***Prophecy Special - 9/11 - The Final Solution of God, No. 9

PS09***

We are speaking about the things from the book of the Revelation. It is a revelation from God of where history is going. It is true truth. These things are going to take place. The final judgment of God upon the world of Satan will come about in the seven-year tribulation era preceding the Second Coming of Christ to this earth. This is the same seven years as the 70th week of Daniel's revelation of 490 years to complete God's covenant fulfillment with Israel. During the first three-and-a-half years of the tribulation, the antichrist will be the ruler of a confederacy of ten nations over Western Europe. This will be the Roman Empire revived. The Jews will make a seven-year treaty of peace and protection with the antichrist which frees the Jews to rebuild their temple and resume the Mosaic Law system of worship. He will protect them from the communist world and from the Arabs. The first series of the tribulation judgments are in the form of seven seals. The Lord Jesus Christ breaks them open one at a time and the scroll is unrolled, and what is there is read and revealed.

This is literal. It is very hard to speak to people who want to adjust the thinking of God to human viewpoint. It is very hard to do, and it is very hard to have a conversation on one simple little basic fact that "Thus says the Lord." This is what the Bible says. The book of the Revelation is thrown out in most religious groups as being something so esoteric that it cannot be understood. Well, if you let it be understood in what the words mean, it's perfectly clear. It always interprets the symbols when those are used, right there in the context, or that same symbol is used someplace else in the Scripture. So we have a clue to what is going on. This simply means that you can't be a dummy about the Scriptures. You have to have the whole frame of reference. So you have to have somebody who can explain it who has gone through a theological background of the whole Scripture to get the frame of reference of what God is doing for Israel; what He's doing for the gentiles; what He's doing for the angels; and, what He's doing for the Christians. Those are the four main bodies that he deals with. They all end up in the book of the Revelation in the end times in their completed state.

In the previous session, we showed you the seal judgments which were the first thing brought from this scroll. We had this in Revelation 6. The first seal had a rider on a white horse. This was the antichrist imposing a false peace and safety on the era in which he lives, and particularly on Western Europe. The second seal, when it was broken, brought forth a rider on a red horse representing warfare in various parts of the world. The antichrist is trying to mute this. He's trying to get people to stop letting their old sin natures bring conflict between them. The third seal brings forth a rider on a black horse. Worldwide famine and inflation will run rampant. The fourth seal brings forth the rider on the ashen or the pale horse representing death. This includes death by wars; by famine; by violence; by disease; and, by animals.

This moves us to the point of the mid-tribulation and goes beyond. One of our athletic people corrected me when I was trying to figure out who the four horsemen of the apocalypse were in the athletic world. Of course, he was right. It was Notre Dame and Knute Rockne the coach who became famous with the four men at Notre Dame University on the field. They became known as the four horsemen of the apocalypse after the book of the Revelation.

Seal number five is the cry of the martyred tribulation believers because of their testimony for the Lord Jesus Christ. These are not church people. These are not Christians. These are people who were born again during the tribulation by information left behind, such as what is being recorded up in our audio recording room right now; the little booklets on evangelism; and, the Word of God in one way or another that people will have access to, not the least of which are the Bibles. Seal number six is havoc in nature from a huge earthquake; the sun darkened; the moon blood red; falling stars as meteors; the sky rolled back; and, the mountains and the islands in upheaval as the earth fault structures come into play, both under the seas and on the earth's surface.

In order to understand seal number seven, we need to understand the progression of the book of the Revelation. We need to get this straight. Seal number seven leads to the seven trumpet judgments. They are progressive. So at about seal number four, they get to about the midpoint of the tribulation. From then on, they're moving through the rest of the seven-year period. When we get down to the seven bowls, as we will see, it is so horrendous what is taking place that it has to be within the last few weeks, or month or two, before Christ returns and the battle of Armageddon takes place. Otherwise, there would be no humanity left alive on the face of the earth.

The effect of the seal judgments is that humanity of unsaved people are struck with terror, and they seek to hide themselves from God. They know who is doing these terrible things under these seal judgments, and terror will strike them. That's what's beginning by what happened on 9/11 with the terror activity, something the United States has never known before. This is going to be worldwide. The ecumenical church, under the false prophet, will rise to the zenith of its religious power over all mankind. All religious groups are brought together into one conglomerate. That will be in the first part, the first three-and-a-half years. When they get to the midpoint when, Satan makes the antichrist the ruler of all nations, then the ecumenical church, the woman who rides the beast, will be thrown off and destroyed, and the antichrist will set up his own religious system with the false prophet where the antichrist himself will be God.

