

----- The Events Right Before the End of the First 42 Months -----

-The Next Three Trumpets (Woe, Woe, Woe)

John sees an angel who warns the inhabitants of Earth, of the next three trumpets: Rev. 8:13 And I saw and I heard one angel flying in mid-Heaven, saying with a loud voice, **Woe! Woe! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, from the rest of the voices of the trumpet of the three angels being about to sound!** This is very serious! The first four trumpets will have been devastating judgments upon the Earth that occur during the early part of the 7-year Great Tribulation. And as bad as the first four trumpets are, the last three trumpets are even worse, as indicated by an angel's warning to those living on Earth. The judgments of the last three trumpets are so bad, they are called woes. They will happen in the latter part of the first half of the Great Tribulation. (These 3 woes will not be prophesied by the 2 witnesses.)

I want to make sure that everyone understands that these prophecies are not imaginary, they really will happen, that is why we need to tell our family and friends that they need to get serious about serving God, so they won't have to go through these events.

-The Fifth Trumpet (The First Woe)

The fifth trumpet brings in the first woe: Rev. 9:1 And the fifth angel sounded. And I saw a star fall from the Heaven to the earth, and it was given the key of the abyss. This is more than a star; it was an angel fallen from Heaven. The wording is important: he does not descend from Heaven, but falls. Is this Satan? No he is not, since he has a different name (we learn in later verses that his name is Abaddon or Apollyon). Yet, we see that he has the key to the abyss. It is not a literal key because there is no literal lock. Instead, the word key refers to the power he had received over the bottomless pit. Later, John shows us an angel descending from Heaven with this same key, yet he is a good angel Rev 20:1; thus, the word key refers to power.

After this bad angel receives the key: Rev. 9:2-4 And it opened the bottomless pit. And there arose a smoke out of the pit, like the smoke of a great furnace. And the sun and air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit. And out of the smoke came forth locusts onto the earth. And authority was given to them, as the scorpions of the earth have authority. And they were commanded not to hurt the grass

of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who did not have the seal of God in their foreheads. This reminds us of the 144,000 Jews who stayed on Earth during the first 1,335 days of the 7-year Great Tribulation. They will not be affected by these locusts since they “have the seal of God in their foreheads”.

Now the locusts were given specific instructions: Rev. 9:5-6 And to them it was given that they should **not kill men**, but that they should be tormented five months. And their torment was like a scorpion's torment when he stings a man. And in those days men will seek death and will not find it. And they will long to die, and death will flee from them. These locusts could represent viruses, since they don't eat grass or any type of trees, and since they cause people to be in serious pain, and possibly bed-ridden, for five months. It could be some type of flu virus, yet it will cause great pain. The pain will be so unbearable that they will seek death, but they won't be able to die.

John describes the locusts: Rev. 9:7-11 And the shapes of the locusts were like horses prepared for battle. And on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were like the faces of men. And they had hairs like the hairs of women, and their teeth were like the teeth of lions. And they had breastplates like breastplates of iron. And the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle. And they had tails like scorpions, and there were stings in their tails. And their authority was to hurt men five months. And they had a king over them, the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the **Hebrew** tongue is Abaddon, but in **Greek** his name is Apollyon. These strange-looking locusts are released by the fallen angel who had the key to the abyss. Notice that the fifth trumpet is also the very first woe of the three that are to come.

THE 5TH TRUMPET IS THE FIRST WOE:

THE ANGEL FALLS FROM HEAVEN

HIS NAME IN HEBREW IS ABADDON IN GREEK APOLLYON

HE WAS GIVEN THE KEY (power) TO THE ABYSS

THE LOCUSTS COME OUT FROM THE SMOKE -

TO STING THOSE WITHOUT THE SEAL ON THEIR FOREHEAD

THE PAIN IS LIKE A SCORPIONS STING

THEY SHOULD NOT KILL MEN BUT -

TORMENT THEM FOR 5 MONTHS

THEY WILL SEEK DEATH

DEATH WILL FLEE FROM THEM

Now, let me bring up an apparent problem and then the solution, this angel seems to have been kicked out of Heaven near the end of the first half of the 7-year tribulation. Yet Satan and his angels were kicked out at the beginning of the 7-year great tribulation Rev 12:9. So what was this bad angel doing in Heaven? The answer is that this angel did not follow Satan and so he stayed in Heaven, but God knew his heart and He will not allow anyone who does not truly love Him to be with Him forever. Therefore, God kicks him out of Heaven after the four trumpets had sounded, and this angel shows his true colors by releasing the locusts from the abyss, proving that he is a bad angel that was not worthy of God's love.

