



A Study of Revelation

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Week Six – The Mighty Angel & Two Witnesses (Revelation 10-11); Excursus: The Person & Work of the Holy Spirit

Excursus – The Person & Work of the Holy Spirit

- *Importance of the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit*
 - The Holy Spirit is the point at which the Trinity becomes personal to the believer.
 - We live in the period in which the Holy Spirit’s work is more prominent than that of the other members of the Trinity.
 - The current culture stresses the experiential, and it is primarily through Him that we experience God.
- *Difficulties in Understanding the Holy Spirit*
 - We have less explicit revelation in the Bible regarding the Holy Spirit than we find about either the Father or the Son.
 - The Holy Spirit is intangible and difficult to visualize.
 - There is misunderstanding over what Scripture reveals concerning the nature of the Holy Spirit’s person and ministry in relationship to that of the Father and the Son.

◆ **WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

- *He is _____.*
 - *Acts 5:3-4 – But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? ...**You have not lied to men but to God.**”*
 - **Other Passages:** *Acts 1:8; 2:17-18; John 4:24; 14:21; 15:26; Romans 8:14; Genesis 6:3; Proverbs 1:23; Isaiah 44:3; Ezekiel 36:27; 39:29; Joel 2:28; Matthew 12:18; 1 Peter 1:11; 2 Peter 1:20-21*

- **He is a _____.**
 - The masculine pronoun is used to refer to Him.
 - **John 16:13-14** – ¹³“However, when **He** (*ekeinos* - masculine), the **Spirit** (*pneuma* - neuter) of truth, has come, **He** will guide you into all truth; for **He** will not speak on **His** own authority, but whatever **He** hears **He** will speak; and **He** will tell you things to come. ¹⁴**He** will glorify Me, for **He** will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.”
 - His actions are closely identified with various persons and their work.
 - **John 14:16** – “And I will pray the Father, and He will give you **another** (*allos* - “another of the same kind”) **Helper** (*parakletos*), that He may abide with you forever.”
 - **Acts 15:28** – For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, **and to us**, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things.
 - He has certain personal characteristics.
 - *Intelligence* - John 14:26
 - *Will* - 1 Corinthians 12:11
 - *Emotions* - Ephesians 4:30
 - He engages in moral actions which are characteristic of a person.
 - *Praying* - Romans 8:26
 - *Convicting* - John 16:8

Implications Concerning the Who the Holy Spirit

- 1) The Holy Spirit is a _____, not a vague _____.
- 2) The Holy Spirit, being fully divine, is to be accorded the same _____ and respect that we give to the Father and the Son.
- 3) The Holy Spirit is _____ with the Father and the Son.
- 4) God is not _____.

◆ **WHAT DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT DO?**

- *John 12:44-49; 14:13-18; 25-28; 15:26-27; 16:7-15; 17:18-26*

Implications Concerning the Work of the Holy Spirit

- 1) The Holy Spirit points people to _____, who points people to the _____.
- 2) The _____ has authority over the _____, and both have authority over the Holy Spirit.
- 3) This pattern of authority and function is _____.

◆ HOW DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT WORK THROUGHOUT REDEMPTION HISTORY?

• ***The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament***

- _____
 - *Genesis 1:2; Job 26:13*

- **Giving of _____ of Scripture**
 - *1 Samuel 10:6; Ezekiel 2:2; 2 Peter 1:21*

- _____ **Certain Necessary Abilities for Specific _____**
 - *Exodus 31:3-5; Numbers 11:25; Deuteronomy 34:9; Judges 6:34; 1 Samuel 16:13*

- _____ **God's People in the Fear of the Lord and in Righteousness**
 - *Nehemiah 9:20; Psalm 143:10; Isaiah 32:15-16; Ezekiel 36:26-28*

 - **Promised to a coming mystery of His _____ - _____**
 - *Isaiah 11:1-5; 42:1-4; 61:1-3 (cf. Luke 4:18-21); Joel 2:28-29*

Implications about the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

- 1) Given to Specific _____ - *The Holy Spirit was NOT given to all people who trusted in God.*
- 2) Given at a Specific _____ - *The Holy Spirit was NOT permanently upon everyone whom He indwelt and empowered.*
- 3) Given for a Specific _____ - *Those who were empowered by the Holy Spirit had a special task that was pertinent to the plan of God.*

