The Study of Revelation Pt. 8 Review & Chapter's 9-11

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BAPTIST CHURCH

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1 ST TRUMPET *...& ALL GREEN GRASS WAS BURNED UP." REVELATION 8:7

Bible Predicted GEOENGINEERING

DOES THIS SCRIPTURE CONTRADICT REVELATION 9:4?

Revelation Contradiction?

Revelation 7:3

3 saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads."

Revelation 8:7

⁷ The first angel sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.

Revelation 9:4

⁴ They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads.

THIS IS NOT A CONTRADICTION AT ALL. THE INSTRUCTION IS FOR THE LOCUSTS TO **TORMENT THE INHABITANTS** THE ECOLOGICAL DESTRUCTION HAS **ALREADY OCCURRED.** LOCUSTS NORMALLY DESTROY PLANT LIFE, NOW THEY ARE UNLEASHED ON MANKIND. THE FIRST 4 TRUMPETS SOUNDED TO BEGIN THE DESTRUCTION OF THE EARTH THE NEXT THREE ARE SOUNDED TO ENHANCE THE TORMENT OF THE **INHABITANTS STILL ON EARTH.** THESE ARE THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE REFUSED TO BELIEVE

Where we left off...

Revelation 8:13 "And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabiters of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!"

The last three trumpets will be especially severe, as announced by the threefold repetition of Woe, woe, woe. They will be directed toward the inhibitors of the earth, that is, the unbelievers still alive on earth. Both the oldest and the majority of Greek manuscripts read "eagle" instead of angel in the first part of the verse. "Woe, woe, woe": One for each remaining trumpet blast. Although the first 4 trumpets are unimaginable, they will be nothing like the three to come (9:1-21; 11:15).

Thank God Christians will be spared the Wrath.

From the "woes", the wrath is about to come.

Even the problems we have already heard about are terrible, but they get even worse. Here again, notice the mid-time separation of this, four angels have sounded, and three more are about to sound. The first 4 trumpets signaled destruction of the ecology, the final three are the destruction of the inhabitants of earth.



Revelation 9

9 And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.

2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.
3 And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was *given* power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

4 And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.

5 And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.

WHO IS THE STAR? WHAT IS THE ABYSS?

WHERE IS THE ABYSS?

Isaiah 14:12

How you have fallen from heaven, O Morning Star, son of the dawn! You have been cut down to the ground, O destroyer of nations.

Luke 8:31

And the demons kept begging Jesus not to order them to go into the Abyss.

2 Peter 2:4

⁴ For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

6 And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them. (Job 3:21)

7 And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men.

8 And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions.

9 And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle.

10 And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months. 11 And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon. (both names mean Destroyer)

Verses 7-10: The description of the "locusts" indicates that they are demons who are given physical forms in order to manifest their destruction and torment. "Horses" show their warlike character. Their "crowns" depict them as conquerors. Human "faces" show intelligence. Their feminine "hair" perhaps makes them seductive and attractive. The "teeth ... of lions" shows them to be destructive and hurtful. "Breastplates of iron" make them indestructible. "Wings" symbolize swiftness. The "stings" in their "tails" give them the "power" to "hurt". Fortunately for mankind, their period of torment is limited to "five months". But the next judgment is even worse.

