

From Eden to Eternity - Part 5

Pastor Christopher Miller - October 4, 2020

Four weeks ago, we began our new series entitled, "From Eden to Eternity" during which we discussed the Creation of the Earth and the Chaotic Earth, and then subsequent Restored Earth. The 7 days of creation, Lucifer's fall and the Antediluvian Age as well as the Giants of Genesis chapter 6.

We discussed Noah's flood, the Post Diluvian Dispensation and the Patriarchal Dispensation. After the Patriarchal Dispensation came the Legal Dispensation which began with Moses and ended with the first Advent of Christ.

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We then discussed the Ecclesiastical Dispensation leading up to the Rapture of the Church. And last Sunday, we discussed the Rapture which marks the beginning of the Tribulation period. We focused in on the Rapturing of the Church and the Resurrection from the Dead which deals with Christ meeting His Church, the Judgment Seat of Christ, and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

Today we will focus on what is happening in the Earth during the 7 years of Tribulation leading up to the Millennial Age which addresses the Messianic Dispensation or otherwise known as the Thousand Year Reign of Christ

So let's begin with Revelation Chapter 4 and set a course forward! The span of Chapters from Revelation 4 to Revelation 19 are the chapters that cover the 7 years of Tribulation. My goal today is to cover from chapters 4 to 10; we will cover Revelation chapters 11-19 next Sunday.

• In Revelation 4, John records about The Throne in Heaven

- In this chapter, John is caught up in the Third Heaven which is a type and shadow of the Rapture of the Saints leading up to the Tribulation Period.
- According to the text, there is a Heavenly Door that is opened up so that John could see the Church standing around the throne of God with the 24 Elders who are before the Sea of Glass.

 This is very important because the Saints and the Elders are already there; indicating of a Pre-Tribulation Rapture.

In Revelation 5, John records his experience with The Scroll and the Lamb

- In this chapter, we learn of the Scroll with Seven Seals that only Christ is worthy of opening! John weeps because there was not one worthy to take the Scroll and open the seals until the Lamb of God was revealed! Jesus is then worshiped because He is the only one worthy to break the seals and open the scroll!
- The Scroll in this chapter is vitally important because the Scroll is the Title Deed to the Earth that Adam lost in the Garden of Eden in Genesis 3; Jesus, by taking the Scroll and opening the seals begins the process of reclaiming the Earth for Himself as the Second Adam. (There is so much more to say on this topic)

In Revelation 6, John records the breaking of the 7 Seals!

- The First Seal releases the White Horse who had a bow and a crown, and he was sent forth conquering and to conquer.
- The Second Seal releases the Red Horse who was permitted to take peace from the Earth so that people would kill one another and he was given a great sword.

- o The Third Seal releases the Black Horse who was given a set of scales in his hand; he is the symbol of famine because the scripture says in verse 6, "And I heard what seemed to be a voice in the midst of the four living creatures, saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius, and do not harm the oil and wine!"
- The Fourth Seal releases the Pale Horse whose rider's name was
 Death and Hell followed after him
 - The second half of Verse 8 records, "And they were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by wild beasts of the earth."
- o The Fifth Seal reveals the Souls under the Altar who had been slain for the Word of God and for the witness they had borne were crying out for judgment and vengeance for what had been done to them; notice verse 10-11, "¹¹ They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" ¹¹ Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.

- The Sixth Seal releases multiple cataclysms: a great earthquake, the Sun becomes black as sackcloth, the full moon becomes like blood, and the stars of the sky begin to fall to the earth. The sky vanishes away like a scroll and every mountain and island are removed from its place.
 - This signifies a global impact of this earthquake on the earth and there are to be signs in the heavens! Notice signs in the Earth and in the Heavens.
- o The Seventh Seal is not released until Revelation Chapter 8.
 - Notice a very important Scripture recorded in verses 15-17 of Revelation 6, "15 Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, 16 calling to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, 17 for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?"
- The Wrath of the Who? THE WRATH OF THE LAMB!
- The First 3 and ½ years of the Tribulation Period is the Wrath of the Lamb and the Last 3 and ½ years of the Tribulation Period is the Wrath of the God!

- The Wrath of God is poured out in the Seven Bowl Judgments of Revelation 16 which we will discuss next Sunday.
- In Revelation 7, John records the 144,000 of Israel Sealed and a Mighty
 Multitude from every Nation is before the Throne of God!
 - O In verses 1-8, there are angels released into the Earth to hold back the four winds of the Earth and then a mighty angel ascends from the rising of the Sun with the seal of God with the intent of sealing 144,000 Jews to be witnesses in the Earth!
 - o In verses 9-17, there is a mighty multitude from every Nation standing before the Throne of God. Notice verses 9-14, "After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, "and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" "And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, "Saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." "Then one of the elders addressed me, saying,"

"Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

- These are those who are being born again during the
 Tribulation Period and are either dying from the chaos around them or being martyred upon the Earth.
- People can still be born again during the Tribulation Period.
 The Holy Ghost is still active in the Earth to convict Sinners of their sins.
- In Revelation 8, John records the breaking of the Seventh Seal, the Golden Censer and The Seven Trumpets!
 - o The Seventh Seal Revelation 8:1-5 records, "When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. 'Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. 'And another angel came and stood at the altar with a golden censer, and he was given much incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar before the throne, 'and the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel. 'Then the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and threw

it on the earth, and there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake."