-The Sixth Trumpet (The Second Woe) (World War III)

Rev. 9:13-15 And the sixth angel sounded his trumpet. And I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar before God, saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, Loose the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, who were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, in order to slay the third part of men. The voice from the golden altar tells the sixth angel to "loose the four angels." These are four bad angels because they were bound, yet they are released to kill one-third of men and they are given a specific timeframe in which to do this (prepared for an **hour, day, month** and **year**). God uses both good and bad angels to send His judgments. (The great river Euphrates is in Iraq.)

Notice that the voice that commands the sixth angel comes from the golden altar. The golden altar is before the throne of God. It is not the altar where the souls were told to rest a little while longer.

THE GOLDEN ALTAR IS BEFORE GOD'S THRONE: (Rev 8:3, 9:13)

Now we see that these 4 angels will use huge armies: Rev 9:16 And the number of the armies of the horsemen was two myriads of myriads (200 million). And I heard their number. I remind you that these four angels are to kill one-third of men, but we see the armies (plural) they will use to do the killing, and they number 200 million horsemen. Many Christians believe China and Russia will be involved in this war, and they will come to Iraq where the Euphrates River is, in an attempt to be the most powerful nations on the Earth. In fact, China and Russia have already been seen doing military drills together. As they invade Iraq, the U.S. will attack them, along with other countries, and this will be World War III. It will be so bad that one-third of men on the Earth will be killed in this war. It will weaken the strongest

militaries in the world, including the U.S. This will all happen right before the end of the first half of the 7-year tribulation in preparation for the takeover of the world by the antichrist. The sixth trumpet **is not** an invasion of Israel, since we know that the antichrist will take over Israel in the midst of the 7-year Tribulation Dn 9:27.

John describes the military vehicles: Rev 9:17 And so I saw the horses in the vision, and those sitting on them, having breastplates of fire, even dusky red and brimstone. And the heads of the horses were like the heads of lions. And out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. John tries to the best of his ability to describe the military vehicles and other equipment that we see in these days. He does mention that fire and smoke come out of them, and that is what we see come out of the barrels of our modern weapons. John was incredibly correct in what he saw.

Rev 9:18 By these **three** the third part of men was killed, by the **fire**, and by the **smoke**, and by the **brimstone** which issued out of their **mouths**. One-third of men are killed by the four angels who were loosed. These 4 angels will influence the leaders of these militaries to do the killings. I have to wonder if the smoke refers to actual smoke, or to chemical weapons, since it is hard to kill people with smoke. But John could be describing the fire, smoke, and brimstone of explosions that kill many people. We are talking about a lot of people; if there are six billion people living on Earth, two billion will be killed! The population of today is close to 7 billion people.

Rev 9:19-21 For their authority is in their mouth and in their tails. For their tails were like serpents with heads, and with them they do harm. **Now please notice this:** And the rest of the men who were not killed by these plagues still **did not** repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and golden, and silver, and bronze, and stone, and wooden idols (which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk). And they did not repent of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts. Notice that neither **the antichrist** nor the **mark of the beast**, are mentioned here.

The reason for this is that these events happen during the first half of the 7-year Great Tribulation, and the antichrist gets authority for only the last 42 months Rev 13:5. At that moment (of the sixth trumpet), the antichrist will be itching to receive power over the whole Earth.

Now notice something that John mentions here: “And the rest of the men **did not repent** that they should not worship demons, and

golden, and silver, and bronze, and stone, and wooden idols.” In these last days, some people have ignored the commandment of our Holy God where He tells us that we should not worship any idols, we read this in Exo 20:4 *You shall not make to yourselves any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in the heavens above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.* Exo 20:5 *You shall not bow yourself down to them, nor serve them.* God is very clear here, yet people still break His commandment and worship a statue made by hands, or a painting with an image of a person as if it can see, hear, or talk. Yet after the sixth trumpet is sounded and 1/3 of men are killed, there will still be people breaking God’s commandment by worshipping man-made statues.

