

01262025. History of the Future RECAP chapters 9-10 as we recap before getting to chapter 15 More and more people today seem either obsessed with knowing about how the world will end or they're sick of hearing about it.

But in fact, people have wondered about the end of the world since the beginning of the world. In theology it's a section of study all to itself. And nearly every theology course or textbook has a whole section devoted to eschatology, or the study of end times.

Ten times the prophet Daniel used the phrase "the time of the end" in his book, while four times Jesus spoke of "the end of the world." In Matthew, the Lord said, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." (24:35) And later, Peter wrote, 1 Peter 4:7 "The end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers."

*****The book of Revelation gives us a divine outline of the things to come... the History of the Future ...today we will examine the seven trumpets given to the seven angels before the throne of God...**

Chapter 5, John is now introduced to an item of central importance, a scroll which contains the prophecy of impending events to be unfolded in the book of Revelation.

ESV REV 5:5 And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, **has conquered**, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."

Tim put this up: This scroll describes the History of the Future.

1) It reveals the judgments of God to be poured out on the earth

2) Christ's Second Coming to rightfully inherit and implement the title deed of redemption to planet earth and His Kingdom rule.

Today RECAP of chapters 8-10

Six seals of the scroll in Jesus hand have been opened, the seventh seal foretells such momentous developments all very quickly.

- **Which takes us to chapter 8 the opening of the seventh Seal**

ESV Rev 8:1 When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, ...^{8:2} Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. ..

- **These are seven powerful are seven angels who stand in God's presence**
- **And to them were given seven trumpets: these seven trumpets bring seven more severe judgments ...and are the direct result of Gods people praying.....**

this introduces us to the first four trumpet blasts..

- **First four trumpet blasts introduce devastations of nature that one third of the earth, sea and fresh water is destroyed or contaminated with the accompanying loss of animal and human life....The first trumpet brings a plague on vegetation,**

⁷ The first angel blew his trumpet, and there followed hail and fire, mixed with blood, and these were thrown upon the earth. And a third of the earth was burned up, and a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.

⁸ *The second angel blew his trumpet, and something like a great mountain, burning with fire, was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood. ⁹ A third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.*

Rev 8:10 The third angel blew his trumpet, and a great star fell from heaven, blazing like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water.

Rev 8:12 The fourth angel blew his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, and a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of their light might be darkened, and a third of the day might be kept from shining, and likewise a third of the night.

- **This does not describe a one-third lessening of light, but one-third of the day and night are plunged into absolute darkness.**

- **As Jesus said: the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light ([Matthew 24:29](#)).**

ESV Matt 24:29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

- **He attacks all the ordinary means of natural existence, such as food and water; and He attacks all the ordinary means of comfort, and knowledge, such as light and the regular rhythm of days.**

Tim put up... The First Four Trumpet Outcomes

- 1) The Unbelieving rebellious and evil people, who have come to see the created order and nature as impersonal, perpetual forces that run themselves ... are demonstrated to be under**

God's power and Sovereignty through their agonizing disruption of normal life.

- 2) The four judgments also reveal the mercy of God as they are partial judgments striking only one-third, and are meant to warn and lead a rebellious world to repentance before the final curtain. For now, God spares more than He strikes.

Now the next three trumpets reveals what takes next preceded by the warning of an angel that much worse is yet to come.

NIV Revelation 8:13 As I watched, I heard an eagle that was flying in midair call out in a loud voice: "Woe! Woe! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the trumpet blasts about to be sounded by the other three angels!"

- Unlike the previous four trumpet judgments, these target men rather than natural systems.

Chapter 9 verses 1 through 10 present... The first of two of the final three trumpets Woes releasing demonic judgments upon the earth.

ESV Rev 9:1 And the fifth angel blew his trumpet, and I saw a star fallen from heaven to earth, and he was given the key to the shaft of the bottomless pit.

- Angelic beings are, at times, referred to as *stars* (Job 38:7; Isa. 14:13). That this star seen by John is a *Fallen* demon can be seen by the reference to he, having previously fallen and now being in a fallen state.
- It appears it is most likely Satan himself or another high ranking angel ... If the star that had previously fallen is Satan, then there is considerable irony in the fact that he now releases his

demonic horde from the very region where he himself will be confined during the Millennial Kingdom

ESV Rev 20:1 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. ² And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, ³ and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be released for a little while.

- **So he has been given a key...God in control to unlock the bottom less pit or Abyss ...Greek word for abode or prison of demons..** mentioned 7 times in Revelation and always in the context of the abode of Demons...
- **The shaft of the abyss, a deep opening in the ground to a sealed-in well.** It is “the pit of the abyss (because the nether world is thought to increase in size the further it extends from the surface of the earth and so resemble a cistern, the orifice of which is narrow).
- **He did not have the authority to open the pit himself, it was given by Jesus** who had the key..

*ESV REV 1:17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸ and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and **I have the keys of Death and Hades.***

- There appears to be different regions of Hades are separated by including the Abyss or bottomless pit

The horror which this fallen star is about to unleash is entirely subject to the sovereign permission of God.

- **It is such a dreadful horrible place of demon captivity....**

Jesus speaking to the legion of demons who possessed a man...begged Jesus not to send them there....

ESV Luke 8:30 Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him. ³¹ And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss.

- **He then opens a shaft with the key...a tunnel to the underworld...**
- **during the tribulation period God allows the unbelieving world to see and experience the real the nature of demons ...and their intent...**
- **So he opens the shaft...**

ESV REV 9: 2 **He** opened the shaft of the bottomless pit, and from the shaft rose smoke like the smoke of a great furnace, and the sun and the air were darkened with the smoke from the shaft.

