

## EP93 Revelation 11 verses 16-18

In our last podcast, we discussed the rule of Christ and how His bondservants the prophets (His two witnesses) will rule and reign with Him forever and ever. We discussed the big question as to who they will rule. After all, with so much death and destruction, it is hard to determine who will be left to rule much less how this rule could be a forever rule given the fact that those who follow the Beast will ultimately be cast into the **Lake of Fire**. But in answering this question, we learned the beautiful truth about those God deems to be **Righteous**.

Let's continue now with **Revelation 11:16-18**.

### *The Elders Worship*

#### **Revelation 11:16**

And the twenty-four elders, who choose to **now** be sitting on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God **now** saying...

At this point, it is more than appropriate that the Elders who choose to now be sitting on their thrones to fall on their faces and worship God.<sup>1</sup> Based on our study in **Revelation 4**, there were 24-Elders (12x2). From the perspective of the **Code**, 12 represents a perfect spiritual administration or government relating to the realm of mankind (4x3), and 2 is the number of both division (meaning there is a difference, not necessarily antagonistic) and witness.

Thus, in the image of the 24-Elders, we see the complete spiritual administration of true believers comprised of both Gentiles and the Jews—the completed Bride of Christ where the two nations (two distinct olive trees) Gentiles and Jews, and two distinct lights (two Lampstands) bearing their unique glow give a unified witness in Christ. This is the mystery that has been completed with the blowing of the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet, as He, Jesus, preached to His servants the prophets.<sup>2</sup>

### *Give Thanks for What Was and What Will Be*

#### **Revelation 11:17-18**

... **now** saying,

"We **now** give You thanks, O Lord God, the Almighty, who is **now** being and who was, because You have taken Your great power and have reigned. And the nations have been caused to be enraged, and Your **wrath** came, and the time for the dead to be caused to be judged, and the time to reward Your bondservants the prophets and the holy ones and those whom you

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<sup>1</sup> "sitting" is rendered in the *present middle participle*

<sup>2</sup> **Revelation 10:7**

caused to **now** be fearing Your name, the small and the great, and to destroy those who are **now** destroying the earth."

## Thanks

Giving **thanks** unto God is a sacrifice of praise, part of the role of a priest.<sup>3</sup> Thus, their bowing down before **Yahweh** seems quite appropriate. Worship, praise, and thanksgiving are a perfect triad of honor for the only one who deserves to be honored. What they are saying is also rendered in the *present* tense, so in a very real way, the Elders, the two witnesses, those who are now worshipping in the Sanctuary, are even now giving thanks to God for all He is and all He will do.

## The Lord

They honor Jesus as the Lord God Almighty—the one who is now being and always was. Being the **Lord**, (**Adonai**), He has arranged everything, every little detail of our lives, down to the toss of the dice.<sup>4</sup> After all, the Spirit has confirmed that **ALL THINGS** are from Him (Jesus), and through Him (Jesus), and to Him.<sup>5</sup> Accordingly, all things happen just as He decided long ago.<sup>6</sup>

You will see in the footnotes of this transcript, the voluminous number of scripture references in this regard. It seemed necessary to include these references because the absolute dictatorial and despotic Lordship of Jesus Christ is a clear and unequivocal certainty testified to by the Spirit all throughout the **Codex**. Yet, for some reason, it is one of those issues which people tend to resist the most, perhaps not so much as a theological concept, but definitely as a personal truth.

We have dealt with this already many times in this study, but those who wrestle with this as a personal truth have a very hard time aligning this reality with the fact that God still holds each person accountable for their personal choices. It is a beautiful non-contradictory synergy that is clearly understood when one sees things from the heavenly perspective—a reality that exists outside of our constructs of time.

