

THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION

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Mission Statement

This study of the Book of Revelation gives special attention to the testimony it provides concerning our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. “The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy” (Rev 19:10; cp. 1:2), leading us to worship and serve Him in everything.

- I. What you have seen (Rev 1).
 - II. What is now (Rev 2–3)—the seven churches of Asia Minor.
 - III. What will take place after these things (Rev 4–22).
 - A. The Seven Seals (4:1–8:1)
 - B. The Seven Trumpets (8:2–11:19)
 1. Preparation for the Seven Trumpet Judgments (8:2–6)
 2. The First Four Trumpet Judgments (8:7–12)
 3. The Last Three Trumpet Judgments—*Three Woes* (8:13–11:19)
 - a. Introduction to the Woes (8:13)
 - b. **Fifth Trumpet**—Fiery Locusts from the Pit (9:1–12)
 - c. **Sixth Trumpet**—Loosing of the Four Angels Bound in the Euphrates (9:13–21)
 - d. **Parenthesis** (10:1–11:14)
 - e. **Seventh Trumpet**—*Introduction to the Kingdom* (11:15–19)
 - Great Voices in Heaven (11:15–18)

Cf. Revelation 19:1–8

 - ✓ The nations will be angry (Ps 2:1–2).
 - ✓ God’s wrath will come (Ps 2:4–5).
 - ✓ God will judge the dead (see Rev 20:12).
- All of these things will take place after the Kingdom. Note that these three events involve the unrighteous. The next three will involve the righteous.
- ✓ God will reward the *prophets* (see Rev 10:7; cf. Dan 9:6, 10).
 - ✓ God will reward the *saints* (saints from the Tribulation Period, see Rev 13:7, 10; cf. Dan 7:18, 21, 25; Matt 24:31).
 - ✓ God will reward *those who fear the name of God*. Who are they? (see Rev 14:6–7; 15:4; cf. Ps 61:5).
 - ✓ God will destroy the destroyers (see Rev 19:1–2).
- The Temple Opened (11:19)
 - ✓ There is an actual temple in heaven which is the prototype of the earthly Tabernacle (see Heb 9:1–28).
 - ✓ Note that this chapter begins with the temple upon the earth and closes with the temple of God in heaven.

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- ✓ The importance of the visions of the temple of God in heaven to the chronology of the Book of Revelation:
 - ▶ At the sounding of the seventh trumpet the heavenly Temple is opened (11:15, 19).
 - ▶ After the parenthesis of chapters 12–14, the seven angels with the seven last plagues (the bowl judgments) come out of the heavenly Temple (15:5, 6).
 - ▶ Immediately following the last bowl judgment, a voice comes out from the heavenly Temple with the message “It is done” (16:17).
 - ▶ See 15:8.
 - ▶ Compare the way the visions of the future began in 4:1.

- The Kingdom at Hand (11:19)

See verse 15.

 - ✓ One kingdom of this world indicates the universal reign and power of the man of sin (Rev 13). The bowl judgments target that kingdom and its ruler.
 - ✓ The declaration of 11:19 exudes certainty and imminent reality.
 - ✓ The imminent quality of the statement indicates that the seven last judgments will take place in a very short space of time at the end of the Tribulation Period.

- The Third Woe (cf. 8:13)
 - ✓ The final woe quickly follows the second woe (Rev 11:14).
 - ✓ This woe consists of the seventh trumpet which includes the seven bowl judgments.
 - ✓ This woe is more terrible than the previous two and finishes the mystery of God (Rev 10:7).
 - ✓ The seventh bowl judgment (Rev 17–18) concludes this final woe (cf. 18:10).
 - ✓ The ark of the covenant appears (11:19; cf. Num 10:33; Josh 3–4; Jer 3:14–18).

Question for Discussion

- a. What is the ultimate conflict of kingdoms and how did that conflict originate?
- b. What is the significance of the appearance of the ark of the covenant?

Implications Regarding Jesus Christ

- ▶ Jesus will make this world’s kingdom His Kingdom.
- ▶ Jesus will reign forever and ever.
- ▶ Jesus is worshipped by the 24 elders.
- ▶ Jesus is the “Lord God, the Almighty.”
- ▶ Jesus of the future is the Jesus of the past and of the present.
- ▶ Jesus possesses great power.
- ▶ Jesus will be opposed by the nations.
- ▶ Jesus will judge all mankind.
- ▶ Jesus’ name shall be feared.
- ▶ Jesus is the God of the covenant.