Again, I remind you, this is where history is moving. This is the reality of the Word of God. This is the trouble with people trying to understand terrorism today. They do not understand the simple statement. It is a doctrine of Islam recorded in the Koran, and expanded in the traditions, the Hadith of Muhammad, that Christians and Jews are infidels, and if they will not convert to Islam, they are to be killed by the sword. Now, whatever you may want to do with it, and wherever you may want to apply that to the human situation today; to the social situation today; or, to the governmental situation today, that has nothing to do with the fact that this is what it is taught by Muhammad, the great and sacred prophet.

Muhammad is viewed by Muslims as a very holy person. When you have a chance to talk to Muslims, you will discover that they don't read the Koran. It's not like we read the Bible. It's a mishmash book. It was not put in an orderly way or a chronological way like the Bible begins with the beginning of Genesis, and then progresses in an orderly fashion to Revelation. You come from a start to an end. These things were written by Muhammad when he was under a hypnotic catatonic state, and it was written down on all kinds of materials. Then after his death, all of these pieces were collated together. The way they arranged them was that the longest revelations that the spirit world gave him were put first, and the shortest ones at the end. They have nothing do with one another.

So it's very easy to discredit Muhammad as one real all-time great con artists. But you have to be careful not to do that, because to the Muslim, he is a very holy man. As we know from the Word of God, because our frame of reference is the inerrant Scripture, that is nothing of the sort. So the book is confusing, and it makes the Lord Jesus Christ just a prophet. It denies that He is the son of God. It claims that the person who died on the cross was a look-alike. It claims that Christ never died and rose again; that He is dead; and, that He is not the living Christ. And you have to understand that most Muslims don't even know what their religion teaches.

So this whole religious system is moving toward the deification of man, and terror will be the technique that the antichrist uses to impose that kind of a religion on people. After all, what is the antichrist going to want you to believe? That he is God. He will also promise that following him, you are a potential God. That's exactly what Hinduism teaches today, and what Mormonism teaches. So you have to remember that the terror system that you see within the setup of Islam is the system that Satan is going to use with the antichrist.

So the false church dominates the antichrist's political powers as the Roman Catholic Church did in the Middle Ages. There are 144,000 Jewish evangelists, 12,000 from every tribe. One of our ladies was telling me how somebody told her there were only two tribes left--Judah and Benjamin, and that there were not 12 tribes. Well, that's ignorance, so you don't want to waste your time talking about that. The Bible shows us here that God knows the Jews who come from these 12 tribes, and their background, and they're still around. There'll be 12,000 of them. They will have a seal of God put upon them so they will not be able to be killed. They will be proclaiming the truth about the antichrist and about salvation through the grace of God. The communication media will be controlled by the antichrist through the U.N. They will give the impression that they are on top of things, and that they are dealing with these disasters of God.

So we come to the social outlook--the world at mid-tribulation. The northern confederacy of nations, led by Russia at the close of the first three-and-a-half years, will break out in affiliation with the Arabs into a war condition of attack upon Israel. What happens to Russia and her allies is described in Ezekiel 38-39, which is beyond our purview here. But you may read it, and you will see that fire from heaven comes down. Perhaps it's nuclear. And God destroys all of the troops brought against Israel; He protects the nation; and, only a sixth of them survive to get back to Russia.

**The Two Witnesses**

The antichrist now is confronted by the misery which has been dealt to him for three-and-a-half years by the two witnesses. It's only speculation as to who these people may be. There are two people in history who never died in the Old Testament history, and that is Enoch and Elijah. They went to heaven alive. Perhaps they are the two. Perhaps it's Moses and Elijah. We don't know. The point is they are human beings and they are invincible for the first three-and-a-half years. In Revelation 11:3, it is revealed to John, "I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days (that's three-and-a-half years), clothed in sackcloth." Sackcloth is a sign of mourning because their message is a message of doom. "These are the two olive trees and the two lamp stands that stand before the Lord of the earth." Olive in the Scriptures stands as a symbol for God the Holy Spirit. These men are lamp stands, so to speak, who are illuminated by the oil of the Holy Spirit. Their message is true.