- **This entire passage describes something yet future to the experience of the earth: these *locusts from the abyss* refer to judgments about to fall on the ungodly immediately before Christ's second coming.**
- **That portions of Hades are of an elevated temperature is clear from Jesus' account of the rich man and Lazarus**
ESV luke 16: 22 The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, ²³ and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. ²⁴ And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.'

Next...ESV Revelation 9: ³ Then from the smoke came locusts on the earth, and they were given power like the power of scorpions of the earth As the smoke arose, other creatures arose with it.

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

- **The seal** may not be a visible mark yet these locusts are able to detect those who are sealed. The answer lies in the fact that demons have great spiritual awareness.

ESV Luke 4:41 And demons also came out of many, crying, “You are the Son of God!” But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ.

- Not only did the demons recognize Jesus, but they also recognized Paul—and that he had *spiritual authority* which the seven sons of Sceva lacked since they were presumably not born again (Acts 19:14-16).
- **Thus, these demonic locusts will be able to readily identify those which have been marked for special protection by God, whether the mark is physical or spiritual in nature.**

Question....Since many demons are free to roam the earth...why are these locked up? The locking away of these demons is described by Jude:

ESV Jude 1:6 And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day— The demons are fallen angels, some of which left their own abode and are reserved for the judgment of the great day. This is Great day The Day of the Lord.

- The angels themselves will not be judged at this time, but are “reserved for the judgment”—they will be used by God to torment the earth dwellers.
- **Jude tells us that they did not keep their “own abode, meaning: “rule, office, domain, sphere of influence.”**
- **They are the demons who cohabited with human women in Satan’s failed attempt to corrupt the human race and make it irredeemable. . .**

Gen 6:4 The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of man and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, the men of renown.

- **Those who were involved with exceedingly serious sins such as these are “bound” for subsequent release in God’s judgment**
- **Peter uses a similar phrase to describe the situation of these same angels:**

ESV 2 Peter 2: 4 For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment;

- **God did not spare the angels who sinned, and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, *one of eight people*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; he knows how to bring judgment and protect his own from it!!**

- **So These are a specific subset of sinning angels**

Revelation 9:5 They were allowed to torment them for five months, but not to kill them, and their torment was like the torment of a

scorpion when it stings someone. ⁶ And in those days people will seek death and will not find it. They will long to die, but death will flee from them.

- **It is a divine command which prevents them from stinging their victims to death...**
- **They will want to die but cant...even if they try. The pain of the locusts is so intense that their continual desire will be to find release through death. But they will not find relief because death will flee ...Why?**

God ultimately desires to keep these people alive so that they have the opportunity to repent and turn to Him:

- **This goes on for five months.... And will pass...to the next Woe...**

¹² *The first woe has passed; behold, two woes are still to come.*

¹³ *Then the sixth angel blew his trumpet, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar before God, ¹⁴ saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, “Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.”*

This passage describes an unbelievable demonic invasion of earth by Satan’s war corps in the last days...

- **What John is shown exceeds anything he has seen before and so he struggles to relate the vision**
- **What is being described here is real, literal, and important to understand in detail else God would not have “wasted” words on it. keep in mind several considerations:**

1) **Demonic Capabilities - We know incomplete information concerning all the demonic realm and especially the transformative capabilities of angels—be they elect or fallen.**

But John tells us the purpose..

NLT Rev 9:20 But the people who did not die in these plagues still refused to repent of their evil deeds and turn to God. They continued to worship demons and idols made of gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood—idols that can neither see nor hear nor walk! ²¹ And they did not repent of their murders or their witchcraft or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

These disasters described in chapters 8 and 9 are yet to come upon the world. **It seems God feel... the need of some encouragement at this point.**

The Spirit of God gives us in Chapters 10 and most of Chapter 11 an intermission, a kind of parenthesis that comes in between the judgments of the sixth and seventh trumpets.

This interlude also shows mercy in allowing more opportunity for repentance. It is as if God brought things to the brink, then pulled back a little to grant mankind more time to repent At this point chronologically we are approximately half way through the seven year tribulation...

So we close with this

ESV REV 10:1 Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven, wrapped in a cloud, with a rainbow over his head, and his face was like the sun, and his legs like pillars of fire. ² He had a little scroll open in his hand. And he set his right foot on the sea, and his left foot on the land, ³ and called out with a loud voice, like a lion roaring.....

- **A rainbow was over his head:** Not only is the rainbow a reminder of God's promise to man, "clearly this angel has

come from the very presence of God” with great power and authority.

- **He set his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land: The angel’s stance shows that he had the command authority over both land and sea. complete authority over the entire earthly situation as it is under his feet”**

Then the Angel proclaims his mission and what is about to happen for he was given this by God...whom he swears by...

⁵ *And the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven ⁶ and swore by him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and what is in it, the earth and what is in it, and the sea and what is in it, **that there would be no more delay,***

- **The mighty angel gave a solemn oath declaring that the end is irrevocably set in motion, that there should be delay no longer.** There was absolutely no turning back.
- **He is swearing by the triune God -- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit -- that there will be no longer any delay in explaining the mystery of God**
- **He has been King over heaven and earth and the whole universe, but he has never yet reigned on earth.**
- **He has ruled on earth, and he has overruled. He governs human events, bringing them into being and changing things, but he does it, in a sense, remotely.**
- **He has never taken his great power and openly reigned upon the earth. But when the seventh angel sounds, then he will begin to reign.**

So what are we to do...the earth is still in darkness...and we are the light in this generation...

NLT Matt 5:14 “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that^[b] they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

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