## God

Even now He is and has been our **God**, the one who sits outside of time and knows everything from beginning to end, all the time. Hence, He is the **First** (the one who declares all things before they happen) and He is the **Last** (the one who ensures that all things happen and come to be just as He first declared). He is the **Alpha**, the one who initiates all things in our lives, and He is the **Omega**, the one who brings to

<sup>3</sup> *Hebrews 13:15*

<sup>4</sup> See: *Genesis 8:22, 45:5, 50:20; Exodus 4:21; Numbers 22:28; Deuteronomy 32:39-40; Judges 14:1-4; 1 Samuel 2:6-8, 16:14-15; 1 Kings 17:4, 22:19-37; 1 Chronicles 21:1/2 Samuel 24:1; 1 Chronicles 29:11-14; 2 Chronicles 20:6; Job 1:6-12, 9:21-24, 12:12-25; Psalm 24:1-2, 29:9-10, 33:11, 48:1, 76:1-10, 97:9, 103:19-22; 104:4, 104:5-35, 115:3; 135:6; Proverbs 16:1, 4, 9-10, 33, 21:1; Ecclesiastes 9:1; Isaiah 14:24; 30:26, 40:23, 44:24-28, 45:1-7; Jeremiah 5:22, 8:7, 27:5-11, 21-22, 31:35, 32:17-30, 40; Lamentations 3:37-38; Ezekiel 32:4; Daniel 6:22; Hosea 6:1-3; Amos 3:6; Mark 4:39; John 3:27, 15:16; Acts 2:22-24, 4:23-28; Romans 8:29; Ephesians 1:11, 2:10, 4:6; Philippians 2:9-13*

<sup>5</sup> *Psalm 139:1-6, 37:23-24; Romans 11:36*

<sup>6</sup> *Ephesians 1:11; 3:11; Romans 8:28; 9:10-24; Hebrews 6:17-18*

fruition all things that He initiated. And He is, and has been, present with us all the time, He has never left us nor forsaken us.<sup>7</sup> He is, and has been, and always will be the **I AM**, and for those who are *willing*, their **I AM**.<sup>8</sup>

## The Almighty

And being the **Almighty**, the enemy (whether the devil, his hoard of demons, or our human foes) has never truly had anything over us. They have all just been tools in **Adonai's** hands working, in effect for Him as His agents, to carry out His purposes in our lives. And because He is the Almighty, nothing can thwart His will. What He says or does is accomplished without exception, as He is the Amen!<sup>9</sup>

## Is & Was

Specifically, the 24-Elders thank the Lord God Almighty first because He is. This is rendered in a case that is singular and emphatic: "We give You thanks, O Lord God, the Almighty, **WHO NOW IS!** Yet, it is also a *participle* in the *present* tense: Who **NOW IS BEING!**<sup>10</sup>

They also thank Him because He is the one who **was**. Being rendered in the technical *past* tense the *imperfect*, every moment of our past, He has always been the one who always is being.

This is an acknowledgement that every moment of our now, and every moment of our past, every little detail is and was (an assurance that it will also be in the future), carefully managed and determined by the one who is the Lord God Almighty.

This is an extremely difficult reality to accept, as we faintly understand what God is doing with us and, for the most part, we do not like it. We tend to forget that His goal is a complete *divine conquest* of our being, and we forget that we have invited Him (in word, prayer, and song) to be our Lord. But this "*thanks*" is to provide us our assurance that in all times *past* and *present*, He has been and is the **I AM**, the **Lord God Almighty**. Therefore, we can have confidence that in our future, He will always be the **I AM**, the **Lord God Almighty**. And for those who let Him, those who are *willing*, He will be their **I AM**, in a very personal way.

### WHAT IS TO BE OUR TAKEAWAY HERE?

**NOTHING, ABSOLUTELY NOTHING IN OUR LIVES HAS EVER BEEN OUT OF CONTROL!**

This title, **Lord God Almighty**, is to center us and still our souls, such that no matter what we are going through, no matter how difficult the trials, we can give thanks because it is all under His perfect management of our lives, from beginning to end, for there is no one else who holds a candle, a flicker-of-a flame, to the one who is the **Lord God Almighty**.

