

# Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

## BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

# LESSON 24

## Lesson 24

### THE OPENED TEMPLE: ARK OF THE COVENANT REVEALED

#### Read Revelation 15

- Discover Why The Opened Temple Declares The Day of Atonement As The Day Of The LORD
- Explore Why The Ark Is Revealed Just Before God's Wrath Is Poured Out

John's attention is turned to a "great and marvelous sign: seven angels with the seven last plagues." The seven angels stand prepared with vessels of God's wrath, ready to emerge from the Temple to pour out their fiery contents upon earth's rebellious inhabitants.



What the prophet sees is preparation for the onslaught of apocalyptic catastrophes from the throne room of God that will raze the ecological system of Planet Earth—the plants, animals and all living creatures; and, the chaos will grow more dreadful day by day as time marches on towards the Armageddon battle at Day 1335.

At this point, God's patience with sin and sinners has expired. The length and culmination of the appointed times and seasons counting periods have already been predetermined by the Ancient of Days and recorded in the Book of Truth. The 1,150 counting days of the Courtroom Judgment will close (Pt. 18) and all prayers will cease to be heard, when the destiny of every living man, woman and child will be sealed.

The prophet John recorded the concluding proclamation heard at the end of the 1,150 counting days of Judgment, when Messiah will end probation and divide the saved from the lost with His Courtroom decree: "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be," Revelation 22:11-12 (KJV).

**1. Where is the location of the great and marvelous sign (Revelation 15:1)?** \_\_\_\_\_

*Heaven's seven angels with vials in hand signal calamity is forthcoming and represent mystical events and global portents direct from God Himself through His assigned messengers of doom. When all seven angels have poured out their vials against sinful humanity, God's wrath will be finished.*

**2. God's anger is unleashed during the Great Tribulation. Review The Kingdom Calendar; how many days will the final plagues last?** \_\_\_\_\_

*There are 40 days between Yom Kippur and Day 1,335, during which the last plagues will be delivered; however, these days will be cut short, so no man can know the day or hour of Messiah's visible return.*

**3. John saw the sea of glass mixed with fire (Revelation 15:2). Where is it located (Revelation 4:6)?** \_\_\_\_\_

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**4. A large group of victorious saints are identified safe and secure in Heaven's Temple *before* the outpouring of God's wrath. How is this diverse group of overcomers described, who have endured Antichrist's 1,260 days of rule? \_\_\_\_\_**

*They are identified as having first overcome the beast, his image and his number; they are not the saints of all the ages, but rather end-time victors. They will endure harsh treatment, but will not yield to idolatry, accept the mark to buy or sell, or honor the Beast's name.*

**5. What work must be performed before the final wrath is unleashed (Revelation 7:2-4)? \_\_\_\_\_**

*The 144,000 elect must be sealed for protection to withstand the dangers of the Great Tribulation until the visible return of Christ. They are the only saved ones who are "alive and will remain" after the resurrection of the great multitude that no man can number; and therefore, the only ones to be sealed for divine safety against the onslaught of evil forces and God's trumpet and vial woes.*

**6. What multitude of countless believers arrive in Heaven to stand before the throne in the Temple (Revelation 7:9), identical to the group of Revelation 15? \_\_\_\_\_**

*In contrast to the 144,000 from the twelve tribes of Israel, the "great multitude" of every nation, tribe, people and language are seen standing before the throne in Heaven on the sea of glass. This great number of saints "come out of [escape from the midst of] the Great Tribulation," just as it is about to begin.*

**7. Revelation 3:10 and Luke 21:36 speak about the escape of these last-day victors from the Great Tribulation testing, where they will stand safe and secure before the Son of Man. How are they described? \_\_\_\_\_**

*"Since you have kept My command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth." And, "Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen [on earth], and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man [in Heaven]."*

**8. When their salvation comes, how is the group praised (Revelation 12:11)? \_\_\_\_\_**

*They are overcomers who did not shrink from the threat of death or deny Christ, because they loved the Savior more than their own lives.*

**9. Where will these victorious saints serve for all eternity (Revelation 7:15)? \_\_\_\_\_**

*These martyrs will serve before and in the presence of God forever. They will never worry about food, water or heat of day. Sadness and sorrow will not afflict them anymore.*

### The Song Of Moses

Revelation 15:3-4 identifies these end-time victors—the kingdom rulers—who will receive musical instruments distributed by God and sing the song of Moses and the Lamb. Gifted with the ability to play without having learned the instruments beforehand, and as though they had played a lifetime, the singers

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praise Yahweh for His marvelous deeds, proclaiming that His acts of punishment are just. The multitude, so large that no one could count, declares in praise, "all nations [of every nation, tribe, people and language]... come and worship before you, for your righteous acts [of judgment] have been revealed" to the whole world by Heaven's seven destroyers.

