

BACK TO THE FUTURE: GETTING READY FOR THE LAST HARRAH

Revelation 11:15-19

A grand announcement

The sounding of the seventh trumpet brings a great heavenly celebration over the anticipated establishment of God's kingdom on earth (11:15-19). A disclosure of the matter of the trumpet awaits and extensive examination of background matters (12:1-14:20) necessary to comprehend the trumpet contents once they are divulged.¹

Contrast the opening of the seventh seal with the opening of the seventh trumpet (8:1; 11:15).

Silence vs. loud voices

The proclamation: the kingdom of God has come

“The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ.”

God has always providentially ruled his universe: Psalm 103:19; 145:13; Dan 4:17

But one day Jesus will return and assume the throne of his father David. He will replace the satanically controlled rulers of the earth. Satan is the “prince of the power of the air,”

The verb “has become” is proleptic (prophetic perfect):

“The representation or assumption of a future act or development as if presently existing or accomplished”

Fait accompli: a thing accomplished and presumably irreversible

The seventh trumpet puts in action the final and irreversible events that will usher in Jesus Christ and his kingdom.

The central theme of Revelation is the establishment of God's kingdom here on earth. This is what Christ taught us to pray for in the Sermon on the Mt., Matthew 6:10

¹ Robert L. Thomas, *Revelation 8-22: An Exegetical Commentary*: p. 103.

Yet this Kingdom will finally be passed into God's hands (Dan 2:35; 4:3; 6:26; 7:14, 26-27; Zech 14:9) See also Paul in 1 Cor 15:24-28. The final chapters in Revelation point to this (20:1-10; 21:1-22:5)

God will reign forever and ever, Rev 11:15d.

A grand adoration, 11:16-17

God is praised for his omnipotence

He has the energy to make this happen

God is praised for his eternality

He is eternal, his eternal program will finish the way he wants.

Unfolding drama of events

God is praised for his sovereignty

He has the control to make all this happen

Once again, this is proleptic "begin to reign."

A grand appraisal

Nations were angry, Psalm 2

God responds in his wrath

He judges the dead

Wicked people

He rewards people

Prophets and faithful saints

A grand reward

God's presence, 11:19a

A grand judgment, 11:19 b