<sup>7</sup> *Hebrews 13:5-6*

<sup>8</sup> *Exodus 3:13-15*

<sup>9</sup> See *Psalms 33:6-11; Lamentations 3:37-38; Amos 3:7-8*

<sup>10</sup> "are" is rendered in the *present active participle* with the *vocative* case, providing emphasis

## 7-Fold Thanksgiving

We are given 7 reasons for their thanksgiving. And since we are dealing with a section that is about the completion of all things, this 7-fold thanksgiving is a complete offering pertaining to God's completion of His **Plan-A** for His own people and for mankind.

1. You have taken Your great power,
2. And have reigned,
3. And the nations were caused to be enraged,
4. And Your wrath came,
5. And the time for the dead to be caused to be judged,
6. And the time to reward (or give reward to) Your bondservants the prophets and the saints and those whom you caused to **now** be fearing Your name, the small and the great, and
7. To destroy those who are **now** destroying the earth.

This list provides a road map for where we have been and where we are going.

## Great power

First, they thank Him that He “**has taken His great power**” (rendered in the *perfect active indicative*). Thus, sometime in the past He took hold of His great power and that is a statement of fact and continues to ring true throughout time. This goes to the truth that He is the **Lord God Almighty**. He did not just take His power and start to get all busy with the blowing of the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet; rather, the Lord God Almighty took His great power when He spoke creation into existence and set His **Plan-A** into motion. This is nothing new, just an acknowledgment of His eternal might, for then He rested from His works.<sup>11</sup>

## Has Reigned

Second, in their giving of thanks, they proclaim, “**You have reigned**.” This is translated in most Bibles as “begun to reign.” However, such a translation is grossly misleading as “have reigned” is rendered in the *aorist active indicative*, which can function as a form of the *past* tense, but unlike the *perfect* tense, the use of the *aorist* with the *indicative* does not tie down the subject matter, in this instance the “reign,” to a specific time in the past. It is more of a general statement on what has been. Therefore, this is not something **Yahweh** is just beginning, but it is a reality that has been. Again, the translations are very misleading, disturbingly so.

We are to understand that **Yahweh** has reigned all throughout every little detail of these Elders' lives. They are simply acknowledging His eternal majesty (both in the past and in the present). You have reigned!

Why did the translators render “has reigned” as “begun to reign”? Perhaps they are supposing that prior to this time, the Satan (Lucifer) reigned over the world and only now, yes, only now, **Yahweh** has

<sup>11</sup> See **Genesis 2:3**. See also **Hebrews 4:3** where the Spirit incorporates our choices into **Plan-A**, the works from which God rested.

begun to reign. That is so far from the truth that it makes me crazy. He is the **Lord God Almighty**. Always has been, always is, and always will be. There is no other. There is only one.

As we have discussed, Satan has only been granted a short-term tenancy over the world. He is not much more than a hired servant, a landlord, so-to-speak, whose job is to do His master's bidding and to oversee His master's possessions. And his job is soon coming to an end. Accordingly, the true property owner will exert His exclusive property rights. By the way, He has never lost them, ever! He has just let His servants be the overseers of this earthly realm.

## The Angry Nations

Third, they give thanks over the fact that the "*nations were caused to be enraged*." This is an allusion to **Psalm 2** where it speaks of the nations, or peoples, being in an uproar, enraged, and devising a vain thing. It goes on to say that the "*kings of the earth*" and the rulers take counsel together to rid themselves of **Yahweh's** rule and control.

We have examined this before, but in short, this is addressing the demonic spirits—BOTH the *kings of the earth* who sit on Satan's council of leadership and the rulers working under Satan's tenancy, possibly along with their counterparts amongst humanity, who in regard to **Yahweh** and His **Anointed** (Jesus), want to tear their fetters apart and cast away their cords. In other words, they know they are slaves, servants, literally bound by fetters and chords to do the will of **Yahweh** and His **Anointed**, and they do not like it.