The entire Song of Moses is found in Deuteronomy 32:1-43. The hymn was sung just before the prophet's death as guidance for the people of Israel so "that you may command your children to obey carefully all the words of this law," (32:46).

However, Moses rightly predicted that in spite of his dire warnings after his death "you will utterly corrupt yourselves, and turn aside from the way which I have commanded you; and evil will befall you in *the latter days*; because you will do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger through the work of your hands [idolatry]," (31:29 KJV).

The song speaks of the Rock, and of His righteous judgments. Although Israel was the "apple of His eye," she is warned not to forget her heritage and forsake Hashem to follow strange gods and idols. Otherwise, God's wrath will be kindled and it will "devour the earth and its harvests and set afire the foundations of the mountains," (32:22). God proclaims, "I will send wasting famine against them, consuming pestilence and deadly plague," (32:24).



Adonai continues in Deuteronomy 32:40-41, "I will lift My hand to Heaven and declare: As surely as I live forever... I will take vengeance on My adversaries and repay those who hate Me." "Rejoice, O nations, with His people, for He will avenge the blood of His servants [the martyred]; He will take vengeance on His enemies and make atonement for His land and people," (32:43).

Earlier in the life of Moses, he and the children of Israel sang a song of deliverance after crossing the Red Sea, which also honored the strong arm and powerful hand of the LORD. He wrote, "Your right hand, O LORD, was majestic in power. Your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy," Exodus 15:6.

At the time when the Lawless One pitches his royal tents in Jerusalem and sets up the abomination, he will reach the apex of God's wrath. He will come to a swift end. Michael will stand and the "time of distress such as has not happened" before will commence. Israel will be delivered, and the Archangel's voice and trumpet blast of resurrection will be heard. He will raise His hands and "swear by Him who lives forever... all these things [prophecies of Daniel] will be completed," Daniel 11:45; 12:1-3, 7. The resurrected are gathered to Heaven and sing with Moses the song of victory... for they endured to the end.

### The Opened Temple: Yom Kippur—The Day Of Atonement

**10. At Revelation 15:5 John's attention turns once again to the Temple in Heaven. The Sanctuary is described as housing what? \_\_\_\_\_**

*He sees the Tabernacle of Testimony; in other words, the Ark that resides within the Holy of Holies in the Temple. The primary purpose of the earth tent Temple that Moses built was to house the Ark of the Covenant (1 Kings 8:20-21), and between the cherubim the blazing glory of God dwelled (Exodus 40:34-35; Exodus 9:3). God set aside the inner chamber of the Ark as residence for the most revered of all religious*

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*artifacts—the Ten Commandments of God. The tablets of stone, written by God's own finger, were to be honored and preserved by His people. Exodus 25:10-22 describes the making of the Ark of the Testimony for this purpose.*

The Holy of Holies was so sacred that it was off limits even for the High Priest, except one day a year. Only on the Day of Atonement was the High Priest allowed to open the veil, and cautiously enter in with much trepidation. Yom Kippur is the most solemn and holiest day of the Festival year, and it finalizes the ten Days of Awe—of reflection, repentance and Divine judgment—from the Feast of Trumpets to the Day of Atonement. Yom Kippur is spent in prayer, fasting and seeking God's grace and mercy.

The Day is also considered to be a day of announcement. God's sacred Name YHWH (Yahweh) was pronounced by the High Priest before the general assembled masses in the Temple courtyard. The ultimate fulfillment of the Day of Atonement will occur at the end of the appointed time when Messiah Himself will suddenly come to the Jerusalem Temple in the darkness of storms to pronounce with loud thunderous voice His authority as King over all the earth (Malachi 3:1-2).

