

Lesson 13

The First Angelic Explanation: Who Is Able to Stand?

Revelation 7-9

Invite the Holy Spirit to teach and speak to you through the Word of God as you meditate on Revelation 7-9 every day this week.

As you read through the verses presented this week, look for a special verse to make your memory verse for the week. We will share our verses at the end of our discussion time.

“...He who sits on the throne shall spread His tabernacle over them.”

The major portion of the book of Revelation, Chapter 6-22, is laid out in chronological order with five parenthetical breaks in the story line, each one bringing further explanation. It is as if John is overwhelmed by the information that has just been presented and has serious questions about what he has just seen. These parenthetical sections are given from an angelic perspective, therefore they are more symbolic than the rest of the book. In this lesson we come to the first of the five interludes, Revelation 7:1-17. John has just finished viewing the unveiling of the seven seals. His question upon seeing these seals is “For the great day of their wrath has come; and who is able to stand?” Revelation 6:17.

Revelation 7:15

1. What was a new or interesting thought from last week’s lesson?
2. What does John see after he asks the question, “who can stand?” See Revelation 7:1-3.
3. Who will receive this seal according to Revelation 7:4-17 and Revelation 9:4?
4. Read about the mark that was placed on certain people in Ezekiel 8:16-9:5. Discuss why these people receive this mark.

5. What was the “mark” that was placed on doors in Exodus 11:4-12:30 and what happened to those who applied this mark?

6. In Exodus God, through Moses, unleashes ten plagues against the gods of Egypt. What happens to the people who follow the Lord? See Exodus 8:22-23; 9:4-6; 10: 22-23; 12:27 and 14:19-20.

7. What does Jesus ask of His heavenly Father in John 17:15?

8. Describe the scene in Revelation 7:9-17. Who are these people? What are they doing? What promises do they receive?

9. In Revelation 8:1 there is silence in heaven for about half an hour. Why do you think that will occur?

10. Trumpets herald many occasions in the Old Testament from rallying the troops for battle to marking the occasion of the coronation of the king. Discuss the scene in Exodus 19:16-20 where the sound of a trumpet is associated with the presence of God.

11. An eighth angel does something in Revelation 8:3-5. This precipitates the sounding of the seven trumpets. What does this angel do? How important are the prayers of believers in this scene? See also Psalm 149:6-9 and Isaiah 62:7 and discuss.

12. In Revelation 8:45 the result of the prayers of the saints is fire from heaven thrown down on the earth. Compare this with Luke 9:53-56 and discuss.

13. What does Matthew 18:18-19 teach about the effectiveness of our prayers?
14. What does Joel 2:30-32 say will be signs that will occur before the day of the Lord?
15. Describe and discuss what happens when the first trumpet is blown in Revelation 8:7.
16. Describe and discuss what happens when the second angel sounds the trumpet in Revelation 8:8-9. ("The sea" may be one specific sea, not all oceans.)
17. Describe and discuss what happens when the third angel sounds the third trumpet in Revelation 8:10-11. (Wormwood in the Old Testament is a bitter tasting herb that can poison water.)
18. What parallels do you see between the first plague in Exodus 7:14-25 and the judgments of the second and third trumpets in Revelation 8?
19. Describe and discuss what happens when the fourth angel sounds the trumpet in Revelation 8:12.
20. Do you think the result of the fourth trumpet sounding is a solar eclipse? Why or why not?
21. What parallel do you see between the ninth plague in Exodus 10:21-23 and the judgment of the fourth trumpet in Revelation 8?

22. Describe and discuss what happens when the fifth angel sounds his trumpet in Revelation 9:1-12.

The bottomless pit (abyss) is the place where fallen angels are held, II Peter 2:4 and Jude 6.

23. Over whom are believers given all authority according to Luke 10:19?

The Bible teaches that the forces of wickedness are organized in a hierarchy. The “king,” a fallen angel who watches over the abyss, is called *Abaddon* (Hebrew) or *Apollyon* (Greek). Both words mean destruction.

24. Revelation 9:13-14 tells about the sixth trumpet judgment that is released from the golden altar. The golden altar is described in Exodus 30:1-10. This altar is sometimes called the altar of incense because it was the place where the priests burned incense. What is incense a symbol for according to Revelation 5:8?

25. Describe and discuss the sixth trumpet judgment in Revelation 9:13-21.

26. What is God’s response when we continually harden our hearts toward Him and refuse to repent according to Romans 1: 28-32?

27. What did Jesus say about the time of His return in Luke 21:25-26?

28. Share the memory verse that you found through this week’s study and why you chose it.

29. From your meditation this week on Revelation 7-9, what do you want to remember?

Lecture Notes: