

HEAVEN'S  
PERSPECTIVE

REVELATION

AN ABC  
MONOGRAPH

# HEAVEN'S PERSPECTIVE

## PARENTHESIS (1) 4.1

Believers benefits from divine revelation-from prophecy-from the door left open in heaven. Closing doors prevents prying eyes – but this door is opened for us. It is a “vision” door, that is, one that enables us by interpreted symbols to see the time period of verse 1 (*linked to 3:20*) and the glorious person of Christ as one who walks among the churches and stands to welcome those who (*cp 3.30, 4.1, 4.2 (literal.Greek “One placed Himself on a throne”)*) as believers are called home in the “catching away” or rapture.( *v.2 ff*) shade into 5 further exercises of angels. First(*7.1*)The exercise of the angel from the east applying world control till Gods work among Jews grows – set at today’s % it would be 2.4 of the national population ; *7.9* The exercise of the lamb healing hurts; *9.12* The exercise of 4 angels in the Euphrates or Iraq/Iran area with its domino effect on earth for several years; *15.5* The exercise of 7 angels with God’s wrath handed over by the “living creatures”*v.7* leading to a humbling of the beast or superpower and a crescendo in Iran/Iraq involving the East and resulting in the Armageddon conflict & the long promised “shaking “ or earthquake that puts Babylon on notice; *18.1* The exercise of the angel with great authority ends the last short-lived alliance of *17.12* and Babylon falls silent in death – ushering in *19.1* the Lord’s rule with Hallelujahs in heaven. From heaven’s perspective these are the priorities right ahead between the door opening of *4.1* & *19.11*. Let’s take the chapter verse by verse!

## PARENTHESIS (2) CHAPTER 5

**We need to know** what emerges in heaven after the rapture. We need to know that the raptured church is glorious in praise. **We need to know** that there are 24 elders whose represent the saints of Israel and the church before the lamb **We need to know** that the incense of prayer is effective. We need to know the huge scale and patience of angelic work which is attendant upon those who are heirs of salvation. **We need to know** that it is left to Jesus to take the action that brings on the final harvest-taking the book and opening the seven seals.

**PARENTHESIS (3) 7.13-14** Before we read of the most terrible traumas of earth in this segment(*[7.1]7.9-15.4*) the felicity of the church

in heaven again greets the reader's eyes. We need to know that the circle like a hunter's circle comprehends multitudes each of whom the Saviour has searched for and brought to Glory. We need to know that all the redeemed in heaven stand clad to enter the battle in heaven that preludes the final contest with Satan on earth and we need to know that we will be taken from the face of tribulation.

One of the Elders had asked "These clothed in white stoles or armour – who are they and where have they come from?" [*The Greek verb is ηλθεν which is in the aorist form – and is typically so used by Homer, Theocritus Aristophanes the LXX and Alexandrian literature in the sense "once for all" with rapture reference*]. We need to know how close to Jesus we are and shall be [*ενωπιον – in close*] to the throne. We need to know that full surrender and commitment is called for. They are continuing to "give their all" [*λατρευουσιν – to expend massive resources – as when rich nobles on earth supported a war or engaged a national choir*] in service day and night in the temple of God. We need to know we shall be by the "head streams" or life and creation. Mysteries will unfold. We need to know that He will "wipe away" all tears. The Greek is not *εκλειπω* but *εξαλειπω* meaning "to obliterate for ever. Here is supreme tenderness and comfort for people who came out of the most terrible period for the righteous in all of history. We need to know that every guardian angel will be there to witness these great entrances prior to the return of Jesus Christ to Jerusalem. We need to know that all who loved not their lives unto death abide for ever under the Shekinah.

**PARENTHESIS (4) 8.1** As the second 3 1/2 year phase of tribulation begins Jesus (the "angel of the LORD") manifests Himself in the vision. His face PROSOPOS and form are truly human. His feet are as pillars of fire (cf. *Apocalypse 1.15*) as if they had burned in a furnace with a chimney – speaking of Christ's suffering. His countenance OPHIS was like the sun (cf *Acts 9*) – cf the glory of God. His Position – *Greek augury* looked north Roman south. We are reading in Greek. His right on the sea or the Gentiles- sorrow. His left on land or Israel felicity– He shows sovereign protection to his people in their sorrow & trouble. He had clothed himself with a cloud – cf *Apocalypse 1.9 and 1Thess4.17* **He had conducted the Rapture.** An IRIS or rainbow upon his head. This signified "the messenger of the gods" & mercy. He is the

