Revelation #24 05-07-23

<u>Rev. 16:1</u>: 'And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.'

Last time, we saw: 'And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles. ⁷ And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who liveth for ever and ever. ⁸ And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.' Rev 17:6

Why is God using angels; why doesn't He just make it happen? In chapter 14, we read: '*And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder*...' As I was writing this, on Thursday, the sound of thunder was a continuous rumble which we had been hearing all night. God causes lightning and thunder but why does He use angels so much here?

In case you didn't know what causes thunder: basically, thunder is the sound caused by lightning; when lightning streaks across the sky or from ground to sky, the air around the lightning bolt is heated to 50,000*F. As the superheated air around that streak rapidly cools, it produces a vacuum tube which cracks loudly and then continues to reverberate as if within a long, hollow drum; that is why the sound rumbles across the sky.

God is the One Who produces lightning and thunder: '*He directeth it under the whole heaven, and his lightning unto the ends of the earth.*' Job 37:3

Throughout Revelation, God has used His angels to accomplish much of what happens... why? and why does He use humans to accomplish so much of His will? Does He really need our expert help?

God is a loving Father to His children; His elect angels are His sons, also. In Job and in Gen. 6, the Bible refers to angels as, 'the sons of God.' 'Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them.' Job 1:6 Of Job, God asked, 'Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. ⁵ Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? ⁶ Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; ⁷ When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?' Job 38:4

Angels are people; they are not humans but they are truly people; in fact, they are a higher order of people than are current, sinful man. In Psalms, we read: 'When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; ⁴ What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? ⁵ For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. ⁶ Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:' Psa 8:3

On the other hand, God's Word tells us of God's angels: '... **Are they** (angels) **not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation**?' That's us... we are those who shall be heirs of salvation and angels are ALL sent forth to minister for us!

Here is an example of God's angel ministering for us: 'Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared.²¹ Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name is in him.²² But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries.²³ For mine Angel shall go before thee, and bring thee in unto the Amorites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites: and I will cut them off. Ex 23:20

Here's what I think: at the moment of the Rapture, we will be finally glorified in eternal, perfect bodies which will interact perfectly within both the physical and spiritual realms as one. When we return with the Lord Jesus Christ at Armageddon, He will establish His Kingdom on Earth. There will still be a differentiation

between the physical and spiritual realms; we know this because the Earth will be repopulated and filled with mortal people who, like us, now, will be fashioned to only experience the physical realm. I believe angels will continue to minister for us and, to probably help us in whatever areas of authority God will have placed each of us as we begin to rule and reign with Him: first, for 1000 years and then forever.

We are, now, being trained to rule reign with the Lord Jesus Christ in His thousand year Kingdom on Earth; we will spend that time being trained to rule and reign with Him, forever, in His Eternal Kingdom of the entire Universe after He destroys the present Heaven and Earth and creates a New Heaven and New Earth in which the physical and spiritual will be joined as one. There will be no more sin, no more sorrow and no more death.

All that to say... God's angels are also His sons; He uses them in accomplishing His will just as we would use our own mature and competent children in accomplishing our will.

Now here we see seven angels being given the awesome responsibility of carrying God's awful Wrath in golden vials and then pouring it out upon the wicked kingdom of the Antichrist, the kingdom of darkness. I wonder what will be the response of these seven angels as well as all the other angels and all of us who will, during this time, be in Heaven watching it all.

For the past 6000 years, angels have watched as God dealt with evil and sinful humans with patience, forbearance and longsuffering restraint as they have hated, rejected and despised Him and everything about Him, especially how they have hated and killed, shedding the blood of HIs Prophets, His servants and His children for all that time. Angels have surely marveled as they watched man's wickedness and God's patience. They, too, must have wondered... 'How long, Oh Lord, Holy and Righteous... how long will You withhold Your Righteous, Wrathful Just response to the wickedness of so many men and angels?'

<u>Verse 2</u>: (1) '... Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth. (2)And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.

Suddenly every person who has chosen to willingly take the Mark of the Beast, whatever kind of tattoo that will be... every one of them will develop terrible looking and terrible smelling huge, ugly sores... doubtless, very painful ugly sores.

We said that humans and angels have been waiting for God to finally exercise His vengeance upon them for all they've done to the children of God. Remember back in Job: God allowed Satan to persecute innocent Job: 'So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.' Job 2:7

Once before, God had even sent a plague of boils which also affected livestock: 'And they took ashes of the furnace, and stood before Pharaoh; and Moses sprinkled it up toward heaven; and it became a boil breaking forth with blains (sores) upon man, and upon beast. ¹¹ And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils; for the boil was upon the magicians, and upon all the Egyptians.' Ex. 9:10

These last seven plagues upon the kingdom of the Antichrist are similar to Moses' plagues upon the Egyptians.

Verse 3: 'And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea.'

All the sea will become blood, even the blood of a dead man. When a person dies, their blood begins to thicken and coagulate. The sea water will become a thick, gloopy mass of blood which will kill every living thing in the oceans.

