***Drug Usage

RV142-01***

Please open your Bibles to Revelation 8:7 through Revelation 9:21. Our subject is "The Trumpets of Doom." This is segment number 9.

**The Sixth Trumpet**

We are currently studying the sixth trumpet judgment which has been released during the tribulation era upon mankind. When this trumpet is sounded, an army of 200 million horsemen is turned loose from the Euphrates River. The riders upon these horses are human, but the horses themselves, we found, are demon-possessed. Consequently, these horses have a distorted, frightful appearance – something totally unnatural. Furthermore, the horses have mouths like the mouths of lions, and out of these mouths come fire, smoke, and brimstone with which they inflict death upon millions of people. The tails of these horses end in serpent heads so that they inflict great suffering on people by means of these tails.

Well, this weird army of 200 million horsemen, we are told, will at that time kill one-third of mankind which is left on the earth at this point in time. ... This is the execution of God – removing unbelievers from the earth in preparation for the Millennial Kingdom, which begins with all believers only. What this means is that, up to this time, there has now been a total of 50% destruction of humanity on the face of the earth since the tribulation began. At this point in time, we are well past the middle of the seven-year period, and we are coming down to the final years in this period.

The survivors on the earth at that time, one would think, would have learned some very important lessons concerning their thinking about God; about the Bible; and, their attitudes toward what they know about Him. However, amazingly, John points out to us, as he watches this scene, that those who have survived alive on this earth after this tremendous slaughter do not repent of their New Age evils, and they do not turn in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation. That is very hard to believe, but we must remind ourselves that the Bible makes it very clear that nobody turns to God unless God Himself draws that person to Himself. Nobody seeks out God. The Bible is very clear that everyone seeks his own way, and everybody ignores God by nature. It is only when God the Holy Spirit reaches down and pulls the person out of that mass of decaying, dying humanity, and makes a trophy of grace out of him by regeneration.

**Murder**

So, these people, by and large, have been left to the consequences of their own sin as they have exercised their own wills. They continue, we are told, to worship the idols which they have created for themselves. These idols, of course, represent demons, and those demons do operate through these idols. They operate under satanic control and human viewpoint, so these people simply refuse to cease and to desist from their various acts of murder. So, the earth now becomes one huge slaughterhouse, adding to the destruction of mankind.

**Capital Punishment**

No doubt at this time, capital punishment will have been outlawed, so there will be no exercise of justice against crime, and no way of permanently stopping a murderer. Governments themselves, of course, will, as governments have in the past, be the leaders in murder. They will use this as a means like Soviet Russia and other communist countries do today. They simply use the means of murder as silencing those who oppose their tyranny, and those who long for freedom, and object to what is being done to them. So, governments will be among the most prominent murderers on the earth at that time.

**Abortion**

Of course, the murder of abortion will by this time have reached flood tide proportions.

The toleration of premeditated murder always invites national disaster and destruction by divine judgment. God is very clear about this – that any nation which will not exercise justice toward premeditated murder will go just so far in spilling blood, and then the earth itself, using the poetical description of Scripture, will vomit them out, and the nation will be destroyed. That has historically happened many times.

**Drugs**

So, now we direct your attention to Revelation 9:21, where we read, "Neither repented they of their murders." And secondly, we read, "Nor of their sorceries." The Greek word for "sorceries" is "pharmakei." The word "pharmakei" refers to black magic arts of the occult world. The word is related to the drugs which are used in black magic rituals. You can see, of course, that this is where we get our English word "pharmacy," which has to do with drugs. In the end times, we are being told that the drug culture will overwhelm humanity. Drugs will be rampant in societies all over the world. That's very easy for us to understand today – that it was not so easy for us to understand in times past.

Drugs open the mind and the body to demonic influences. Therefore, the increased use of drugs today has been accompanied by an upsurge in witchcraft; in spiritism; and, in Eastern mysticism. These go together. The reason we have so much occult practice, and the reason we have so much probing into the demonic world in one way or another is because of the rampant use of drugs in this country.