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Yahweh

The three and one-half years of global famine will be broken. "He bowed the heavens also, and came down; and darkness was under His feet. And He rode upon a cherub, and did fly: and He was seen upon the wings of the wind. And He made darkness pavilions round about Him, dark waters, and thick clouds of the skies. Through the brightness before Him were coals of fire kindled. The LORD thundered from heaven, and the Most High uttered His voice. And He sent out arrows, and scattered them; lightning, and discomfited them. And the channels of the sea appeared, the foundations of the world were discovered, at the rebuking of the LORD, at the blast of the breath of His nostrils," 2 Samuel 22:10-16.

Judaism teaches the whole world is suspended in judgment—who shall live and who shall die—at Yom Kippur. One author wrote, "The concluding service of Yom Kippur takes its name and imagery from the symbol of the closing of the gates of Heaven. Originally it may have referred to the closing of the Temple gates. This imagery of time running out recurs throughout the service. For example, the liturgy is changed from *zakhreinu le-hayyim* to *hotmeinu le-hayyim*—from "remember us" to "seal us"—in the Book of Life," page 117, *The Jewish Holidays: A Guide and Commentary*, by Michael Strassfeld.

In times past, as the priest would enter and exit the Holy of Holies, the Ark of the Testimony and the glory of God would be exposed briefly as a reminder of God's Holy Law and sacred standard. So too, on the final Day of Atonement the Temple will be opened to expose the Ark of the Covenant and the blazing glory of God (Psalms 19:10; Revelation 15:8), who will come by way of the east (Ezekiel 43:2; 7). On this Day, the whole world will distinguish the Law and the glory of the One they have despised (Numbers 14:21; Isaiah 40:5). And, when Messiah shines forth and His loud voice is heard, He will gather to Almighty those who have made a sacrifice in life and death to Him (Psalm 50:1-6; Psalm 96:13; Psalm 98:9).

**11. God in the person of Messiah descended to reveal His Law to the people at Mt. Sinai. Read Exodus 19 and 20. This historical event foreshadowed the future Day of the LORD and gives us a glimpse into the last Day of Atonement at the end of time.**

- a. What prophet declared the coming of Messiah (19:9-10)? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. The LORD descended in a thick [dark] what (19: 9)? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. How many days of preparation did the LORD give the people to meet Him (19:10-11)? \_\_\_\_\_

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- d. What sound would call the people to meet God (19:13)? \_\_\_\_\_
- e. When the third day arrived, what time of the day was it (19:14-16)? \_\_\_\_\_  
*At the dawning of a new day, as the light broke the darkness.*
- f. What supernatural phenomenon accompanied the coming of the LORD (19:16)? \_\_\_\_\_  
*Voice as a trumpet, thunders, lightning, thick cloud, fire and earthquake.*
- g. Who was called up to meet God (19:20)? \_\_\_\_\_
- h. What did God reveal at His visitation (Exodus 20:1-17)? \_\_\_\_\_

*The Moral Law of God—the Ten Commandments—are revealed. Just as Messiah came down from Heaven to declare His righteous Law at Mt. Sinai, so too at the end of time Yeshua will come down again in similar fashion to exalt His Law of liberty (James 2:8-13).*

**12. Read the seven passages below. How do other prophets connect the events of the Day of the LORD with the Mt. Sinai experience?** \_\_\_\_\_

~ Joel 2:1-2, 10-11: *"Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on My holy hill. Let all who live in the land tremble, for the Day of the LORD is coming. It is close at hand—day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness. Like dawn spreading across the mountains a large and mighty army comes, such as never was of old nor ever will be in ages to come... Before them the earth shakes, the sky trembles, the sun and moon are darkened, and the stars no longer shine. The LORD thunders at the head of His army; His forces are beyond number, and mighty are those who obey His command. The Day of the LORD is great; it is dreadful. Who can endure it?"*

~ Joel 3:14-16: *"Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision [ten days of Awe between Rosh Ha-Shanah and Yom Kippur]! For the Day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. The sun and moon will be darkened, and the stars no longer shine. The LORD will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem; the earth and the sky will tremble. But the LORD will be a refuge for His people [144,000 elect], a stronghold for the people of Israel."*