- The Seventh Seal releases thirty minutes of silence in Heaven during which time Seven Angels are summoned and are given 7
 Trumpets and verse 6 sets the stage for Seven Angels prepared to blow their Seven Trumpets of Judgment:
 - In verse 7, the First Trumpet released Hail and Fire mixed with blood and these were thrown upon the Earth. And a third of the earth was burned up and a third of the trees were burned up and all green grass was burned up.
 - In verse 8, the Second Trumpet released a massive meteor, the text states, "something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea and a third of the sea became blood."

 There is a massive meteor that is going to hit the Earth during the tribulation period. The Bible goes on to say that a third of the living creatures in the sea died and a third of the ships were destroyed.
 - This meteor doesn't just turn the water into blood but it generates a massive tsunami that destroys a third of the worlds ships that were at sea when it struck.

- In verse 10, the Third Trumpet released a great star that falls from the Heavens that is blazing like a torch and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water.
- The star's name is Wormwood and a third of the waters became wormwood and many people died from the water because it was poisonous.
- In verse 12, the Fourth Trumpet was released and a third of the sun was struck as well as a third of the moon and a third of the stars so that a third of their light might be darkened; this directly affects day time and night time timeframes and the differentiation thereof.
- In verse 13, the Bible records, "18 Then I looked, and I heard an eagle crying with a loud voice as it flew directly overhead, "Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, at the blasts of the other trumpets that the three angels are about to blow!"

(Pastor Brad, if you will come...)

- In Revelation 9, John records the Continuation of The Seven Trumpets
 - o The Fifth Trumpet releases a mighty angel from the Heavens who descends to the Earth to open the bottomless pit; notice Revelation 9:1-6, "And the fifth angel blew his trumpet, and I saw a star fallen from heaven to earth, and he was given the key to the shaft of the bottomless pit. He opened the shaft of the bottomless pit, and from the shaft rose smoke like the smoke of a great furnace, and the sun and the air were darkened with the smoke from the shaft. Then from the smoke came locusts on the earth, and they were given power like the power of scorpions of the earth. They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any green plant or any tree, but only those people who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. ⁵They were allowed to torment them for five months, but not to kill them, and their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it stings someone. ⁶ And in those days people will seek death and will not find it. They will long to die, but death will flee from them.

- o The Sixth Trumpet releases Four Angels from being imprisoned below the River Euphrates; notice the text found in Revelation 9:14-15, "¹⁴ saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." ¹⁵ So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour, the day, the month, and the year, were released to kill a third of mankind."
 - But notice the attitude of mankind even after all that has come upon the Earth during this terrible time in verse 20-21, "20 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 their sexual immorality or their thefts."
- The Seventh Trumpet is not released upon the Earth until
 Revelation Chapter 11
- In Revelation 10, John records a supernatural interaction with an Angel and a Little Scroll
 - In Revelation 10, we learn of the Angel with the Little Scroll. John hears 7 thunders released when the Angel speaks but is then instructed not to record what the Seven Thunders said. John is

ultimately instructed to the Little Scroll given to him in verse 9 after the Angel instructs him to do so. Notice verse 4

- o Revelation 10:4- When he called out, the seven thunders sounded. ⁴And when the seven thunders had sounded, I was about to write, but I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Seal up what the seven thunders have said, and do not write it down."
- Now notice verse 7-10
- o Revelation 10:7-10 ⁷ but that in the days of the trumpet call to be sounded by the seventh angel, the mystery of God would be fulfilled, just as he announced to his servants the prophets. Then the voice that I had heard from heaven spoke to me again, saying, "Go, take the scroll that is open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land." So I went to the angel and told him to give me the little scroll. And he said to me, "Take and eat it; it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth, it will be sweet as honey."

In closing, I have an assignment for you all. Take the time this week to read Revelation chapters 11-19 by next Sunday; you taking the time to prepare will make your understanding of the Text all the more beneficial. But I want to address again, a small matter and I want to use the Word to justify my reasoning... Many may say, "Why is he teaching on this topic right now? Is he trying to sensationalize a subject for the sake of scaring people or to use fear to manipulate?"

My answer is a very clear but simple "No". And here is why. The Apostle John, the man who recorded this Revelation, penned these words at the beginning of the book found in Revelation 1:1-3, "The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near."

Why am I teaching this subject? Because blessed are the ones who read this prophecy aloud and blessed are those who hear who keep what is written in it because the time of the end is near... I want to be blessed! I want you to be blessed! This book should not scare us; it should be an encouragement to us to know that the God that we serve has a plan...

Trust The Plan!