book angel – cf. 5.1 cf 5.8. The book is the lamb’s possession-only He alone can reveal the Father and break the seals. His strength – v3 when He shouted 7 thunders discussed in their dialect - He commands and seals up revelation. He swore εἶψα "in the circle of the eternal Godhead there would be "no delay" "no lifetimes left" for **Time is in His hand**. (Biblical quotations are key to recognising the "Angel of God". Equivalent action is found in *Deuteronomy 32.40* where God says “I lift up my hand and say ‘I live for ever’ Again in *Daniel 12.7* the man in linen held up His right hand confirming the 3 and 1/2 years limitation to the rule of the beast)

### **PARENTHESIS (5) SILENCE IN HEAVEN (10.1)**

**We need to know** of the solemnity and utter seriousness of God who will act in holiness at the right time and whose great love and patience gives way to judgment and wrath only after long forbearance and through intense pleading of saints. Such awe accompanies the judgments now in train that heaven finds the matters shortly to come breath-taking. If when we get there this is to be our attitude let us make certain that we even now study the serious and awesome wrath which is to cascade upon man during the time of "the seven trumpets" and afterwards. It is important to note that the angel's mark the warfare man conducts but what "happens" is very much human warfare.

### **PARENTHESIS (6) WHAT BELIEVERS NEED TO KNOW: 10-8-11**

**We need to know** of the book & the Spirit of Prophecy. John took the *Βιβλαριδιον* that “opened itself”. He uttered a bold request for revelation just as he retained a humble silence where there was no revelation. **We need to preach** judgment and grace It was sweet to taste – bitter to digest The “bitterness” is that the message of the book is utterly refused by a whole world government in the last or tribulation days and neglected by the Church Just as Ezekiel’s message was well digested and sweet to the prophet – a wonderful story of resurrected Israel (*Ezekiel 37*) and yet it was rejected in its day and rendered a basis for aggravated condemnation. **We need to enunciate** the prophetic vision of the Cross and crown – the Saviour and Pantocrator of the bible to the people – we must take up Jesus command before these halcyon days to tell to all "peoples" λαοσ means the “stone-like” nations – it

falls to us to make scripture accessible – and we are bidden to set it in the hands of Kings and rulers. *John Calvin* wrote first to *Francis 1 King of France*. Jesus said "This gospel shall be proclaimed among all nations – then shall the purpose be fulfilled" *Matthew 24.14, Mark 13.10, Luke 24.47 with Romans 16.26*

## **PARENTHESIS (7) 11.15-19**

**We need to know** heaven has determined on Christ's millennial rule in Jerusalem and the blast of the seventh trumpet was accompanied by "great voices in heaven" saying, "The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdom of our God and His Christ and He shall reign eternally". **We need to know** that the Church "in heaven" will support the millennial rule. The response of the 24 elders was immediate. They fell in worship at the throne. "O Lord God PANTOCRATOR who was and is and is willing to go on we give YOU praise for YOU have taken YOUR great power and YOU are sovereign once for all.

**We need to know** the church triumphant lives for Christ and prophecy. The nations were in an orgy of anger and YOUR anger has come and the time of judgment for the dead – and to give reward to YOUR servants the prophets and to the saints and to those who fear YOUR name – small and great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth. **We need to know** that Christ is the Lion of Judah. The vision concludes with the "artillery of heaven" – "lightnings and voices and thunders and an earthquake and a great hail" The stage is set for the Lord's coming to be once again at the centre of His people and to be the fear of His enemies. The "Long expected divine event" of Christ's kingdom begins unfolding in earnest.

## **PARENTHESIS (8) 12.9-11**

Of all views of heaven we least expect this one: war in heaven-angelic combat. But this will yet happen and its aftermath leads to the greatest war ever on earth – the Armageddon. Satan says good bye to heaven for ever and his options shorten over 3.5 years till he is thrown into the lake of fire. **We need to know** the Church shall take her stand in heaven – following her captain the lamb. The provision of stoles [*στολος*] or "soldiers' array" to the tribulation martyrs suggests heaven is on war alert. That was *Apocalypse 7.9*. We read of the outbreak of just such a war linked to the final earth struggle in declaration "War took place in

heaven” *Apocalypse 12.7*. **We need to know** Michael the archangel stands for Israel and will overcome Satan Michael and his angels fought a decisive once-for-all battle against the devil – pushing him further and further from God’s presence – where he delighted to inveigh against man. That ground was held by praying martyrs now-the fallen angels had no “familiar place” in heaven. They were strangers and their leader –the great dragon, the ancient serpent, the one calling himself **Diabolus** – the accuser in deep venomous hatred fires darts at the saints and as **Satan**, the one who opposes God, will be thrown out of heaven with His angels.**We need to know** the effectiveness of those who resist to blood. Heaven erupts in joy with the coincidence of four great blessings now known – Salvation in its full sense, the exercise of outward power, the emergence of the kingdom and the introduction of the rod of God’s power.

