

## 42. The Book of Revelation—9:13-21

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(5-26-21)

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In our study of the Book of Revelation we have entered into Chapter 9.

Once again by way of a quick review—so far, we have seen Jesus open the 7 Seal Judgments—the 7<sup>th</sup> Seal unleashed the 7-Trumpet Judgments which we began to look at in Chapter 8.

Each of the first four trumpet judgments (Chapter 8:7-13) affect the physical universe in some way (vegetation, oceans/seas, fresh water, and a third of the light of the sun, moon and stars).

As we come to Chapter 9 and the sounding of the *fifth* and *sixth* Trumpet Judgments—the focus shifts from the *physical* to the *spiritual* realm.

The *fifth* and *sixth* Trumpet Judgments unleash upon the inhabitants of the earth 2 demonic armies that bring with them such horrific judgments that these judgments are singled out and called “**woe**” judgments (Revelation 8:13).

### Revelation 9:1-12 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> Then the fifth angel sounded: And I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit. <sup>2</sup> And he opened the bottomless pit, and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace. So the sun and the air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit. <sup>3</sup> Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. <sup>4</sup> They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> And they were not given *authority* to kill them, but to torment them *for* five months. Their torment *was* like the torment of a scorpion when it strikes a man. <sup>6</sup> In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them. <sup>7</sup> The shape of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle. On their heads were crowns of something like gold, and their faces *were* like the faces of men. <sup>8</sup> They had hair like women's hair, and their teeth were like lions' *teeth*. <sup>9</sup> And they had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings *was* like the sound of chariots with many horses running into battle. <sup>10</sup> They had tails like scorpions, and there were stings in their tails. Their power *was* to hurt men five months. <sup>11</sup> And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew *is* Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon. <sup>12</sup> One woe is past. Behold, still two more woes are coming after these things.

### The Sixth Trumpet

### Revelation 9:13-15 (NKJV)

<sup>13</sup> Then the sixth angel sounded: And I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, <sup>14</sup> saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." <sup>15</sup> So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind.

I said a couple of weeks ago that Revelation 9 teaches us that there is a shaft that leads from the surface of the

earth down to the center of the earth where the bottomless pit (abysos/abyss) is located—but that we don't know where the opening to that shaft is located.

Well, maybe Revelation 9:14 gives us the answer—somewhere *near* or *in* the Euphrates River.

But why are these angels bound at the Euphrates River?

Commentators really don't know why except to point to the prominence of this area in Scripture:

- *The Garden of Eden was somewhere in this area.*
- *The sin of man began here.*
- *The first murder was committed here.*
- *The first war was fought here.*
- *The sin that brought the Flood upon the earth started here.*
- *Here is where the Tower of Babel was erected along with the first cult.*
- *To this area were brought the Israelites of the Babylonian captivity.*
- *Babylon was the fountainhead of idolatry headquartered in this area.*
- *Here is the final surge of sin on the earth during the Great Tribulation Period.*

**"Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." (verse14)**

The fact that these angels are *bound* (imprisoned) means they are *fallen* angels—because no *holy* angel would be bound. Apparently, these are the worst, the most wicked and violent fallen angels in existence—which is why they are bound.

Can you imagine what will happen when the worst fallen angels presently chained in the abysos are suddenly released?

Think about it, if every maximum-security prison in our nation was opened and all of the worst and most violent criminals were suddenly released back into society—it wouldn't even begin to compare to what will happen when these fallen angels are freed!

Could this be what Jude and Peter were referring to—

**2 Peter 2:4 (NKJV)**

<sup>4</sup> For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast *them* down to hell and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment.

**Jude 1:6 (NKJV)**

<sup>6</sup> And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;

The judgment that Jude and Peter are referring to might be the judgment of the angels *themselves* who sinned—or that God has reserved these particular angels to unleash judgment upon mankind during the Tribulation Period—as we now see in Revelation 9:15—

**Revelation 9:15 (NKJV)**

**<sup>15</sup> So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind.**

These exceedingly vicious angels are released at a precise time (“*the appointed hour occurring in the appointed day, and that in the appointed month, and that in the appointed year*”)—or in other words, God has reserved these angels for an exact time in human history.

“*For everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven*” (Ecclesiastes 3:1)—and the time has now come for God to release these 4 exceedingly violent and wicked fallen angels—and the purpose for which they are released is to kill (not just torment for 5 months) *a third* of the world’s population.

Since a fourth of mankind has already been killed (Revelation 6:8), and now another third of the remaining population is killed—it means that by the time the sixth trumpet judgment is completed over one-half of the earth’s population has been wiped out—roughly 3 ½ billion people.

Just a footnote, there are very powerful, elite groups of super-wealthy people who really control the world and worship the earth (they go by different names—the Illuminati, the Bilderberg Group, the Trilateral Commission and the Council on Foreign Relations to name a few).

They believe that the maximum population of the earth must be no greater than 500 million—any more than that will cause the slow death of the planet. (Georgia Guidestones)

Joe Farrah (WorldNetDaily) in an article published back in 2007 said—

*“There’s no question the CFR is a club for wealthy elite power brokers who want – or already do – rule the world. But how do they plan to do it? How do spin-off groups like the Trilateral Commission and those with interlocking memberships such as the Bilderbergers plan to create a one-world government? Some, including author Daniel Estulin in his new book, [“The True Story of the Bilderberg Group,”](#) have offered evidence of plans by the globalists to depopulate the world, to crush the middle class and to reduce most people to mere serfs.”*

Many believe they are using COVID-19 and the vaccines to, in part, accomplish their objective of world depopulation. I would imagine they will be thrilled by this great decrease in the earth’s population—that is until it affects them!

