

Revelation: The Time is Near

Death Will Flee From Them

Revelation 9:1-13

Revelation Review:

- John on Patmos, revealed Jesus in glory
- **The end of the world (as we know it) - The Great Tribulation**
- **Judgment on the nations and those who follow satan**
- **It's clear who they're following**
- **A last ditch effort to get the world to repent**
- **As bad as this is, hell is worse.** This is 7 years, hell is forever.
- Hell on earth - literally. Satan's kingdom in full force and God's wrath released on earth.

Shameless plug - previous messages available at resurrectionmontana.org

Remember:

Rev 1:3 NKJV - Blessed [is] he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time [is] near.

Do yourself a favor and dig into Revelation for yourself. I've never not been blessed by it (goes without saying. But in contrast, Jake was reading Numbers recently and I really gave him credit as the blessing takes a little more digging.)

Previously:

- 1st four seals broken
- Four horsemen:
 - 1 - white horse, rider bow and crown
 - 2 - fiery red horse, rider large sword
 - 3 - black horse, pair of scales
 - 4 - pale green, corpse color
- Fifth seal: martyrs slain for the word of God and their testimony - white robe, wait a little while longer until the number is complete
- Sixth seal: signs in heaven: great earthquake, sun like sackcloth, moon like blood, stars of heaven fall, sky recedes like scroll
- Everyone hides but doesn't repent...they want the mountains to fall on them instead. But Death won't save them.
- Seventh Seal: Silence in heaven for half an hour - time? Eternity? Obviously some perspective of time there from John's POV
- The first four trumpets
 - 1 - hail and fire mixed w blood
 - 2 - great mountain burning w fire thrown into the sea
 - 3 - great star falling from heaven, wormwood
 - 4 - 1/3 sun, moon, stars dimmed

**The physical world is connected to the spiritual
It's not conspiracy...it's a spiritual war raging**

The players might be clueless, slaves to sin, or conspirators thinking they're in charge, or they might be satan worshippers or Saints...but the events of this world are not just physical, they have a spiritual backing. Now, just because you stub your toe and feel pain doesn't mean a demon tripped you - but it is a result, in some sense, at the very least, of a broken creation.

Where do we stand today? What are we living for? Do we think all is OK and getting better? *Talk of two realities between political parties in the US. It's larger than that.*

Do we truly believe our Master is coming soon? Will he find us faithful when he returns? *In some sense, I don't feel ready. I need to be about my father's business.*

[pray]

Revelation 9:1-4

The fifth angel sounds

Again, we're seeing in heaven, these creatures doing the will of the Father.
Trumpets sounding a blast for war, before a king, for a great event.
Shofar? Has to shake your very soul.

Trumpet blast in heaven has direct effect on events of the entire creation - from spiritual to physical.

A star fallen from heaven to earth...not an asteroid here

**Isa 14:12-15 NKJV - "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!
[How] you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! For you have said
in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I
will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; I will
ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.' Yet you shall be
brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit.**

Also see Ezekiel 28:11-19 (speaking to king of Tyre...sounds like Satan had himself an early world leader - type of antichrist)

Jacob's ladder

Job - angels appearing before God

Time and eternity - eternity itself is the temporal space outside of our own time. It isn't bound by the same laws of physics as we are. Just like the Trinity, I don't know that we can truly comprehend it. I think it has far more overarching implications over all of history, creation, the future, death and life. It's a discussion for another ... time ... but when we are shown things from the heavenly perspective, e.g. prophecy, revelation of the future, it's helpful to try and put yourself there mentally and allow some overlap perhaps.

A star fallen from heaven, so it has fallen, a descriptor of the star

Key to the Bottomless Pit

Key - which gives the possessor power to open and shut

Abyssos phrear - bottomless, unbounded, immeasurable death, very deep chasm in lowest parts of earth as a receptacle of the dead and home of demons, a well, (the nether world is thought to increase in size the further it extends from the surface of the earth, a cistern)

Hollow earth theory might not be all that crazy - of course it is, but you know all things in this world have their root somewhere. We still don't know what's on the inside of the earth - that's just physically. We're talking spiritually here. That even if the core of the earth is just molten metal physically, spiritually it seems to be very well much more, all throughout scripture.

Pit opened

Smoke came out as of a great furnace

Sun and air darkened

People are so worried about "global warming" - they truthfully are just afraid of another flood. Far worse climate change is about to happen on earth in a span of only 7 earth-years.

Out of smoke, locusts (remember the plagues in Egypt? Modern famines?)

As we'll see, these don't seem to be large grasshoppers, how would they survive in the earth...they are spiritual beings, a plague of demonic entities - remember, 1/3 of the angels went with Satan...and that doesn't mean they're the kind that look like people, seraphim, cherubim, etc. I imagine there are plenty of different types of angels just as there are different types of animals on earth - remember, earthly creation was originally designed as a picture of heavenly existence.

