

# Note

## Revelation – Part 5 of 15

### Summary

The fifth and sixth trumpets are sounded, there are natural and supernatural calamities, yet there is no repentance. There are now more murders than ever before due to abortion. Similarly, there is a huge increase in pharmacological sorcery, online sexual immorality and intellectual theft. There is a pause before the last trumpet. John was told not to write what he heard. Two witnesses are raised in the temple to testify against sin. They are killed by the beast at the end of their ministry, but are resurrected and called up after 3<sup>1/2</sup> days, and there is an earthquake. The seventh trumpet is sounded.

# Transcript

## Revelation – Part 5 of 15

We come to Revelation Chapter 9.

This will be the Fifth Trumpet judgment.

We saw at the end of Revelation Chapter 8, an eagle fly in the air crying, "Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth...." because of the three more woes that will come on the earth.

-As the Fifth Trumpet is blown, this first woe is released on the Earth. Chapter 9:

John sees a star being given a key to the bottomless pit. Who is this star? Who is this angel? Good angel probably, because he got the key. Normally Christ holds the key. And so this angel opens the bottomless pit. What is in the bottomless pit? It's the place of fallen angels, the place of demons, that's where they are cast.

And then it tells us the moment the bottomless pit was opened, rose smoke like the smoke of a great furnace so much that it darkened the sky. But then out of the smoke came locusts. And these locusts had the power to torment like scorpions. Normally, locusts attack vegetation, not humans. But these locusts were told to torment people who were not sealed with a seal of God, for five months. They were not to kill them, just torment them. These people

would cry out, seeking to die because their torment was like the torment of a scorpion sting. The pain is unbearable, but death is not possible to these people, just five months of repeated scorpion stings.

Now who are these locusts? This is where the difficult part of Revelation comes. A large part of Revelation Chapter 9 describes these locusts with a very strange kind of appearance. They looked like horses, they had crowns of gold, they had human faces and they had woman's hair, and teeth like lions' teeth. They sounded like chariots when they went out. People will speculate and spend all their time trying to imagine what this is. Why do I even need to agonize over this? All I'm going to say is they are some strange things I have never seen and I cannot imagine. So don't be like these people who spent hours trying to figure out this thing. Don't let these parts of Revelation stumble you.

And then, we're told that the king of this army of locusts that sting like scorpions, is Abaddon in Hebrew, and Apollyon in Greek, both of which simply mean he is a destroyer. Is it Satan? Probably. He has come to destroy, but God doesn't allow him to kill. Satan can only do what God allows, not a jot more. And his power is only very temporary. So that's the Fifth Trumpet blast, it makes the first woe.

Now we see intensification. Before that, there is death, the first seal, there is war, there's famine. We can picture those things. Our ancestors have gone through wars, famines, and then now we see it intensifies. So in the beginning, we see things that have happened before, but now on a larger and more intensive scale; now we're beginning to see things we have never seen before.

-In the second part of Chapter 9, the Sixth Trumpet is blown, a second woe:

Here we see the release of 4 angels which have been bound up in the River Euphrates. These 4 angels are released by the Sixth Trumpet blast. "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates....to kill a third of mankind (v14 &15). Then John saw a massive army of 200 million mounted troops. Now, of course, in the time when Revelation was written, there were not even 2 million people, or 2 million soldiers in any army, but today that's not impossible. I mean, for example, the army of China could mobilize 200 million. And they are mounted troops. What kind of mounted troops are these? Breastplates of red and yellow, and from their mouth comes fire and smoke from their mouth, and their tails have power like serpents. Now what in the world is this again? This baffles people. You don't need to understand these things. These are the kinds of troops with weapons you have never seen, yet to be invented. Who would have heard of drones as weapons before? Today, drones are a common form of weapons. A few decades ago, who would have heard of intercontinental ballistic missiles? So all these things are things that are to be invented and basically, they're going to be killing one third of the world, even more than the earlier one, which was allowed to kill one quarter of the world. This is an overlay of it. So basically, in Revelation Chapter 9, we're seeing now the supernatural things that our brain cannot conceptualize and we don't need to. When the time comes, you'll probably say, "Yes, that's a perfect description of such and such a weapon." If I described the drone as a as weapon of destruction to people 20 years ago, they will say, "What are you talking about? Do you mean, you're going to kill Taliban with something flying in the air that can see where he is in the dark and finish him off? Are you talking about science fiction or real stuff?" Today, it's a normal way of taking on terrorists.

But I want you to see the end of Revelation Chapter 9 which is very interesting. In spite of all the natural calamities, and then the supernatural calamities, of mountains moving, of hail with fire from heaven, of things dropping into the sea turning to blood, (all that can be related to Exodus) people would have figured out that this is God's work. We've read this

before. Everybody saw the story of the Prince of Egypt, they saw the blood and all of these things, hail falling from heaven. This is God's wrath. You would think the world will say, "Sorry, God. Pharaoh was a stubborn fool but we're not going to be a stubborn fool."