Hence, "*enraged*" is rendered in *aorist passive indicative*; in other words, **Yahweh** really makes them mad; He is the cause of their anger.

Their rage towards God is obviously not something that is new, but during the events of the two witnesses, it gets amped up. After all **Psalm 2** also says, "*He will speak to them in His anger and terrify them in His fury, saying, 'But as for me, I have installed my King upon Zion, My holy mountain.'*" He then warns them. "*Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way, for His wrath may soon be kindled.*" In fact, the very next event on the **Revelation** timeline will be the **Great Wrath** of the Son that has been kindled. Hence, the nations were caused to be enraged.

When you think about it, the nations have been enraged at the rule and control of the Lord God Almighty from the beginning. We do not get more than 4 Chapters into **Genesis** and we find that man begins to malign the name of **Yahweh**. Wickedness was the rule in those days, as all the thoughts and intentions of man's heart were evil.<sup>12</sup> And even after the flood, the nations' sought their own way at the tower of Babel (which is linked to the great apostasy, to mystery Babylon, to the religion of Christianity—where men are trying so very hard to be good like God).<sup>13</sup>

## His Wrath

Fourth, they give thanks because His "*wrath came*." Technically the pouring out of His wrath on the earth will not begin until we get to the **7-bowl judgments**, but the time of His wrath begins once the Bride of Christ (the two witnesses, the 144,000, the **Called and Chosen and Faithful**) is removed from the earth

<sup>12</sup> **Genesis 4:26; 6:1-11**

<sup>13</sup> **Genesis 11:1-9**

at the rapture. As we have learned, His wrath could not begin until God collected all those who are now worshipping in the Sanctuary and hid them away during the time of indignation. After all, He promised His bondservants that they are not destined for wrath.<sup>14</sup>

**THE BLOWING OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> TRUMPET ACCOMPLISHES MULTIPLE THINGS  
SIMULTANEOUSLY, INCLUDING THE REMOVAL OF THE BONDSERVANTS OF GOD WHILE  
AT THE SAME TIME THE USHERING IN THE TIME OF YAHWEH'S WRATH.**

## Time for the Dead to be Judged

Fifth, they give thanks because it's "*time for the dead to be caused to be judged.*" We know that the dead will not be *eternally* judged until the **White Throne Judgment** event, where all the dead are raised at the second resurrection, and anyone whose name is not found written in the Lamb's Book of Life will be thrown into the Lake of Fire, which is the **Second Death**. But this event does not occur for 1,000 years after the return of Christ.<sup>15</sup>

Therefore, in this instance, "dead" is to be understood *figuratively* as addressing those who have no spiritual life (no green) within them. They will now be judged through the remainder of the tribulation – through the time of **Yahweh's** great wrath.

## Rewards

Sixth, they give thanks because it is the "*time to reward (or give the reward to) Your bondservants the prophets and the saints and those whom you caused to now be fearing Your name, the small and the great.*" This passage details rewards for 3 groups of people. 1) the bondservants—the prophets, 2) the "holy ones", and 3) those whom **Yahweh** caused to be fearing His name, the small and the great.

### ***The Bondservants the Prophets***

When the text speaks of the prophets—the bondservants of God, they go by many synonymous idioms: those who are now overcoming, those who are now believing, those who are now fearing Him, the two witnesses, the two Olive Trees and the two Lampstands who have been standing before the Lord of the earth, the 144,000, those who are **now** worshipping in the Sanctuary, the **Called and Chosen and Faithful**, the "*holy city*," the Bride of Christ—the New Jerusalem.<sup>16</sup>