Verse 5: "If anyone desires to harm them, fire proceeds out of their mouth and devours their enemy." This is one blast of halitosis if you ever saw one. People find very quickly that fooling around with these two gentlemen is not a good idea. If anyone would desire to harm them, he is killed in this manner. It's just a blast of fire that comes out of their mouths, like two dragons. They are invincible. People begin to suspect that these two guys have something from higher up than anything that's going on in the world of the antichrist.

Verse 6: "These have the power to shut up the sky in order that rain may not fall during the days of their prophecy." There is no rain for three-and-a-half years. "And they have power over the waters to turn them into blood, to smite the earth with every plague as often as they desire." They do exactly that. These, of course, are plagues like what has happened in the past. This was done by Moses; smiting the earth; turning the water into blood; and, bringing plagues upon the Egyptians. The whole point of this is that the antichrist can't control this. He can't stop them. He can't control them. He can mute the news coverage of them, but he cannot stop what they are doing. They are invincible. Anybody who gets close to try to take hold of them will be killed. The result is that it's very embarrassing to the antichrist, showing that he is not in charge. That is not a good thing for someone who is a god.

"When they had finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them and overcome them and kill them." Finally, the antichrist, the beast, comes out of the abyss. The abyss is in the center of the earth. It's the realm of demonic spirits. This is probably, in all likelihood, where hell will exist. But in any case, he comes up, and this man, empowered by Satan, finally is permitted by God to kill the two witnesses. This sends a moment of thrill and joy: "Our man, our leader, really is a god."

Verse 8: "And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city, which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also the Lord was crucified." These witnesses had a spectacular ministry during the first part of the tribulation. They will now be killed by the antichrist, and their bodies will be left in the street on display in the city of Jerusalem for three-and-a-half days. And the people of the tribulation will rejoice over what has happened to these two witnesses of God. This is history. This is a preview of history--the prophetic truth that is going to be fulfilled.

Verse 9: "And those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations will look at their dead bodies (very easy for television to do) for three-and-a-half days, and will not permit their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb." The antichrist will say, "Let them lie there in the street. Let them lie there on that street in Jerusalem. Don't scrape them up. Just keep the cameras on them. Well, that's a bad mistake, as he will discover.

"And those who dwell on the earth." That, again, I remind you, is a technical term for unbelievers. "Those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and make merry, and they will send gifts to one another because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth." They had tormented unbelievers. So they decide to have Christmas, a big Christmas party, a big celebration party. They give gifts to one another to celebrate this wonderful event--that the mouths of these two men of God have been silenced. This is what the unbeliever (or the carnal Christian) always wants to do. He wants to silence the mouth of the person who speaks from the frame of reference of Scripture. He wants to direct us away from the frame of reference of the argument of the realities of the truth, the authority that only the Bible bears upon it--the stamp that it's a book that men could not have written. It had to be under divine guidance. Therefore, in contrast to all other religious writings, it is the Word of God.

Verse 11: "After three-and-a-half days, the breath of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell upon those who were beholding them." The TV cameras are going.

It was very much like the coverage of 9/11. I happened to come from the teachers' prayer meeting when the first tower had been hit in New York City. Mrs. Danish said, "Look at this." I looked, and it wasn't but a few minutes later when there came the other plane around, and while we were standing there looking at it, we see the second tower hit. And not long after that, we see the crumbling of the first tower. Then after that, the crumbling of the second tower; the pandemonium; the turmoil; and, the fear on the faces of people down there on the street.

Well, this is what they're going to have. Suddenly, as they're having a party over the death of these two men, now they see them come back to life. This is something the antichrist can't do. He can fake things, but he cannot actually give the breath of life.

"And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, 'Come up here.' And they went up into heaven in the cloud, and their enemies beheld them." If the antichrist wants to imitate something, let him try that. Jesus Christ went up into a cloud that took him out of the people's sight. Now his servants are taken into His presence in the same way. Millions of people will hear this voice from heaven, and they'll record it.

Furthermore, in that hour, at that very moment, as they're rising to go to heaven, verse 13 says, "There was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city of Jerusalem collapses. 7,000 people will be killed in the earthquake and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the god of heaven." They begin to get it--what is actually happening.