But let's look at what Revelation 9:20 say

The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshipping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk, nor did they repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

Let's study these words. Of course, you understand 'idolatry'. The world is worshipping idols, that's been for history; but they did not repent of their murders? You mean there's so much murder going on in the world today? Many people say, "No, we live in a society where there is law and order." Now, as a doctor, can I just tell you, there are more people murdered than there are people born every day? You say, "What are you talking about?" In many countries, abortion is "abortion on demand". You're pregnant, and you don't want the baby, you just have an abortion. In countries like Japan, there are more babies aborted than babies born because abortions are quite simple. Now, as far as I'm concerned, and I'm a doctor, I study embryology, that's not just cells, that's a little human. The embryo is not just an embryo, it's a little human in the womb. And we know who the murderers are. It's not the gangsters going out shooting people in the dark. These are doctors in white coats. The most respected people in society are the biggest murderers in society. And people who study science, which is like almost every human being on earth knows what an embryo looks like. It does look like a human and they are just pulled out, thrown into the dustbin in maternity clinics everywhere in the world. So there are more murders today than at any time in human history. Murder done by the most respected person in society, a doctor generally and sanctioned and requested by the one who normally loves babies more than anyone else-mothers. We have reached a generation where the biggest murderers are mothers, in cooperation with doctors. Is this a world God

wants to see going on? The embryo is a miracle of God. A little human with all the potential, made in the image of God, is being killed by the millions every day.

Second, the words here, “they didn't repent of their sorceries”. Now the word “sorcery” sounds very quaint. You mean, modern people do sorcery, witchcraft and brew all kinds of stuff? If you look at the Greek word for the word “sorcery”, the word is “pharmakon”. We get the word “pharmacy” from this word. It simply means medicine. In the past, medicines were used as medicines, and medicines were used also to cast spells on people's mind and people's mood. Today, there is sorcery practice on people's minds. Never in history, (do) people use mood-changing medicines like today. Tranquilizers has become part of life; it's the largest prescription drugs used in the world. I was a GP for years and one of the most popular drugs people ask for is tranquilizers. When they feel tense, they want (to relax) their mood; if they are down, they want to take something to perk them up a little bit. And today, when you go to all these cool places, there are mood drugs to make you feel good, make you feel high. This is the word “sorcery”, “pharmakon”. Before, a few witches play with these things, today, anybody, if he feels down, doesn't go to God; he goes to his little pharmakon, his sorcery cabinet to take these things.

The next word “sexual immorality” in Revelations 9:21. Sexual immorality is so common. You don't need to go out to look for sexual immorality. You don't need to sneak out to some bar, you go to your laptop. Teenagers all watch, people all over the world are just full of immorality right in their respectable homes, in their offices, wherever. Immorality is everywhere. It is considered normal.

And lastly, theft. You say, “You mean there's a lot of stealing today and it troubles God? In Singapore, there's not much theft you know?” I can tell

you, almost every one of you is a thief, stealing software illegally, using branded fake goods illegally. This is theft, it's theft of copyright, theft of people's hard work. There is theft when a person works hard, earns money, hides it under his bed, and you come and steal it. That's his hard work. But today, people work with their brains, they do creative work, to make applications, to make movies, to make good songs, design chairs, clothes, and you know what the biggest industry is? Stealing all those designs - the imitation industry, and it only thrives because we are all thieves, we want to buy cheap.

God is seeing all these. Murders-God is so sick of seeing people killing babies. So sick of seeing everybody turning to sorceries, the god of the pills. Their God is not Jehovah Rapha, the great healer. They have a cabinet of "pharmakon" sorceries. And then, sexual immorality on demand, in your laptop. And then, thefts right in your laptop, in your wardrobe, on your wrist. You just don't repent.

How do you think the holy God feels? Does He want these to continue, to get worse and worse? Finally, He just wipes out the Earth. Once upon a time, He wiped it out like in the days of Noah. Today, He says, "Enough!" Today, a new world, with a new people with a new heart, hopefully prepared, trained for a new life on a New Earth. May God bless you with this simple message that this world needs to be destroyed. But that's not the end of the story.

