Sunday, June 9, 2024

1 Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching."

<u>Title:</u> The Sounding of the Trumpets 5 and 6 <u>Series:</u> Revelation ... 15 Text: Revelation 9:1 - 21

Purpose: I want to INFORM my congregation of the significance of the sounding of trumpets 5 and 6 in Revelation 9:1 - 21

Introduction:

Last week we considered the sounding of the first FOUR trumpets recorded in chapter 8 of Revelation and related them to the trumpets of Numbers 10 and the trumpets that sounded at Jericho: 1) Sounding of the Trumpets in Numbers 10; 2) Sounding of the Trumpets at Jericho; 3) The Sounding of the First Four Trumpets

There is a vast array of opinions regarding these two trumpet blasts and what they bring forth. The Pulpit Commentary, regarding some of the different opinions, makes this comment: "Some are obviously absurd; in all there is considerable doubt and difficulty."

"The late Dr. Wilbur M. Smith, who made the book of Revelation his special study once wrote: "It is probable that, apart from the exact identification of Babylon in Revelation 17 and 18, the meaning of the two judgments in this chapter represent the most difficult major problem in the Revelation." (Wycliffe Bible Commentary, 1509). Revelation 9 describes two frightening armies that are liberated at just the right time and permitted to judge mankind." Warren W. Wiersbe

Whether an individual regards the things described as 'symbolic' or as literal the destruction is real!

1. Sounding of the Fifth Trumpet:

~ vs. 1, "I saw a star fallen...and he was given the key to the shaft of the bottomless pit."

Notice that this is a personal being who has been given "the key" by God!

- ~ vs. 2, "bottomless pit" Luke 8:31; Romans 10:7; Revelation 9:1, 2, 11; 11:7; 17:8; 20:1; 20:3
- Place of torment for fallen angels: 2 Pet. 2:4 and Jude 6; see Luke 10:18 Jesus saw Satan fall!
- ~ "smoke" speaks of deception (Dr. Jack Hayford). 2 Corinthians 4:4, "In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."
- ~ vs. 3, I am persuaded that this is a demon army already incarcerated awaiting the fifth trumpet.

This description would take the Hebrew mind to the eight plague on Egypt.

- Scorpion's tail causes pain!
- ~ vs. 4, "but only those people who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads."

The first four trumpet judgments struck the earth, these two attack the soul. John 8:44; 10:10

- ~ vs. 5, five months is the life cycle of the locust!
- ~ vs. 6, such pain that people will seek death
- \sim vs. 7 10 the description of these demons
- ~ vs. 11 they have a king over them which natural locust do NOT have (Proverbs 30:27).

2. Sounding of the Sixth Trumpet:

- \sim vs. 13 14, command from the golden altar to "Release the four angels..."
- ~ vs. 15, "So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour, the day, them month, and the year, were released to kill a third of mankind."
- ~ vs. 16 19, "By these three plagues a third of mankind was killed, by the fire and smoke and sulfur coming out of their mouths."

3. Solemn Revelation of the Human Response:

~ vs. 20 – 21, "The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshiping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk, (21) nor did they repent of their murders or their sorceries or the sexual immorality or their thefts."

Conclusion:

2 Peter 3:9 – 12, "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. (10) But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. (11) Since all these things are thus to be dissolve, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, (12) waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn."



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