So, what this word indicates is that there will be a widespread use of drugs in the tribulation. No doubt, early on, these will have been legalized, if it hasn't happened before then, so they will be more readily available to anyone who wants to buy them. This indeed is a means for contacting a supernatural realm beyond the realm of man. This supernatural realm that drugs bring you into contact with is Satan and his demons. Primitive societies in our day practice this very thing. They know that through the use of drugs, they can go beyond their human consciousness, and move out into a room that brings them into touch with great, powerful spirit beings.

The spirit of the tribulation is going to be the spirit of maximum sensuality in rebellion against God. So, the drugs will create an experience that will carry one beyond reason. The hope for all this is that a lot of these people simply do not have any meaning to life. So, people very naturally are trying to figure out, "What am I doing? What is the purpose of my getting up in the morning? Why do I go out to work to earn money so I can get food and shelter and clothes? Why do I go out to work and get more of that stuff? What's the purpose of life?" Without the guidance of the Word of God to orient you to what God has in mind for your particular life, you are out there drifting loose. These people turn to drugs, as people do today – to find some reality beyond the human realm.

The horrors of the plagues of the tribulation will themselves drive unbelievers to try to find relief in drugs. You can imagine, with the suffering that's going on, drugs will be a natural thing that people will turn to for release. Of course, it's going to be a time of enormous profit for pushers. It is a great profit for drug dealers today.

I saw a tape of a drug dealer that he made about himself. He was a pusher in New York. When he was raided, the police picked up the tape, and they played it on TV. Here he is in his kitchen with his table piled high with money. He's counting it, and putting it into packages. He has enormous sums of money. He's just singing and having a wonderful time as he's counting it. He has this money piled high in laundry baskets. So, he finishes counting. He says, "Now that's an even pile. Now, what should I do with the rest in the basket here?" He says, "Awe, let's give it to the poor. We don't need it. We have another million dollars upstairs."

So, what is taking place today is going to be widespread because of the enormous profit to be found in drugs.

Well, drug addiction in the United States is known to everybody, and it is having its destructive and deadly effects. For this reason, even in the government (which generally is not the most perceptive area of human existence), there are some people that have finally put two and two together, and said, "The way to stop this is to apply capital punishment to anybody caught selling drugs illegally." But up to now, the politicians have protected the pushers, and therefore, this ultimate restraint of capital punishment has been denied society.

However, demons work through drugs, because they do provide superhuman powers that makes them very attractive to unbelievers. The unsaved users of drugs, however, face a very grim future. One of the very special places reserved in the lake of fire is for drug dealers. Revelation 22:15 makes that very clear when it says, "For outside of heaven are dogs and sorcerers" (drug dealers) – those who are pushers of drugs in connection with demonic activity.

**The Angelic Warfare**

So, when we read in Revelation 9:21 that these people did not repent of their sorceries, it is telling us that they did not change their mind about their drug dealings, but more important, perhaps, is the fact that they did not change their mind about the contact with the demon world into which that drug dealer brought them. So, for a moment, let's pause and review the nature of the angelic warfare that we are engaged in.

**Angels**

As you know, Satan is directing a war against God, and he does this through his demon angels. The demon angels are rational beings. They do exist, and they never die. Angels, both elect and evil, have the qualities of soul that we do, which means that they have minds; they have wills; and, they have emotions. Colossians 1:16 tells us that the Lord Jesus Christ originally created all of these angelic beings. A large number of them, perhaps as many as a third of them, rebelled against God, and are now the demon angels that follows Satan. These angels do have a body. It's made up of a light substance, but it is very real, and it can appear in a variety of forms. They have speech, and they are not limited in their movement, either to time, material, or space.