At the midpoint that we have reached here in the tribulation, in Chapter 17, we see that at this point the antichrist destroys the ecumenical church. Revelation 17:16: "And the ten horns which you saw and the beast (that's the antichrist and the ten nations associated with him), these will hate the harlot" (the ecumenical church). So you can have an ecumenical service, but God says it's a service of harlotry; spiritual adultery; and, spiritual fornication. It is totally condemned by God. You don't mix believers and unbelievers in one pot. "The ten horns which you saw and the beast (the antichrist and these ten nations) will hate the harlot and make her desolate and naked, and will eat her flesh, and will burn her up with fire." They turn against the ecumenical church, and they destroy this system. So the antichrist can set himself up in the temple, his own image, and become the head of his own religious system. At this point, in order to do this, he turns against the Jews.

Jesus pointed this out in Matthew 24:15: "Therefore, when the abomination of desolation." Now since we have been back in Daniel 9, we know now what the abomination of desolation is. It is the image of the antichrist in the temple of the Jews in Jerusalem purporting to be their God. "When you see the abomination of desolation which was spoken of through Daniel." That happens at the mid-tribulation, through Daniel the prophet. "Standing in the holy place, let the reader understand."

This is further expanded in 2 Thessalonians 2:4. In the context, this is speaking of the antichrist: "Who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called God or object of worship" So he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.

So the false prophet sets up a whole new religious system where the antichrist himself will be in the temple of the Jews in Jerusalem, that has been rebuilt, to be worshipped. When the antichrist is not on the scene (because he is not omnipresent--he's a human being), his image will be there with lifelike qualities to impress the people who come by in order that they may worship that. The false prophet is in control of this religious system in behalf of the antichrist. We looked at this last time in Revelation 13:11-18.

Well, now something else takes place. In Revelation 12:12, things begin coming apart in Satan's plan, and in the antichrist's program in one way or another. In Revelation 12:12, there is a great battle. The final battle of the angelic warfare takes place in outer space. It is Michael and the holy angels against Satan and his evil angels. The devil loses. Michael and his angels defeat Satan and his demons.

Verse 12 says, "For this reason, rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them." Well, who is dwelling in in those heavens at this time? The Christians are all in heaven now. The believers from all ages are in heaven. "Woe to the earth and the sea." We'll see what kind of woe comes upon the earth and upon the sea. "Because the devil has come down to you having great wrath, knowing that he has only a short time." Now, what do you think that means? The devil knows most everything. He has a great intelligence system and great knowledge. He was the wisest, smartest creature that God ever made, and he still is. What he knows is the timetable. He knows what we're learning here. He knows what the book of the Revelation has revealed. When he loses this battle with the angels of God, he is thrown out of heaven.

Jesus said, "I saw Satan cast down from heaven." Jesus was previewing what he knew was going to happen. Now, Satan can no longer go to accuse the believers in heaven. He no longer has access to the throne room of God. And he has only a short time. He figures it out. He's a good Bible student. He knows he's got three-and-a-half years left that God has allotted him to run rampant. So he knows that that's all the time he has now. By this time, he knows that he can't win. So what can he do? He can frustrate.

The Battle of the Bulge in World War II was the final effort of Hitler and the Nazi armies. The Nazis were finally stopped by General Patton, who made a marvelous 180-degree turn of his Seventh Army, and came charging back down to Bastogne and broke through the lines to relieve General McAuliffe. Bastogne was a critical city. It was the crossroads that the Germans had to have to go on to try to get to the coast, which was their objective, and to divide the allies in half. That would just break up the whole advance that had been made thus far.

When the word came back to Hitler that Patton had defeated them, he knew that the party was over. So from then on, he was pulling his troops back to Germany, and he was ordering a scorched earth policy. He even ordered that all of Paris be burned to the ground. The Louvre and the priceless pictures and objects of art that were there were to be destroyed. He put in charge a general that he considered the most reliable, who always obeyed his orders precisely. But this one time, the general could not do it. He just could not destroy a cultural city of such fame as Paris. And he disobeyed. This was an act of God to save the city.

