

Book of Revelation, Part 3...

An Interlude, the 144,000 and Multitude from the Tribulation

Rev.7:1-17 “After this I saw four angels of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth so that no wind would blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree.” [Zech 6:5]

“Then I saw another angel coming up from the rising of the sun, holding the seal of the living God; “ “...a loud voice called out to the four angels to whom it was granted [to have authority had authority and power] to harm the earth and the sea, saying, “Do not harm the earth nor the sea nor the trees until we seal (mark) the bond-servants of our God on their foreheads.” (for their protection...) [Ezek 9:4]

There were sealed a hundred and forty-four thousand, 12,000 from every tribe of the sons of Israel. In Revelation all twelve tribes are listed. These were the (marked, redeemed, protected). You will learn more about these men in Rev. 14.

Rev. 7:9-17 – Multitude from the Tribulation.

John saw a vast multitude (gathered) from every nation, too many to count. They were standing before the throne of God, in front of the Lamb (Christ), dressed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands. They were crying out in worship to the Lamb. The 24 elders and the four living creatures were also there worshipping God for their salvation.

John asked, “ Who are these people and from where did they come?” “These are the people who have come out of the great tribulation (persecution), and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb [because of His atoning sacrifice]. [Gen 49:11; Dan. 12:1]

For this reason, they are standing before the throne of God; and they serve Him [in worship] day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will spread his tabernacle over them [with His presence] [Rev. 21:3]

They will hunger no longer, nor thirst anymore; nor will the sun beat down on them, nor any [scorching] heat; [Is 49:10; Ps 121:6] for the Lamb who is in the center of the throne will be their Shepherd, and He will guide them to

springs of the water of life; and God will wipe every tear from their eyes [giving them eternal comfort].” [Ps 23:2; Is 25:8; Ezek 34:23; Rev. 21:4]

The Seventh Seal- the Trumpets

“When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour [in awe of God’s impending judgment. Zeph 1:7]

“Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. Another angel came and stood at the altar. He had a golden censer, and much incense was given to him, so that he might add it to the prayers of all the saints (God’s people) on the golden altar in front of the throne. [Ps 141.2]

“And the smoke *and* fragrant aroma of the incense with the prayers of the saints (God’s people), ascended before God from the angel’s hand.

“So the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it to the earth; and there were peals of thunder *and* loud rumblings and sounds and flashes of lightning and an earthquake.” [Lev 16:12; Ezek 10:2]

“The seven angels then prepared themselves to sound the trumpets [initiating the judgements].”

Rev. 8:7 - First Trumpet sounds, creating “...a storm of hail and fire, mixed with blood, and it was hurled to the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, and a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up. [Ex 9:13-35]

Rev. 8:8 – 9 Second Trumpet sounds, “...and *something* like a great mountain blazing with fire was hurled into the sea; and a third of the sea was turned into blood; [Jer 51:25] and a third of the living creatures that were in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.”

Rev. 8:10 - 11 Third Trumpet sounds, “...a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch [flashing across the sky], and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of [fresh] waters. The name of the star is “Wormwood; and a third of

the waters became wormwood, and many people died from the waters, because they had become bitter (toxic).

Rev. 8:11-12 Fourth Trumpet sounds, "...and a third of the sun and a third of the moon and a third of the stars were struck, so that a third of them would be darkened and a third of the daylight would not shine, and the night in the same way [would not shine]. [Ex 10:21-23]

Then John looked, and he heard a solitary eagle flying in the mid-heaven [for all to see], saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe [great wrath is coming] to those who dwell on earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpets which the three angels are about to sound [announcing ever greater judgements]!"

Rev. 9:1-12 Fifth Trumpet sounds, John saw a star [angelic being] that had fallen from heaven to the earth; and the key of the bottomless pit [abyss] was given to him, [the star angel]. [Rev. 20:1]

"...He opened the bottomless pit, and smoke like the smoke of a great furnace flowed out of the pit; and the sun and the atmosphere were darkened by the smoke of a great furnace flowed out of the pit; and the sun and the atmosphere were darkened by the smoke from the pit. [Gen 19:28; Ex 19:18; Joel 2:10]

"Then out of the smoke came *locusts* upon the earth, and power to [hurt] was given to them, like the power which the earth's scorpions have. [Ex 10:12-15]

"They were told not to hurt the grass of the earth, and power [to hurt] only the people who do not have the seal (mark of ownership, protection) of God on their foreheads. [Ezek 9:4]

"They were not permitted to kill anyone, but to torment *and* cause them extreme pain for five months; and their torment was like the torment from a scorpion when it stings a man.