Given power - power of choice, liberty in doing as one pleases / leave, permission, physical and mental power, authority and influence, rule or government, universally and specifically, sign of regal authority

They weren't to eat grass or plants as a typical locust does...instead they were to ravage mankind...specifically unbelievers...those who didn't have the mark of God but had the mark of the beast (and perhaps some who didn't have either, if it were possible)

Again, the physical dichotomy in the last times - very evident who is for God and who isn't. It's been a bit murkier in our past few hundred years of utopian society in America - but the lines are being clearly drawn more and more every day. Soon it won't be a vaccine passport, it'll be total allegiance in a mark to the person, spiritual system and government of the world (perhaps a vaccine will be a part of that lie, too).

2Co 2:15-16 NKJV - For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. To the one [we are] the aroma of death [leading] to death, and to the other the aroma of life [leading] to life. And who [is] sufficient for these things?

:5-6

One thing they weren't allowed to do - kill them. Death would be mercy. Death would be unjust at the hands of the locusts directly.

This is God given authority over the demonic - they're allowed to be released, and they're satanic attacking the followers of Satan/AC

His kingdom is not some utopia. The final world government will be at war with itself, hate the people it governs, etc.

Instead, torment for 5 months. Torment like a scorpion. Looked into this in the past, and that's as much info. Scorpion stings won't necessarily kill you but will hurt like crazy.

All sorts of full-body pain, torture. Will people see these locusts attacking them? Or will it be hidden from their blind spiritual eyes?

Will it be, the side-effect, if you will, of taking the mark? All is fine, then a little while later - torment. Vaccine hesitancy, right, do we really know if it's safe? It could be, but can we ever know this early, with the amount of deception, cover-up, forceful implementation. It's all very antichrist like in it's roll-out. Not saying the therapy itself is, although it is developed with the aid of murdered babies, but everything surrounding it certainly is.

This is one of the scariest verses...something that begs to at least think about and imagine how it plays out even though it's only a few words:

Rev 9:6 NKJV - In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them.

The torment will be so bad, people will want to die...they will seek death and not find it. So, are they trying to kill themselves and it's not working? Overdosing and having horrible bodily effects but not death?

Throwing themselves off buildings, in front of trains, but surviving the blunt-force trauma?
Shooting themselves in the head and being able to call 9-1-1 after?

This to me, is a bit of a Selah moment...stop, think, be silent.

Death will flee from them...Satan wants everyone to die (hence, the garden), he wants to drag people to hell and use them for his purposes. He'd happily kill every last one...but that authority isn't granted to him over his most devoted followers here...

:7-10

Locusts described

Like horses prepared for battle - covered with armor, battle dress and flags

Crowns on head shining something like gold

Faces like mens

Long women's hair

Teeth like lion's teeth

- See, these aren't grasshoppers

Iron-like armor

Sound of wings like many chariots

Tails like scorpions - stings in tails

When coming to the Lord I read revelation, and I used to try and imagine these like attack helicopters - tried to explain the spiritual picture physically. We have an army base here and blackhawks fly over on training missions all the time. But it's scarier than that or apaches or some future iteration. That is their appearance and they are no machine of human warfare

Joel 2:1-11 (if time, or for after)

Commentary: "a time of unprecedented demonic torment"

Revelation opens the window for us to see into the future - a time when everything spiritual is unveiled and unleashed. When the realms and dimensions split by the act in the garden come crashing back together. Things unseen are seen. Things sealed are loosed. Things prevented are no longer withheld.

:11-12

King over them - the angel of the pit Abaddon/Apollyon

Destruction/Destroyer

Obviously Satan is over all of them but there perhaps is some demonic general over this hoard.

Real Locusts have no king...

There is more to unpack from this section, I'm sure, with their description and symbology.

One woe is past, still two more!

Were the first 5 trumpets one woe, and the other two trumpets are equal (so-to-speak in woe-level) to those.

An exclamation of grief

The future is being billed to us as a place where "we'll own nothing and be happy"
But it'll be far from that. It will be such deep grief. The grief of death and torment. Of hell itself.
And I know it grieves God to have to do it, but he still does.

There are hard things in life that we will be called to do, not because we'll enjoy it, but because it's the right thing to do - and it will grieve us to do it. I'm sure those who administer the death penalty don't rejoice (other than justice being served) but have grief in the fact that so many events in that person's life led up to that very moment and justice must be administered.

Mat 11:20-24 NKJV - Then He began to rebuke the cities in which most of His mighty works had been done, because they did not repent: "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. "But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for you. "And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. "But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you."

The Day of Judgment is coming and it cannot be stopped. It will either be escaped (pre-trib saints), endured (trib saints and possibly unmarked) or an end (those who take the mark).

Jesus took the judgment on the cross - God does not want it for anyone. Yet, people will still choose this over trusting in God, even when it's obvious.

Heb 3:12-13 NKJV - Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Keep living for him. Keep telling others. Get up if you've fallen. Keep going. As believers this judgment is not for us. It was taken for us already.

The night is coming soon when no one can work.