

## Revelation Chapter 11

### 1) Chapter 11 is a continuation from Chapter 10.

- a) The separation of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet soundings began at 10:1.
- b) The 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet is sounded at 11:15.

### 2) The Two Witnesses (11:1-14)

- a) **1** Then I was given a measuring rod like a staff, and I was told, “Rise and measure the temple of God and the altar and those who worship there, **2** but do not measure the court outside the temple; leave that out, for it is given over to the nations, and they will trample the holy city for forty-two months. **3** And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth.” **4** These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. **5** And if anyone would harm them, fire pours from their mouth and consumes their foes. If anyone would harm them, this is how he is doomed to be killed. **6** They have the power to shut the sky, that no rain may fall during the days of their prophesying, and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague, as often as they desire. **7** And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that rises from the bottomless pit will make war on them and conquer them and kill them, **8** and their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city that symbolically is called Sodom and Egypt, where their Lord was crucified. **9** For three and a half days some from the peoples and tribes and languages and nations will gaze at their dead bodies and refuse to let them be placed in a tomb, **10** and those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and make merry and exchange presents, because these two prophets had been a torment to those who dwell on the earth. **11** But after the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood up on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. **12** Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here!” And they went up to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies watched them. **13** And at that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven. **14** The second woe has passed; behold, the third woe is soon to come.

#### b) A Measuring Rod

- i) Ezekiel 40:1-42:20 - the length of the measuring reed in the man’s hand was six long cubits, each being a cubit and a handbreadth in length.
  - (1) The temple had been destroyed.
  - (2) Israel was in the 25<sup>th</sup> year of exile.

- (3) Ezekiel 43: - and behold, the glory of the Lord filled the temple.
- (4) God instructs the establishment of His sanctuary in the midst of His people.
- (a) Moses was given instruction for the tabernacle.
  - (b) David was given instruction for the temple.
  - (c) Ezekiel was commanded to tell the house of Israel all that he had seen; and he did so.
  - (d) When the dimensions of the different parts of the house had been given, the glory of Jehovah filled the house, in the vision, as happened historically at the dedication of the tabernacle and of the temple.
- ii) Zechariah 2:1-5 - And I lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, a man with a measuring line in his hand! ...
- (1) The context suggests that Jerusalem is to be measured for protection.
- iii) The Temple
- (1) The temple of this vision is on earth.
- (a) John is to measure it.
  - (b) Nations will trample the outer court.
- (2) But the temple of this vision is a symbol.
- (a) 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 - [16](#) Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? [17](#) If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.
  - (b) Ephesians 2:19-22 - [21](#) in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. [22](#) In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.
  - (c) John is given a measuring rod like a staff, and was told, "Rise and measure the temple of God and the altar and those who worship there, ..."
- (3) The people of God are now His temple, His dwelling place.
- (4) Whatever is measured is sanctified, set apart, for special use.
- (5) Those who worshipped in the physical temple of Israel were priests.
- (a) 1 Peter 2:5-9 - But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
  - (b) Rev. 1:6 - and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father

(c) Rev. 5:10 - and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,

**(6) What is measured is the church, which is measured for protection because it is still in the world, and nations can trample it. If the vision were to be set in heaven, no such protection would be needed.**

c) but do not measure the court outside the temple; leave that out, for it is given over to the nations, and they will trample the holy city for forty-two months.

i) The dwelling place of God and those who worship are measured for protection, but the outer court is not measured.

ii) Nations can be a generic term, but in Revelation there is a distinction and a separation between the inhabitants of the earth (nations) and God's people, and the city is not protected by God.

iii) Forty-two months is 3-1/2 years. 1260 days is also used for 3-1/2 years (the Jewish calendar consisted of 12 months of 30 days each, with an intercalary period of 2<sup>nd</sup> Adhar added periodically to synchronize with the solar year – like our leap years).

(1) It is incompleteness, an indefinite period of time, as compared to seven, which is completeness.

(2) James 5:17 – Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth.

(3) Luke 4:25 – ... the heavens were shut up for three years and six months

...

(4) 1 Kings 17:1 –

(5) Rev. 13:5 – it (the beast) was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months.

iv) The primary message of Revelation 11:1-2 is that during the troubled times ahead God will protect his people, the church

(1) Rev. 7:4-8 – 144,000 spiritual Jews (Christians) were measured and sealed.

(a) Measured by counting.

(2) Rev. 11:1-2 – the spiritual temple (the church) is measured for protection.

(a) Measured with a measuring rod.

(3) In both cases, protection is the purpose of measuring.