"And in those days people will seek death and will not find it; and they will long to die [to escape the pain], but [will discover that] death evades them. [Job 3:21]

“The locusts *resembling horses were prepared and equipped for battle*; and on their heads appeared to be [something like] golden crowns, and their faces resembled human faces. [Joel 2:4]

“They had hair like the hair of women, and their teeth were like the teeth of lions. [Joel 1:6]

“They had breastplates made of iron; and the [whirring] noise of their wings was like the [thunderous] noise of countless horse-drawn chariots charging [at full speed] into battle. [Joel 2:5]

“They have tails like scorpions, and stingers; and in their tails is their power to hurt people for five months. [Joel 2:6]

“They have as king over them, the angel of the abyss (the bottomless pit); in Hebrew his name is Abaddon (destruction), and in Greek he is called Apollyon (destroyer-king).”

Rev. 8:13-21 The Sixth Trumpet sounds, “Then the sixth angel sounded [his trumpet], and John heard a solitary voice from the four horns of the golden altar which stands before God,

“saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, “Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.

“So the four angels, who had been prepared for the [appointed] hour and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind.

“The number of the troops of cavalry was twice ten thousand times ten thousand (two hundred million); John heard the number of them.

“And this is how John saw the horses and their riders in his vision: the riders had breastplates [the color] of fire and of hyacinth (sapphire blue) and of brimstone (yellow); and the heads of the horses looked like the heads of lions; and from out of their mouths came fire and smoke and brimstone (burning sulphur).

“And a third of mankind was killed by these three plagues-by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone that came from the mouths of the horses.

“For the power of the horses [to do harm] is in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails are like serpents and have heads, and it is with them that they do harm.

“The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent even then of the works of their hands, so as to cease worshiping and paying homage to the demons and the idols of gold and of silver and of bronze and of stone and of wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk; [Ps 115:4-7; 135:15-17; Is 17:8)

“and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries (drugs, intoxications) nor of their [sexual] immorality nor of their thefts.”

The great army that has been mustered for this commission is to be 200 million (all the eastern countries?). We are left to guess who or what the infantry might be. (Note: John knew nothing about modern weapons and war tactics...he just tried to figure out a way to explain what he was seeing!)

They obviously had formidable equipage and appearance. The “horses” were like lions and eager to rush into the battle, so those who sat upon them (and in them?) were clad in bright and costly armor, with all the ensigns of martial courage, zeal and resolution. (The colors mentioned above could have been colors of flags? Or logos?)

One third of the armed forces were killed in this great battle. Their artillery, by which they made such slaughter, described by fire, smoke and brimstone, issuing out of the mouths of horses, and the stings that were in their tails is a possible prediction of great guns, tankers and instruments of cruelty which make such destruction.

Modern warfare could easily be inferred by this! War is already coming and will continue to get worse. This particular war has not started yet, but it is coming. Once antichrist makes himself known by taking over the third temple of the Jews, we will be able to get an idea of when all these horrible events will take place.

The drying up of the Euphrates River is one of the clues. The Bible states that it is drying up to permit the armies of the east to cross into the land...think

about that one for a while. The end times are coming on rapidly. The Jews have already made all the furnishings for the new temple and claim that they can get it built in one year...once they can get onto the temple mount! That could be by war or earthquake or....?? God says in His Word that it will happen. The temple will be built...in His timing.

Watch the news both surrounding and in Israel. This is the best place to keep up on current end times news. The first false Messiah is rising in Israel right now as I write this article...complete with performing miracles. Jesus said there would be MANY false messiahs, but not to believe them! When he comes back to earth, it will be for war against Satan and his demons, including all his millions of followers...the Battle of Armageddon. More of that subject in later issues.

As I said above, modern warfare could easily be inferred by this! War is coming; we all know this just by watching the news! We do not know the exact time yet, but it will be during this current generation. Some things are already happening.

A rapture of the saints by God is true and could happen any time now; Jesus said that we were to **watch eagerly** for His return for the believers. That could happen any time before the terrible events actually start happening. Our mission is to be prepared and warn all believers and unbelievers alike to get right with God before it is too late.

We will begin the these part of this series with Rev. 10...see you then!