We're told in the Word of God that angels have been created in an order of being slightly above man, as man has been created above animals. Psalm 8:4-5 tell us that God created man a little lower on the scale than angel beings. For that reason, angels have certain powers that we do not have. You and I cannot walk through a brick wall. Angels can. You and I cannot zap around from one place to another instantaneously as angels can. We have restrictions upon us. But I do remind you, at the same time, that positionally in Christ, we are already above the angels, and in time we will be able to do all those things as well that the angels do.

Angels are invisible to the human eye. The reason for this is that they would be worshiped. We're told this in Colossians 2:18. We find this about the apostle John in Revelation 22, where, when he sees an angel, he cannot resist the inclination to worship the angel, and he has to be told to stop it. So, angels are very impressive creatures.

Since Satan and the demons are an unseen enemy, they are very hard for us to deal with, and they are very hard to get people to take seriously. That's why we have jokes such as "the devil made me do it,' which means that they're just making fun of the idea that there is a devil around to make anybody do anything. That's because they are unseen. But the Bible makes it clear that, at the same time that the bad angels are unseen, we must remind ourselves that the good angels are also unseen. The Word of God tells us that when two or three people gather in Christ's name in study of the Word of God, which is the way we worship God, that the angels are present. They are here in this room. The angels are here, and they are delighted in what is going on?

Angels are in a rather military-like organization, which means that they hold various ranks. As you know, in the military structure, with your rank, you also carries certain powers, privileges, and authority. Colossians 1:16 and Ephesians 6:12 tell us that that is the same structure among angels. So, that's why some angels have a lot more power than other angels do. The archangel, which is now Michael (it used to be Satan), has the most power of anybody. He is the supreme power authority.

The demons, however, have retained all this power structure that they had before they sinned. And they have all the abilities, and worse than that, they have all the smarts and wisdom that they had before they fell (before they sinned). The only thing is that they now direct this capacity toward evil and against God.

So, what we're saying is that you and I, every hour of the day, are surrounded by demons. We have pretty strong indication in the Word of God that you do indeed have a guardian angel. There's no question about that. There is a pretty good indication in the Word of God that you also have a demon angel assigned to you to work the other side of the fence. Satan is not omnipresent. He is limited to one place at a time, just as you and I are. For that reason, he has to do his work through agents, human and demonic.

**Tongues**

We live in the intensified stage of the angelic warfare with the forces of evil. One of the evidences for this today is the outburst in the last 20 years of the prominence (actually since 1951), when it began in an Episcopalian church in Van Nuys, California, when the bishop stood up and told people that he had now spoken in tongues in his private study. He wasn't talking about the tongues of the New Testament, which is speaking in foreign languages that exists, which one doesn't know, but that he caught himself turning loose and babbling in his study. So he announced that he had spoken in tongues. With that began what we call today the charismatic movement, in contrast to the previous Pentecostal or Holy Rollers, as they were known. The holy rollers did not wear ties. They did not wear good suits. They wear blue jeans and boots to church, and even their mothers wore army boots. So, it was a very humble kind of folks. But charismatics have dolled it all up. Therefore, they bear a great deal more impact of dignity, like they are really in the mainstream of Christianity, which, unfortunately, they are not.

So, what I'm saying is that one of the evidences of the enormous demonic activity which has increased in our day, and in part, because of the turning loose of demons with greater capacity and freedom because of the drug culture, we have speaking in tongues as one of the evidences of the increase in demonic intensified activity in the angelic warfare. Part of the demonic counterattack in the angelic warfare is the tongues movement.

The demons do everything they can to avoid what God has promised to do in Hebrews 10:13, where He has said that He is going to make all of the demonic world the footstool of Jesus Christ. Therefore, Operation Footstool is what they hate and they fear enormously. They are doing everything they can to give people the impression that they can approach God, and that they have a relationship with God, which is totally false. So, the demons are trying to frustrate God's plan by giving receptive people experiences and ecstatics that they believe come from God, when in fact, these experiences are the products of their old sin nature, or the direct production of demonic powers themselves.

