

“TEOTWAWKI” * July 30, 2006

Revelation 10-11

I. Yellowstone – the reason for its thermal features

It’s a caldera (a super volcano) that goes off every 640,000 years, and it’s nearing showtime.

II. Revelation’s judgments

A. What 3 categories does John break them into?

Seal, trumpet and bowls

B. Some observations about these judgments:

Observation #1 – They are not strictly chronological, but overlap and enfold each other.

Observation #2 – There is however a flow or rhythm to these judgments that needs to be recognized.

1. The seal judgments could be called: “general judgments of wickedness.”

a. What can we observe about these judgments?

They are things which occur in every generation: earthquakes, famines, war, etc.

b. Why do these things occur?

They are signs that we live in a fallen world cursed by human sin.

c. And what is their message to us?

That ‘this life is not our home’. And every time we think that we can do without God and make this earth a permanent home, the earth is shaken in some way to remind us of the truth.

2. The trumpet judgments could be called: “cosmic judgments of warning”

a. What are some examples of these?

Hail & fire from heaven; a huge object (meteorite?) striking the ocean, scorching of the earth, demonic

locust creatures inflicting humanity.

b. Why did God send plagues on Egypt in the days of Moses?

God sent both general and cosmic judgments on Pharaoh to break his hard heart and compel him to release Israel from captivity.

c. What is the purpose for cosmic judgments?

To break our stubborn, hard hearts and bring us to repentance.

d. What’s the tragedy of Revelation?

Rev.9:20-21 indicates that few, in any, will repent and turn to God because of these things.

e. What are lessons here for post 9-11 America?

People flooded back to church for a time after 9/11 then quickly reverted back to their old ways. This is how our hearts become hardened. God then must strike us again, and harder next time. Each time we refuse him, our hearts get more and more unresponsive to Him.

3. The bowl judgments could be called “divine judgments of wrath” whose purpose is to eradicate sin and evil from the earth.

III. Chapter 10 – a pause to gather ourselves

A. Why this pattern in Revelation of judgment interspersed with visions of heaven?

John wants to encourage our hearts lest we succumb to despair. He wants to remind us that no matter how badly things get, God still is on the throne of heaven.

B. Two comments about what the angel says:

1. Once the 7th trumpet is sounded, the rest is going to unfold very rapidly.

2. *“There will be no more delay!” ~ What’s encouraging about this?*

Heaven acknowledges that Jesus’ return seems a very long time in coming. But even the Lord wants this age of sin to end every bit as much as we do.

3. *Why is there a “delay”? What is God waiting for?*
Every promise and prophecy He has given in His Word must be fulfilled.

4. *What are 2 great prophecies that must be fulfilled before the end?*

a. *The full ingathering of souls from every **tribe, tongue and nation.***

b. *The restoration of **Israel** to the world stage.*

IV. *How should I respond to these truths?*