

Beulah Baptist Church
Rev. Jerry D. Black, Pastor

Sunday School Lesson
November 14, 2021
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Lesson—Praise for God’s Eternal Reign

Text: Revelation 11:15-19

I. Aim for Change/Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, we will...

1. *DEFINE* the nature of God’s reign for eternity;
2. *REFLECT* on how God’s eternal reign affects our faith, and
3. *ENGAGE* in activities that reflect the sovereignty of God in healthy, powerful, and transforming ways.

Key Verse— *“The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.” (Revelation 11:15 KJV)*

II. People Places and Times

The Trumpet. The sounding of the trumpet first represents God’s judgment (Revelation 8:6–13). In ancient times, the trumpet would sound to call the Israelites to order and draw their attention to what may be happening at the Temple. There is even a Feast of Trumpets (Leviticus 23:23–25). The blowing of the trumpet is a signal to draw attention to God. First, His holiness, His victory, His liberty, and His guidance are all acknowledged by the trumpet.

III. Background

While many traditions have encouraged a reaction of fear of this book, its actual purpose is not to elicit fear, but rather to incite an unadulterated and unhindered worship to Almighty God. The Book of Revelation largely tells the drama of the completion of God’s plan played out in three separate acts: **Act I** featuring seals being opened, **Act II** featuring trumpets heralding the arrival of God’s eternal kingdom, and **Act III** featuring bowls of judgment on those who reject God. Each act contains songs celebrating the action. Revelation 11 describes the action ending Act II, the blowing of the seventh trumpet.

IV. The Lesson At-A-Glance...

1. *The Worship (Revelation 11:15–18)*
2. *The Wonder (v. 19)*

V. In Depth with More Light on the Text

1. The Worship (Revelation 11:15–18) Who are these four and twenty elders? While scholars and skeptics alike may differ about the individual identities of each being that is presented here, the point is not who they are, but *who God is*. Whether beast, elder, or angel, their purpose is to acknowledge God, exemplifying what it means to worship God in spirit and in

truth. Their worship begins with thanksgiving. They honor the eternal God, and they submit themselves as subject to God’s judgment.

2. The Great Choir (vv. 11-12)

By recognizing God as almighty, eternal, and all powerful, the elders actually have invoked God to demonstrate His authority over all creation. Who can make lightning but God? Who can move the earth and the sky, and wring from them all their treasures? Echoing scenes from the Psalms (Psalm 96–98), John’s report covers any questions on whether God is confined to heaven or restricted on earth. He is neither. He alone is God!

Liberating Lesson— See Sunday School Book...

Application for Activation— See Sunday School Book...

Food for Thought and Questions for Consideration (from the Application for Activation)?

1. Are you spiritually prepared to received God’s eternal reign with your praise?

Vocabulary-New Words

None this week...

Notes: _____