These participants in such movements as the charismatic movement think that they are having rich spiritual experiences with God, but the fact that they practice the babbling of tongues is a sure sign of carnality in the soul, and it is a sure sign of broken temporal fellowship. Anytime you hear someone stand up and babble in the so-called tongues of today, whatever else you know about that person, you do know that, if he is a Christian, and he could be, you know this about him: he is out of temporal fellowship. He is totally out of touch with the guidance of God the Holy Spirit. He's out there working on his own, being manipulated by his the devil. Tongues today is strictly of Satan, and any believer or unbeliever who falls for that is a dupe of the devil.

Those who are sucked into this deception by the demonic world are, of course, very sincere people. But you will find that they are doctrinally uninformed people, and that they are spiritually neutralized through the production of divine good that they think is doing the work of God.

Since the year 70 A.D, when Jerusalem fell and the fifth stage of discipline began for the Jewish people as listed in Leviticus 26, there has been no more speaking in tongues. Leviticus 26 describes five stages of a cycle of discipline that God will bring upon the people of Israel when they turn away from God. It had happened to them before. When Christ came on the scene, they were in the fourth stage of the cycle of discipline, which was the stage where their country was now controlled by a foreign power. The fifth stage, listed in Leviticus 26, is that they will be ripped out of their land, and the military power will disperse them to other countries.

One of the things that they were told in the Old Testament was that when they heard spiritual things being conveyed to them in the languages of gentiles, it would be God's signal to them that He is about to close the door, and introduce the fifth stage of that discipline. That happened on the day of Pentecost. They did not pay attention. A few years later, in 70 A.D., the curtain came down on the Jewish nation, and they were dispersed throughout all the world. They lost their country. They lost their independence. So, since 70 A.D., God has had no further purpose for using people to speak in foreign languages. I stress that because that claim today is totally false. It is false, obviously, by the fact that people do not speak known foreign languages, but only gibberish things.

So, the concept here in Revelation is that the tribulation will be shot-through with drug usage. That will turn demonic activity loose. We see in our day that being confirmed by the fact that drugs are prominent in our culture, and demonic activity has been turned loose, even within religious communities, and even within church groups such as the Charismatics.

We have the same thing pointed out in Galatians 5:20, where Paul says that among the works of the sin nature, we will find sorcery. Sorcery again uses the same word "pharmakei," so again we have a direct connection between what is taking place in terms of the occult, and the use of drugs in order to bring that contact with the spirit world about.

Drugs produce a mental reaction which enables the person to turn his volition over to a spirit being. He is actually told to empty himself. I get a cold chill when I hear charismatics (as I have) trying to teach others charismatics how to speak in tongues. And one of the things that they almost always say is, "Just empty your mind, and let yourself go, and you will do it," which is exactly what drugs do. They enable you to turn loose, and to detach yourself from your mind, and in comes another spirit that takes over.

Since ancient times, this has been the way for people to go beyond human consciousness. Drugs produce the same symptoms and reactions that a person has when he is demon-possessed. He will go into convulsions; he will have delusions; he will have hallucinations; he will have memory impairment; he will have sadness; and, he will have wide emotional swings. He will have all of these, just as if he were demon-possessed. Drugs does the same thing. Because it is the entree into the occult, it is very popular today.

**The Ouija Board**

God was condemning the tribulation humanity for its contact with the demonic world. It will be expressed in many ways then as it is today. How do you express your contact with the demonic world? The Ouija board is one way. If you've been following the murder trial of the young police officer in Midlothian, Texas, the news is coming out that this was, of course, over drugs. These kids were on drugs. They were selling drugs. This young officer was trying to find out what the source was, and they murdered him. Their explanation for how they made this decision was that they asked the Ouija board for direction. The Ouija board is a demonic instrument. It does work. That little plankton will move about on that board.