We can see that by the time the Lord Jesus Christ returns at the end of the 7-year Tribulation, the entire Earth will have been nearly destroyed. All that today's Earth worshippers claim to fear will finally be all theirs in great abundance; there will be nothing they can do to save their precious Earth; God controls all things, all aspects of the Earth and all the Universe; He can bring it all the way to the brink of utter destruction and He is the only One Who can save and restore it for the 1000-year Millennial Kingdom of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

<u>Verse 4</u>: 'And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. ⁵ And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. ⁶ For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy. ⁷ And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments.'

Everyone in Heaven will be cheering these angels onward as they finally see evil angels and evil humans receiving their just rewards.

<u>Verse 8</u>: 'And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. ⁹ And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory.'

Here, then, is their global warming on steroids! Only God can cause the Earth's temperature to rise or fall and most assuredly, rise it shall! 'God, which hath power over these plagues!'

Throughout the Revelation, we have seen great disruptions in weather, along with earthquakes, around the globe. I believe that the constant drumbeat of global warming, climate change, blah, blah, blah!!! has a very specific purpose.

Those who are leading the World system, working toward the coming one World government of the Antichrist, know that the Rapture is, in fact, a true and coming event. They expect it and they have plans to deal with it. They will offer outlandish explanations because nothing but the truth would ever be able to explain it.

After the Rapture, when all these disruptions begin with the riders of the white, red, black and pale horses, the Antichrist will be unable to stop all that God will have begun during the coming 7 years of retribution, even though he, the Antichrist, will claim to be Jesus Christ returned. He will blame it all on the evil Christians who were removed because they were the ones who didn't love the Earth; they were the ones who were the worst offenders in polluting and harming our dear Mother Earth, our beloved goddess, Gaia. That is also the main reason why antichristian propaganda and persecution will steadily increase. Believers will be increasingly marginalized and maligned. If you know anything about Nazi Germany during the late 1920s and '30s... read history; pay attention to how the Jews were blamed for every ill. Look at what we are seeing: anyone who is simply a Conservative is being portrayed as a 'far right/rightwing potential domestic terrorist.' Pay Attention!

It is 'God, which hath power over these plagues!'

<u>Verse 10</u>: 'And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, ¹¹ And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds.'

They have undergone unimaginable horrors: so many millions have died, far more than whose bodies could ever be managed... there must be dead, rotting bodies everywhere! The seas, lakes and rivers have become blood. They are desperately trying to get moisture into their bodies from anywhere they can; doubtless, those in power have been stockpiling bottled water for many years. They have suffered the demonic locusts and horsemen... life has truly been 'hell on Earth' for nearly seven years... and what do we see? They know Who it is that is causing their misery; they know it must be God Almighty but what do they do? They blaspheme Him! There is no repentance or faith to believe for anyone who will have taken the Mark of the Beast.

Now, in addition to their awful, smelling, oozing sores and the unbearable heat, they are thrown into absolute, total darkness... just imagine what that would be like.

They simply exist in their misery... terrible sores, unbearable heat, total darkness, probably the entire electrical grid gave out many months before. I imagine they just sit against a wall in total despair, anguish and agony... perhaps writhing on the ground... there is no relief! And... on top of it all... when they finally die, whether from the plagues or when the Lord Jesus Christ returns, they will immediately be transported to Hades, Sheol, the place of the dead where they will continue to suffer for the next 1000 years. Then they will

have the slimmest glimmer of hope when they are raised up and taken to Heaven where they will stand in great, long lines, waiting for their own personal final judgment, hoping against hope that God will see that, with them, there has been a terrible mistake, a great miscarriage of justice, that God will relent and welcome them in... but, alas, it is never to be. Then, the absolute, ultimate horror as they are cast alive into the Lake of Fire... total torment, without hope, forever!

Verse 12: 'And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.'

Now we see the World system falling into place for the final showdown: good vs evil, right vs wrong, righteousness vs blasphemous... the kings of the east are all those east of the Euphrates River: China, Korea, Japan, India, Vietnam, etc.

Verse 13: 'And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.¹⁴ For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.'

Emerging from inside Satan, the Antichrist and the False Prophet come three powerful evil spirits which go out into all the World, working deceptive miracles to draw all the World's armies unto the very heart of the World: Jerusalem!

This is the culmination of Satan's plans (really God's plan) for the past many aeons; since the time of his rebellion, as Lucifer, he has been planning this moment, the climax of his plan to conquer the Lord Jesus Christ and take the throne of the Universe as his own: 'How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! ¹³ For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: ¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. ¹⁵ Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.' Isa 14:12

'Thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit!' Satan is not now nor has he ever been in hell; contrary to popular belief, he is not the king in hell - he never has been, and he never will be.

Soon, from the point in time we are studying, nearing Armageddon and the return of the Lord Jesus Christ, Satan will be bound and cast into the Bottomless Pit to remain for the 1000 years of Jesus Christ's Millennial Reign. Then, he will be loosed for a short time and he will do again what we are seeing here; he will gather the worlds rebels, drawing them to Jerusalem where they will all be killed by the Fire of God, coming down from Heaven, and then the Final Judgment as they are all cast into the Lake of Fire and, at that same time, Satan will finally be cast into hell, into the Lake of Fire.

Here we see that these three evil spirits are drawing all the World's armies to Jerusalem... to Armageddon, when the Lord Jesus Christ will return, setting His feet upon the Mount of Olives and He will destroy them all!





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