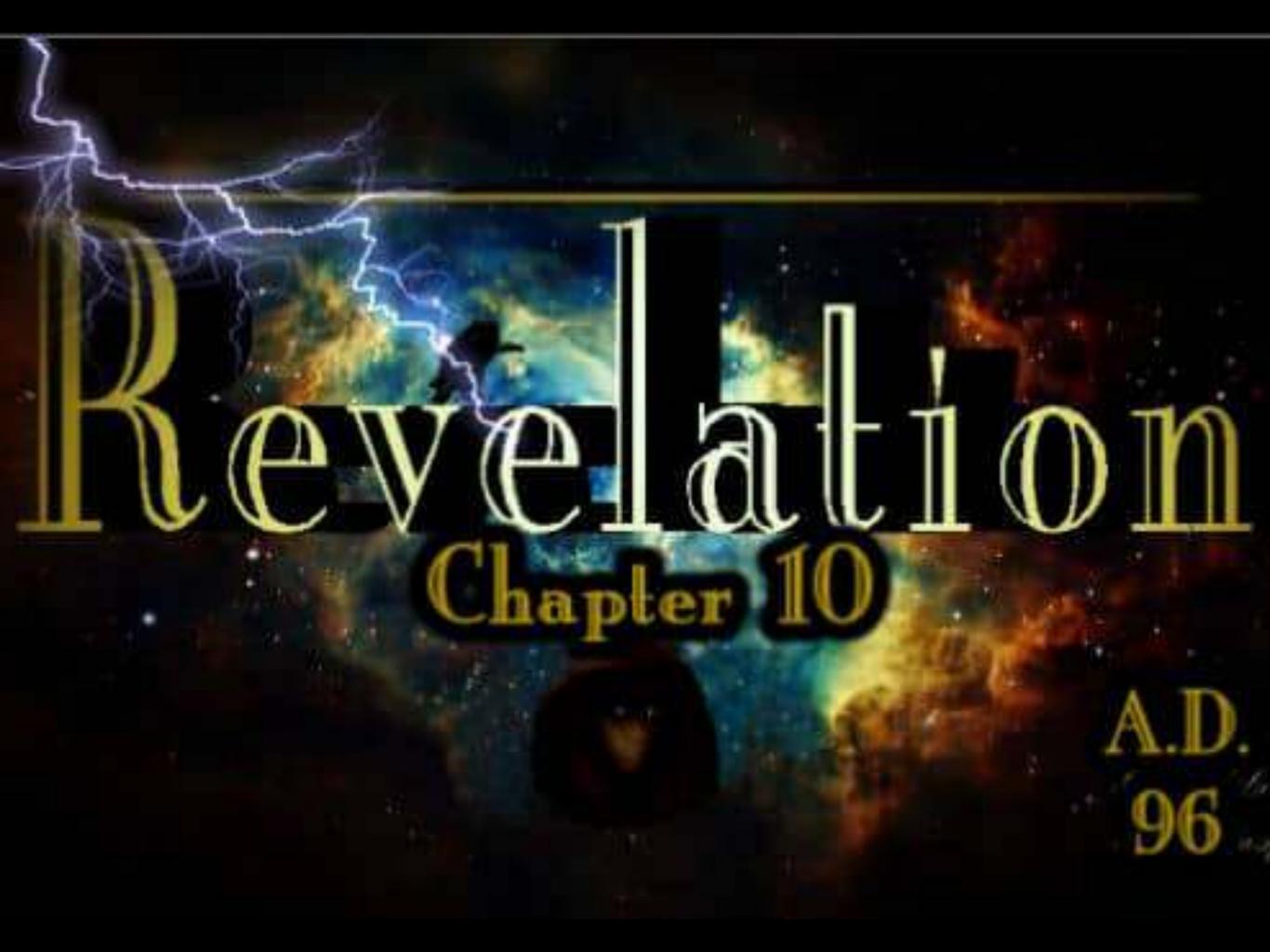
12 One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter.

13 And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God,
14 Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.
15 And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men.

16 And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.

17 And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone.

18 By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. 19 For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt. 20 And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: 21 Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.



10 And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: 2 And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth, 3 And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. 4 And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.

5 And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven,

6 And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that **there should be time no longer:** Verses 5-7: Lifting the "hand" signifies taking an oath (Gen. 14:22-23; Dan. 12:7).

The announcement of the "angel" is that there will be no more delay in the establishment of the millennial kingdom of Christ.

This presumes a present delay or postponement of the promised kingdom (between Christ's two advents).

With the sounding of the "seventh" trumpet (11:15), the present "mystery" form of the kingdom will be over (Rom. 11:25),

What God promised to the "prophets" (Isa. chapter 11, Jer. chapter 31; Ezek. chapters 36 and 37; Dan. chapter 7; Zech. chapter 14, will finally be completed.

7 But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.
8 And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth.

9 And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.

10 And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter.
11 And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.

Verses 8-10: John is told to "eat" the "little book', and when he does, it becomes "sweet" in his "mouth" (Psalm 119:103; Jer. 15:16), but "bitter" in his "belly". The act of eating represents the understanding and appropriation of prophetic revelation. The message is "sweet" because at last the kingdom promises are about to be fulfilled. It is bitter because it can only be accomplished through more judgment and tribulation.



11 And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein.

2 But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months.

3 And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.

4 These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.

5 And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.

6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.

7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.

8 And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

Verses 3-4: God's two witnesses" will "prophesy" or preach in Israel for 1260 "days" (three and a half years), based on prophetical years of (360 days each). The "sackcloth" symbolizes mourning, confessing and repentance. The "witnesses" will proclaim a message of judgment and the need for repentance.