Some people have suggested that there will be one army with 200 million soldiers, but that is not what we read: Rev 9:16 *And the number of the armies of the horsemen was two myriads of myriads. And I heard their number.* We read that the number of “the armies” plural, not one army but armies. And we see that there will be 200 million soldiers “two myriads of myriads” and **one third** of men will be killed by these armies, which could number in the billions of dead people.

If it is true that the 200 million soldiers will belong to one army, then those 200 million will go to war against other militaries (since no army fights against itself), which total more than 200 million.

THE SIXTH TRUMPET / WORLD WAR III:

THE 4 ANGELS THAT WERE LOOSED CAUSE IT
THE ARMIES WILL TOTAL 200 MILLION HORSEMEN
1/3 OF ALL MEN WILL BE KILLED WITH THE ARMIES
MEN WILL NOT REPENT FROM WORSHIPING IDOLS
HAPPENS AT THE GREAT RIVER EUPHRATES IN IRAQ

-Great Earthquake (Part of the Second Woe)

Besides World War III being part of the second woe, the two witnesses will be killed, and we will see another event that happens: Rev 11:13 *And in that hour a great earthquake occurred, and the tenth part of the city fell. And seven thousand names of men were slain in the earthquake. And the rest were frightened and gave glory to the God of Heaven.* A great earthquake occurs, and many will actually give glory to God. Does this mean that everyone will now believe in God? No, it will only be temporary. Just as we saw that after the 9-11 terrorist attacks, many people went to church, yet after a few days, they forgot about God and they went back to being the same as before.

We now read that the second woe has passed, Rev 11:14 *The second woe passed away. Behold, the third woe comes quickly.* The second woe includes the two witnesses being killed after they have prophesied for 1,260 days. They are killed by the antichrist.

Right after the second woe, we are warned that the third woe is coming quickly.

The second woe, along with the third woe will happen close to each other at the midst of the 7-year Great Tribulation.

-The Angel with the Scroll (Jesus Tells John to Keep Preaching)

(This Event Happens Before the Seventh Trumpet)

John has seen a lot of prophecies fulfilled in the first half, and they were very strong judgments sent to Earth by God. But now he sees a mighty angel who gives him a book with more prophecies containing the most severe judgments. And he must prophesy them because there shall be “no more waiting”: Rev 10:1-6 *And I saw another mighty angel coming down out of the Heaven, clothed with a cloud. And a rainbow was on his head, and his face was as the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire. And he had a little book open in his hand. And he set his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the earth. And the angel whom I saw standing on the sea (has a Kingdom) and on the earth (is a King) lifted his hand to the Heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created the Heaven and the things in it, and the earth and the things in it, and the sea and the things in it, that there should be no more waiting.* This angel has to be Jesus Christ because He is clothed with a cloud (as we saw earlier, Jesus is often described as coming in the clouds). A rainbow is on His head as in Rev 4:3 where a rainbow is around the throne of God. His face is as the sun, and Jesus is previously described with a face like the sun shining in its strength Rev. 1:16. The angel also swears by Him who lives forever and ever, but only God can swear by Himself, as we see in, Heb 6:13: *For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no greater, He swore by Himself.* So we see that this angel must be Christ. The fact that Jesus is called an angel is not something new. I will remind you that Jesus was known as the Angel of Jehovah in the Old Testament: Gen 22:11 *And the Angel of Jehovah...*

Ezekiel saw Jesus: Ez 1:26 “*the appearance of a man*” and Ez 1:27 “*From His waist downward I saw, as, the appearance of fire*” just as John saw the mighty angel with: Rev 10:1 “*his feet like pillars of fire*”. Both John and Ezekiel saw Jesus with “*his feet like pillars of fire*”

A voice from Heaven (God the Father) commands John: Rev 10:8-11 And the voice which I heard from Heaven spoke to me again, and said, Go, take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the earth. And I went to the angel and said to him, Give me the little book. And he said to me, Take it and eat it up, and it will make your belly bitter, but it will be sweet as honey in your mouth. And I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it up. And it was sweet as honey in my mouth, and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was made bitter. And he said to me, You must **prophecy** again before many peoples and nations and tongues and kings. John is given a little book with the rest of the prophecies of the Book of Revelation. When he receives these prophecies, it tastes sweet because it is the prophecies of God. But when he digests the Book, he understands it to be the next judgments, and he is affected by the severity of them “my belly was made bitter”. These prophecies will include the 7 bowl judgments, which happen in the last half of the 7-year Great Tribulation.