“I heard a great voice in heaven saying, “Now **at this very moment salvation** and increase of power and the kingdom of our God has come and the authority of his Christ for the accuser of our brethren who accused them day and night before our God is cast down. They gained victory over him through the blood of the lamb and through the word of their witness as martyrs. So the martyrs in heaven overwhelm Satan. He has far overstepped his rights. The martyrs began this great victory.

## **PARENTHESIS (9) 14.1**

**We need to know that no cruel empire shall long stand in the last days**– Christ is Victor! I saw and behold a lamb standing on Mount Zion, with Him 144,000 with the name of the Father written on their foreheads. **We need to know the LORD will re-match the Christian and Jewish believers** in glory and fill up their understanding of how He brings in His kingdom. Jewish persons first referred to in *Chapter 7.5-8* are more fully described in the ensuing verses. They earn recognition from the standing Christ for their witness as martyrs. Their appearance in heaven shows them enjoying the company of the raptured church though they were taken each in his own order by the oracle of death as martyrs – though some believe they may be separately raptured as a body – during the period of the trumpets – being united to the saints in glory (7.9-15.5).John heard a voice from heaven as of many waters and as of mighty thunder. **We need to know that the "new Song" which**

**unites Jew & Gentile** – the "Song of Moses and the Lamb" rejoices in our Exodus from the Egypt of this world and gives praise to God as Pantocrator for the joyous experience of "endowed perfection" John then heard the voice of singers singing as they harped in the circle of their harps – and they are singing as if a new song in before the throne and before the four living creatures and elders. **We need to know** that no cruel empire shall long stand in the last days – Christ the victor stands on Mount Zion along with witnesses and martyrs singing of their "exodus" before the throne

**PARENTHESIS (10) CHAPTER 14** We need to know that from the moment (*Greek* *αρι* "at this moment") "to die in the Lord" is to rest from labour and the energised works of Christians will go on and the King is coming again with clouds. Homer uses the "cloud" in **THE ILLIAD** of an army. The "Son of man" crowned with the gold of victory held a sharp harvest sickle in His hand. The angel screamed, "Send in your **sickle**. The angel sends in the sickle [*δρεπανον* "scythe" or "sickle"] – for the hour of summer harvest has come and the earth was reaped. It is significant that the temple angel carries God's response to the incense of prayer and the Great intercessor or mediator now acts as judge in a war which Christ begins in heaven and concludes on earth.

#### **PARENTHESIS (11) CHAPTER 15**

We need to know that **destiny is settled in the Holy Place** seven angels came out of the holy place. They were as priests in the sanctuary. These angels came from beyond the veil and were endued with linen – which is called the "thread of destiny" to finally settle man's destiny. We need to know that **they reflect the radiance in heaven** like Moses. We need to know that **God cares to establish justice** so the angels *holding* the plagues judge the apostate. One of the living creatures gave to the seven each a golden vial full of the passion of God who lives into the ages of ages. We need to know that **there is wrath that prayer cannot reverse** (cf. *Ezekiel 14.20*). We need to know that **Israel is the apple of God's eye.**

## **PARENTHESIS (12) CHAPTERS 21-22**

**We need to know** there is an absolutely new and different heaven and earth. **We need to know** of the utter end of sorrow. **We need to believe** in “all things new” and the end of the old serpent and exclusion of sin and sinners from the inheritance of God. **We need to know** of the city God builds for eternity. **We need to know** the believing of all nations shall enjoy health and joy in God’s glorious light. We shall see Jesus’ face. We need to believe the bible. **We need to understand** the fact that unconfessed sin is without remedy. **We need to understand** the utter faithfulness and truth of Christ’s words. As believers within the body of Christ the bride **we need to herald** the gospel anointed by the Holy Spirit of truth until Christ comes.

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