But the devil goes to a scorched earth policy to destroy as much as he can before God fulfills the final three-and-a-half years of His covenant with Israel. He finishes the 490 years, and thus restores to Israel all her covenant blessings and promises. Under her Messiah Savior Jesus Christ, Israel becomes the leading nation of the world; Jerusalem is the capital of the world; and, her 1,000-year kingdom begins. Satan empowers the antichrist. He forms that false trinity: Satan; the antichrist; and, the false prophet. The antichrist keeps trying to keep the spirits of the world up. But he attacks with a vengeance the people of God.

Revelation 12:17: "And the dragon was enraged with the woman (with Israel) and went off to make war with the rest of her offspring." There is a great outburst of anti-Semitism. "Who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus." He wants to destroy Israel, and to oppose the Christians. He blasphemes God, as we saw in Revelation 13:5-7 as never before. The false prophet himself has great demonic satanic powers, occult powers, as we saw in Revelation 13:13-15. He still awes the world with these events; these deceptions; these signs and wonders; and, miracles. Well, the satanic trinity is the devil's final attempt to bring order to the human relationship that the old sin nature has been tearing up for him.

**Socialism**

At the heart of it is socialism. Socialism is in the government. This is socialism of the government controlling the lives of people, and bringing peace, safety, order, and prosperity. It now reaches its peak. Socialism is not dead now. It's alive and well. The world international economic control will require taking the mark of the beast (Revelation 13:16-17). Without that mark, you cannot buy and you can't sell anything.

**The Seven Trumpets**

So we are now at mid-term, and we move into the last half of the seven-year tribulation period. It now comes about that out of the last seal begins the seven-trumpet judgments. So we begin here in Revelation 8:6: "And the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound." They pucker the lips; they moisten their lips; they blow out a little bit in the mouthpiece; and, they get ready to sound off one-at-a-time. Boy, when they blow a trumpet, big stuff really happens. Bigger than anything that Satchmo was ever able to do on a trumpet.

**The First Trumpet**

Trumpet number one is revealed in verse seven: "The first sounded, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the earth was burned up; a third of the trees were burned up; and, all the green grass was burned up." Hail, fire, blood and a third of vegetation burned up. You can play with those words all you want. They mean what they say. The book of the Revelation is not some esoteric book that you can't understand. It's only if you mess it up by not allowing the words to say what they mean.

This trumpet is sounded, and God reigns down hail and fire mixed with blood; it splatters all over the streets; it splatters all over the people below; it splatters all over their houses and their lawns; and, a third of the earth is burned up. A third of the trees burn; and, a third of the green vegetation is burned up.

**The Second Trumpet**

In verse 8, trumpet number two is blown. Something like a great mountain (a great mass from outer space) burning with fire was thrown into the sea; and a third part of the sea turns to blood." A blazing meteor-like thing falls into the sea. A third of it turns to blood.

Verse 9 says when that it hits, it creates a tidal wave condition; "A third of the creatures which were in the sea and had life, they die." Naturally, they can't live in blood. A third of the ships were destroyed by this tidal wave condition that has been created.

Now, all of this is being reported in some way or another, like on the nightly news. It's going to happen. And the terror is mounting beyond anything people can imagine. Those who have been instructed in the Word of God; who are reading the Word of God; or, those who are studying to this sermon out there in the tribulation will know what's happening. They know where all this is moving. They've got it together. They know that they're going to probably end up as martyrs. But some of them will survive in the seclusion of Petra, in the mountain enclave that the Jews will rush to.

**The Third Trumpet**

Angel number three steps up with his trumpet. Revelation 8:10: "The third angel sounded. A great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch. It fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water." This star from heaven hits the freshwater areas, the rivers and the springs, and it poisons them.

Verse 11: "The name of the star is call Wormwood." Wormwood is a bitter and a caustic and a toxic substance. "A third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the waters because they were made bitter." People in their desperation and their thirst will just drink whatever they have to. They'll drink the blood in the water, and they'll drink this poison water in desperation. People sometimes are adrift at sea in a lifeboat. When in their desperation, they drink saltwater, and that's deadly.

**The Fourth Trumpet**

Then comes trumpet number four in verse 12: "And the fourth angel sounded, and a third of the sun and a third of the moon and a third of the stars were smitten. So a third of them might be darkened and the day might not shine for a third of it. The night in the same way." What this is saying is that the sun, the moon, and the stars are darkened so that their daily cycles of light are disrupted for a third of the time. The result is catastrophic upon this earth.