~ Amos 1:2: *"He said: "The LORD roars from Zion and thunders from Jerusalem; the pastures of the shepherds dry up, and the top of Carmel withers."*

~ Amos 5:18-21: *"Woe to you who long for the Day of the LORD! Why do you long for the Day of the LORD? That day will be darkness, not light. It will be as though a man fled from a lion only to meet a bear, as though he entered his house and rested his hand on the wall only to have a snake bite him. Will not the Day of the LORD be darkness, not light—pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness? I hate, I despise your religious feasts; I cannot stand your assemblies [for that is when the end will come]."*

~ Micah 1:3-7: *"Look! The LORD is coming from His dwelling place; He comes down and treads the high places of the earth. The mountains melt beneath Him and the valleys split apart, like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a slope. All this is because of Jacob's transgression, because of the sins of the house of Israel. What is Jacob's transgression? Is it not Samaria? What is Judah's high place? Is it not Jerusalem? Therefore I will make Samaria a heap of rubble, a place for planting vineyards. I will pour her stones into the valley and lay bare her foundations. All her idols will be broken to pieces; all her temple gifts will be burned with fire; I will destroy all her images. Since she gathered her gifts from the wages of prostitutes, as the wages of prostitutes they will again be used."*

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~ Micah 3:2-12: *"You who hate good and love evil; who tear the skin from My people and the flesh from their bones; who eat My people's flesh, strip off their skin and break their bones in pieces; who chop them up like meat for the pan, like flesh for the pot? Then they will cry out to the LORD, but He will not answer them. At that time, He will hide His face from them because of the evil they have done. This is what the LORD says: As for the prophets who lead My people astray, if one feeds them, they proclaim 'peace'; if he does not, they prepare to wage war against him. Therefore, night will come over you, without visions, and darkness, without divination. The sun will set for the prophets, and the day will go dark for them. The seers will be ashamed and the diviners disgraced. They will all cover their faces because there is no answer from God. But as for Me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the LORD, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression, to Israel his sin. Hear this, you leaders of the house of Jacob, you rulers of the house of Israel, who despise justice and distort all that is right; who build Zion with bloodshed, and Jerusalem with wickedness. Her leaders judge for a bribe, her priests teach for a price, and her prophets tell fortunes for money. Yet they lean upon the LORD and say, Is not the LORD among us? No disaster will come upon us. Therefore because of you, Zion will be plowed like a field, Jerusalem will become a heap of rubble, the Temple hill a mound overgrown with thickets."*



~ Zephaniah 1:14-18: *"The Great Day of the LORD is near—near and coming quickly. Listen! The cry on the Day of the LORD will be bitter, the shouting of the warrior there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of trouble and ruin, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness, a day of trumpet and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the corner towers. I will bring distress on the people and they will walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD. Their blood will be poured out like dust and their entrails like filth. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the Day of the LORD's wrath. In the fire of His jealousy the whole world will be consumed, for He will make a sudden end of all who live in the earth."*

**13. Only one other time in the book of Revelation is the Temple said to be "opened," (11:19). What global phenomena accompany this swinging door? \_\_\_\_\_**

**14. What events are about to begin once the door on the Temple is opened (11:15-18)? \_\_\_\_\_**

**15. When Messiah exits the Temple, what corresponding events occur on earth that parallel Mt. Sinai, according to the three passages below? \_\_\_\_\_**

~ Isaiah 24:18-23: *"Whoever flees at the sound of terror will fall into a pit; whoever climbs out of the pit will be caught in a snare. The floodgates of the heavens are opened [in thunderous downpour], the foundations of the earth shake [in powerful worldwide earthquake]. The earth is broken up, the earth is split asunder, the earth is thoroughly shaken. The earth reels like a drunkard [off its axis], it sways like a hut in the wind; so heavy upon it is the guilt of its rebellion that it falls—never to rise again. In that Day the LORD will punish the powers in the heavens above ["prince and powers of the air"] and the kings on the earth below. They will be herded together like prisoners bound in a dungeon; they will be shut up in prison and be punished after many days [1,000 years]. The moon will be abashed, the sun ashamed; for the LORD Almighty will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, and before its elders, gloriously."*

