December 9-15, 2019 OUR CHRISTIAN LIFE AND MINISTRY MEETING WORKBOOK

Assigned chapters: REVELATION 10-12

PLEASE NOTE - The references below are taken from the 86-19 Index. Many verses have additional references that have not been included due to time & space. We are encouraged to do additional personal research.

(Revelation 10:4-6) ... " 5 The angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the earth raised his right hand to heaven, 6 and he swore by the One who lives forever and ever, who created the heaven and the things in it and the earth and the things in it and the sea and the things in it: "There will be no delay any longer.

*** re chap. 24 p. 157 pars. 10-11 A Sweet-and-Bitter Message ***

"And the angel that I saw standing on the sea and on the earth raised his right hand to heaven, and by the One who lives forever and ever, who created the heaven and the things in it and the earth and the things in it and the sea and the things in it, he swore: 'There will be no delay any longer." (Revelation 10:5, 6) By whom does the strong angel swear? The glorified Jesus swears, not by himself, but by the highest Authority of all, Jehovah, the immortal Creator of the heavens and the earth. (Isaiah 45:12, 18) With this oath, the angel assures John that there will be no further delay on God's part.

11 The Greek word here translated "delay" is khro'nos, which literally means "time." Some have thus felt that this declaration of the angel should be translated: "There will be no more time," as though time as we know it will end. But the word khro'nos here is used without a definite article. So it does not mean time in general but, rather, "a time" or "a period of time." In other words, there will be no further period of time (or, delay) by Jehovah. A Greek verb derived from khro'nos is used also at Hebrews 10:37, where Paul, quoting from Habakkuk 2:3, 4, writes that "he who is coming . . . will not delay."

(Revelation 11:1, 2) 11 And a reed like a rod was given to me as he said: "Get up and measure the temple sanctuary of God and the altar and those worshipping in it. 2 But as for the courtyard that is outside the temple sanctuary, leave it out and do not measure it, because it has been given to the nations, and they will trample the holy city underfoot for 42 months.

*** w14 11/15 p. 30 Questions From Readers *** Interestingly, Revelation 11:1, 2 links these events to a time when the spiritual temple would be measured, or evaluated. Malachi chapter 3 mentions a similar inspection of the spiritual temple, followed by a time of cleansing. (Mal. 3:1-4) How long did this inspection and cleansing work take? It extended from 1914 to the early part of 1919. This period of time includes both the 1,260 days (42 months) and the symbolic three and a half days referred to in Revelation chapter 11.

(Revelation 11:16, 17) 16 And the 24 elders who were seated before God on their thrones fell upon their faces and worshipped God, 17 saying: "We thank you, Jehovah God, the Almighty, the one who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and begun ruling as king.

*** re chap. 26 pp. 172-173 pars. 6-7 God's Sacred Secret—Its Glorious Climax! ***
6 Christ enthroned in God's Kingdom—what joy this announcement calls forth! John reports: "And the twenty-four elders who were seated before God upon their thrones fell upon their faces and worshiped God, saying: 'We thank you, Jehovah God, the Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and begun ruling as king."—Revelation 11:16, 17.
7 The ones that offer these thanks to Jehovah God are the 24 elders, symbolizing the anointed brothers of Christ in their heavenly positions.
From 1922 onward a remnant on earth of these 144,000 anointed ones got busy in the work that

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was set in motion by the trumpet blasts. They came to realize the full import of the sign at Matthew 24:3–25:46. Even earlier in the Lord's day, however, their fellow witnesses who had already 'proved faithful even to death' had been resurrected to take their positions in heaven, so that they could now represent the entire group of 144,000 in falling upon their faces to render homage to Jehovah. (Revelation 1:10; 2:10) How thankful all of these are that their Sovereign Lord has not delayed in bringing his sacred secret to a climactic finish!

(Revelation 12:11) 11 And they conquered him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their witnessing, and they did not love their souls even in the face of death.

*** w07 7/1 p. 31 "Keep Conquering the Evil With the Good" ***

Sharing Good News Despite Facing Evil

17 God's Word states regarding Christ's anointed brothers: "They conquered [Satan] because . . . of the word of their witnessing." (Revelation 12:11) Hence, there is a direct connection between conquering Satan—the source of evil—and preaching the Kingdom message. No wonder that Satan relentlessly attacks both the anointed remnant and the "great crowd" by stirring up opposition!—Revelation 7:9; 12:17.

(Revelation 12:15) 15 And the serpent spewed out water like a river from its mouth after the woman, to cause her to be drowned by the river.

*** kr chap. 14 pp. 150-151 Loyally Supporting God's Government and No Other ***

Threatened by a "River" of Opposition

8 The apostle John prophesied that after the Kingdom's birth in 1914, the dragon, Satan the Devil, would attempt to wipe out the supporters

of God's Kingdom by spewing out a symbolic river from its mouth. (Read Revelation 12:9, 15.) How was John's prophecy fulfilled? From the 1920's onward, there was a surge of opposition against God's people. Like many other brothers who lived in North America during the second world war, Brother Kraker was thrown into prison for his loyalty to God's Kingdom. In fact, during the war, Jehovah's Witnesses made up more than two thirds of all inmates who because of religious objections to the war were being held in federal prisons in the United States.

9 The Devil and his agents were intent on breaking the integrity of Kingdom subjects no matter where they lived. Throughout Africa, Europe, and the United States, they were brought before courts and parole boards. Because of their unwavering determination to remain neutral, they were imprisoned, beaten, and maimed. In Germany, God's people faced enormous pressure because they refused to heil Hitler or join the war effort. An estimated 6,000 were detained in prison camps during the Nazi era, and more than 1,600 German and non-German Witnesses died at the hands of their tormentors. Even so, the Devil was unable to inflict any permanent harm on God's people.—Mark 8:34, 35.