

Rev. 10 & 11

1. Place of Parenthetical Sections in Revelation

These sections are narrative with various subjects, and fill in what has occurred in the plans of God, while the focus has been on the unfolding judgment of seals, trumpets, and vials.

This is the 2nd of four parenthetical sections:

- 1) Ch. 7 - People; into and out of tribulation
- 2) Ch. 10-11 – Places; whole earth & the holy city
- 3) Ch. 12 to 14 – Purposes; God's Preservation, Satan's Deceptions, Tribulation Details
- 4) Ch. 17 to 19:10 – Powers; Religious & Commercial

This section is inserted at the end of the second woe and then onto the third.

The 6th trumpet 'ends' with Ch. 11:14 as the 7th appears to usher in the Reign of Christ. Ch.11:13 links with the witnesses otherwise we read from those who repented not (9:21), right into the earthquake and a remnant giving Glory to God as part of second woe

2. Topical Outline for Ch. 10 & 11

- Ch. 10 Mighty Angel with Messages & a Little Book
V1-7 Message of no longer delay
V8-11 Little book to be eaten
- Ch. 11:1-2 Measurement of the temple
Ch. 11:3-13 Movements of God's witnesses
Ch. 11:14-19 Majesty of the Reign of Christ

Chapter 10

- v1 Angel's Entrance & Appearance
- v2 Angel's Possession & Foundation
- v3 Angel's Voice & Response
- v4 Declaration to seal up
- v5-7 The Message of God

v8 Directive to John

v9 Request of and Response to John

v10 Fulfillment from Eating

v11 Commission to John

Chapter 11

- v1 Command to Measure
- v2 City that is Trodden down

v3 Purpose is to prophesy

v4 Prophecy of OT Fulfilled

v5 Protection by Divine power

v6 Power & signs displayed

v7 Person behind their death

V8 Place of their death

v9 Pleasure in their death

v10 Prospect of their death

- v11 Proclamation of God
- v12 Praise from Heaven
- v13 Place of rightful honor to God

- v14 The Third Woe Introduced
- v15 Voices proclaiming the Reign of Christ
- v16 Adoration that is Due to Christ
- v17 Everlasting One is to Reign
- v18 Actions that Inspire Worship
- v19 Outpouring of Judgment

3. Time line of the Topics Presented

Chapter 7 had two main sections that clearly divided into very early and ending tribulation time periods.

This second parenthetical section also covers the span of the tribulation, but the verses do not appear to be recorded in a chronological order.

In the order of tribulation scenes, here is the suggested chronology

- a) Ch. 11:3-13 Witness is during the first half with their deaths occurring at the midpoint
- b) Ch. 10:1-6 & 8-11 The Mighty Angel's interaction with John occurs just at the midpoint
- c) Ch.11:1 Measurement also is at the tribulation midpoint
- d) Ch. 10:6 to 7 Spans the remainder of the tribulation (The mystery of God) – The 3 ½ years is seen between verses 6 & 7
- e) Ch. 11:2 Gentile dominion in the last 3 ½ years
- f) Ch. 11:14-19 These are the last 'days' of the great tribulation

4. Reasons for fitting the Topics to this Time Line

Ch. 10:1-6 & 8-11

- If taken near the midpoint, with no longer a delay to the 'great tribulation', then we see that God is in control of the change from the relative peace of the first 3 ½ years to the turmoil of the last 3 ½ years. The span of judgment is taken right into the 7th trumpet, which is the last 'days' of the 3 ½ years. So the reference is made to the midpoint of tribulation; no delay as remainder of seals, trumpets, and all of vials are poured out.

Ch.11:1

The command to rise and measure is like a midpoint evaluation and God is looking at 3 aspects or elements of His people based on the first half of the tribulation.

Ch. 11:2

Gentile dominion for 42 months refers to the second half of the tribulation. The abomination of desolation has been

Rev. 10 & 11

set up in the temple, temple worship ceases, and the man of sin is set up as the one to worship.

Ch. 11:3-13

The timing of the movements of the two witnesses is uncertain.

Reasons for the 2nd half of 7 years

- The flow from v2 to v3 suggests the second half
- The other mention of 1260 (12:6) is the second half
- Unique witness for God would continue right until the very end of tribulation

Reasons for the 1st half of 7 years

- The death of the witnesses appear to be at a time of relative world peace, time/ability for rejoicing, gifts, and merriment
- Reaction of remnant to give glory to God after the earthquake would not be significant amidst the other earthquakes of the tribulation end. Also, this earthquake seems localized to Jerusalem
- The ascending beast: rising of the beast may refer to character and not a specific event or timing
- The reference to making war, can be linked to the rise in power of this Gentile leader, See 13:4... the world consensus is '**who is able to make war against the beast**'...as he is able to kill witnesses that none other can
- The connection from v2 may be a contrast from a point in time (the midpoint). The 42 months forward is a time when the holy city is trodden down, but the 1260 days previous the holy city was blessed by the Godly witness of two men who served the God of all the earth

Ch. 11:14-19

References to the eminent reign of Christ indicate this 7th trumpet is truly in the last 'days' of the tribulation.