**Revelation 9:16 (NKJV)**

**<sup>16</sup> Now the number of the army of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them.**

You have to understand how incredible this must have been for John when he heard that this army consisted of 200 million horsemen. Historians tell us that the entire population of the world in John’s day was about that many people!

The Roman army in the first century (the greatest and most powerful army in the world at that time) consisted of 25 legions or 125,000 soldiers!

Each angel is in charge of one-quarter of the vast army that follows them at their liberation—an army of 200 million demonic creatures!

**Revelation 9:17-19 (NKJV)**

<sup>17</sup> And thus I saw the horses in the vision: those who sat on them had breastplates of fiery red, hyacinth blue, and sulfur yellow; and the heads of the horses *were* like the heads of lions; and out of their mouths came fire, smoke, and brimstone. <sup>18</sup> By these three *plagues* a third of mankind was killed—by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which came out of their mouths. <sup>19</sup> For their power is in their mouth and in their tails; for their tails *are* like serpents, having heads; and with them they do harm.

Some have suggested that this is not a *demonic* army—but an army of *human* soldiers.

They maintain that this is the same army (*human* army) referred to in Revelation 16:12 led by “*the kings from the east*”—which they claim is a reference to the leaders of China.

This was a very popular view back in the 1970’s since back then the Chinese Red army reportedly numbered 200 million. But in Chapter 16 no reference is made to the size of the army led by the kings of the East.

Further, that army arrives on the scene during the Sixth Bowl Judgment, which takes place during the seventh trumpet—not the sixth trumpet judgment which we are currently looking at.

I don’t believe this is a human army—I take it that this is another *demonic* army headed by four fallen angels (some of Satan’s top lieutenants who helped coordinate and execute the attempt in Noah’s day to corrupt the human race with demon seed so Messiah couldn’t be born).

It seems that God bound them in the Euphrates River where they have been kept under “*lock and key*” unable to act until God releases them and gives them permission to march across the globe on their murderous killing spree!

Donald Grey Barnhouse—“*It might be well to point out also that so far as Asia is concerned, demon religions are all east of the Euphrates River. India is said to have thirty-three million gods and we are told in the Bible that “all the gods of the heathen are demons.”(Psalm 96:5)*

Before describing the horses, the actual agents of destruction, John briefly described those who sat on them.

He noted that the riders had breastplates the color of *fire* and of *hyacinth* and of *brimstone*. The color of fire is *red*; that of hyacinth, *dark blue* or *black* like smoke; that of brimstone, a sulfurous *yellow*, describing the rock which, when ignited, produces a burning flame and suffocating gas.

The idea of ‘*fire, smoke and brimstone*’ along with these *colors*—are described in the Bible as features of hell (Revelation 14:10; 19:20; 20:10; 21:8)—and together they paint a terrifying picture of God’s wrath poured out on the sinful world by these demons.

**Revelation 9:20-21 (NKJV)**

<sup>20</sup> But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. <sup>21</sup> And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

It is unimaginable that after years of suffering and death under the terrifying judgments from God, coupled with the powerful preaching of the gospel by the 144,000 Jewish evangelists (Revelation 7:1–8), the two witnesses (Revelation 11:1–14), an angel in the sky (Revelation 14:6–7), and other believers (Matthew 24:14)—the remaining unbelievers upon the earth—still refuse to repent!

Like those who rejected Jesus despite seeing His miracles, hearing His powerful preaching, and the reality of His resurrection—still refused to repent!

**John 12:37-40 (NKJV)**

<sup>37</sup> But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, <sup>38</sup> that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke: *"Lord, who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?"* <sup>39</sup> Therefore they could not believe, because Isaiah said again: <sup>40</sup> *"He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, Lest they should see with their eyes, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them."*

**Revelation 9:20 (NKJV)**

<sup>20</sup> But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship **demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk.**

**1 John 5:21 (NKJV)**

<sup>21</sup> Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

*"This is ridiculous! Modern, enlightened people don't worship idols or practice idolatry anymore!"* (Elaborate)

By this time the Antichrist has already caused the sacrifices and oblations to the true God in the Temple to cease, and he has put his own image in the Holy of Holies and has demanded to be worshiped as God.

We are talking about worldwide idolatry and demonic worship.

Henry Morris—

*"For many years prior to Christ's return for His saints, there will have been a revival of occultism, astrology, spiritism, and kindred "doctrines of demons" even in western cultures, preparing the minds of men everywhere for a worldwide return to pagan idolatry in the final days of the cosmic rebellion.*

*Great worship centers will then be erected, with grotesque images of modern art depicting the various cosmic and terrestrial forces and processes presumably controlled by the principalities and powers of the wicked one and these will become objects of worship, with men and women in effect thus worshipping those evil spirits which they portray and represent. Worshipping idols of gold and silver, brass and stone, and wood is of course the same as worshipping the demons who are associated with them (1 Corinthians 10:20)."*

**2 Thessalonians 2:9-10 (NKJV)**

<sup>9</sup> The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, <sup>10</sup> and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved...

➔ Roman Catholic I talked with (Eucharistic miracles; the appearance of "Mary" at Fatima...)

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