I want to point out something very interesting, the fact that the angel is standing with one foot on the sea tells us that He has a Kingdom, and since He has His other foot standing on the Earth shows that He is a King, we can prove this by reading Daniel chapter 7.

We first read of the 4 kingdoms which come out from the sea: Dn 7:3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, different from one another. Dn 7:23 And he said, The fourth **beast** shall be the fourth **kingdom** on earth.

While the kingdoms are represented as coming out of the sea, the kings are shown to arise out of the **Earth**: Dn 7:17 These four great beasts are four kings; they shall arise out of the **earth**. So we see that the Kings “arise out of the earth”, but the kingdoms “four great beasts” come up from the sea. This proves that the angel with the scroll is Jesus, who will have a kingdom (right foot on the sea) and He will be a King (left foot on Earth).

THE MIGHTY ANGEL (JESUS) WITH A SCROLL:

HE WAS CLOTHED WITH A CLOUD

HE HAD A RAINBOW ON HIS HEAD Ezk 1:28

HIS FACE WAS AS THE SUN

HIS FEET ARE LIKE PILLARS OF FIRE Ezk 1:27

HIS RIGHT FOOT WAS ON THE SEA (He will have a Kingdom)

HIS LEFT FOOT WAS ON THE EARTH (He will be King)

HE SWORE BY GOD (that there would be no more wait)

In the book of Daniel, we see a similar event to this one seen in the book of Revelation, Dn 12:5 Then I Daniel looked, and behold, there stood another two, the one on this side, and the one on that side of the bank of the river. Dn 12:6 And one said to the man clothed in linen on the waters of the river: Until when shall be the end of these wonders? Dn 12:7 And I heard the man **clothed in linen**, who was on the waters of the river, when he held up **his right and his left hand to Heaven**, and **swore** by Him who lives forever that **it shall be for a time, times, and a half**. And when they have made an end of scattering the power of the holy people, **all these things shall be finished**.

The man who is clothed in linen is Jesus, who was on the waters, which is not a problem since we know that Jesus can walk on water, and just as the mighty angel raised his hand to Heaven, Jesus raised both hands to swear by Him who lives forever, just as the angel swore by Him who lives forever and ever (He swore by God the Father). One of the 2 men asked Jesus; “*Until when shall be the end of these wonders?*” and since Jesus knows the future, He answers the question with, “*It shall be for a time, times, and a half*”, this is in reference to the last 3-1/2 years of the 7-year great tribulation. I believe that Jesus was speaking to the 2 witnesses in Daniel 12:5-7.

JESUS WAS ON TOP OF THE WATERS IN: Dn 12:6

JESUS WALKED ON TOP OF THE WATERS IN: Mt 14:25

It shall be for a time, times, and a half, all these things shall be finished

Time is 1 year, **Times** is 2 years, **Half** is ½ year = 3 years and a half

-The Seven Thunders

Another clue that proves that this mighty angel (in Rev 10) is Jesus is that the angel’s voice is loud “*like a lion roaring*”. And Jesus is the Lion of the tribe of Judah. Rev 10:3-4 And he cried with a loud voice, **like a lion roaring**. And when he had cried, seven thunders spoke their sounds. And when the seven thunders spoke their sounds, I was about to write. And I heard a voice from Heaven saying to me, Seal up what things the seven thunders spoke, and do not write these things. John hears what the seven thunders say, but he is told to “*Seal up what things the seven thunders spoke...*” There are seven things that Jesus says, but we will not know what John heard until we hear it ourselves.

If God wanted His children to know the meaning of this, He would give us some clues. And the only things that could be considered clues are that there are a total of seven thunders spoken. So Jesus spoke 7 things, but what did He say?