We come now to Revelation Chapter 10. In the previous chapter when the Sixth Trumpet was sounded, the 4 angels that were bound up in the River Euphrates were released. We saw the horrendous release of an army of 200 million mounted troops, and they were described in such a unique way, with fire coming out, sulphur and power in their tails. My question is this: Is this description a repeat of what was revealed in Revelation Chapter 6-the

first 4 horsemen of the apocalypse, the one we are all familiar with? The white horse, the red horse, the black horse and the pale horse, that were going to give war and bloodshed and famine and then death. Is this giving more details of that war? I'm not sure, maybe, very likely it is describing the way that this new warfare would take place. So while in Revelation (Chapter) 6 it speaks of these 4, the sequence of war causing famine, causing disease and death, this one, possibly, now gives the details of the war. But the point is, whatever horrible things happened, even by supernatural means, meant that God was angry with those who refuse to repent.

Now in chapter 10, we see an intermission. In the previous chapter was the Sixth Trumpet. But before the Seventh is blown, we have this intermission. And here we have a little interesting break, so to speak. John sees a mighty angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud, with a rainbow over his head, his face shining like the sun, and his legs like pillars of fire. In other words, an awesome angel, and in his hand was a little scroll. We're not informed what this little scroll is. This is not the big scroll that was in the hand of the One who sat on the throne. Remember the one that only the Lamb had the right to unseal. And then this angel planted his right foot on the sea, his left foot on the land, and called out with a loud voice. I think it's saying that he is giving a message for the entire world because basically the world is made of land and sea. And when he called out, seven thunders sounded. And John was about to write what he was going to say, but the angel said, "Seal it! Don't write it down."

Then this same angel raises his hand and swears by God, that there will be no more delay when the Seventh Trumpet is blown. The mystery of God will be fulfilled. In other words, instead of going on and on with more and more signs, he says, "When the Seventh Trumpet is blown, no more delay". We're going to see it all, the consummation of all the prophecies and mysteries of God. The Old Testament has lots of prophecies about how the



world would end, the New Heaven, the New Earth, the New Jerusalem but all in bits and pieces and nobody knew when it would happen in the proper sequence, but now he says, "All this will be revealed, no more a mystery, it will be unveiled at this time."

So then, he hears a voice saying, "Go, take the scroll." So John goes up and takes this scroll from the angel and then he said, "Take it and eat it; it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey." So, John eats the scroll and true enough, it was sweet in his mouth and bitter when it got into his stomach. Now what in the world is this? My guess is, and I think it makes sense to me, when a believer sees the end of the world coming as you know it, and the beginning of the New Heaven and New Earth in which we will be the new citizens, and we will rule and enter this amazing place for eternity, it's sweet. The thought is sweet. But when we see the whole of it as it goes down into our stomach and we digest it, it is bitter. What do you mean? Because of the horrible destruction that will come to this earth. The horrible suffering that people who have rejected God, would go through, and the horrible end of all those people. And then the angel says, "You must go and prophesy to all people. Go, tell this message."

So this is the little intermission in Revelation Chapter 10. While we are here, as Christians, we say, "Even so, come quickly, Lord Jesus." We are tired of all this, that's our dream and yet at the same time, it's bitter in our stomachs because of the horrendous end for so many people who have rejected Jesus Christ as Savior.

Now, in Chapter 11, we see that John is given a measuring rod. He's told to measure the temple in Jerusalem. So obviously there's a temple in Jerusalem in the last days. And he's told to measure just the temple, but not the outer court. Now the temple has two parts. There was an outer court

where Gentiles were allowed to step in, but nobody could cross beyond that Outer Court. If any Gentile was caught crossing beyond the outer court he would be condemned to death. So he is asked to measure the temple but not the outer court because the outer court would be severely trampled by the Gentiles in the Great Tribulation (during) the last three and a half years of these horrible events that would take place. Now measuring the temple is, in a sense, an image of putting a line that nobody can cross, that means it's like a protection line for God's people. This is actually taken from Zechariah 2:1-5. Just check it up, and you will see the image of protecting by measuring. This is the boundary no one can cross.

Then it mentions the outer court will be trampled by the Gentiles for three and a half years. This probably ties in with Daniel's prophecy, the half week. The word "week" is 7. Half 7 is three and a half. So in Daniel 9:27, there's a mention of a period of half week or half sevens, so three and a half. During this three and a half years, there will be huge suffering, and the outer court and the temple will be severely trampled.