God created the earth exactly the right distance from the sun, so it's not too cold, and not too hot. Life can survive. Some parts of it are very cold. Some parts of the equator are very hot, but they are survivable. You could not have very much difference in the earth's distance from the sun without having everything collapse here in the nature that is on earth; the structure; the life forms; and, the whole bit. So here, a third of the sun is out, and a third of the moon is out. Light is denied this earth.

**The Fifth Trumpet**

First of all, please notice Revelation 8:13, "I looked and I heard an eagle flying in the mid heaven saying with a loud voice, 'Woe, woe, woe, to those who dwell on the earth,'" the unbelievers. Three woes are to come, "Because the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound." As if you haven't had enough trouble now, the angel says, "Now the bad part begins."

So here we go with trumpet number five. We're talking about locusts here who, in fact, are demons. And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star from heaven which had fallen to the earth, and a key to the bottomless pit which was given to him." This star is undoubtedly Satan. He is given the key to the bottomless pit, and he opens the bottomless pit, the doorway to the center of the earth. "Smoke went up out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace." Naturally, the inside of the center of the earth is a great cauldron of heat and molten lava. "The sun and the air were darkened by the smoke of the pit, and out of the smoke came forth locusts." These undoubtedly are demonic spirits. "They came out upon the earth. Power was given to them as the scorpions of the earth have power." They have the power to kill.

If you've ever had the sting of a scorpion, it is pretty startling. It's a jolt. And you know that something has hit you. So here in verse 4, "They were told that they should not hurt the grass or the earth (the things that locusts would normally go after), or any green thing, nor any tree, but only the men who do not have the seal of God on their forehead." This is the seal of God the Holy Spirit that they are believers. "And they were not permitted to kill anyone, but to torment for five months. Their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it stings a man." They will not attack the vegetation. They will only go after people who have the mark of the beast. The people are unable to escape their agony by suicide. They will try to get away from this. For five months, the people of the antichrist's world are under the agony of these creatures which are stinging them and causing great pain and great agony. They want suicide, but they cannot kill themselves.

In Matthew 24:21, Jesus, says "And then there will be such great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall be." Jesus is talking about the mid-tribulation when these creatures are turned loose. They're going to give a new meaning to suffering.

Revelation 9:7: "The appearance of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle, and on their heads, as it were, crowns like gold. Their faces were like the faces of men. They had hair like the hair of women, and their teeth were like teeth of lions. They had breastplates like breastplates of iron. The sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots of many horses rushing to battle." It's hard to know what all this means, but it certainly sounds like Halloween. These locusts are going to have a very grotesque appearance--these demonic creatures.

Verse 10: "They have tails like scorpions, and stings, and in their tails is their power to hurt men for five months." There's no point in trying to speculate whether these are some kind of military machines. We have no way of knowing that. But coming from the middle of the earth, the abode of the demonic world, they're probably demons.

Verse 11: "They have as king over them the angel of the abyss. His name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in Greek, it is Apollyon." That's Satan. He is their king. These two names mean "destroyer." "Abaddon" in the Hebrew is "destroyer." "Apollyon" in Greek is "destroyer." So this clearly refers to Satan, who is the leader of the demonic angels. Verse 12 says, "The first is passed. Behold, two woes are still coming after these things."

**The Sixth Trumpet**

So we hit the sounding of trumpet number six. Revelation 9:13: "The sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar, which is before God (the heavenly altar), one saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, 'Release the four angels who are bound at the river Euphrates." These four angels, by what they do, will be proven to be four demons. They are demons who have been held in the territory of the Euphrates River, ready to be turned loose for this sixth trumpet judgment of God. "And the four angels (the four demons), who had been prepared for the hour, the day, the month, and the year were released so they might kill a third of mankind." They are specifically here sent by God, and released by God to destroy one third of mankind.

In the fourth seal, one-fourth of the world's population was killed. Of the 75% that are left, a third of that is killed. That makes half the world's population of over 6 billion people who are now dead by the sixth year of the tribulation. Over 3 billion people have been killed. A billion is a number that's very hard for us to comprehend. It's a thousand millions. It's an enormous number. The death will be fantastic all over the world.