5. Detail of the Major Topics

5.1 Chapter 10

5.1.1 Message of no longer delay

v1 Entrance & Appearance

Mighty angel; note some literal descriptions, and also some symbolic with the use of 'as'

Entrance: Down from heaven

Appearance:

Clothes – clouds – speak of glory

Head – rainbow – God's promise not to entirely destroy

Face – as sun

Feet – as pillars of fire – in combination with the face, the entirety is speaking of judgment

Hand – Open little book

Right foot, sea & Left foot, earth – Total world dominion

Voice – Loud as when a lion roareth – rule/authority

These all suggest that the angel comes in the glory and grandeur of Christ and with heavenly purpose...but Christ is not the suggested identity of this angel

- Mighty (strong) angel, same as description of 5:2, and in that context it is obviously not to be taken as Christ
- This is another 'allos' angel, meaning another of the same kind.

- If decent is literal and if it's Christ, then when does Christ leave heaven? The next appearing of Christ is His coming in Glory and with judgment

- Why/how would the angel (Christ) swear by himself or by God?

- Who is the 'voice from heaven'? If Christ, then this is in particular a 'mighty angel', a messenger of God.

- Why would a mere man be instructed by heaven to just go and take from Christ, or that John would address his Lord with no introduction and "give me"?

v2 Possession & Foundation

Link this little book with the remainder of the prophesy that is yet to be fulfilled. Thus connecting the little book with v11 once John had eaten it.

Foundation is the sea and the earth, and just speaks of total world sphere dominion. The right of God to rule the earth.

v3 Angel's Voice & Response

The voice as a lion would resonate with regal authority and majesty and there is an immediate heavenly response. The message of the thunders has been hid from us, but at the time it was evident to John as he fulfilled duty to record.

v4 Declaration to seal up

The voice of Christ who once directed John to write, now instructs the opposite. Reasons for this may be speculated, but are really unknown.

References of Instructions to John in Revelation

1:11 Write in a book and send...

1:19 Write the things that thou has seen...

10:4 Write not...

14:13 Write, Blessed...

19:19 Write, Blessed...

21:15 Write, for these words are true and faithful...

22:10 Seal not the saying of the prophesy of this book...

Rev. 10 & 11

v5-7 The Message

Authority of the message – The Everlasting Creator
Contents of the message - No longer delay
Timing of when judgment is complete – Days of 7th Angel
The mystery connects with the fulfillment of 7th trumpet and indirectly to the angel with the 7th Vial who says '**It is done**' in Rev. 16

5.1.2 Little book to be Eaten

v8-11

This is also taken as the voice of Christ. There is a link back to Rev. 4:1, the voice as a trumpet saying '**come up hither**' and the voice of Christ as a trumpet in Rev. 1:10.

Between v 9 and v10, why is the order switched?
Simple thought is of divine vs human view of judgment. God knows the end from the beginning, therefore the end is bitter, it's a fact, but there is some sweetness that God word is being fulfilled
However for John, he experienced the sweetness first, but immediately the bitterness is found to be true

The remaining chapters of Revelation are likely the words of this prophesy and the contents of the little book

5.2 Chapter 11

5.2.1 Measurement of the Temple

v1 Command to Measure

There is an assumed flow from 10:11 in instructions from the angel
A measuring reed, speaks of God's standards being used to evaluate. The three things to measure would be that which is wholly for God, as opposed to that which is given to the Gentiles (the court)

v2 City that is Trodden down

Place – Court
People – Gentiles
Purpose – Tread down
Period – 42 months

A beacon of testimony for God will continue, but the overriding character of the last 3 ½ years of Tribulation will be Gentile dominion.

5.2.2 Movement of God's Witnesses

The Lord speaks of 'His' witnesses.
Clothing reminds of the ministry of Elijah and John the Baptist. Sent to Israel in a time of great apostasy to call

the nation to repentance. Israel is reminded of when God judged, because the people had sinned and needed to repent, thus the sackcloth.

v3 Purpose is to prophesy

Witness – testimony for God (two)
Prophesy – telling the truth of God
1260 days – timing of God
Sackcloth – terribleness of sin to God

It was the clothes of mourning, the garments of those who understood the weight of their God given message.

v4 Prophesy of OT Fulfilled

Reference is made to a vision of Zechariah in Zech. 4 of Olive trees & a candlestick
A candlestick being continually fed from two olive trees (branches). Light and testimony would remain b/c of the continual supply.
The key to the vision is v6. **By my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.** The near term fulfillment were the priest and king of Israel, those who were anointed. Joshua and Zerubbael (priest & king) in testimony before God. The symbol is of Christ, '**a priest upon His Throne**'

The far term prophesy now occurs in Rev. 11. It is the witness of God to His people. Now these two witnesses are not only the channel of blessing to maintain the lamp stand (In Zech, this would speak of all Israel), but they are also to be the true bearers of the testimony.