They asked whether he was an undercover police agent. It said, "Yes." They asked, "Shall we kill him?" This was rather interesting. The demon wouldn't answer. They couldn't get a response, but they concluded that the implication was that they should. Here they were, into drugs and into the Ouija board to try to contact a power beyond themselves, so that they could do this and have the protection of that power after they did it. Is that an exceptional thing? Not at all.

**Astrology**

Have you ever heard about astrology? Have you ever heard about people following astrology? Boy, have you heard about it! Now we have it in the White House. What is astrology? Those of you who were with us when we studied the truth about the zodiac, as signs which God put up there to convey biblical truths and the whole message of salvation in the stars, but which Satan came along and perverted into fortunetelling and into the occult, can you believe that we have intelligent, powerful people who are in the highest echelons of this government, in the White House itself, who are consulting astrology and astrologists in order to know how to make decisions?

You should realize that those astrologists do get information. They do have a source of information. And they have been conveying information to the Reagan administration through the inquiries of the president's wife, and whoever else. But the information has come from the demonic world. There have been people who have been deeply into the use of astrology, and who found, as non-Christians, that it really did work. It gave them information; it gave them direction; and, it give them gave them guidance. And it always worked out to their profit. I have also heard Christians many times who said, "When I became a Christian, I tried to keep working the astrology charts and routine for information, and I couldn't get any true answers. The answers I would get then always worked out wrong.

How is that? It is because you made your demon mad. And because demons are liars like their father, the devil, they now gave lying information. They still give information, but it was no longer true. You can have contact with the spirit world through the Ouija board, astrology, tarot cards, and horoscopes. I don't want you to raise your hands. Some of you probably looked up your horoscope in the paper today, and I know what it said. It said, "Be very careful when you are making decisions. Do not cross the street without looking both ways." Well, that's true. The horoscope is really true. You shouldn't cross the street without looking both ways. Do you see how accurate the horoscopes are? Some of you have probably rushed out to see what's going on. You've said, "Ah, I'm just kidding. I don't believe that stuff." If you read it, it's going to be your mind, and you're going to read the thing, and it's going to say, "Be careful about a blond that may come into your life this week." So, all that week, you'll be on guard against blonds. And I'm told that blonds have more fun than anybody, and you're going to be on guard against people who are fun people. It'll be in the back of your mind, and it will affect you. You shouldn't even read it.

There's black magic, and there's white magic as the result of drugs. Black magic is attributing the results to Satan. White magic is attributing it to God. There is fortunetelling. There is true prophesying. There is making things float in the air. There is communicating thoughts from mind to mind. There are houses which are haunted. There is such a thing as a devil's mask, and on and on. All of these are the products of contact with the demonic world through drugs.

**Occultism**

Occultism is now openly practiced. It is presented under the cloak of respectability. It's popularized through various information media. It's no longer called demon worship, and it's not even called the occult. It's given classy names like "paranormal." Vast segments of mankind are today under this demonic influence, with the climax of this to come in the tribulation when the harlot ecumenical church is in charge, and the doors are wide open to consulting the spirit world.

**Eastern Mysticism**

Eastern mysticism, with the concept that man is God, is purely demonic.

So, in the last days of the church age, this angelic warfare is going to escalate. You, as Christians, need to have a clear understanding about the intricate and clever workings of the demonic world, and to be aware that it is prominently all around you, because a lot of people you associate with are on drugs. They do use drugs in one way or another.

**Doctrines of Demons**

1 Timothy for one says, "Now the Spirit (God the Holy Spirit) speaks expressly that in the latter times (at the end of the age of grace), some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons." The tragedy and the sadness of this verse is that it's speaking about Christians. It is speaking about some terrible thing that believers are going to do. That's what he's talking about. He's talking about the walk of a good Christian. Here he says, "God the Holy Spirit tells us that, as we come to the end of the age of the church, when the return of Christ through the rapture is on the horizon, Christians are going to start doing things that are going to move them away from the Spirit of God, and move them into the orbit of listening to demonic powers. They're going to start giving heed to these seducing spirits, seducing them away from God. And they're going to pay attention to what he describes here as "doctrines of demons."

