

PTB3-1: He Reigns!

¹⁵ Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The ^[f]kingdoms of this world have become *the kingdoms* of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" ¹⁶ And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, ¹⁷ saying:

"We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty,
The One who is and who was ^[g]and who is to come,
Because You have taken Your great power and
reigned.

¹⁸ The nations were angry, and Your ^[h]wrath has come,
And the time of the dead, that they should be
judged,
And that You should reward Your servants the
prophets and the saints,
And those who fear Your name, small and great,
And should destroy those who destroy the earth."

¹⁹ Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail." (Revelation 11:15-19)

(1) Written here in Revelation 11 as already happened, but in 3 years when God Almighty takes over the reigns of this earth, the world of sin, Satan, wickedness and indifference is going to be irritated to say the least. The Bible says, "The nations were angry!"

(2) This is the time of judging all the dead.

(3) Also a time of rewards, for the Prophets and the saints. As saints we are put in good company here.

(4) And great and significant is the Bible statement here, " And those who fear Your name, small and great..."

(5) God blames the wicked and indifferent for destroying the earth.

(6) The world has sought for the Ark of the Covenant, little did we know it was in heaven and in God's temple.

Chapter 12: The Little Book: God's History of the World in

Revelation 11-21.

NOTE: You are fortunate to get the first glimpse of Volume 10 of "The Bible Backbone and it's Self-interpretation" Series. Look for the complete volume, it will be there with the other 4 presently in the series. In case you have forgotten about the Series, at the bottom is a reminder.

It looks like the little book God gave John to read and share is His perspective on the history of the world, it included Mary and Jesus and the rescue from Egypt, it included the history of the Prophets and Apostles and Satan from the perspective of the heavenly Father. How fortunate we are to get a 11 chapter, a 52 % Little Book with insight into the mind and heart of God, and only because He allows us the peak at world history from the throne. A warning, it is in the language and thought patters of those in heaven, therefore sometimes hard to understand. However we are fortunate because near the beginning of the vision chapter, there is the explanation of the whole chapter from a voice or angel. In Revelation 21, about the new heavens and new earth, the explanatory voice is from God Himself, words from Him that sat upon the throne Himself.

⁵ Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said ^[b]to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."

⁶ And He said to me, "It^[c] is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. ⁷ He who overcomes ^[d]shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. ⁸ But the cowardly, ^[e]unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." (Revelation 21:5-8)

But it was not to be exclusively a message for John as the voice from heaven told him both to take and eat the book, and then told him he must prophesy again, this time to many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings. So we are comforted by the fact in the reading and understanding of the book of Revelation that God wants us to know. The little book was not written to be kept secret. Because John was told to eat it, the matter was that he could not fail to give the world the message of world history, because it was a part of him.

1. John Eats the Little Book

⁸ Then the voice which I heard from heaven spoke to me again and said, "Go, take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the earth."

⁹ So I went to the angel and said to him, "Give me the little book."

And he said to me, "Take and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but it will be as sweet as honey in your mouth."

¹⁰ Then I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth. But when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter. ¹¹ And ^[a]he said to me, "You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings."

2. The Two Witnesses, Prophets and Apostles.

¹¹ Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. ^[a]And the angel stood, saying, "Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. ² But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot *for* forty-two months. ³ And I will give *power* to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

NOTE: In this case the explanation of the vision is from the angel. There is quite a lot in the OT about the two olive trees and the two lampstands, but it is obvious from what the angel told us that these two witnesses are the Prophets and Apostles.

⁴ These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the ^[b]God of the earth. ⁵ And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. ⁶ These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

The Witnesses Killed

⁷ When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. ⁸ And their dead bodies *will lie* in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also ^[c]our Lord was crucified. ⁹ Then *those* from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations ^[d]will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. ¹⁰ And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

The Witnesses Resurrected

¹¹ Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. ¹² And ^[e]they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they ascended

to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them. ¹³ In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven.

¹⁴ The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly.

3. The Woman, the Child, and the Dragon

¹² Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. ² Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.

³ And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. ⁴ His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. ⁵ She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne. ⁶ Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

NOTE: The explanation is so clear it needs no explanation, the two signs are obvious, first Mary

and then Satan attempting to destroy the Child that was to rule the new world with a rod of iron.

Satan Thrown Out of Heaven

⁷ And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, ⁸ but they ^[a]did not prevail, nor was a place found for ^[b]them in heaven any longer. ⁹ So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. ¹¹ And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. ¹² Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time."

NOTE: I think we are feeling the great wrath of the devil now in this first virus part of tribulation now, and the news begs of something else. The weather and much else in the world is not right. People intuitively know that something out of their control is not working right. Last

week my Kroger shopper said people are scared still, last weekend the store shelves were emptied.

The Woman Persecuted

¹³ Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male *Child*. ¹⁴ But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. ¹⁵ So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. ¹⁶ But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. ¹⁷ And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus ^[c]Christ.