3) The Two Witnesses

a) **3** And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth.” **4** These are the two olive trees and the two

lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. **5** And if anyone would harm them, fire pours from their mouth and consumes their foes. If anyone would harm them, this is how he is doomed to be killed. **6** They have the power to shut the sky, that no rain may fall during the days of their prophesying, and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague, as often as they desire.

- i) Two are stronger than one, but there may be greater significance shown.
  - ii) 1,260 days – 42 months = 3-1/2 years, the incomplete period as in verse 2.
- b) Sackcloth was worn by those who mourned because of sin or loss.
- i) Isaiah 22:12
  - ii) Jeremiah 4:8
  - iii) Jonah 3:5
  - iv) Matthew 11:21
- c) Sackcloth often used by prophets
- i) 2 Kings 1:8
  - ii) Isaiah 20:12
  - iii) Zechariah 13:4
  - iv) Matthew 3:4
- d) In this instance, it may indicate the hardship that God's people must undergo to spread the gospel.
- e) Two olive trees and two lampstands
- i) Zechariah 4:1-14 – the two anointed ones
    - (1) Royalty (Zerubbabel)
    - (2) Priesthood (Joshua) (Zech. 3:1-10)
  - i) Jesus was both a king and a priest, but the signs shown in verses 5 and 6 do not fit.
  - ii) Christians are a royal priesthood – kings and priests.
    - (1) 1 Peter 2:5-9 - But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
    - (2) Rev. 1:6 - and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father
    - (3) Rev. 5:10 - and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,
  - iii) Christians are the two witnesses.
    - (1) The principle of two witnesses
    - (2) Gen. 41:25 – “The (*two*) dreams of Pharaoh are one; God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do.” (established by God)
    - (3) Deut. 17:6 – On the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses the one who is to die shall be put to death; a person shall not be put to death on the evidence of one witness.
    - (4) 2 Cor. 13:1 – Every charge must be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses.

- (5) 1 Tim. 5:19 – Do not admit a charge against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses.
- (6) Heb. 10:28 - Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses.
- b) If anyone would harm them
- i) Use twice in verse 5
  - ii) The two witnesses prophesy (v. 3) and testify (v. 7).
  - iii) Matt. 10:22 - and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.
  - iv) Matt. 10:28 - And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.
  - v) Matt. 24:9 – Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake.
  - vi) Luke 21:16-19 - **16** You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers<sup>e</sup> and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. **17** You will be hated by all for my name's sake. **18** But not a hair of your head will perish. **19** By your endurance you will gain your lives.
  - vii) Acts 7:54-60 – Stephen stoned to death for his testimony
  - viii) Rev. 6:9 - When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne.
- c) Fire pours from their mouth and consumes their foes.
- i) 2 Kings 1:10-12 – Elijah, fire from the skies
  - ii) Rev. 11:5 – two witnesses, fire from the mouths
- d) Power to shut the sky, no rain fall during the days of their prophesying (1,260 days, Rev. 11:3)
- i) Luke 4:25 – Elijah
  - ii) James 5:17 – Elijah
- e) power over the waters to turn them into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague,
- i) Ex. 7:17-20 – Moses
  - ii) 1 Sam. 4:7-8 – Moses
- f) Neither fire from their mouths nor power over the waters is literal. Instead, the message is, these two witnesses are speaking for God and cannot be stopped by the oppressor until they have finished their testimony.
- i) God's church cannot be stopped!
- 4) The Beast
- a) **7** And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that rises from the bottomless pit will make war on them and conquer them and kill them, **8** and their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city that symbolically is

called Sodom and Egypt, where their Lord was crucified. **9** For three and a half days some from the peoples and tribes and languages and nations will gaze at their dead bodies and refuse to let them be placed in a tomb, **10** and those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and make merry and exchange presents, because these two prophets had been a torment to those who dwell on the earth. **11** But after the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood up on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. **12** Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here!” And they went up to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies watched them. **13** And at that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven. **14** The second woe has passed; behold, the third woe is soon to come.

- b) The church cannot be stopped from finishing their testimony, but it can be hurt.
- c) The beast appears for the first time in revelation.
  - i) Chapter 13 will give more details of the beast.
  - ii) Chapter 17 will identify the beast as Rome, having seven heads and ten horns.

(1) Rev. 17:7-14 - **7** But the angel said to me, “Why do you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman, and of the beast with seven heads and ten horns that carries her. **8** The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to rise from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. And the dwellers on earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will marvel to see the beast, because it was and is not and is to come. **9** This calls for a mind with wisdom: the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated; **10** they are also seven kings, five of whom have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, and when he does come he must remain only a little while. **11** As for the beast that was and is not, it is an eighth but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to destruction. **12** And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received royal power, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast. **13** These are of one mind, and they hand over their power and authority to the beast. **14** They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.”

iii) Daniel was also shown the beast.