**Yahweh's** bondservants, the prophets, will be rewarded. Sometimes these rewards are pictured as crowns;<sup>17</sup> as harps;<sup>18</sup> as songs;<sup>19</sup> as gold, silver, and precious jewels, crystal clear like jasper;<sup>20</sup> as a shining

<sup>14</sup> **1 Thessalonians 5:9**

<sup>15</sup> **Revelation 20**

<sup>16</sup> **See Revelation 5:8, 11:4, 13:7, 14:12, 7:4-17, 11:3-13, 14:1-5, 17:14, 19:5, 7-10, 21:1-4, 10-27**

<sup>17</sup> **Revelation 2:10; 4:10; 1 Thessalonians 2:19; 2 Timothy 4:7**

<sup>18</sup> **Revelation 5:8**

<sup>19</sup> **Revelation 14:3**

<sup>20</sup> **1 Corinthians 3:12; Revelation 21:11**

which will be as brilliant as the brightness as the expanse of the heavens—just like stars;<sup>21</sup> as having responsibilities over many of the Lord’s possessions;<sup>22</sup> as praise;<sup>23</sup> as glory;<sup>24</sup> as an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled, which will not fade away.<sup>25</sup>

Sometimes these rewards are pictured as having the right to eat from the tree of life in the paradise of God;<sup>26</sup> as having the right to eat of the manna that has been hidden away in heaven; as receiving a white stone with a new name that no one knows except the one who receives it;<sup>27</sup> as receiving authority over the nations—the same authority that Jesus receives from His Father—and receiving the morning star;<sup>28</sup> as walking with Jesus clothed in white never having their names erased from the book of life;<sup>29</sup> as being like a stable pillar in the Sanctuary of God—never having to leave; as having Jesus’ new name inscribed upon them as citizens of the New Jerusalem.<sup>30</sup>

Sometimes these rewards are pictured as sharing a meal with Jesus and sitting with Him on His throne;<sup>31</sup> as being priests of God and of Christ and reigning with Him on the earth for 1,000 years;<sup>32</sup> as having no more death, or sorrow, or crying, or pain; as freely drinking from the springs of the water of life;<sup>33</sup> as a city of precious jewels and pure gold whose gates are made of pearls, a city that needs no Sanctuary for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its Sanctuary; as needing no sun and no moon for the glory of God illuminates the city as the Lamb will be its light; as never experiencing night.<sup>34</sup>

Sometimes these rewards are pictured as there no longer being anything in our lives which is cursed; as seeing Jesus’ face and having His name written on our foreheads, as having His glory forever shine on us as we reign with Him forever and ever;<sup>35</sup> as being like Him because we will see Him just as He is;<sup>36</sup> as partaking in His divine nature;<sup>37</sup> and as knowing as completely as we have been fully known.<sup>38</sup>

I might have missed a few, but when God says that He knows how to reward His bondservants for their faithful endurance, He means it. When the 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet blows, they get to look forward to a complete cleansing and an eternity of great unthinkable rewards.

<sup>21</sup> **Daniel 12:3**

<sup>22</sup> **Matthew 24:45-47; 25:21-23**

<sup>23</sup> **1 Corinthians 4:5**

<sup>24</sup> **1 Peter 5:1; Revelation 19:10**

<sup>25</sup> **1 Peter 1:4**

<sup>26</sup> **Revelation 2:7**

<sup>27</sup> **Revelation 2:17**

<sup>28</sup> **Revelation 2:26-27**

<sup>29</sup> **Revelation 3:5**

<sup>30</sup> **Revelation 3:12**

<sup>31</sup> **Revelation 3:21**

<sup>32</sup> **Revelation 20:6**

<sup>33</sup> **Revelation 21:4-6**

<sup>34</sup> **Revelation 21:10-25**

<sup>35</sup> **Revelation 22:3-5**

<sup>36</sup> **1 John 3:2; 1 Corinthians 13:12, 2 Corinthians 3:18**

<sup>37</sup> **2 Peter 1:4**

<sup>38</sup> **1 Corinthians 13:12**

### **The Holy Ones (“saints”)**

“... time to reward (or give the reward to) ... **the saints (holy ones)** ...” Since the Spirit did not clarify the exact identity of the “*holy ones*,” we will have to dig into the **Codex** to get our understanding.

