

C. The two wings of the great eagle (12:14)

i. Exodus 19:4-6

ii. Time, times, and half a time

iii. The river spewed from the dragon's mouth



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#### LIVE THE STORY

*The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.*

- Consider images of a temple and altar, lampstands and olive trees, and two witnesses. What do these images bring to mind? What do you think they would have brought to the mind of John?
- How are images like the temple and altar or witnesses get effected by the New Covenant? What about fire coming out of their mouths to devour the witnesses' enemies?
- How do we understand the 7 heads, 10 horns, and 7 crowns of the dragon, Satan? What does this tell us about how Satan works today?
- How do you react to statements that the time has come to destroy those who destroy the earth? (11:18) How does this relate to our call to be image-bearers? Why do people destroy the earth?
- Why were trumpets sounded in Israel? How might this inform our understanding in Revelation?
- Who is the woman of chapter 12? Is there a seeming change in the course of events in her identity? Is it a real change or only perceived?
- What do you think of the idea of parallelism in the two visions of 11 & 12? Does it help us understand or interpret the meaning? Explain.

## The Revelation of Jesus Christ – 14: The Heavenly Throne and God's Kingdom Come

Jerry Cisar — November 12, 2023

Text: Revelation 11-12

### Introduction

*The Lamb slain and risen, murdered yet alive, reveals not only the truth about God but the truth about all of humanity and creation. Jesus is not one of many ways to God; He is the center of history and the sum of its meaning.*

The scenes painted in Revelation 11 & 12 have noticeable parallels which help us understand these chapters.

### I. God's Temple and Witnesses (11:1-13)

- A. What temple was John measuring?
  - i. 2 Cor. 3:16-17
  - ii. Eph. 2:19-21).
  - iii. Eph. 3:6
- C. Who are the two witnesses and what is their relationship to the temple?
  - i. Zechariah 4

ii. 42 months, 1260 days, 3½ years

iii. “If anyone tries to harm them, fire comes from their mouths and devours their enemies.”

D. Only when they have finished their testimony will they be able to be harmed.

i. Where do they lie dead?

ii. Resurrection (11:11)

a) Rev. 1:18

b) “the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.” (11:13)

## II. The Seventh Trumpet and Kingdom Inauguration (11:14-18)

A. Trumpets when losing a battle (Numbers 10:8-10)

i. 7 Trumpets of Canaan Conquest (Joshua 6)

ii. “You have taken your great power and have **begun** to reign.”

Michael Goheen and Tim Sheridan: “God’s kingdom is about the power of God breaking into history to restore the whole creation. It is restorative and comprehensive. But it is not yet fully here. There remains a battle with the powers of evil for the creation—a battle that will continue to the End. The church tastes of the power of the kingdom and therefore is a sign that points to the kingdom in its life, deeds, and words.” (Becoming a Missionary Church)

## III. God’s Temple, a Woman, and a Dragon (11:19—12:6)

A. The Ark of the Covenant

B. First sign: a woman, but not just any woman.

i. She is clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of 12 stars. (Gen. 37:9-10)

ii. She is pregnant and gives birth to a son.

C. Next sign: an enormous red dragon with 7 heads, 10 horns, and 7 crowns on its head. Who is this dragon? (12:9)

D. The dragon seeks to kill the male child.

i. Ascension

ii. The woman has to flee into the wilderness.

*This becomes a picture of how God will perpetually protect the woman, who is Israel, both old and new, and the rest of her offspring... followers of Jesus!*

## IV. Cosmic Battle and Kingdom Inauguration (12:7—12:17)

A. A Cosmic Battle (12:7-9)

i. The effect of Jesus’ life, death, resurrection, and ascension:

a) Luke 10:18-19

b) John 12:31-32

c) Luke 8:26-33

B. Satan is cast down; he and his minions are on the earth in pursuit of the woman and the rest of her seed, the church, the Israel of God (Gal. 6:16).