(1) Dan. 7:19-22 - **19** “Then I desired to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the rest, exceedingly terrifying, with

its teeth of iron and claws of bronze, and which devoured and broke in pieces and stamped what was left with its feet, [20](#) and about the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn that came up and before which three of them fell, the horn that had eyes and a mouth that spoke great things, and that seemed greater than its companions. [21](#) As I looked, this horn made war with the saints and prevailed over them, [22](#) until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given for the saints of the Most High, and the time came when the saints possessed the kingdom.

- d) The beast comes up from the bottomless pit – the abyss.
  - i) In chapter 9, it was the fallen angel, Satan, who open the shaft of the bottomless pit.
  - ii) Rev. 13:4 - And they worshiped the dragon, for he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it?”
  - iii) The beast is under the control of Satan.
- e) The beast ... will make war on them and conquer them and kill them
  - i) Underscores the symbolism of two witnesses – war is waged against many people. In this case, it is waged against Christians.
  - ii) Harm does not cause the testimony they give to cease.
  - iii) God’s promise to protect does not mean exemption from suffering.
    - (1) Mark 10:29-30 - [29](#) Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, [30](#) who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life
    - (2) 2 Tim 3:12-13 - [12](#) Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, [13](#) while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.
  - iv) When they are killed, it appears that the beast has won – but the story does not yet end.
- f) Their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city that symbolically is called Sodom and Egypt, where their Lord was crucified.
  - i) The great city is used seven more times in Revelation
    - (1) 16:19 - The great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell, and God remembered Babylon the great, to make her drain the cup of the wine of the fury of his wrath.
    - (2) 17:18 - And the woman that you saw is the great city that has dominion over the kings of the earth.”

- (3) 18:10 - “Alas! Alas! You great city, you mighty city, Babylon! For in a single hour your judgment has come.”
- (4) 18:16 - “Alas, alas, for the great city that was clothed in fine linen, in purple and scarlet, adorned with gold, with jewels, and with pearls!
- (5) 18:18 - “What city was like the great city?”
- (6) 18:19 - “Alas, alas, for the great city where all who had ships at sea grew rich by her wealth! For in a single hour she has been laid waste.
- (7) 18:21 - “So will Babylon the great city be thrown down with violence, and will be found no more;
- ii) Babylon is used as an encrypted term for Rome.
  - (1) Sodom – vice, because Rome became foul and immoral
  - (2) Egypt – tyranny, because of oppression by Rome as Egypt oppressed
  - (3) Where their Lord was crucified (Jerusalem) – blind disobedience
- g) **9** For three and a half days some from the peoples and tribes and languages and nations will gaze at their dead bodies and refuse to let them be placed in a tomb, **10** and those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and make merry and exchange presents, because these two prophets had been a torment to those who dwell on the earth.
  - i) Three and a half days - incompleteness, an indefinite period of time, perhaps of trial and hardship mixed with hope because the trials would not be permanent.
  - ii) Peoples and tribes and languages and nations – synonym for “those who dwell on the earth”, which is used of unbelievers.
  - iii) Not only was there inglorious treatment of the dead, they celebrated.
    - (1) It appears that truth has failed, and error is rejoicing over the failure.
    - (2) The witnesses had been a torment to unbelievers (those who dwell on the earth) – the unbelievers were comfortable in their sin and hated those who preached truth and righteousness.
- h) But after the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood up on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them.
  - i) They had seen the witnesses killed and rejoiced, but their rejoicing turned to fear when they were raised to life.
  - ii) If killing proved to be unsuccessful in silencing their tormentors, nothing more could be done.
  - iii) 1 Peter 1:24-25 - “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, **25** but the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you. (Quoting Isaiah 40:8)
- i) **12** Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here!” And they went up to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies watched



them. **13** And at that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

i) Hope! Your enemies have celebrated over your dead body, and then, while your enemies are watching, you are called to heaven and ascend in a cloud to heaven.

(1) The church survives in spite of opposition!

ii) The enemies do not escape punishment.

(1) It is a partial judgment.

(a) A tenth of the city fell in the earthquake.

(b) 7,000 people were killed in the earthquake.

(2) Another warning that more judgment will come.

iii) The rest were terrified and gave glory to God.

(1) Rev. 9:20-21 - **20** The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshiping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk, **21** nor did they repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

(2) When one-third were killed, the rest did not repent.

(3) Did these repent, or were they only terrified?

(a) Nebuchadnezzar had several encounters with the God of heaven, and he was scared, but not converted.

