SUNDAY SCHOOL

11/14/2021

Praise for God's **Eternal Reign** Revelation 11:15-19

Section Review

Theme: Celebrating God Visions of Praise

11/7 – Revelation 7:9-17, John gives us a vision of what true, united praise and worship looks like in Heaven and the promise of relief to those who were persecuted for their faith

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent 11/14/2021

Background

- Rather than viewing the Book of Revelation as a "book of doom", it is a triumphant portrayal of how God and man's relationship will be restored and the evil that divided us will be done away with.
- God's way of dealing with evil is through judgement. Judgement in Revelations comes through 3 "7's" of judgements against the Earth and the enemies of God:
- 7 Seals which are opened by Jesus (Revelation 6:1–17; 8:1–5)
- 7 Trumpets (initiated with the 7th Seal (Revelation 8:6–9:21; 11:15–19)
- 7 Bowls (initiated with the 7th trumpet (Revelation 11:15–19; 15:1–8)
- At the end of each reveal, there is a similar pattern of lightening and earthquakes prior to the next type of judgement
- We do not know with certainty who the 24 Elders are. Some have posited that they
 represent the 12 Tribes of Israel and the 12 Apostles. Others have opined that they
 represent the raptured Church

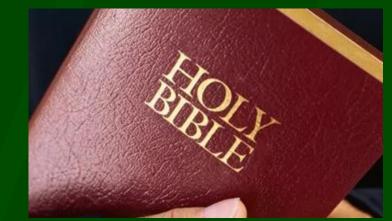
11/14/2021

Lesson Text

Seventh Trumpet: The Kingdom Proclaimed



¹⁵ Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The ^[a]kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" ¹⁶ And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, ¹⁷ saying:



11/14/2021

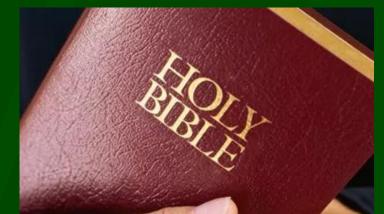
Lesson Text

Seventh Trumpet: The Kingdom Proclaimed



"We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, The One who is and who was [b] and who is to come, Because You have taken Your great power and reigned. ¹⁸ The nations were angry, and Your [c] 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."



11/14/2021

Lesson Text

Seventh Trumpet: The Kingdom Proclaimed

REVELATION 11:19 (NKJV)

¹⁹ Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of ^[d]His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.



Commentary: Heaven, Hades & Hell

- There are many terms used to describe Heaven, Hades and Hell
- In the Jewish Talmud 'Abraham's Bosom' (Luke 16:19–31) and 'Paradise' (Luke 23:43; 2 Corinthians 12:3–4; Revelation 2:7) are terms that refer to Heaven the place where God dwells and where there is comfort, rest and joy for those who've put their trust in Him
- In Abraham's Bosom, it is described as having 2 areas one for those who put their trust in God, and the other for the departed who have not. There is a great divide between the 2 that cannot be breached (v. 26)

Commentary: Heaven, Hades & Hell

- In Hebrew, the term 'Sheol' is used to describe the realm of the dead. It simply means "the place of the dead" or "the place of departed souls/spirits."
- The Greek term for Sheol is 'Hades', which is why you find the term used throughout the New Testament
- Both refer to that compartment of Abraham's Bosom where there is torment... but it is not the final destination nor judgement for those who've rejected God

Commentary: Heaven, Hades & Hell

- The Greek term for ultimate Hell is "Gahenna". The 'Lake of Fire' in the Book of Revelation is the final judgement for the enemies of God both men and fallen angels. Hades will give up it's dead those who are not in Abraham's Bosom and they will be placed in the 'Lake of Fire' the final place of torment, i.e. 'The Second Death' (Matthew 25:41; Revelation 19:20. 20:10, 14-15)
- Despite such punishment, God does not annihilate his enemies

 perhaps due to the fact they were created in His image
 (Genesis 1:26; Hebrews 2:7)
- There is no evidence for purgatory from the Scriptures

Commentary: God's Justice is Praised

- With each of the judgements, it is accompanied by the 24 Elders praise and worship of God for His justice and righteousness.
- While the thought of such judgement may seem harsh to us the Elder's have total trust in God to know what is right and fair.
- It is not God's desire that anyone should perish (2 Peter 3:9) and He gives several ways to know that He is present and can be found (Acts 17:24-31; Romans 1 – 3)
 - Romans 1 Light of Creation
 - Romans 2 Light of Conscience
 - Romans 3 Light of Christ

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Scripture References



Refer to Slides

Church School Creed & Benediction CREED BENEDICTION

Our Church School must grow & grow

And we must help to make it so

Every member a **Christian**

Every Christian a worker

Every worker trained

A worker that will not be ashamed

This we ask in Jesus' name

We have come

We have studied

We have learned

So until our next coming together

To study God's word

May His rich blessings reside with you

And may His Grace be eternally yours