

GOD IS FAIR

Revelation 11:15-18

Back to the future Part 22

¹⁵ The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said:

“The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever.”

¹⁶ And the twenty-four elders, who were seated on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God,

¹⁷ saying:

“We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign.

¹⁸ The nations were angry, and your wrath has come.

The time has come **for judging** the dead, and **for rewarding** your servants the prophets and your people who revere your name, both great and small— and **for destroying** those who destroy the earth.”

God prophesied the future events to us for four specific reasons.

- We may know that God of the Bible is the true God.
- We may have the eternal perspective.
- We may trust God today.
- We may warn people to turn to God.

The question: Is God fair?

The Bible says God is fair.

Romans 2:11

¹¹ For God does not show favoritism.

God’s solution to build His fairness in our character: Discipleship

Matthew 28:19-20

¹⁹ ...Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

God’s answer to our question on God’s fairness

Revelation 10:6-7

⁶ ...There will be no more delay!

⁷ But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, **the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as he announced to his servants the prophets.**

(God promised His kingdom of justice and righteousness to His people through His prophets in the Old Testament.)

Revelation 11:15

¹⁵ The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said:

“The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever.”

God’s people have been waiting for this promised kingdom on earth.

Hebrews 11:8-10

⁸ By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

⁹ By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

7-year period of tribulation in Revelation 11

The setting of the stage: Jerusalem trampled by the gentiles

Revelation 11:1-2

¹ I was given a reed like a measuring rod and was told, “Go and measure the temple of God and the altar, with its worshipers.

² But exclude the outer court; do not measure it, because it has been given to the Gentiles. They will trample on the holy city for 42 months.

The appearance of the lawless man

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

¹ Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers and sisters,

² not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by the teaching allegedly from us - whether by a prophecy or by word of mouth or by letter - asserting that the day of the Lord has already come.

³ Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction.

⁴ He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

⁵ Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things?

⁶ And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time.

⁷ For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way.

⁸ And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy **by the splendor of his coming.**

⁹ **The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works.**

He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie,

¹⁰ and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. **They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.**

¹¹ **For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie**

¹² and so that all will be condemned **who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.**

Daniel 9:27

²⁷ He will confirm **a covenant with many for one 'seven.'** **In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering.** And **at the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.**

God's fairness will be displayed in three specific ways

Revelation 11:18

¹⁸ The nations were angry, and your wrath has come.

The time has come for judging the dead,
and for rewarding your servants the prophets
and your people who revere your name,
both great and small—
and for destroying those who destroy the earth.”

1. Judging the dead.

2. Rewarding God’s people

3. Destroying those who destroy the earth

Genesis 6:5, 11

⁵ The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time.

¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt in God’s sight and was full of violence.

Application

- Know the truth
- Dwell in the truth
- Share the truth