What our doctrines of demons today? Speaking in tongues; healing; the occult; and, pseudo spirituality. The whole ball of wax is part of this doctrine of demons. What is your defense in view of that potential hazard to you? Well, Paul gives it to us in 1 Timothy 4:16. He says, "Take heed unto yourself, and unto the doctrine." Isn't that interested? "Take heed to yourself." What do you think he means by that? Be concerned, first of all, Christian, about your personal condition. He obviously means, "Pay attention to whether you're in temporal fellowship, or you're out of it – whether you're in the inner circle or whether sin has taken you out of it into carnality." Keep your known sins confessed to God the Father, and stay in temporal fellowship.

Secondly, take heed to doctrine. What do you think he means by that? He means more than just remembering to apply doctrine. He certainly means that, but he is also telling you to keep feeding on the Word of God. He is telling you again, indirectly here, to see to it that, when instruction is being given in the local assembly of doctrine, you be there. Don't be someplace else. Unless God keeps you from being in that room, that's where you should be, so that you, under the teaching authority of a pastor-teacher gift, may be instructed in the Word of God. If you do this, you will not be impressed by the fakes that are out there in the religious world.

Take heed concerning your spiritual status of fellowship with God. Concern yourself with the doctrines of Scripture, and then continue in them. It's not enough for you to know the Word of God. You must now apply it: "For in doing this, you shall both save yourself." Here he means, "Preserve yourself, specifically, in this context, from the influence of demons. Don't forget that they can pop things into your mind. You should understand that. The demon can pop things into your mind. Satan can pop things into your mind. He can give you an evil thought as a seed to give you direction. If you do not have that countered immediately with the Word of God, it will take root. It says, "To save yourself, and, as well, you will save them that here you. You will be able to speak to other people, and give them direction concerning what they need to do.

We were very thrilled – those of us who met Jack Smith, our friend from the Kentucky State Penitentiary in the state of Kentucky, when he told us, now that he has learned so much of the doctrines of Scripture, the doors that God has suddenly opened up to him to assist Christians. He has doors for the gospel, but the thing that awed him was how many Christians he's running into who have terrible troubles in their lives. He said, "You know, I've concluded that the beginning point with these people (and I'm finding my experience confirms it) is to teach them 1 John 1:9. They don't know what to do with their terrible sins. So, they're all torn up. They're all distressed. And once I teach them what God will do for them when they confess sin to Him, everything begins to fall into place." He said, "And then I can teach them other things." You will not only take care of yourself, indeed, as Paul says, but you will preserve those who listen to you.

So, the farther our society moves from morality and from sound doctrine, so that we know what God's point of view is, the more our society is going to be opened to demonic control, and drugs is the way into it.

Of course, pulpits are full of the liberal preachers who are telling people that there really isn't a devil, and that demons are a figment of your imagination. Of course, this makes things a lot easier for Satan. Even Bible Christians have a lot of defective concepts concerning the power and the workings of Satan. They're very vague on the influence that Satan and demons can have on Christians. And as Paul has indicated, apart from knowing what God has said, you can't protect yourself. You will be the kind of a Christian, and there are thousands of them who are in good churches, but who look across at the charismatics and they say, "Boy, look at how things are jumping there. Look at the things that they claim are happening to them. I wonder if they really have something more." They're telling us that there is more than we have. You will never fall for that line of thought if you are a person who is solid in the Word of God. You will look out there, you will understand what that tongues, and that healing, and all of the things that accompany that are connected with. You will understand that this is connected with the demonic activity of the age.