4. The Beast from the Sea, the Roman Empire and The Man of Sin.

13 Then ^[a]I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having ^[b]seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. ² Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like *the feet of a bear*, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority. ³ And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled

and followed the beast. ⁴ So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"

⁵ And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to ^[c]continue for forty-two months. ⁶ Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. ⁷ It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every ^[a]tribe, tongue, and nation. ⁸ All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

NOTE: Here is the explanations of this chapter, with an appeal to those that will be able to hear with the implication that not all will understand. *"Obeying the beast—the Antichrist of the end times—brings serious consequences. The beast enslaves people who oppose him and even kills many who refuse to bow down to him, but the law of retribution works against the beast. Ultimately God will take the beast captive and slay him (Revelation 19:20-21). In view of the law of retribution, the Lord's people are encouraged to heed the call for endurance and faith. Endurance is the exercise of patience in the face of trials. Faith is the trust we need to put in the Lord to help us endure. James 1:12 encourages trial-weary Christians to remain steadfast under trial. He explains that when the believer has stood the test, "he will receive the crown of life, which God has*

promised to those who love him" (James 1:12). It will be extremely difficult to refuse to worship the beast, but the Lord will richly reward those who stand against him with endurance and faith. This verse echoes similar sentiments given by prophets such as Isaiah (Isaiah 33:1) and Jeremiah (Jeremiah 43:11). {Taken From What does Revelation 13:10 mean? (bibleref.com) For Christians that can understand, it means saints are to be patient as justice, true justice is going to be rendered. We see from Jeremiah it was more than that simple. In the destruction of Jerusalem that real people of God were protected by being taken captive, and the false people of God were those killed. So the patience of the saints, is that God is in control for them, and no matter how impossible the situation seems He Is working it out for their good. The message is trust in God the Heavenly Father.

⁹ If anyone has an ear, let him hear. ¹⁰ He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the ^[e]patience and the faith of the saints.

The Beast from the Earth

¹¹ Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. ¹² And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. ¹³ He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire

come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. ¹⁴ And he deceives ^[E]those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. ¹⁵ He was granted *power* to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. ¹⁶ He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, ¹⁷ and that no one may buy or sell except one who has ^[G]the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

¹⁸ Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number *is* 666.

5. The Lamb and the 144,000, the Gospel Second Coming and Judgment.

14 Then I looked, and behold, ^[a]a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, ^[b]having His Father's name written on their foreheads.

NOTE: The explanation of chapter vision 14 is in the verses below, this time in a voice from heaven, but not just any voice, a voice of many roaring waters like water falls, and the sound of loud thunder.

² And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. ³ They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth. ⁴ These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were ^[c]redeemed from *among* men, *being* firstfruits to God and to the Lamb. ⁵ And in their mouth was found no ^[d]deceit, for they are without fault ^[e]before the throne of God.

The Proclamations of Three Angels

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people— ⁷ saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who

made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

⁸ And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon^[f] is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

⁹ Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives *his* mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

¹² Here is the ^[g]patience of the saints; here^[h] are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

¹³ Then I heard a voice from heaven saying ^[i]to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' "

"Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

Reaping the Earth's Harvest

¹⁴ Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. ¹⁵ And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come ^[j]for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." ¹⁶ So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

Reaping the Grapes of Wrath

¹⁷ Then another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.

¹⁸ And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe." ¹⁹ So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw *it* into the great winepress of the wrath of God. ²⁰ And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred ^[k]furlongs.

Revelation

15: Return to the Future with a note of victory, singing the Song of Moses.

NOTE: In the seven last plagues, the wrath of God is complete, and the explanation is in the Song of Moses.

"Great and marvelous are Your works,
Lord God Almighty!
Just and true are Your ways,
O King of the ^[b]saints!
⁴ Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your
name?
For You alone are holy.
For all nations shall come and worship before You,
For Your judgments have been manifested."

Revelation

16: The seven bowls of the wrath of God, the second part of tribulation, most details of The Day of the LORD and Lord.

Revelation 17: The Meaning of the

Woman and the Beast.

NOTE: The explanation is obvious, but has a caveat. The guiding angel with John has the explanation. The caveat is the appeal to the mind with wisdom.

⁷ But the angel said to me, "Why did you marvel? I will tell you the ^[c]mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns. ⁸ The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to ^[d]perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and ^[e]yet is.

⁹ "Here *is* the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. ¹⁰ There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, *and* the other has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time. ¹¹ The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to ^[f]perdition.

¹² "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the

beast. ¹³ These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast. ¹⁴ These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those *who* are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful."

¹⁵ Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues. ¹⁶ And the ten horns which you ^[g]saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. ¹⁷ For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. ¹⁸ And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."

Revelation 18: Babylon's Fall, of course Babylon has to be the whole earth of wicked cities.

NOTE: Another voice gives the explanation. "4 And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues. 5 For her sins ^[c]have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. 6 Render to her just as she rendered ^[d]to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her. 7 In the measure that she glorified herself and lived ^[e]luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.' 8 Therefore her plagues will come in one day—death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who ^[f]judges her."

Revelation 19, Heaven exults over Babylon (the destruction of earth) and Christ on a White Horse.

NOTE: The explanation comes from the voice of a multitude talking in unison. "6 And I heard, as it

were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the^[d] Lord God Omnipotent reigns! ⁷ Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." ⁸ And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints."

Conclusion: Read Revelation 11-22.

You should read for yourself Revelation 11-22, preferably at one sitting. Recall that the Little Book of chapters 11-22 was meant as a prophesy to all nations, peoples, small and great, kings and peasants. Even if you make an excuse for the read and understand the first half of Revelation, that excuse fails when it comes to the reading and understanding of the Little Book. You might call it a little book of the Bible, for so clearly does it reveal that mind and heart of God.