

INTRODUCTION

1. Today we complete 1st 1/2 of Rv - Rv 11:15-19. Distinguish but not separate Christ's redemptive kingdom & God's universal kingdom - which we enter by faith in Christ our Redeemer & Judge - Mat 24-25; Jn 5:29.
2. v18 - Final Judgment [FJ]. Scene is set for arrival of the Judge - v19

1st: God's Heavenly Temple Will Be Opened - v19a

1. Rv11:1-2 *temple* = Church on earth: true & apostate. v19 *temple in heaven* = transcendent realities w/ wh/ we engage in worship; revealed at Eschaton
2. v19a = general statement & v19b&c = are 2 descriptive phrases. Temple opens & Jn sees *ark of His covenant* & phenomenon assoc'd w/ Mt Sinai.
3. Where will Jdgmnt occur? God's temple-palace-throne room. King as ruler, warrior, judge.
 - i. Rv 4:1-6 - Throne of God the Creator.
 - ii. Rv 5:13 - Lion of Judah/Overcomer - Lamb seated on throne: Redeemer
 - iii. Rv 8:1-5 - FJ [7th seal]: furniture of temple [altar: martyrs]
4. FJ: King Jesus enthroned in glorified humanity; we accountable for our *deeds*
 - i. Rm 2:6 cite Ps 62:12. Our deeds are the result of God's *loving kindness*.
 - ii. Rm 2:9-11, 13 note *does* - we are legally justified by grace alone in Christ alone thru faith alone. In FJ, our faith will be vindicated by the evidence of deeds that validate a living, not dead, faith & our deeds will be rewarded. Motivates us to be zealous for good works [Tit 2:11-14]
5. Rv11:19 - FJ administered by Jesus - Rv 1:13-18

2nd: The Blessings of God's Temple Will Be Given to His People - v19b

1. *Ark of His covenant* = symbol of blessing for people of God - Ex 25:8,21-22
 - i. Lord present to rule & redeem
 - ii. Lord present to conquer in battle
 - iii. Likely destroyed in 587BC - Babylon deportation of Judah
2. *Ark of His covenant* - God's lovingkindness. Rv 21:3-4,22 *throne* = ark of His covenant; no *temple* b/c God is present - *all and in all* [1Cor 15:28].

3rd: The Terror of Mount Sinai Will Be Given to God's Enemies - v19c

1. Cycle of 6 trmpts [Rv 8-9] plagues. Now w/ 7th trmpt: Sinai. Need mediator!
2. Ex 19:16-19 Do these people fear God?

3. Heb 3:14-4:2 heard Word w/o faith - we too hear Word [4:2].
 - i. Hb 12 - after *by faith...* [Hb 11] - v18-24 the revelation given to us in NCov exceeds that given in OCov: not Mt. Sinai, but Mt. Zion
 - ii. Hb 12:25-26 contrast us & those who heard God's voice at Sinai
 - a. *not refuse Him speaking* [Hb 1:1-2 *spoken to us in His Son*]
 - b. If OCov people were *warned on earth* by God's voice wh/ *shook earth - then* = Sinai, how much more are we warned by God who speaks from heaven & warns a 2nd time of a future Sinai-like shaking [earthquake] of cosmos - Hag 2:5-9
 - iii. Hb 12:27-29 compresses Sinai & Haggai's prophecy: earthquake of FJ
4. Rv 11:18-19. End of 3rd cycle; end of 1st 1/2 of Rv; end of age: FJ

Applic #1: Rejoice in Being Given Access into the Temple of God

1. NCov worship is one of the things that will remain thru the earthquake of FJ.
2. Hear God's words w/ faith - Hb 4:1-2.

Applic #2: Live Your Life Oriented to the Coming Judgment

1. What could be more 'practical' than knowing we are headed to FJ [2C 5:10]?
2. Our deeds includes motives [Rm 2:16; 1C4:5] our words [Mat 12:36] & the moral substance of our lives: relationships, work, stewardships.
3. The *fear of God*: aware of accountability to God - Ps 130:4 - Rv 11:18
4. 2 Cor 6:16-7:1. Worship & holy living, pious communion w/ Christ.

Applic #3: A Man With No Fear of God Faces a Fearful Eternity

1. Rv 11:18 *eternal destruction* - 2Thes 1:7b-10
2. See the eternal significance of what we are doing here today.
3. Bow before King Jesus now, as He comes to you in the gospel as the Savior of sinners. If you come to FJ w/o the provisions of His grace, you face Jesus as Judge & you will begin to *pay the penalty of eternal destruction*.
4. Repent, trust in Jesus & begin to follow Him: today!