- ***The Holy Spirit in the Life of Christ***

- **His _____**

- *Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:35*

- **His _____**

- *Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:10; Luke 3:22; John 1:32-33*

- **His _____**

- *Matthew 4:1; Mark 1:12; Luke 4:1-2*

- **His _____ and _____ were conducted by the power and direction of the Holy Spirit**

- *Matthew 12:25-32; Luke 4:14; 4:18-21 (cf. Isaiah 61:1-2)*

Implications about the Holy Spirit in the Life of Christ

- 1) There is no evidence of _____ of the Spirit's presence in Jesus' life.
- 2) There is no evidence of any type of _____ in Jesus' life or teaching.
- 3) Christ's life and ministry is the perfect _____ of a human being _____ by the Spirit of God.

- ***The Holy Spirit in the Church Age***

- **He _____ Believers**

- *Acts 1:8*

- **He _____ Believers**

- *Acts 2:4; 4:8, 31; 6:3-5; 7:55; Acts 6:3, 5; 11:24; Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-7*

- **He _____ for Believers**

- *Romans 8:26-29*

- **He _____ the World**

- *John 16:7-15*

Implications about the Holy Spirit in the Church Age

- 1) The same power which enabled Christ during His earthly ministry indwells in the _____.
- 2) The indwelling Holy Spirit in every believer is unprecedented, thus a _____ to the Jewish people.

• ***The Holy Spirit in the Tribulation Period***

The Holy Spirit seems to return to His role during the Old Testament era.

- ***2 Thessalonians 2:7-8*** – ⁷*For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way (lit., “becomes no longer in the middle”).*
⁸*And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.*
- ***1 Corinthians 12:3*** - *Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.*

Implications about the Holy Spirit in the Tribulation

- 1) While the Holy Spirit no longer restrains the Devil’s lawlessness, His presence is _____ altogether _____.
- 2) He continues to _____ His witnesses to declare the gospel of Christ in word and miraculous acts.

The Mighty Angel & Two Witnesses (Revelation 10-11)

Revelation 10-14 describes the events occurring at the middle of the seven-year Tribulation. Clues of this can be seen by the repeated mention of the 3½-year time segment in one form or another (Revelation 11:2-3; 12:6; 13:5). In Revelation 10-11, three important testimonies are found: a mighty angel (10:1-11), two special witnesses (11:1-14, and the elders in heaven (11:15-19).¹

I. The Mighty Angel and Little Book (Chapter 10)

◆ The Mighty Angel (1-7)

- His _____:
 - He was clothed with a _____ – he veils his glory which is too great for mortality to behold (Exodus 16:10; 19:9; 24:15ff; 34:5; Acts 1:9; Revelation 1:7).
 - A _____ was upon his head – the emblem of covenant mercy to God’s people even in the midst of judgments on God’s enemies (Revelation 4:3; Habakkuk 3:2).
 - His face was as the _____ (Revelation 1:16), and His feet were as pillars of _____ (Revelation 1:15).
 - His powerful voice was like a _____ (Revelation 5:5), and it was echoed by seven thunders.
- His _____ and _____:
 - His right foot was on the _____ and his left foot on the _____, to show God’s absolute power and dominion over the world (see also that the two beasts come out of the earth and sea, Revelation 13).
 - In his hand is a _____, which contains the rest of the prophetic message that John is to deliver.
- His _____: We are not told why the apostle was not allowed to write down but, rather, commanded to conceal what he had learned from the seven thunders (10:4). The apostle was for preserving and publishing everything he saw and heard in these visions (see Daniel 12:9; Revelation 22:10), but not this message.

- His Solemn _____: He lifted up his hand to heaven and swore by God who lives forever; see Acts 2:29-30; Hebrews 6:13-20; 7:20-22) that there will no longer be a delay in the completion of God’s judgments and the making clear of the “mystery of God” (1 Peter 3:1-9; Revelation 6:10-11).