In the **Codex**, we find that this reference to the “*holy ones*” (or the “saints”) includes a reference to the Old Testament believers who lived by faith and trusted themselves to **Yahweh**. They are that great cloud of witnesses **now** surrounding us and **now** choosing to be surrounding us, which include the likes of Able, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Rahab the harlot, Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, Samuel, Elijah, Elisha, David and so many others.<sup>39</sup> In fact, we are told that we are fellow citizens with these “*holy ones*.”<sup>40</sup>

Just to frame this comment about “*holy ones*,” oddly we are told in the **Codex** that many bodies of these “**holy ones**” who had fallen asleep (had previously died) were resurrected at the time of Jesus’ crucifixion, and they entered Jerusalem and appeared to many.<sup>41</sup> Yes, very odd. Presumably they lived and once again died, but we do not really know what happened to them. They might have been raised at the ascension when Jesus went to His Father, but again we do not know. Regardless, there is a clear connection between the phrase “*holy ones*” and those who lived and died prior to the resurrection of Jesus.

As to the “**holy ones**” who were not resurrected at that time, the Spirit tells us that though they died pre-cross and pre-resurrection of Jesus, during the three days and three nights that Jesus was “officially” dead, He went to them and preached to them and showed them that all along He was the object of their faith. Those who accepted this truth, He brought to heaven.<sup>42</sup> This is why we see a great multitude of souls in heaven awaiting our arrival, and why we will recline (or eat) with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.<sup>43</sup>

Of course, their redemption was prophesied in the **Codex**. For example, the Psalmist wrote “*But as for me, God will redeem my life. He will **snatch** me from the power of the grave (or Sheol).*”<sup>44</sup> “*With Your counsel You will guide me, and afterwards take me to glory.*”<sup>45</sup> Daniel prophesied that “*many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life...*”<sup>46</sup> Similarly, Isaiah prophesied, “*Your dead will live, their corpses will rise. You who lie in dust, awake and shout for joy, for your dew as the dew of the dawn, and the earth will give birth to the departed spirits.*”<sup>47</sup>

Now keep in mind, at their ascension (when Jesus brought them to heaven) from the good part of Sheol where they were kept and protected (also known as the “Bosom of Abraham” or “Paradise”), they did not receive their new bodies, for they were not yet made perfect. Hence, we are told, “*And all these,*

<sup>39</sup> See **Hebrews 11, 12:1**. Note “surrounding” is rendered as a parsed verb in the *present active participle* and the *present middle participle*.

<sup>40</sup> **Ephesians 2:19**

<sup>41</sup> **Matthew 27:52**

<sup>42</sup> **1 Peter 4:6; Ephesians 4:8-9**

<sup>43</sup> **Revelation 4:4; 6:9-11, Hebrews 12:1; Matthew 8:11; Luke 13:28**

<sup>44</sup> **Psalm 49:15**

<sup>45</sup> **Psalm 73:24**

<sup>46</sup> **Daniel 12:2**

<sup>47</sup> **Isaiah 26:19**



*having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised, because God had provided something better for us, so that apart from us they would not be made perfect.”<sup>48</sup>*

But they too will be made perfect, and they will receive new bodies. They will not be bodiless souls in heaven throughout eternity. They too will be rewarded. This was clearly understood by Job when he declared: *“As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will take His stand on the earth. Even after my skin is destroyed, yet from my flesh (my body) I shall see God; whom I myself shall behold, and whom my eyes will see and not another. My heart faints within me!”<sup>49</sup>* Similarly, David declared, *“As for me, I shall behold Your face in righteousness; I will be satisfied with Your likeness when I awake.”<sup>50</sup>* Essentially, David was declaring the truth the Spirit would unveil to us through John. *“Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.”<sup>51</sup>*

