

AN OVER-ALL PICTURE OF THINGS TO COME

Rev. 11:14-19

Study #24

Introduction: The end of time will be a period of horror and tragedy. John has already seen the catastrophe and horror that the world will go through. Yet with all the tribulation, there will still be hope. "Bitter and sweet" as the little book said. These verses give an overall picture of things to come.

I. THE THIRD WOE OR TRUMPET JUDGMENTS

1. "Woe" is a period of extreme grief, distress, suffering, affliction, and calamity. There are to be three "woes:"
 - Demonic locust-like creatures that sweep the earth and torment people.
 - Demonic military horse-like creatures that sweep the earth killing one third of the ungodly and evil population.
 - The seventh trumpet which will cause seven more judgments (called "bowl judgments").
2. There will be a pause before the judgments actually begin. Why? Some things need to be seen before the judgments take place. Human history will end upon the completion of the seven bowl judgments.

II. THE WORLD BECOMES GOD'S KINGDOM

1. History is bypassed and the scripture shows our God and His Christ ruling over the whole world. All kingdoms have been done away with and all people are living under the authority God. Much different than today's governments.
2. Earthly governments are imperfect, weak and unable to care for mankind. Flooded with all kinds of evils and imperfections, focusing on all the wrong reasons and engulfed with sin, evil, greed, war and conflict.
3. Jesus will bring "utopia" when He comes to rule the earth. Peace and prosperity for all. He will do for mankind what Satan and mankind could never do.

III. THE LORD GOD ALMIGHTY IS ACCLAIMED

As soon as scene two is revealed the 24 ruling elders break out into praise and worship:

1. They praised God as the Lord God Almighty.
2. They praised Him as the Lord God who is eternal.
3. They praised Him for taking His great power back from the world and beginning to reign in His rightful place. Satan's rule has ended.

IV. THE FINAL REBELLION OF THE NATIONS AGAINST GOD

1. There will be a final rebellion against the Lord at the end of the 1000 year reign of Christ. All those born during that time will either follow Jesus or they won't. Those who do not will become followers of Satan when he is released from the pit after the 1000 years of Christ's rule on earth.
2. The wrath of God will fall.
3. The dead will be judged.
4. The godly will be rewarded.
5. The destroyers of human life will themselves be destroyed.
6. God **will** put down all evil, starting with Satan and his demons and every human who ever lived a life of unbelief. Judgment for them is certain. Reward for all believers in Jesus is sure.

V. GOD'S TEMPLE WILL BE OPENED

1. All earthly worship has been patterned after Heavenly worship, even the earthly temples have been built according to God's instructions.
2. God's heavenly temple will be opened, a place that no man has ever looked before.
3. The Ark of the Covenant will be revealed to **all** God's children, not just to a high priest once a year.

CONCLUSION

1. There is coming a day when the world as man has know it will cease to exist.
2. There is coming a day when God's children will have access into the heavenly temple itself, with nothing hidden from their eyes.
3. There is coming a day when there will be no more evil, sin, wars, sickness, greed, or death.
4. There is coming a day when man will have a perfect life in a perfect place.
5. The only way to all this is through the Lord Jesus Christ.