

Date: 22.04.2020

Time: 7.30pm

Prayer Meeting taken by: Rev Gavino Fioretti

Psalm: 46:1-5 (Sing Psalms)

Scripture: Revelation 11:14-19

Outline: The Church

a) Introduction

1. The coming of God

2. The worship of God

3. The revelation of God

THE SEVENTH TRUMPET

- **Introduction**

We saw seven seals earlier in the section. Here we see the seventh trumpet.

1) **The coming of God**

The seventh trumpet is about the coming of God. What the Old Testament prophets said would happen has come to pass.

His day: The Lord's day is given a new meaning here. It is the day when the Lord comes and reveals Himself. When He defeats His enemies and delivers His people. This is the day of God's kingdom, justice and will coming. The Lord who was awaited has come.

In a sense, this day has already come with Jesus coming to earth as a man – this was the beginning of the fulfilment of that promise. A fuller fulfilment will come when Jesus returns to establish His kingdom on earth.

His kingdom: God's kingdom has already come in part with Jesus becoming man. He laid the foundation, but there is more to come when Jesus returns. God is sovereign now. He is Lord today. But His kingdom will be fully manifest when Jesus returns. His kingdom shall be established and no-one will stand against it. The kingdom of darkness will be no more.

His wrath: God's wrath is explained in Psalm 2 – people were angry with God. God will deal with His enemies and judge them. The spiritually dead will be judged, those who stand against Him. God will be a God of anger who will show no mercy to His enemies on that day.

Stop resisting God and fighting against Him. Don't stand before Him as one of His enemies. Today God can be found – seek Him now.

The message of this section is that God is coming, are you ready?

His reward: God will judge His enemies – there will be wrath and judgement. For God’s servants and saints, there will be a reward. John encourages those who are hated by the world that you’ll be delivered from your enemies. God gives the promise of reward to His people.

How do you feel about the second coming? Are you worried about God’s judgement and what’s to come? Are we attached to the world?

For God’s people, the second coming will be a day of encouragement and we should be excited about it. God’s plans are of peace. We will be in a world without pain, sin or death. Even the small in God’s kingdom will receive His reward. We should desire for this day to come.

If we understood more how great that day will be, our attachment to the world would lessen.

2) The worship of God

Heavenly: Worship is what Heaven is about. Our future is one of worship. That doesn’t mean that we’ll be sat on a pew 24/7, but that we’ll adore Him constantly. We struggle with worship on earth, but we won’t struggle with it in Heaven.

Theological: Worship is theological. It comes from knowing and understanding God. He is almighty. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. He is sovereign. He has authority. He is righteous. Knowing truths about God leads to worship. Our worship is not just emotional, it is intellectual too.

The less we know of God, the harder it is to worship Him. The more we know of Him, the more spontaneous our worship will be.

Worship is spontaneous – from the heart, instructed by the mind. Our intellect and emotions are not separate, but interlinked.

We need to know God better to be better worshippers of Him.

Reverent: Worship has to be done in a reverent way. God is our Heavenly Father who loves us and this brings a familiarity. But there must also be reverence. Even angels hide their faces from God. He is a glorious God.

3) The revelation of God

We no longer gain access to God by a High Priest going annually. God’s temple is no longer closed, but open. The curtain was torn in two. The ark of the covenant contained God’s law. This was covered by the mercy seat that had the blood shed for the sins of the people over it.

His grace: God’s mercy and grace are revealed. God is open armed, calling His people to come to Him. There will be unlimited access to God in Heaven. There will be no need for a temple. We’ll see God in Jesus’ face.

His glory: We're presented also with a fearful picture of God's power and glory.

God is gracious and He is also a glorious God who is in control of creation. He is a glorious and fearful God, but He is also a gracious God. We can separate the characteristics of God, but we need the whole of God and to see this. We see His severity and goodness. We see His wrath and His mercy. The characteristics go together.

This is our God. We need to give thanks to Him for who He is.