Yes, like us, they too will be like Him, they too will have new bodies. They too will literally be conformed and transformed into the image of Christ and will be partakers of the divine nature.<sup>52</sup> At the blowing of the 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet (at the rapture) the perishable will be raised, snatched, taken, or raptured imperishable, raised in glory and power. The natural body will be raised a spiritual body.<sup>53</sup>

#### **1 Corinthians 15:49-54**

Just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we will also bear the image of the heavenly. Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but **we will ALL be changed**, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and **the DEAD will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed**. For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.

Yes, the *“holy ones”* (the “saints”) will receive their reward! They will not be left out nor left behind. For by their faith, these men, and women of old gained their approval before God. Though they would not be made perfect apart from the **Chosen and Called and Faithful**, they will receive what was promised—they will receive their reward!<sup>54</sup>

#### **Those Whom You Caused to Now Be Fearing Your Name: The Small & The Great**

This is also the time where God lifts and honors all those who honored Him, whether small or great. In other words, worldly importance is not and never has been an issue to God in terms of qualification for His honor. Rather, He honors those who are known as the **“Righteous”**— those whom the Spirit has

<sup>48</sup> **Hebrews 11:39-40**

<sup>49</sup> **Job 19:25-27**

<sup>50</sup> **Psalms 17:15**

<sup>51</sup> **1 John 3:2**

<sup>52</sup> **Romans 8:29; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 2 Peter 1:4**

<sup>53</sup> **1 Corinthians 15:42-44**

<sup>54</sup> See **Hebrews 11:1, 39**

caused to now be fearing His name—those who “received” the bondservants of **Yahweh**, honored them, and treated them well. This was the promise Jesus made to them, “... *they will not lose their reward.*”<sup>55</sup>

There are those in this world, even now, who are found to be “fearing” **Yahweh** and honoring His Bride even though they have not become a part of His Bride. They will refuse to receive the mark of the Beast or the number of His name, and they will never bow before the Beast in worship. As such, they too shall receive their reward, for they will be preserved during the time of wrath, and they will enter the Lord’s kingdom.

### **No Eye Has Seen**

It might annoy you that practically all these rewards are described in pictures, and that is because “*no eye has seen, nor ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who are now loving Him.*”<sup>56</sup> No mind has imagined the quality, nature, and quantity of His rewards. We are that limited in our humanity, and He is that *gigundus* in His divinity. These are wonderful, beautiful, and amazing pictures, but they are nothing even close to what reality will be like; we cannot even grasp what He has in store for us.

## **Destroy the Destroyers**

Seventh, they thank God because it is time “*to destroy those who are now destroying the earth.*”<sup>57</sup> Now is the time for the reckoning, a time of retribution where God will avenge the murder of His bondservants. “*Since they shed the blood of your holy people and your prophets, you have given them blood to drink. It is their just reward.*”<sup>58</sup> “*And as for these enemies of mine who didn’t want me to be their king—bring them in and execute them right here in front of me.*”<sup>59</sup>

In this verse, “destroy” is rendered in the *aorist active infinitive* and “now destroying the earth” is rendered in the *present active participle*. Thus, we are to understand that this destruction He speaks about is not just for those unfortunate ones who are alive in the final 3.5-year period; rather, throughout time He destroys those who are now, in their now, destroying the earth.

