

## Revelation Pastor Lou DeVizia

Revelation 11:14-19 Fellowship Bible Church; Woodbridge, NJ

[www.yourfamilychurch.com](http://www.yourfamilychurch.com)

Introduction: In a sense, you can say that the seventh angel sounding his trumpet is the beginning of the end of the Great Tribulation. This third woe (v.14) is introduced here with the trumpet in Chapter 11, but the real pouring out of woe upon the earth that goes with it is not seen until Chapter 16 and the seven bowls. In fact, what is introduced with this final trumpet is the finality of the transfer of the kingdom of Satan (i.e., this world) to the conquering Christ. The exact moment of the *realization* of that is when Christ returns, Chapter 19. So, in a sense, you can describe this final woe as covering 11:14 through Chapter 19 (the beginning of Chapter 19 reads very much like the verses covered in this study).

There are four striking sections to this passage in the second half of Chapter 11: 1) the praises of the residents of heaven; 2) the praises of the church; 3) the opening of the temple in heaven; and 4) the going forth of more judgments on the earth. All of these point to the finality of God's great triumph in all of this.

1. Verse 15 - The praises of all of heaven as the final victory of the Lord is announced.

- v.15a - **loud voices** - presumably, this is everyone in heaven, a vast and mighty throng of angels and the redeemed. J. Vernon McGee writes: "All of God's created intelligences can see the end now and are jubilant..."

- v.15b - John MacArthur says, "The singular (kingdom) is the preferred reading. Though there are kingdoms in this world, really the entire world is under the evil rule of Satan, so in that sense it is one. And that entirety of rule will be wrenched away from him in glorious triumph by **our Lord and His Christ**. Notice that this is announced in *past-tense* - the last trumpet ushers in this great finality, though we will still see for many chapters what actually gets played out to bring it about.

2. Verses 16-18 - The praises of the church in heaven.

- v.16 - The **twenty-four elders**, as we have previously seen (Chapters 4-5 especially) represent the raptured church in heaven. Here they are singled out as a unit in prostrate worship before God.

- v.17 - Here is a beautiful spoken song of praise and worship. God is praised for His eternity and His conquering power.

- v.18 - The song continues by lauding God for His holy and just wrath and judgment, His vindication of His servants, and His destruction of His enemies.

NOTE: All of this should be compared with Psalm 2! What a mighty God we serve!

3. Verse 19a - The temple of God in heaven.

- v.19a - The letter to the Philadelphia church makes mention of the heavenly temple of the New Jerusalem (3:12). The ark of His covenant here represents the New Covenant. The Ark of the Covenant of the earthly temple was a copy of the Ark of heaven's temple, Hebrews 9:23-24. The earthly Ark *represented* the presence of God; the heavenly Ark is *in* the presence of God. Here we see the ***temple... opened***. This is reminiscent of the veil of the temple being torn when Jesus died, signifying access to God through Christ. Just as access was opened at that triumph of Christ, so here we see the heavenly temple opened up at the future triumph of Christ.

4. Verse 19b - The final outpourings of the Great Tribulation on the earth, the final woe.

- v.19b - This final sentence of Chapter 11 seems to summarize the bowl judgments which are given more specificity in Chapter 16.