We live in the intensified stage of the angelic conflict. It began very low key centuries ago, and it moved a very long way. But now the devil knows his time is running out, and he's increasing the attack tremendously. So, you and I are part of this warfare on a daily basis, and we are prime targets for being deceived.

**Demon Possession**

I must tell you, however, because the question probably has already come up in your mind, that you, as a Christian, cannot be indwelt by a demon spirit. You can be demonized in terms of being influenced, but you cannot be possessed. 1 Corinthians 6:19 makes it clear to us that we Christians have a body which is viewed by God as His personal temple, and therefore, God Himself has moved into our bodies (God the Holy Spirit). He is in us, and He owns us. It very clearly says, "You are not your own. You belong to Him." And God the Holy Spirit is not about to give up His dwelling place to a demon spirit.

So, while you cannot be indwelt by the demon spirit, you certainly can be tremendously influenced in varying degrees. That's the result of your being out of fellowship. You create a vacuum in your soul. In comes the doctrines of demons that 1 Timothy 4:1 tells about. Then you begin having wild emotional swings. You have an irrationality in your life. You yourself are beginning to find yourself attracted to the occult. Then for some Christians, it's a real downward spin. Some of them go into sexual abandonment, and some of them go into alcohol, along with the ecstatics of tongues. Some go into the pursuit of ambitions.

However, some Christians go in a totally different way. They go into the legalisms of sweetness and light. They're just the sweetest people you ever met. They seem to just glow with the light of God, and yet they're nothing but a mass of emotional regurgitation. But unless you have a perspective from God on this, those people will impress you. That's very bad, because we occasionally have this kind of person in the local church, and he is a troublemaker. He is a demon-influenced person, and he is a very dangerous person. He talks with Bible vocabulary. He speaks about spiritual concepts, and yet he leads people away from that which is indeed what God is trying to do. It's an attractive type who is operating out of his sin nature, and you have to be very perceptive.

The demons know that to get Christians into gross sins (as we call them), is not usually the way to do it. It's the subtle way of getting somebody into the group that looks like he's really talking for God. He smiles; he's enthusiastic; he gives lots of money; he's there supporting whatever; and, he's always serving. That's the person about whom you are tempted to say, "Hey, this person really is of the Lord. When he speaks, we should listen to him." But if that person is not positive toward the Word of God, and sound in doctrine, he will lead you astray.

In closing, I want to point out that there are two types of demon possession and demonization. One is by active submission. You take deliberate steps to come under the influence. Some people give their souls to Satan in exchange for superhuman power. They do that. You can do that. You Christians can't, but unbelievers can do that. They make deals with the devil. That's true. And they do get tremendous superhuman power.

I was listening to a man one time who was telling about the powers that he had from Satan. He had made a deal with the devil to get these powers when he was not a Christian. He had since become a Christian, and he no longer had the powers. He reneged and double-crossed the devil on the deal. But he said that when he had made the arrangement, he had power. He was riding down the highway on Highway 1 in California, the Pacific Coast Highway. He was talking to another person, trying to interest him in Satan worship. The person said, "I don't really believe that you can have that kind of power." He said, "Let me show you the kind of power I have." He said, "We were passing a restaurant. We were going to go up the coast for a while, and then we were going to turn around and be coming back." He said, "I'm going to send a demon to set that place on fire." His friend laughed, and they drove on.

30 minutes later, they were coming back down the Pacific Coast Highway to get to that restaurant. The fire trucks were there; the hoses were out; the sirens were screaming; and, this place is all ablaze. And he said, "Now will you take me seriously?" This man had made a deal with the devil. He had tremendous power.

Can some demon-powered person do that to your restaurant? I know that's what you're thinking. No, not unless you are in a position where you are open to that kind of treatment. God's protective hand would not allow Satan to do that to you. Job makes it very clear to us that the devil has no capacities against us unless God gives him the permission. But some people make an active deal, and they enter into a pact with the devil, and they get certain powers.