Final fulfillment is in the Millennium, when Christ himself shall be the One to supply His people.

v5 Protection by Divine Power

Undiminished hatred of God and His message is seen in attitude and actions toward His witnesses but supernatural signs will accompany God witnesses.

v6 Power & Signs displayed

The identities of these men as Elijah, Moses, Enoch and others have all been speculated. However, supernatural events simply accompany these witnesses similar to that of Moses and Elijah
It is linking back to what would be familiar for Israel, mourning, sackcloth, repentance, plagues as time of God's judgment, no rain as a time of national disobedience and to when they were freed from slavery.

The witnesses are two men who come in the spirit and power of Elijah and like Moses, a desire to see their people set free.

v7 Person behind their death

Take note of God's control in every aspect of life.

Rev. 10 & 11

Protection endures while testimony is required and even then, testimony is continued through or by their death.

Satan is behind the man who rises to power, and his character is of one who comes from the abyss.

v8 Place of their death

Jerusalem – ‘**thou that killest the prophets**’

Sodom – immorality without restraint

Egypt – worldliness without measure

What was to God a 'holy city' is now otherwise characterized.

v9 Pleasure in their death (seeing them dead)

Burial is not allowed as the beast displays the effect of his power. There would be no burial with a secret stealing away & fake resurrection as the Jews once tried to spread.

v10 Prospect of their death

A future without bother to consciences is expected. Notice rejoicing may appear to happen as the third day is reached. It is the only mention of rejoicing on earth in the tribulation. Yet consider the scriptures...Ps. 2:4 **He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh, the Lord shall have them in derision.** In midst of worldly merriment, is the power of God manifested

v11 Proclamation of God

A declaration of God's victory and approval through resurrection.

What a marvelous display of the power of God. If this is as suggested the midpoint of Tribulation and the rise of the beast to power, then the world says '**who can make war with the beast?**' God proves by giving life, that He has power over those who make war through death.

v12 Praise from Heaven

Their testimony complete, these witnesses are summoned to heaven. Notice the contrast:

Christ ascended, disciple watched, and worshiped
Witnesses ascended, enemies watched, glory to God

v13 Place of rightful Honor to God

Once again, God has a remnant and its purpose is glory to God. For majority, the outpouring of judgment leads to a hardening of hearts and defiance (ie Pharaoh), but here there is a recognition of God, if not true repentance.

5.2.3 Majesty of the Reign of Christ (The 7th Trumpet)

v 14 The Third Woe Introduced

This is a continuation of the 7 trumpets from 9:14-21

v15 Voices proclaiming the Reign of Christ

This is the 7th trumpet. Similar to 7th seal, there are no direct judgments from this sounding.

Timing takes us into very end, door step of millennium
The mystery of God from 10:7 is now being fulfilled and there is a great swell of heavenly response to the kingdom and reign of Christ as opposed to the silence of 8:1

v16 Adoration that is Due to Christ

Worship is the due response (as seen in the 24 elders) toward Christ as one who Reigns.

These four and twenty are mentioned 6 times, twice each in Ch. 4 and 5, here in Ch.11 and once in Ch. 19

Other than 4:4 in which they are simply described, each other time they are found falling before the Throne-sitter and ascribing worship

Worthy b/c He is the creator (4:11)

Worthy b/c He has been slain (5:8)

Worthy b/c He lives for ever and ever (5:14)

Worthy b/c He has reigned (11:16)

Worthy b/c He has judged in truth & righteousness (19:4)

v17 Everlasting One is to Reign

Power of Christ has been displayed in supreme authority over mankind

V18 Actions that Inspire Worship

The Setting up of the Kingdom of God

1)The nations have risen up against God

2) God will destroy at Armageddon – **fierceness of wrath of Almighty God** 19:15

3) Judgment of the dead; those described as servants, prophets, saints, and them that fear thy name. May fit in here the resurrection of OT saints and those that have died in the tribulation. Resurrected that they may enter the millennium.

4) Destruction of the Unbelievers (the goats of Matt.25)

v19 Outpouring of Judgment

The temple and ark would remind of the presence of God, the faithfulness of God as seen in the contents of the ark, and God's divine holiness that could not be approached without blood. But worship has been directed toward Satan and the long suffering of God has reached the end of its appointed time. John is once again reminded of who God is before the final judgments of God sweep across the earth and mankind as represented in the lightnings, voices, thunder, earthquake, hail. John was told to measure an earthly temple to the standard of God (11:1), now he views the temple of God in heaven.