### **The Destruction**

The way this “destruction” will play out in the timeline of the **Revelation** narrative is there will soon be 7-Bowls of wrath poured out on the inhabitants of the earth.<sup>60</sup> This will unleash terrifying and devastating judgments that can only be described as “**wrath**” or “**indignation.**” Then Jesus will return as the conquering king and tread upon (exercise authority over) and subject the nations to His rule. With the sword of His mouth, He will strike down the nations and slay kings, captains, strong warriors, horses, and their riders, and those of all classes of humanity both free and slave, small and great, as well as all classes

<sup>55</sup> **Matthew 10:40-42, 25:31-46; Mark 9:40-41.** See also **Luke 10:16; John 13:20.** Note: “fear” is rendered in the *present passive participle*

<sup>56</sup> **1 Corinthians 2:9; Isaiah 64:4**

<sup>57</sup> “destroying” is rendered in the *present active participle*

<sup>58</sup> **Revelation 16:5-6, 19:2**

<sup>59</sup> **Luke 19:11-27**

<sup>60</sup> **Revelation 15-16**

of spiritual beings (the bad angels).

He will capture the Beast and the False Prophet and throw them alive into the **Lake of Fire** that burns with sulfur; and their entire army of demonic spirits will be punished, and some will be imprisoned, and others will be killed by a sharp sword that comes out of Jesus' mouth.

Then He will seize the devil—Satan—and bind him in chains for a thousand years in the Abyss, or the bottomless pit, where the Beast was previously interned. After the thousand years, He will let the devil out just for a short time to deceive the nations once again. He will then gather the devil and the nations together for one final battle, and fire from heaven will come down and consume all of **Yahweh's** enemies. Then the devil will join the Beast and the False Prophet and be thrown into the **Lake of Fire** that burns with sulfur.

After that comes the great **White Throne Judgment** where anyone whose name is not found written in the book of life will be cast into the Lake of Fire. This is the **Second Death**.

Finally, Jesus will destroy heaven and earth and create a new heaven and earth where His Bride, the New Jerusalem, will dwell with Him for all eternity.

**HE WILL COMPLETELY, THOROUGHLY, AND ENTIRELY  
DESTROY THE DESTROYERS OF THE EARTH.**

The underline Greek word translated as “*destroy*” means to corrupt or to ruin by laying waste. The time has come to corrupt or to ruin those who are now corrupting and ruining the earth. This is elaborated on in the **Codex**.

**2 Peter 2:4-13**

For if God did not choose to spare angels when they were sinning, but having cast them into hell and committed them to chains of darkness, caused to **now** being reserved for judgment; and did not choose to spare the ancient world, but preserved the eight person, Noah, a preacher of righteousness, when having brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; and if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction (demolition or apostasy) having reduced them to ashes, having made them an example to those who are **now** being likely to live ungodly lives thereafter; and if He chose to have rescued righteous Lot, caused to **now** being oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men (for by what he saw and heard that righteous man, while **now** living among them, felt his righteous soul tormented day after day by their lawless deeds), then the Lord has always known how to **now** choose to rescue the godly from temptation, and to **now** keep (or preserve) the unrighteous unto the day of judgment to **now** be punishing, and especially those who are **now** choosing to walk in the lusts of the flesh in its corrupt desires, and who are **now** despising authority.

Daring, self-willed, they do not **now** tremble when they are **now** reviling angelic majesties, whereas angels who are **now** being greater in might and power do not **now** bring a reviling judgment against them before the Lord. **But these, like unreasoning animals, being caused to having been born as**

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creatures of instinct to be captured and killed, **now** reviling where they **now** have no knowledge, will in the destruction {**ruin**} of those creatures also be caused to be destroyed {**ruined**}, being caused to **now** be suffering wrong and choosing to **now** be suffering wrong, as the wages of the wrong they choose to **now** be doing.

Make no mistake, the time of 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet is for some a reckoning, a comeuppance, and a payback in unfathomable proportions—something to be avoided at all costs. Yet, for others, it will be a time of rest, reward, and unfathomable blessings, as God brings to pass the mystery which He has declared to His servants the prophets. For some the **“Time is Up”** (it is time for judgment), and for others who have been waiting on **Yahweh** to enter their eternal **Sabbath**, **“The Time is Now!”**