

## REVELATION: Lesson 99

### Chapter 9:13-21, The Sixth Trumpet, One Third of Mankind Killed by an Army of Horsemen

28 August 2020

**Vs 13** “I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar.”



Without Jesus Christ, without the Church of God, man’s prayers will not be heard. In the Tribulation, man will not be able to come boldly before God’s throne of grace.

In Revelation 9 God speaks judgment through the golden altar.

**KING UZZIAH AT THE GOLDEN ALTAR OF INCENSE** ← (2 Chron 26:16)

#### The Cause of this Judgment:

**Daniel 9:26-27** The Hebrew people will make a peace covenant with the Antichrist. Halfway into the Tribulation, the Antichrist will break his treaty, cause the sacrifices and oblations to cease, and begin offering abominable (possibly human) sacrifices on God’s holy altar.

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**Matthew 24:15-16** Jesus warns His people to flee into the mountains when they see the “abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet.” This is the beginning of the greatest suffering and loss of life during the Tribulation time.

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Whatever the abominable sacrifice is, God is concerned with how His people respond to such an atrocity. If anyone would stand up and oppose the defilement of God’s temple, even at risk of his life, God would be pleased with this.

But Revelation 9:20 reveals that men will choose to accept what the Antichrist offers and will not repent. They will not care about anybody but themselves, so they’ll sell out to the enemy to save their own skin (Job 2:4). They’ll forget that safety is of the Lord (Prov 21:31, Mt 16:25).

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#### The Four Angels (vs 14)

- The 4 angels in chapter 9 are bound in the Euphrates River.
- These angels were under the dominion of Satan on Earth before his attempt to ascend to God’s throne (Isa 14).
- Many angels joined Satan in his rebellion, leaving their first estate and their habitation, and were chained in Hell until the White Throne Judgment (Jude 6, 2 Pet 2:4).
- Other fallen angels left their first estate, but not their habitation. We read about their activities in the gospels. They are called unclean spirits (Matthew 10:1) and gods (Gen 3:5).
- They are spirits (Psalm 104:4, Heb 1:14), but they do the devil’s work (Matthew 25:41).
- At the sound of the 6<sup>th</sup> Trumpet God will turn these 4 angels loose to lead a hellish army of two hundred million horsemen, which will destroy one third of remaining mankind (vs 18).

## The Power of Angels

- One angel killed 185,000 men (2 Kings 19:35) in King Hezekiah's day.
- Jesus said He could call 12 legions of angels to protect Him if He wanted (Matthew 26:53).
- A Roman legion consisted of 6,000 men.  $6,000 \times 12 = 72,000$ .  $72,000 \times 185,000 = 13,320,000,000$

## The Death Toll

- The current world population (2020) is approximately 7.8 billion.
- In Rev 6:8, the four horsemen have power to kill one fourth of the earth's population (1.95 billion).
- In Rev 9:18, one third of the remaining population is killed (another 1.95 billion).
- One half of all mankind will be gone halfway through the Tribulation.

## The Land Between the Rivers

- The Euphrates River is 1,790 miles long, flowing almost parallel with the Tigris River with approx. 300 miles of land between them. The two rivers join together 100 miles before the Persian Gulf.
- The Euphrates River is the Eastern boundary of the land grant that God promised Abraham (Gen 15:18, Deut 11:24, Josh 1:4).
- Babel rested between these two rivers in the plain of Shinar (Gen 11:1).
  - Cain was driven east by God. He settled the first city in Nod (Gen 4:16).
  - Ham's son, Cush, produced Nimrod, who built Babel (Gen 10:8-10).
  - Nimrod originated idol worship of many forms, including the cult of the mother goddess and the infant son.
- Nebuchadnezzar's image was set up in the land of Shinar (Daniel 1:2) in Babylon (Daniel 3:1).
- The Antichrist will move his headquarters to the land of Shinar (Zechariah 5:11) after Jerusalem is destroyed.
- The first great war between nations was in this area (Gen 14).
- The Jews traditionally believe that the scapegoat (Lev 16:8) ended up in this area of sin and evil.



## Is This a Righteous Judgment of God?

- These were men who refused to repent (vs 20-21). Repentance is necessary to be right with God (Acts 20:21, Matthew 3:2, 4:17, Mark 1:15, 6:12, Luke 13:5, Acts 2:38, 3:19, 17:30, Heb 6:1, etc.).
  - God is merciful to the repentant sinner. God's judgment and wrath is reserved for the unrepentant.
  - Men must repent of worshipping idols (vs 20). Do you compromise your testimony for money?
  - Men must repent of murders and stop looking for excuses or someone else to blame (vs 21).
  - Repent of sorceries (vs 21). Fortune tellers, psychics, wizards, occult shops, tarot cards, etc.
  - Repent of fornication (vs 21). It is sin, no matter what you choose to call it.
  - Repent of thefts (vs 21). If it doesn't belong to you and you take it, it is theft.
  - Repent of the works of your hands (vs 20). This is first on the list. Repent for just being the sinner you are. Maybe you don't think there's anything wrong with the way you are. You'd better repent of that self-righteousness. All have sinned... (Rom 3:23).
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