"The number of the armies of the horsemen coming across was 200 million. I heard the number of them. This is how I saw in the vision," John says, "the horses and those who sat on them. The riders had breastplates the color of fire and of hyacinth and brimstone, and the heads of the horses were like the heads of lions. Out of their mouths proceed fire and smoke and brimstone." Here again, we can only speculate whether these are some kind of military machines. But the point is that death is going to be commonplace, and it's going to be fantastically horrible. You can imagine the burial detail that you're going to need for this kind of an operation.

So verse 13 said that a third of mankind was killed by these 3 plagues: by the fire; the smoke; and, the brimstone which proceeded out of the mouth of these angels. "For the power of the horses is in their mouths and their tails. Their tails are like serpents and have heads, and with them they do harm. The rest of mankind who are not killed by these plagues (from these four angels--demons who were released) did not repent of the works of their hands so as to worship demons and the idols of gold and silver and brass and stone of wood, which can neither see nor here nor walk." Can you believe it? These people, unbelievers, see this happening under this suffering. What do they do? They still do not submit to the Lord Jesus Christ. "They did not repent of their murders nor their sorceries." By the way, that's the Greek word "pharmakeia" for drug and drug addiction. That's what sorceries are. They worship demons through drugs. "And of their immorality, nor of their thefts." Isn't that interesting? Stealing is one of the great things. Well, you can see how in this desperate time, people are going to do whatever they have to try to survive.

**The Seventh Trumpet**

Then comes trumpet number seven at Revelation 11:15. We've had the seals. The seventh seal brought us seven trumpets. The seventh trumpet will bring us seven bowls. This is down within the last two months or a few weeks before the end of the seven-year tribulation period. This is because, as you'll see now, what is going to be done is so devastating that all humanity would be killed if God did not step in and shorten this period.

Revelation 11:15-19: "And the seventh angel sounded (blew his trumpet), and their rose loud voices in heaven, saying, 'The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever.' And the 24 elders (representing the church) who sit on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshipped God, saying, 'We give you thanks, O, Lord God, the Almighty who is and who was because You have taken Your great power and have begun to reign.' And the nations were enraged and Your wrath came, and the time came for the dead to be judged, and the time to reward Your bond servants the prophets and the saints and those who fear Your name, the small and the great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth."

Isn't that interesting? Here at the end, we're going to close it down now. God says, "Christians, I haven't forgotten what you've done. You're going to be rewarded." This business of rewards is what our life is all about. We plead for people to do certain Christian service activities (who could do it). But we excuse ourselves for a lot of trivialities that don't matter in the long run. It's just that the heart is not there to do it. But God says, "It will be a time to give rewards to His bond servants."

**The Seven Bowls**

Verse 19: "And the Temple of God which is in heaven was opened, and the ark of His covenant appeared in His temple. There were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder and an earthquake and a great hailstorm." So now we begin closing it down with the seven bowl judgments. This is the closing weeks or days of the tribulation. It is shortened so as not to terminate all human life, or there wouldn't be anybody to go into the millennial kingdom. For the bowl judgments, we have to go over to Revelation 16:1: The first one says, "And I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, 'Go and pour out your seven bowls of the wrath of God onto the earth." God's wrath has been held back, but no more. Now, all of these smart mouths that you see on the nightly news, and the commentators on television are going to stand there, and they're going to be shocked by the horror of what they're experiencing, and they won't be able to do a thing about. The liberals are going to find out how very wrong they were. They should have believed the Bible.

**The First Bowl**

Revelation 16:2: "So the first angel went and poured out his bowl onto the earth, and it became a loathsome and malignant sore upon the men who had the mark of the beast and who worshipped his image." The people of the antichrist have running, festering, putrid sores. One of the things of the Christian who is spiritually mature (a Christian who is a spiritual Christian) is that has as a promise from God of good health--physical well-being. If you want to follow the antichrist, you'll be covered with these putrid sores.

**The Second Bowl**

Bowl number two is in Revelation 16:3: "The second angel poured out his bowl into the sea. It became blood like that of a dead man, and every living thing in the sea died." Salt water areas are turned to blood, bringing death to all the marine life. That's the source of a lot of food gone right there.

**The Third Bowl**

Bowl number three: "And the third angel poured out his bowl into the rivers, the springs of water, and they became blood." Now God hits the fresh water areas so that the people who were very happy to shed the blood of the saints can now drink blood that they were so eager to shed.