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~ Isaiah 26:17-21: "As a woman with child and about to give birth writhes and cries out in her pain, so were we [Israel] in your presence, O LORD. We were with child, we writhed in pain, but we gave birth to wind. We [Jews] have not brought salvation to the earth; we have not given birth to people of the world. But [in spite of Israel's failure] Your dead will live; their bodies will rise [in resurrection]. You who dwell in the dust, wake up and shout for joy. Your dew is like the dew of the morning; the earth will give birth to her dead. [Now that the dead are raised] Go, My people [144,000], enter your rooms and shut the doors behind you; hide yourselves for a little while [40 days of Jacob's Trouble] until His wrath has passed by. See, the LORD is coming out of His dwelling to punish the people of the earth for their sins. The earth will disclose the blood shed upon her; she will conceal her slain no longer."

~ Hebrews 12:18-29: "You have not come to a mountain [Mt. Sinai] that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, because they could not bear what was commanded: If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned. The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, I am trembling with fear. But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written [in the Book of Life] in Heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect, to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. See to it that you do not refuse Him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused Him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from Him who warns us from Heaven? At that time [at Mt. Sinai] His voice shook the earth, but now He has promised, Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens. The words "once more" indicate the removing of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire."

**16. What is said concerning the Judge and His declaration that separates saints and sinners in the four passages below?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

~ James 5:9: "Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!"

~ 1 Peter 4:5: "But they will have to give account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead."

~ 2 Timothy 4:1: "In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, Who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of His appearing and His kingdom, I give you this charge,"

~ Revelation 22:11-12: Jesus declares at the end of the 1,150 days of Judgment, "Let him who does wrong continue to do wrong; let him who is vile continue to be vile; let him who does right continue to do right; and let him who is holy continue to be holy. Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with Me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done."

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### The Seven Angels

Revelation 15:6 identifies the carriers of doom—the seven Angels of the Presence of God—who emerge with bowls of God's plagues.

**17. How are they dressed?** \_\_\_\_\_

*In clean, shining linen with golden sashes around their chests.*

**18. Christ is clothed and described similarly in Revelation 1:13-16. Why?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**19. Daniel also describes Michael in Daniel 10:5-6. How close is it to the likeness John saw of Christ in Revelation?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**20. The linen garments signify what (Exodus 28:40-43)?** \_\_\_\_\_

Revelation 15:7-8 concludes this short chapter. John describes how one of the living creatures hands the seven bowls to the seven messengers filled with fire from the altar, representing the wrath of God. Smoke ascends from the glory of God and from His power. So dreadful is the wrath to come that no one dare enter the Temple until the seven angels have completed pouring out the seven plagues, for fear they will die also.

**21. Study the three passages below and determine how the future Day of Atonement in Heaven's Sanctuary corresponds to Temple events here on earth in the past. What can we learn?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

~ Exodus 40:33-35: *"Then Moses set up the courtyard around the Tabernacle and altar and put up the curtain at the entrance to the courtyard. And so Moses finished the work. Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the Tabernacle. Moses could not enter the Tent of Meeting because the cloud had settled upon it, and the glory of the LORD filled the Tabernacle."*

~ Leviticus 16:2, 4, 12-13: *"The LORD said to Moses: "Tell your brother Aaron not to come whenever he chooses into the Most Holy Place behind the curtain in front of the atonement cover on the Ark, or else he will die, because I appear in the cloud over the atonement cover... He is to put on the sacred linen tunic, with linen undergarments next to his body; he is to tie the linen sash around him and put on the linen turban. These are sacred garments; so he must bathe himself with water before he puts them on... He is to take a censer full of burning coals from the altar before the LORD and two handfuls of finely ground fragrant incense and take them behind the curtain. He is to put the incense on the fire before the LORD, and the smoke of the incense will conceal the atonement cover above the Testimony, so that he will not die."*

~ 1 Kings 8:9-12: *"There was nothing in the Ark except the two stone tablets that Moses had placed in it at Horeb [Mt. Sinai], where the LORD made a covenant with the Israelites after they came out of Egypt. When the priests withdrew from the Holy Place, the cloud filled the Temple of the LORD. And the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled His Temple. Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that He would dwell in a dark cloud."*