are the commands that the Lord gave through Moses on Mount Sinai for the Israelites. *(NLT)*

- Death Toll
 - "Seven thousand names of men were killed in the earthquake."
 - Idiom suggests men of prominence.
 - The same number that Elijah was unaware of; Israelite army under Ahab.
 - 1 King 19:18
 - 1 Kings 20:15

1 King 19:18 Yet I will preserve 7,000 others in Israel who have never bowed down to Baal or kissed him!" (NLT)

1 Kings 20:15 So Ahab mustered the troops of the 232 provincial commanders. Then he called out the rest of the army of Israel, some 7,000 men. (NLT)

- 6th Trumpet is complete.
 - This ends the parenthetical section between 6th - 7th trumpets.
 - Began in Rev 9:13 (concludes Rev. 11:14)
 - All this was part of the "2nd Woe!"
 - Four angels lead an army of 200 million.
 - 1/3 of the people on earth are killed.
 - An angel comes forward with a small scroll.
 - John eats the small scroll.
 - John measures the Temple.
 - The Two Prophets testify for 3 2 years, with plagues and miracles, are killed, resurrected, and ascended.
 - Opens up the Seven Personalities in Chapters 12 & 13.
 - The 3rd Woe (the 7th Trumpet Judgment) will bring the final Seven Bowl Judgments.

Revelation 11:15 Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever." (NASB)

Revelation 11:15 Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" (NKJ)

Revelation 11:15 Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices shouting in heaven: "The world has now become the Kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign forever and ever." (NLT)

_____ the _____

- John is back in heaven.
- All hail the new king in town!
 - Kingdom: βασιλεια; (Greek - basileia [bas-il-i'-ah]); kingdom, sovereignty, royal power; especially of God, both in the world, and in the hearts of men; hence: kingdom, in the concrete sense; ALWAYS requires a king.
 - Singular; (there can be only one King!)
 - Satan has had the world under his control
 - Mt 4:8-9; 12:26; Jn 12:31; 14:30; 16:11

- Announcement of victory.
 - "The world has now become the Kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ [Messiah], and he will reign forever and ever."
 - Satan had offered Jesus a shortcut to Kingship.
 - Mt 4:8-9

Matthew 4:8 Next the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. **9** "I will give it all to you," he said, "if you will kneel down and worship me." (NLT)

- Jesus did it the way the Father wanted it done.
- Note that this is the trumpet of an angel, not the "Trumpet of God" which occurs at Sinai (Ex 19)

Exodus 19:1 Exactly two months after the Israelites left Egypt, they arrived in the wilderness of Sinai. **2** After breaking camp at Rephidim, they came to the wilderness of Sinai and set up camp there at the base of Mount Sinai. **3** Then Moses climbed the mountain to appear before God. The Lord called to him from the mountain and said, "Give these instructions to the family of Jacob; announce it to the descendants of Israel: **4** 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians. You know how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. **5** Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me. **6** And you will be my kingdom of priests, my holy nation.' This is the message you must give to the people of Israel." ... **16** On the morning of the third day, thunder roared and lightning flashed, and a dense cloud came down on the mountain. There was a long, loud blast from a ram's horn, and all the people trembled. **17** Moses led them out from the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. **18** All of Mount Sinai was covered with smoke because the Lord had descended on it in the form of fire. The smoke billowed into the sky like smoke from a brick kiln, and the whole mountain shook violently. **19** As the blast of the ram's horn grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God thundered his reply. **20** The Lord came down on the top of Mount Sinai and called Moses to the top of the mountain. So Moses climbed the mountain. (NLT)

- And at the rapture (1 Thess 4:16,17).

1 Thessalonians 4:16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the believers who have died will rise from their graves. (NLT)

- Seventh angel yields seven bowls of wrath.
 - This is the end of the beginning...
 - The praise here is in advance.
 - There is still one more woe; the victory is not final
 - Like the pitcher entering the ninth with a no-hitter, the fans are standing in anticipation. Within the last trumpet call is contained the seven bowls of God's wrath and the final victory of Christ.

Revelation 11:16 And the twenty-four elders, who sit on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God, **17** saying, "We give You thanks, Lord God, the Almighty, the One who is and who was, because You have taken Your great power and have begun to reign. **18** And the nations were enraged, and Your wrath came, and the time came for the dead to be judged, and the time to reward Your bond-servants the prophets and the saints and those who fear Your name, the small and the great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth." (NASB)

Revelation 11:16 And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, **17** saying: "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, The One who is and who was and who is to come, Because You have taken Your great power and reigned. **18** The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth." (NKJ)

Revelation 11:16 The twenty-four elders sitting on their thrones before God fell with their faces to the ground and worshiped him. **17** And they said, "We give thanks to you, Lord God, the Almighty, the one who is and who always was, for now you have assumed your great power and have begun to reign. **18** The nations were filled with wrath, but now the time of your wrath has come. It is time to judge the dead and reward your servants the prophets, as well as your holy people, and all who fear your name, from the least to the greatest. It is time to destroy all who have caused destruction on the earth." (NLT)

The 24 Elders Give _____

- This is the 8th mention of the 24 elders in Revelation, those representing Israel and the Church.
 - They respond to the great shout of victory in the previous verse.
 - They a declaration of thanksgiving and testimony
- About God
 - THE divine Lord: Yahweh.
 - THE one and only God.