This affects the mind. You actually become blanked out from your self-awareness. You are then detached from all normal thinking concepts. You will do insane things. Your will is directed by satanic powers so that your soul is acting outside of its own volition, and you will then be capable of the greatest atrocities and the most unbelievable things. You will wonder later how you came to do such things. It is because your will is no longer run by yourself. It has been taken over. And I'm talking about pure possession of an unbeliever.

This will also be evidenced by the fact that the demon will take over your vocal cords, and you will speak in gibberish. Satan can also reproduce this in Christians who yield themselves to that. The emotions are set into ecstatics so that the individual is driven to all kinds of perversions.

You can also, under these conditions, create a detachment from your body. Your consciousness can be sent out there floating. And the use of drugs enables you to do this in a very big way. LSD and crack cocaine enable people, under demonic influence, to be able to float outside themselves, and actually view themselves, and see what they're doing, and actually to be other places and viewing what other people are doing. It is an eerie thing. Shirley MacLaine has described this in great detail.

Our body is the house of our soul, and our soul is to be the protector of that body. For the soul to do that, it must have a clear flow of doctrine from our human spirit. Otherwise, your body will be wounded and destroyed by Satan. That is active submission.

There's another kind, and that's passive submission. This is accomplished through idol worship. When you worship an idol, you come into contact with a demon god. You may be in the habit of lighting candles before some kind of an image. And I don't care whether it's the image of Christ, whether it's the image of Mary, or whether it's the image of Saint John or Saint Joseph or Saint Bernard or whoever it is. When you light that candle, you are inviting the reaction of that spirit being that is behind that image. You go into passive submission.

There are certain kinds of dancing that will put you passively into demonic submission. In some parts of the Middle East, there's the whirling dervishes – dancers that just spin like a top uncontrollably, and they are completely beside themselves. They completely out of control. They're completely under demonic capabilities to enable them to do that. There are certain other kinds of dancing that involve sexual implications that also open the door to demonic activity. Modern dancing is full of it.

There is the method of self-hypnosis – the technique of meditation. All of that opens you up passively to demon possession and influences. In Hinduism, this is the primary channel. You come into the lotus position, with your legs crossed and tucked in. It's very hard to do. You get into the lotus position, and then you just sit there. You wipe the mind clean, and meditate. These people actually suddenly do see before themselves spirit beings who rise up and who communicate with them, and appear to be angels of light that are giving them blessed information. That's what happens all the time in Hinduism. That is the purpose of meditation. It is passive submission to the demonic world.

So, the apostle has observed that, in the tribulation era, these people who have seen death all around them, and they know that God is doing this, will not repent of their drug usage. Consequently, they will not repent of their contact with the demonic world. They will not resist delving into the occult, because of the attractive powers that come to them because of that. The frightening thing about that is that we live in a society today that is doing exactly that. I think it must be another piece in the mosaic that's completing the picture for end time conditions before the Lord returns. The drug scene is there.

Who would have thought, just a few years ago, that the first lady of this nation would be engaged in, of all things, a drug program – a program to oppose the use of drugs? Who would be thinking that, out of the White House, the first lady would be issuing such a statement as, "Just say no to drugs?" The reason for that is because now it cannot be ignored. But the politicians will come up with funded programs which are going to try to change this usage of drugs. They're going to fail. They're going to try to do it without going to the source of what causes the use of drugs – the unregenerate heart of man. And the result is that we are in a tailspin in this country in the use of drugs, and it is only going to get worse.

Thank God that you, for whatever reason, by the grace of God, were long since preserved from that. If you are a young person, understand that you're surrounded by this, but have the appreciation that God has given you the picture of the devastation that He is going to literally execute millions of human beings in the tribulation for the explicit reason of their drug usage. It is a fool's paradise and it is a fool's game. Don't fall for it.

Dr. John E. Danish, 1984

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