They bear similarities to John the Baptist, and will be the ultimate fulfillment of the promised return of Elijah (Mal. 4:5-6: John 1:21).

They are also identified as "the two olive trees and the two candlesticks". These symbols relate to (Zechariah 4:2-6), where Zerubbabel and Joshua the priest are pictured as two olive trees furnishing oil for a lampstand (Israel). They provided help and power for Israel in a time of need. These two witnesses will be for Israel in the future what Zerubbabel and Joshua were in the past: the channels of God's power and message to Israel during the Tribulation period. Verses 5-6: They will perform miracles similar to those performed by Moses (Exodus 7:14-20; 8:12), and Elijah (1 Kings 17:1; 2 Kings 1:10-12; Luke 4:25; James 5:17). They are protected from harm for three and a half years. Their miraculous powers are apparently for the purpose of authenticating their divine message (as in the case of Jesus and His apostles). Their message will be twofold: (1) Jesus is the Lamb of God (Savior); and (2) Jesus is the King (Ruler).

Who are the Two Witnesses?



(1) Moses and Elijah are the two most influential men in the history of the Jews. Moses introduced God's written law to Israel and wrote the first five books of the Old Testament. Elijah was the first of the writing prophets and started the school of the prophets. Whenever the Jews said, "Moses and Elijah," they usually meant "the law and the prophets."

(2) Moses and Elijah accompanied Jesus and the 3 disciples when He was "transfigured before them", on the mount and where He discussed His impending sacrifice on the cross (Matt. chapter 17).

(3) The 2 witnesses are said to reproduce the very miracles that Moses and Elijah performed while on this earth. John said of them, "And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire" (Rev. 11:5-6).

Elijah is famous for calling down fire from heaven. The most famous instance occurs (in 1 Kings 18), in the account of the contest between the prophets of Baal and Elijah. The Lord sent fire on Elijah's altar on Mt. Carmel in response to his simple prayer:
Moses, of course, is intimately connected with the ten plagues that struck Egypt just before the Exodus (Exodus chapters 7-12). In the very first plague God turned the waters of Egypt into blood, including the Nile, all streams, rivers, ponds, pools, and even the water in buckets of wood and stone. The water turned to blood, killed the land's fish and caused the water to stink, and conditions did not return to normal for a week.

9 And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves.

10 And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.

11 And after three days and an half the spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. 12 And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.

Verses 7-10: The "beast" from the "bottomless pit" is apparently the same as the "beast" from the sea (in 13:1), the Antichrist or false messiah. His place of origin shows his demonic character and the control of Satan. At the end of the three and a half years of preaching, the witnesses will finally be killed by the beast in the "great city", identified as the place "where also our Lord was crucified". This must be a reference to Jerusalem, which at this time is under Antichrist's control. As such it is called "Sodom", referring to uncleanness and immorality, and "Egypt", depicting oppression and bondage. Not allowing their "dead bodies" to be buried is the ultimate indignity. The unbelievers of the "earth", having submitted to the authority of the Beast, will "rejoice", because they hate the plagues and the message of the "two prophets" (1 Kings 18:17; John 16:20).

Verses 11-14: The two witnesses are brought back to "life", and then taken up into "heaven". Their "enemies" react in "fear", since their resurrection is incontrovertible proof that their message was true and the Jesus is God and Messiah. An "earthquake" kills "seven thousand men". Compare the earthquake that opened tombs and allowed many to be raised at the time of Christ's death (Matt. 27:51-53). The "remnant" are the "rest", those who are not killed by the earthquake. Many of them repent and give "glory to God". The interlude begun with chapter 10 ends here. The "third woe" is the seventh trumpet, which "comes" next.

13 And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven.
14 The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.
15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.
16 And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,
17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and

wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.

19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

Verses 16-19: "God" is "worshiped" by the "elders" because what He promised is now accomplished. Their gratitude is for the establishment of the millennial kingdom (1 Cor. 15:24). The Gentile "nations" will be subjugated (Psalm 2:1-2). The "wrath" of God will take vengeance on His enemies (Psalm 2:5; 2 Thess. 1:7-8). The "dead" of all ages will be "judged" at the future "Great White Throne Judgment" (20:11-15). Old Testament and Tribulation "saints" who have died will be raised and rewarded (compare Isa. 26:19-20; Dan. 12:2; Matt. chapter 25). Those who have tried to "destroy the earth" will themselves be destroyed by God (19:20-21). All who are believers will not see the 3rd Woe.

WHAT DID WE LEARN?

LET'S REVIEW!

