

THE BOOK OF REVELATION – Chapter 9 Pt.2

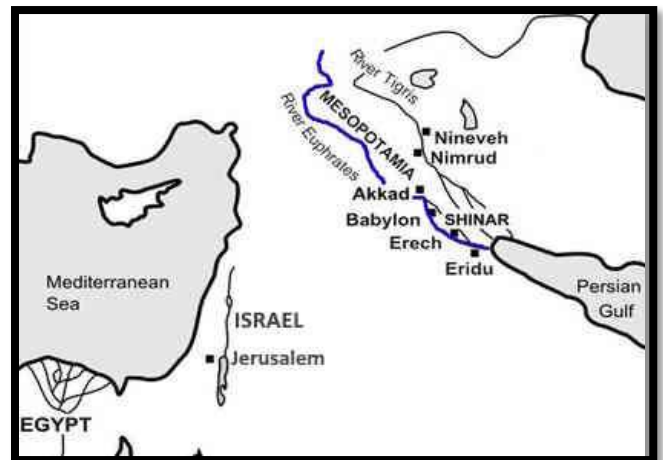
God's Message To A Sleeping Church

“UNLOCKING & UNLEASING HELL – WOE #2”

Revelation 9:12-15 (NIV) ... “One woe is past. Behold, still two more woes are coming after these things. (13)The sixth angel sounded his trumpet, and I heard a voice coming from the horns of the golden altar that is before God. (14) It said to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, “Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.” (15) And the four angels who had been kept ready for this very hour and day and month and year were released to kill a third of mankind.”

Now the world is not off the hook yet and with the sounding of the sixth trumpet ... **the second 'woe' occurs with four more bound fallen angels released. Unlike the previous ones, these will be given permission to kill.** Note: Scripture never speaks of the

angels who serve God as being 'bound' ... so we clearly know these are again fallen angels. These four fallen angels are currently bound at the Euphrates river. We do not know *who* these particular fallen angels are, but the fact that they have been kept bound for this exact year, month, day and even hour, should be very troubling to the world. The place of their imprisonment all this time, the Euphrates, is very well known. Revelation later tells us that the Euphrates river will dry up for the kings of the east to make their way for Armageddon



(Rev. 16:12), **and in a telling current event, the Euphrates is currently drying up.**

When the sixth trumpet sounds, the angels that were holding back the four winds (which we saw in Revelation 7:1) are released. Cataclysmic judgments are unleashed against Judea and Jerusalem. The information that we read about in the six seals found in Revelation 6 takes place. A third of mankind are killed. Terrible suffering and death occurs. The Euphrates River is used as the image because this was the typical direction of the invasions against Israel. The Euphrates is where Israel's enemies came from.

The 200 Million

Revelation 9:16-19 (NIV) ... “The number of the mounted troops was two hundred million. I heard their number. (17) The horses and riders I saw in my vision looked like this: Their breastplates were fiery red, dark blue, and yellow as sulfur. The heads of the horses resembled the heads of lions, and out of their mouths came fire, smoke and sulfur. (18) A third of mankind was killed by the three plagues of fire, smoke and sulfur that came out of their mouths. (19) The power of the horses was in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails were like snakes, having heads with which they inflict injury.”

When Assyria attacked the northern nation of Israel in 722 BC they came from the Euphrates. When Babylon attacked the southern nation of Judah beginning in 606 BC they came from the Euphrates. Verse 14 shows that this judgment is a world power coming against Israel. The troops are numerous. To hear that 200 million troops riding on horses* are coming against you shows that the nation will be decimated. You are going to lose and be devastated. This is your end. The horses are also described with terrifying imagery (9:17-19). It is their doom.

Along with the four now unbound fallen angels are two hundred million troops.

This number is not a guess or estimate by John but is what he heard from heaven so that will be the number. First we had locust-like creatures and now horses with something like the head of a lion. Both are out to destroy or harm humanity and both are a picture of demons. Some commentators try to link this 200 million up with the coming of the kings of the east, making it a human army coming possibly from China. But scripture describes this army as having plagues of fire, smoke and sulfur coming out of the mouth of these horse-like creatures that have a head like a lion. Fire, smoke and sulfur all fell upon Sodom and Gomorrah all those years ago and will be just as real in the days to come. ***This is literally war by the demonic realm upon humanity!***

Humanity's Response

Revelation 9:20-21 (NIV) ... “The rest of mankind that were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the work of their hands; they did not stop worshiping demons, and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone and wood-- idols that cannot see or hear or walk (21) Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts.”

We noted since chapter 6 that God is bringing these judgments to bring the nation back from its sins. So, what did the rest of mankind do that saw this destruction but weren't killed themselves ... They cried out to God to save them right? They bowed down and begged God for mercy and salvation yeah? Um... no - they did not repent! Like Pharaoh all those years ago, in the face of great judgment ... they decided to harden their heart and double down on their rebellious ways.

This, I believe, is one of the saddest verses in Revelation. So What Did They Do?

- **They did not stop worshipping demons!** Can you imagine how deceived they must be to continue worshipping that which is out to kill you! It should be mentioned that it will be hard to find an *'atheist'* in the Tribulation period. Mankind is inherently spiritual and will again be worshipping spirits on mass... but its demonic spirits!
- **They did not repent of their murders!** The Tribulation will be a violent time and this won't stop even after many are murdered themselves. Even today we see things getting way out of control. Human life is no longer sacred... whether it be the unborn or the elderly, or for that matter, those in-between. We have world leaders who desire a depopulation of the planet.
- **They did not repent of their sorcery!** The Greek word here is *'pharmakeía'* and is interesting because it speaks of various things. **It speaks of drugs, witchcraft and sorcery, illicit pharmaceuticals.** It is interesting that we get our words *'Pharmacy and pharmaceuticals'* from this Greek word ... and as we have now seen with Covid19, 'Big Pharma' is now moving into *'gene therapy'* drugs ... as man tries to play God with DNA modification.
- **They did not repent of their sexual immorality!** The Greek word here is *'porneia'* from which the English word *pornography* is derived. **The Greek word speaks of sexual sins of various types.** And we live in an age even now where sexuality and sexual sins have exploded. And they are not only practiced, but openly celebrated! And if you don't celebrate them, look out! **In a recent Pride March in June 2023 (NYC) 'We're here, we're queer, and we're coming for your children'**, one of the chants was ... **'We're here, we're queer, and we're coming for your children'**. Obviously, they weren't lying ... and it seems that by the days of Revelation 9 things will not have improved.
- **They did not repent of their thefts!** People are already looting and opening walking into shops and taking what they want. A recent 2024 law change in California saw any stolen goods under \$950 just labeled a *'misdemeanor'* which means that police don't investigate it. This led to people brazenly walking into shops and helping-themselves. Now imagine what it will be like in the Tribulation ... when food is scarce, people are desperate, and the rule of law is totally thrown out the window!

God was calling for the nation to repent. **Verses 20-21 reveal that the partial judgments did not have their intended effect.** **No One Repents!** We noted in Revelation 6 that God brings judgment on a nation ... not only to bring about their repentance ... but also to bring about repentance for the rest of the nations.

NEXT ... REVELATION CHAPTER 10 ...