

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Welcome to our study of the book of Revelation using *Victory Assured!* as our guide.
- B. Purchasing the book is not necessary but will help deepen your understanding of the lessons.
- C. *Victory Assured!* is a thematic (or subject study) of the book of Revelation. *Victory Assured!* does not focus on the various details of the Revelation but rather stressed the main subjects and themes to help the reader gain the overall teachings of the book.
- D. Last week, Overcoming Hardship (Rev. 6:1-12).
- E. This week, Overcoming by Knowing the Warning Signs (8:1-11:19).

OVERCOMING BY KNOWING THE WARNING SIGNS

I. THE FIRST SIX TRUMPETS (8:1-9:21).

- A. The first trumpet (8:7) is: **land disaster (one-third destroyed).**
- B. The second trumpet (8:8,9) is: **oceanic disaster (one-third destroyed).**
- C. The third trumpet (8:10,11) is: **fresh water disaster (one-third destroyed).**
- D. The fourth trumpet (8:12) is: **heavenly disaster (one-third destroyed).**

- E. The message of the first four trumpets: **God samples His great power to bring repentance.**
God is still in control!

- F. The fifth trumpet (9:1-12) is: **humans cannot escape the temptations of the devil & the suffering of sin.**
- G. The sixth trumpet (9:13-21) is: **war is another warning sign to repent before it is too late.**

- H. The sad conclusion to the trumpets: **mankind did not repent at the warning signs.**

II. THE ANGEL AND THE LITTLE BOOK (10:1-11).

- A. The strong angel: **Angels are powerful servants of God and men.** In many cases, they would strike fear in our hearts to see them and watch them work. This radiant, glory filled description of an angel is another reason for our comfort and victory--look who's on our side!
- B. The bittersweet booklet: **The gospel's message is both bitter and sweet.**
 - 1. It saves men's souls (1Cor. 1:21). It is very pleasurable (sweet) to tell of the message of God's mercy, grace, forgiveness, and love. We soothe ourselves in the accounts of God's patience, forbearance, and salvation. We love to hear of His faithfulness, trustworthiness, and desire to save all who will obey Him. All of this is the *sweetness* of the gospel.
 - 2. But there is another side of the story that is *bitter*. For just as the gospel is about all of the things just mentioned, it is also about judgment, condemnation, sin, repentance, obedience, sacrifice, and self-denial. There are stories of God's anger, and jealous demand of worshipping Him and Him alone. This is the *bitter* part of the message that also has to be preached.

III. THE TWO WITNESSES (11:1-14).

- A. The two witnesses are: **The Law and the prophets (OT).**
- B. Other notables in the chapter:
 - 1. The preaching will not go on forever (11:3).
 - 2. A proper reading of the OT sees it fulfilled in Jesus Christ (Jn. 5:39).
 - 3. From time to time, Satan believes he has stopped the word of God, but it always "resurrects" itself and continues to be preached (11:7-11).
 - 4. A day destruction is coming (11:13a is a sample), so repent before it is too late.

IV. THE SEVENTH TRUMPET (11:15-19).

- A. The vision says: **Christ continues to reign supreme!**
- B. This is the end of the seven seals, and the seven trumpets.
- C. We can only imagine the splendor of this scene.

CONCLUSION.

- A. This has been a long chapter, taking in Chapters 8-11. In our brief survey, we have seen that God gives the wicked opportunities to repent of their sin by natural calamity and the preaching of His word. We have also seen that despite all the problems the church had to endure, it comes out victorious.
- B. In your life you may feel that the nations are trampling you underfoot. You may think that God's word is not accomplishing any good thing and that the church is losing ground. The visions of Chapters 8-11 tell us otherwise. There is reason for great courage, perseverance, and faithfulness. We have seen what is happening and what will happen to those who love God and are obedient unto Him. Victory is assured!
- C. Next time: Overcoming Satan (Rev. 12:1-17).