Verse 5: "And I heard the angel of the water saying, 'Righteous are you, who are and who were, O Holy One, because You judged these things (that's the Lord Jesus Christ); for they poured out the blood of saints and prophets, and You have given them blood to drink. They deserve it.' And I heard the altar saying, 'Yes, O Lord God, the Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments.'"

**The Fourth Bowl**

Verse 8, bowl number four: "The fourth angel poured out his bowl upon the sun, and it was given to it to scorch men with fire; and men were scorched with fierce heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has the power over these plays. They did not repent so as to give Him glory." The sun is scorched. Mankind is burned because the whole system in nature is disrupted. What do they do? They curse. They blaspheme God. These people have the mark of the beast upon them. They can never be saved. And they do not repent. What are they going to do when they get over to the other side in the lake of fire? They are going to be fully conscious in their physical bodies with the old sin nature still there. Yes, the rebellion will be there. In hell they will be looking up, shaking their fists at God, and cursing Him as they ride in the agony of the judgment that was upon them. They're going to do this in the tribulation. It'll be a preview of what they're willing to do for all eternity rather than submit to the Lord Jesus Christ.

**The Fifth Bowl**

Bowl number five is in Revelation 16:10: "And the fifth angel poured out his bowl upon the throne of the beast, the antichrist. His kingdom became darkened. They gnawed their tongues because of pain, and they blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores. And they did not repent of their deeds." They are still cursing God. They are covered with darkness. Their suffering the pain, and they can't see their hands in front of their face. If they don't have some artificial light, they can hardly even get about.

**The Sixth Bowl**

Then comes the sixth bowl" The sixth angel poured out his bowl upon the great river, the river Euphrates. Its water was dried up, and the way would be prepared for the kings from the east." This river dries up. The Oriental armies of 200 million men cross over to Palestine for the showdown on the plain of Armageddon, the plain of Megiddo. I have been above the heights of the plain of Megiddo. I've stood there and looked down upon this great plain, "Harmagedon" in the Greek, which means "the hill of Megiddo," which is "Armageddon." There is where the final battles are going to take place. These are real places. These are not like the Book of Mormon--made up things that don't exist.

**The Seventh Bowl**

Finally, bowl number 7 in Revelation 16:17-21: "And the seventh angel poured out his bowl upon the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne saying, 'It is done.' These seven bowl judgments, as you can see, are so horrendous that all human life would be wiped out if the time wasn't limited for these judgments. And God says, "Now I have passed the judgments that I have warned would come. The decree is finished." Verse 18: "There were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder. There was a great earthquake such as has not been since man came to be upon the earth. So great an earthquake was it, and so mighty. And the great city (this is Babylon, rebuilt now by Saddam Hussein, where the headquarters of the antichrist will be) was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath."

All the evil and false religion has come from the Tower of Babel in the city of Babylon. It all comes back to rest upon her, and the wrath of God is poured out upon this city at the very end. The voice from heaven announces the end of the tribulation judgments. A worldwide gigantic earthquake takes place, greater than any in the history of the world. Babylon itself is split into three, and collapses. There are great atmospheric disturbances, and political and ecclesiastical Babylon, headquartered there, are destroyed.

Verse 20 says, "And every island fled away and the mountains were not found." The islands and the mountains disappeared. Verse 21: "And huge hailstones, about 100 pounds each, came down from heaven upon men. And men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail because this plague was extremely severe." These are hail stones 100 pounds in weight. Do you realize what that means? It's not just one or two, but a regular hailstone shower of stones of that weight. Whatever is left is going to be smashed, living or material.

Civilization has now reached its end under Satan. It all comes into shambles. The curse of God is there, and these people are eternally unrepentant. What is taking place in the terror attacks like 9/11, and the fear and lack of peace and uncertainty that is permeating the American republic is a preview (the beginning) of all of this that we have seen revealed to Daniel in his final week of God's dealing with his people, Israel.

Following this event, the Lord Jesus Christ comes from heaven in His Second Coming. We return with Him. He takes over the world, reorganizes it with our direction and administration, and a new world begins. It is an era of 1,000 years of peace. The greatest opportunity of mankind; the greatest inventions; and, the greatest forward progress far beyond anything we can imagine now will take place. But it will be a great time. You and I will be right at the very center of it. That's good news.

Dr. John E. Danish, 2002

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