(i) Daniel 5:6 - Then the king's color changed, and his thoughts alarmed him; his limbs gave way, and his knees knocked together.

(b) Sometimes Nebuchadnezzar praised God, but it did not last.

(i) Daniel 4:34-35 - **34** At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored him who lives forever, for his dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation; **35** all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?"

j) The second woe has passed; behold, the third woe is soon to come.

i) The sixth trumpet, second woe, began in 9:13.

ii) There was an interruption beginning in 10:1 through 11:13.

- iii) Now the seventh trumpet is about to sound, bringing the third woe with seven bowls of wrath.
- iv) No more delay, no more warnings – the dragon and the beast are going to be defeated.

## 5) The Seventh Trumpet (11:15-19)

- a) **15** Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.” **16** And the twenty-four elders who sit on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshiped God, **17** saying, “We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign. **18** The nations raged, but your wrath came, and the time for the dead to be judged, and for rewarding your servants, the prophets and saints, and those who fear your name, both small and great, and for destroying the destroyers of the earth.” **19** Then God’s temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple. There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail.
  - i) The loud voices are not attributed to anyone, but the setting is continued from Chapter 4, with the twenty-four elders seated around the throne.
  - ii) The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.
    - (1) The second “the kingdom” is not literally in the Greek text, but the sense is the same.
      - (a) “Has become the kingdom of the world of the Lord’s of us, and of the Christ of him”
    - (2) Readers of the KJV will notice italics used where a word or words have been inserted.
      - (a) “The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ”
    - (3) The statement is a comforting affirmation of what has always been true though it was not and is not always apparent to the world.
      - (a) Rev. 1:5-6 - **5** and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood **6** and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.
      - (b) Rev. 1:9 – I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, ...
      - (c) Rev. 2:26-27 - **26** The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations, **27** and he

will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I myself have received authority from my Father.

- (d) Rev. 5:9-10 - [9](#) And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, [10](#) and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”
- (e) Dan. 2:44 - [44](#) And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever,
- (f) Dan. 7:14, 18, 27 - [14](#) And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed. ... [18](#) But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, forever and ever.’ ... [27](#) And the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High; his kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.’

iii) The twenty-four elders were introduced in Chapter 4, and here as in the other places where they are mentioned, they prostrate themselves in worship and praise.

iv) The song of praise

(1) A notable difference in the praise here is that the Lord is described as “who is and who was”, but “is to come” is not included.

(a) Rev. 1:4 - who is and who was and who is to come

(b) Rev. 4:8 - who was and is and is to come!

(c) The KJV includes “art to come” in 11:17, but only two of the three states are in the Greek text.

(d) It may have been deemed as unnecessary since 11:15 includes “he shall reign forever and ever.”

(e) Some believe that “is to come” is not included because John’s vision is of the time when there will be no more delay, that the time to punish the wicked and reward the faithful has come.

(2) For you have taken your great power and begun to reign

(a) Mark 9:1 - And he said to them, “Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power.”

- (b) Acts 2:33 - Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.
  - (c) 1 Cor. 15:25 - For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.
  - (d) Heb. 10:12-13 - **12** when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, **13** waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet.
  - (e) Heb. 12:2 - looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.
  - (f) 1 Pet. 3:22 - who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.
  - (g) The preceding verses give the time when Jesus began to reign as following his resurrection and ascension to the right hand of God.
- (3) The nations raged, but your wrath came, and the time for the dead to be judged, and for rewarding your servants, the prophets and saints, and those who fear your name, both small and great, and for destroying the destroyers of the earth.”
- (a) Psalm 2:1-3, ff - **1** Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? **2** The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed, saying, **3** “Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.”
  - (b) The time for rewarding has come – adding to the reason why “is to come” is not included in 11:17.
  - (c) Why do the nations rage?
    - (i) Like a rebellious child, they want to have their own way – cast their cords away from us.
  - (d) Destroying the destroyers of the earth
    - (i) *Diaphtheirō* – properly, *thoroughly* corrupt, *totally* degenerate (disintegrate); waste away by the decaying influence of moral (spiritual) impurity; “*utterly* corrupt”; becoming *thoroughly* disabled (morally depraved), “all the way through” (“utterly decayed”).
    - (ii) Destroy does not mean to extinguish, but to change for the worse – corrupt: destroyers corrupted the earth through sin.

- (4) Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple. There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail.
- (a) God's response to the praise
  - (b) God's dwelling place is opened – God is still present in heaven.
  - (c) The ark of *his* covenant – God is still leading his people.
  - (d) Lightning, rumblings, thunder, and hail – symbols of the power, righteousness, and judgment of God.