◆ **The Little Book (8-11)**

- John was charged:
 - To _____ the book out of the hands of this mighty angel.
 - To _____ the book (Ezekiel 3)
- John experienced:
 - _____, while it was in his mouth, for God would bring evil to the proper end, finally vindicating His saints.
 - _____, when more thoroughly digested, for the wrath of God is devastating as it falls on the unrepentant.
- John was _____ to prophesy again, declaring God’s truth about (not “before”) the peoples, nations, tongues, and kings. Although the prophecy is evidently a long-awaited promise to “sweetly” vindicate His saints, the prophecy is also bitter in that it means the utter condemnation of the rest of humankind.

II. The Two Witnesses and the Seventh Trumpet (Chapter 11)

◆ **The Measurement of the _____ (1-2)**

- The place is Jerusalem, and the time is the _____ half of the Tribulation. While interpretations vary, perhaps the wisest understanding is that this temple is an actual building in Jerusalem (Nehemiah 11:1, 18; Daniel 9:24).
- John’s measurement of the temple is _____, inferring by this action a claim of ownership. In other words, God was saying to John, “I own this city and this temple, and I claim both for myself” (for background, see Ezekiel 40-41; Zechariah 2:1-2).
- Why wasn’t the _____ measured? This was never a part of the OT temple, according to the model either of Solomon or Zerubbabel, and therefore God would have no regard to it.

- John's actions were significant because the pagan nations had taken over _____.

➤ **Luke 21:24**

The “times of the Gentiles” began in 606 B.C. with the Babylonian Captivity. Since then, a parade of Gentile nations has laid claim to the holy city, including the Greeks and Romans. Here, after breaking his agreement with Israel (Daniel 9:27), the Antichrist will use the temple for his own diabolical purposes (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4; Revelation 13). However, Christ will return to deliver Jerusalem and redeem Israel (Zechariah 14).

◆ **The Ministry of the _____ (3-6)**

Chronologically, the two witnesses will minister during the _____ half of the Tribulation (Revelation 11:3; 1,260 days). After their time is up, Jerusalem is overrun by the Antichrist and his followers for the _____ half of the Tribulation for forty-two months.

These two witnesses are Old Testament figures (focusing specifically on Israel):

- _____ in sackcloth, as those that are deeply affected with the low and distressed state of the world, calling the nations to repent and return to the true God of Israel.

In this way, God made them to be like Zerubbabel and Joshua, the two olive-trees and lampstands in the vision of Zechariah (Zechariah 4:2ff).

- Perform _____, reminding us of Jeremiah (Jeremiah 5:14), Moses (Exodus 7:14-18), and Elijah (1 Kings 17:1ff; 2 Kings 1:1-12). God provides for them the special ability they needed to get the work done.

◆ **The _____ of the Two Witnesses (7-10)**

- This only comes after they have finished God's work for them. The “_____” (Antichrist, Revelation 13:1-10) wants to take over the temple; but he cannot succeed until the two witnesses are out of the way.

◆ **The _____ of the Two Witnesses (11-14)**

- Miraculously, not only are the two witnesses raised from the dead but caught up into heaven! God simultaneously rescues His own and gives a dire warning to His enemies, so that the _____ joy of the world immediately turns into _____ fear (The word “great” appears eight times in chapter 11!)
- This fear increases when a great earthquake occurs, killing 7,000 men and destroying 1/10 of Jerusalem.
- This is the second “woe”.

❖ The Seventh Trumpet: Worship in Heaven (15-19)

- A choir of “loud voices” erupt in heaven when the seventh angel sounds his trumpet. Their announcement: “The kingdom (singular, ruled by the Antichrist) of this world now belongs to our Lord.” Even though it had not yet been realized on earth at this time, Christ’s reign was inevitable. In chapter 4, God was praised as _____; in chapter 5, God was praised as _____; here in chapter 11, God is praised as _____ - _____.
- Chapter 11 opened with the _____ temple, but it closes with the _____ temple.
 - The Devil (“accuser”) is defeated by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony (Revelation 2:10; 6:9).

ⁱ Notes for this section have been taken and adapted from excerpts of Warren W. Wiersbe, *Be Victorious* (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), and from *Matthew Henry’s Commentary on the Bible*, taken from Blue Letter Bible (www.blueletterbible.org).