Then, Chapter 11 says that God will raise two witnesses, dressed in sackcloth, who will prophesy in the temple for 1260 days or three and a half years. So these three and a half years thing we see in Daniel and we will see that described later in the rest of Revelation. So what we're going to see is a very special period of 1260 days, or three and a half years. And during this time in the temple, God raises two guys, dressed in black sackcloth, to preach in the temple to testify against the people's sins, their idolatries, their wickedness, and preach to them to turn from those to the living God. Can you imagine it? These poor guys, during this terrible period of time, will be obviously severely persecuted and everybody wants to kill them. And if anyone would harm them, fire comes out of their mouth and kills their foes. More than that, these two witnesses or preachers or prophets can shut the heaven so that it doesn't rain for that period of time. They can turn water into blood, can strike the earth with every kind of plaque. So these are two awesome witnesses. We had people like Elijah who could stand up against the prophets. We had Moses who can stand against Pharaoh but it's nothing like these two guys. And then, when their

preaching is done, after that period of time, then the beast that comes out of the bottomless pit will kill them. Finally, when the testimony is done, God allows them to be killed. And after they're killed, their bodies lie for three and a half days in the street, and they're not allowed to be buried so that the whole world can come and gloat over the victory, over these two guys "who were spoiling our fun, so to speak; telling us immorality is wrong, our lifestyle is wrong, telling us to turn from our lifestyle to God." Their bodies are left there for the whole world to rejoice over them and make merry and exchange presents.

But then, after the three and a half days a breath of life from God goes into them, and they stand up. Imagine, the whole world's press is there, every newspaper's correspondent will be there taking pictures, and suddenly, the two guys stand up. And then a huge thunderous voice from Heaven says, "Come up here" and they go up. Can you imagine the terror that struck all those people standing there and watching, and then at that very moment, there was an earthquake, and one-tenth of the city of Jerusalem crumbles down, and 7000 people die.

God always has His prophets to stand up to preach even when people will not listen, to give people one last chance. You will think like, "God, You're doing this for thousands of years, isn't it enough? So many plagues, hail from heaven, the water turns to blood, the rivers become bitter, locusts come out of the ground and demons, the world should know that God is doing something horrendous." There were terrible wars we saw in the trumpet sound, this army of 200 million, and all kinds of horrendous things taking place. Obviously, supernatural things were taking place and yet people will not repent; and yet God sends preachers to beg them, to plead with them, to turn! For how long? Three over years, day and night, begging them to turn and they would not. And finally, the city comes down. 7000 died.

And then Revelation (Chapter) 11 goes on to say the Seventh Trumpet blasts. A voice from heaven says, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever."(v15) And then the 24 elders in heaven fall down and worship God, saying, "We give thanks to God who has now begun to reign and to judge the wicked and reward His people."

And then John sees the temple in heaven open, and he sees the ark of the covenant inside. And then Revelation (Chapter) 11 ends with lightning and thunders and earthquake. This is the Seventh Trumpet. It ends this way - lightning, thunders and earthquake.

The 7 seals end that way, the 7 bowls end that way. What does that tell us? I believe the 7 seals, when they are opened, remember the 4 horsemen showed us about conqueror, war, famine, death. It was just generic description of the last days, there's going to be so much suffering. Then the next 7 signs, not seals. First it's the 7 seals, then the 7 trumpets blown, describe what was described as war in greater detail, what was described as famine in greater detail, what was described as death in greater detail. In other words, how did all these happen? In the trumpet one, we begin to see, "Oh, so much suffering. Hail also falling down, water turning to blood, water cannot be drunk, demons coming out of the ground. The bottomless pit is opened up and all these awful locust-like beings, demonic beings, coming out of the ground. And then the 4 angels in the River Euphrates released. And then an army of 200 million soldiers, dressed in (something) so hard to describe.

So the 7 seals, 7 trumpets and 7 bowl judgments are actually the same, just that the detail gets more and more, describing the same thing. When you first read about the 7 seals, white horse, then red horse, then black horse and then pale horse, it doesn't look so bad yet, right? It's like, well, we've always seen war. Then, what kind of war is this? My goodness, the

demons coming out of the ground, war with 200 million soldiers coming up, sulphur coming. What kind of suffering are they going through? Why are they starving, why is there famine and all that? The water is turning to blood, the fish are dying, the rivers are worm-wood poisonous, no wonder people have nothing to eat, nothing to drink. The people are dying, one-third of the world, quarter of the world are dying.

So actually the 7 seals, 7 trumpets, 7 bowls, all of them, end in the same way - lightning, thunders and earthquake. Same ending! Actually, all of them are describing the same period, but in greater and greater detail and horror. Don't think - the 7 seals, followed by the 7 trumpets, then followed by the 7 bowl judgments. No. 1st, it's showing the overall picture; then more detail and horror; and then greater and more detail, and greater and more horror.

Then there are some intermissions, like when John is asked to eat the scroll. Those are intermissions that help us get a breath, so to speak. And this measuring of the temple talks about how God will protect His people, and how God allows two witnesses during this time of horror to give people a chance to turn from their sins.

So I hope when you study Revelation, don't get into the speculation of too many things, but get the idea of who God is, what a merciful God He is. Even in spite of all these and people still refused to repent, but God still refuses to give up, pleading with them through those two witnesses whom He placed in the temple, in this very place where they could preach the gospel for such a long period of time. So that's the message of Revelation Chapter 11.