- Almighty: παντοκράτωρ; (Greek - pantokratōr [pan-tok-rat'-ore]); ruler of all, ruler of the universe, the almighty; unrestricted power exercising absolute dominion.
 - Pantokrator: the translation of two Hebrew words Tseba'oth and Shaddai. Yahweh Tseba'oth: the Lord of Hosts
 - Greek: From pas and kratos; the all-ruling; God (as absolute and universal sovereign) -- Almighty, Omnipotent.
- El Shaddai: God Almighty, God of all power, all provision, all sufficiency.
- THE Eternal God.
- About the Kingdom
 - The nations are angry.
 - This is wrath directed against God and the people of God.
 - We will not have this man to rule over us."
 - By what authority do you do these things?"
 - Don't tell me how to run my life!"
 - The wrath intended for God is heaped on themselves.
 - What we try to do in the name of personal freedom always ends in personal bondage.
 - In the Greek there is a play on words.
 - The words angry and wrath are the same word.
 - There is judgment.
 - For some, judgment will bring reward.
 - For God's servants. Those that have given up who they are in exchange for identification solely with Christ.
 - For God's prophets. Those who in times past talked about things they didn't yet understand. (See 1st Peter 1:10-11.)
 - For God's holy people. Those saints of old, who died without realizing their reward.
 - Heb 11:39 All of these people we have mentioned received God's approval because of their faith, yet none of them received all that God had promised.
 - For all who fear God, from the least to the greatest.
 - How important is it to honor God?
 - For some, judgment will bring destruction.
 - With all that has happened in the judgments, some would point at God and blame him for all the destruction.
 - But we see here where the fault really lies - with those that have caused destruction through their sin and rebellion.

the King

- Threefold acclamation of praise (11:16-18)
 - Christ reigns supremely
 - v.17
 - He judges righteously
 - v.18
 - He rewards graciously
 - v.18
- Focus of worship
 - In Rev 4:10-11, the elders worship the _____.

Revelation 4:10 the twenty-four elders fall down and worship the one sitting on the throne (the one who lives forever and ever). And they lay their crowns before the throne and say, **11** "You are worthy, O Lord our God, to receive glory and honor and power. For you created all things, and they exist because you created what you pleased." (NLT)

- In Rev 5:9-14, the elders worship the _____.

Revelation 5:9 And they sang a new song with these words: "You are worthy to take the scroll and break its seals and open it. For you were slaughtered, and your blood has ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. **10** And you have caused them to become a Kingdom of priests for our God. And they will reign on the earth." **11** Then I looked again, and I heard the voices of thousands and millions of angels around the throne and of the living beings and the elders. **12** And they sang in a mighty chorus: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slaughtered—to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing." **13** And then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea. They sang: "Blessing and honor and glory and power belong to the one sitting on the throne and to the Lamb forever and ever." **14** And the four living beings said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped the Lamb. (NLT)

- In Rev 11:16-18, the elders worship the _____ and _____.
 - "Thou hast begun to reign" is more accurate
 - "ingressive first aorist active indicative"

Let The _____ Of _____ Begin

- Wrath = Vengeance
 - Wrath: ὀργή; (Greek - orgé [or-gay]); impulse, wrath, anger, wrath, passion; punishment, vengeance; to teem, swelling up to constitutionally oppose") - properly, settled anger (opposition), i.e. rising up from an ongoing (fixed) opposition; proceeds from an internal disposition which steadfastly opposes someone or something based on extended personal exposure, i.e. solidifying what the beholder considers wrong (unjust, evil).
 - "Orgē comes from the verb oragō meaning, 'to teem, to swell'; and thus implies that it is not a sudden outburst, but rather (referring to God's) fixed, controlled, passionate feeling against sin . . . a settled indignation." (D. E. Hiebert, at 1 Thes 1:10).

1 Thessalonians 1:10 And they speak of how you are looking forward to the coming of God's Son from heaven—Jesus, whom God raised from the dead. He is the one who has rescued us from the terrors of the coming judgment. (NLT)

- Destroy = Corrupt
 - Destroy: διαφθείρω; (Greek - diaphtheiró [dee-af-thi'-ro]); to destroy utterly, to spoil, corrupt; defile; thoroughly corrupt, totally degenerate (disintegrate); waste away by the decaying influence of moral (spiritual) impurity; "utterly corrupt"; becoming thoroughly disabled (morally depraved), "all the way through" ("utterly decayed").
 - Not an ecological statement, but referring to those who follow the one called the Destroyer.
 - However, man cannot be an acceptable steward if he denies the Owner.
- Why are the nations angry?
 - They want to have their own way
 - Ps 2:1- 3

Psalm 2:1-3 Why are the nations so angry? Why do they waste their time with futile plans? **2** The kings of the earth prepare for battle; the rulers plot together against the Lord and against his anointed one. **3** "Let us break their chains," they cry, "and free ourselves from slavery to God." **4** But the one who rules in heaven laughs. The Lord scoffs at them. **5** Then in anger he rebukes them, terrifying them with his fierce fury. **6** For the Lord declares, "I have placed my chosen king on the throne in Jerusalem, [Zion] on my holy mountain." **7** The king proclaims the Lord's decree: "The Lord said to me, 'You are my son. [Son] Today I have become your Father. [Today I reveal you as my son] **8** Only ask, and I will give you the nations as your inheritance, the whole earth as your possession. **9** You will break [rule] them with an iron rod and smash them like clay pots.'" **10** Now then, you kings, act wisely! Be warned, you rulers of the earth! **11** Serve the Lord with reverent fear, and rejoice

with trembling. **12** Submit to God's royal son, or he will become angry, and you will be destroyed in the midst of all your activities—for his anger flares up in an instant. But what joy for all who take refuge in him! (NLT)

- They want to cast off all restraint. God will permit them to do so.
- The result of their "utopia" is Rev 17-18.
- Their anger will lead to Armageddon.
- "Thy wrath is come"
 - Anger: ὀργίζω; (Greek - orgizó [or-gid'-zo]); irritate, provoke, to make angry; is positive when inspired by God - and always negative when arising from the flesh. "Sinful (unnecessary) anger" focuses on punishing the offender rather than the moral content of the offense.
 - "Angry" is the verb form of the word translated "wrath."
 - Only the last half of the 70th week will reveal the wrath of God.
 - Rev. 11:18; 14:10; 16:19; 19:15
 - Two Greek words used (1) orge, used here (4X), indignation, a settled attitude of wrath
 - Two Greek words used (2) thumos: "rage, passionate anger."
 - (7X): 14:10, 19; 15:1, 7; 16:1, 19; 19:15
 - God's anger is not dispassionate, for He hates sin and loves righteousness and justice.
 - God is neither temperamental nor unpredictable.
 - [In contrast to Allah who is presented as capricious (unpredictable change; erratic)...]

Revelation 11:19 And the temple of God which is in heaven was opened; and the ark of His covenant appeared in His temple, and there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder, and an earthquake, and a great hailstorm. (NASB)

Revelation 11:19 Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail. (NKJ)

Revelation 11:19 Then, in heaven, the Temple of God was opened and the Ark of his covenant could be seen inside the Temple. Lightning flashed, thunder crashed and roared, and there was an earthquake and a terrible hailstorm. (NLT)

Of His Covenant

- This has more to do with chapter 12 than chapter 11, but...
- The Temple of God on earth has experienced destruction, desecration, defilement...but the Temple of God in heaven is always safe and secure. Here it is opened in such a way that John can see inside.

- The “original” Ark has always been in heaven
 - The one on the earth was but a replica (Heb 9:23).
- It is the view of some that the Mercy Seat will be the very throne that Christ will reign from.
- The Ark is not the Ark of the Old Covenant, but the current, new covenant.
 - The previous ark, no matter what Spielberg and Indiana Jones would have you believe, was almost certainly destroyed when Nebuchadnezzar destroyed Solomon's Temple in 586 B.C. (2 Kings 25).
- The lightning, thunder, earthquake, and hail indicate that there is more judgment to come.

Hebrews 9:23 That is why the Tabernacle and everything in it, which were copies of things in heaven, had to be purified by the blood of animals. But the real things in heaven had to be purified with far better sacrifices than the blood of animals. (NLT)

Great Openings

- A door opened in heaven
 - Rev 4:1
- The seals are opened
 - Rev 6:1-8:1
- The Abyss opened
 - Rev 9:2
- Temple of God opened
 - Rev 11:19
- Tabernacle of testimony opened
 - Rev 15:5
- Heaven is opened
 - Rev 19:11
- Books of Judgment opened
 - Rev 20:12

: Coming Up

- Read Revelation chapter 12
 - One of the most important strategic summaries in the Bible.
- Who is the “Woman” of chapter 12?
- How does this chapter affect our perspectives of today?