

Picturing the Day of the Lord

(Feast of Trumpets 2009—Live)

Fred R. Coulter—September 19, 2009

The Feast of Trumpets is a very unusual Feast. When you analyze all the Feasts of God beginning with the Passover, they are all connected in a sequence and lay out step-by-step the plan of God.

Note our book: *God's Plan for Mankind as Revealed by His Sabbath and Holy Days* (with 4 CDs) It's in great detail, so if you're new to the Holy Days, then I suggest you also get the book *Occult Holidays or God's Holy Days—Which?* and go through that first, then it will make the rest of it more understandable; because we go into many, many Scriptures. As a matter of fact, the book *God's Plan for Mankind* has 36 sermons recorded on four CDs and 36 transcripts. You can either read the transcripts or read them and listen to it, or you can listen to it and go back and read it. This is a compilation of sermons given over many different years.

The first Holy Days—Passover, Unleavened Bread and Pentecost—are for the Church, which then relates to Jesus' first coming. Also, *Pentecost then ushers in the beginning of Jesus' second coming!* Then following that is Trumpets, when Jesus Christ is going to come to this earth and all the saints with Him, and take over all the governments of the world, **all nations**. It doesn't take very much insight into things *to look at the world—the leaders—and the religions* and understand those two factors are the source of the problems in this world.

We're beginning to see it here in the United States of America, how much trouble the government can really do. Also, behind that you have the author of all of this who is Satan the devil. That's why we have the Day of Atonement and what God is going to do with Satan!

Lev. 23 because this is where all the Holy Days are listed in order. They are listed in order to show that there is a connection between all of them. So, through the year, every year, we go through every one of the Holy Days and review and rehearse the plan of God and learn more of it every year as we progress down through time.

Let's emphasize something here. The reason God put it in Leviticus is so that only those who understand that the Old Testament gives us the framework, and the New Testament and the rest of the Bible gives us the meat on the framework. In other words:

- What is God doing?
- How is He doing it?
- What is the approximate time that He is going to do it?

All of those things are found through the rest of the Bible, but you have to begin with Lev. 23. Some people say, 'Well, this was just for Israel and the sacrifices.' *No, it's not!* It has to do with a whole lot more than that. Other people will say like the Seventh Day Adventists used to say—and they are kind of stuck now because many Seventh Day Adventists also keep the Holy Days and Feasts—'Well, the Sabbath is not a Feast.' They miss the very first two verses in Lev. 23.

Other people say, 'Well, the Feasts are the Feasts of the Jews. What are you doing keeping what the Jews kept?' Why then do you accept Jesus who was of the tribe of Judah as your Savior? *You can't have it both ways*, and you can't talk about of both sides of your mouth and expect everything to be right. It either has to be God's way, or no way. Or like they say, 'God's way or the highway.'

Leviticus 23:1: "And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 'Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, "Concerning the appointed Feasts of the LORD..."'"

He sets the time. He owns them. They belong to Him. They are not Jewish, they are not Israelite, they are not the Church of God. **They belong to God!** Now notice we have no wiggle room. He does not say, 'Which *if you desire* to follow...' **No!** He says:

"...which you shall proclaim *to be Holy convocations*, even these are My appointed Feasts" (v 2). **They belong to Him!**

It's just like if you went out here where your car is parked and someone's getting into your car and driving away, you say, 'Hey! that's my car!' Now notice, right after it says, 'These are my appointed Feasts.'

Verse 3: "Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of rest, a Holy convocation.... [the Sabbath is a weekly Feast of God] ...You shall not do any work. It *is* a Sabbath to the LORD in all your dwellings."

Now with that said, let's move on to the fall Holy Days. Verse 23 is where it talks about the Feast of Trumpets. This is an unusual Feast; and the

reason that he has it this way is because the Feast of Trumpets is a *war feast*. Satan and his minions and the whole world are going to be declaring war on God, and **God is going to declare war on them**, and that's why there are trumpets blown all day long at the temple when the temple stood for the Feast of Trumpets.

Verse 23: "And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 'Speak to the children of Israel saying, "In the seventh month, in the first *day* of the month, you shall have a Sabbath, a memorial of blowing of ram's horns... [also the silver trumpets that they had] ...a Holy convocation. You shall do no servile work *therein* but you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD'" (vs 23-25).

Now today we don't have animal sacrifices, and today we really don't have any real money, because I don't think anyone is going to put gold or silver coins in the offering. Gold and silver are really the only *real* money. Money backed by gold has some value, but today all you have are fiat paper money and digital checks, digital bank accounts. We used to ask the question, 'Well, how much money do I have in my account?' Today we need to change that. 'What is the amount of digitized funds that are available to me?' If that's not enough, then you have a little plastic card, and you can draw even more. ***Today we do not offer an offering made by fire, but we do offer to God on the Holy Days!***

Now during the rest of the year we also have tithes and offerings that we give, and some people say, 'Well, nowhere does it say we should tithe on money.' My answer is: *really?* Don't you think that God provided the same principle of tithing for these days when we digitized money, we work and we get an increase for what we work on? If you're retired, social security, your pension, then you don't tithe on that, you give offerings. But nevertheless, I have yet to find someone who says, 'Oh, we shouldn't tithe, we should give.' Now years ago when I used to handle all of the letters and everything, I pretty well knew who did not tithe and I pretty well knew they sent in nothing. So the question becomes: ***If*** you don't believe in tithing, do you give according to the way that the New Testament shows: liberally?

So, God has the way of tithing and the Church long ago made the decision, which is binding, that if you work and have an increase, you tithe on your increase. When there was real money, gold and silver, when people would come to the temple, remember what Jesus said of the widow who put in her two mites? ***She gave all of her living!*** The rich people came and gave from their abundance, and Christ condemned them for just giving of their

abundance. So, the challenge is this: **You don't believe in tithing, what are you going to do?**

So, we'll take up an offering here and, of course as you know, every year we send out a full disclosure with your annual receipt, where all the money went, what we have done with it, and we always try and do the best that we can with it and just to satisfy some other people who have quarrels, *I draw a salary*. All the rest of the money goes for other payroll and goes for giving back to you, and I don't know of any other Church of God who's given Bibles free to those on their mailing list. We want everyone to have the gospel. So with that, I'll get off my soapbox, and we'll pause and take up an offering here.

(pause for offering)

God does not war—even with human beings in His army, in this case in Josh. 6—***in the way that most people expect!*** When God decides that He is going to fight His battles, we are going to see He uses mighty weapons that men cannot counteract. You know the story of Joshua and the children of Israel and Jericho.

Joshua 5:13: "And it came to pass, when Joshua was beside Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked. And, behold, there stood a Man in front of him with His sword drawn in His hand.... [ready for battle] ...And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, 'Are You for us or for our foes?' And He said, 'No, but I have come *as* the Commander of the army of the LORD.'.... [and this was the One Who became Jesus Christ] ...And Joshua fell on his face to the earth. And he worshiped and said to Him, 'What does my Lord say to His servant?'.... [this proves that it was God] ...And the Commander of the LORD'S army said to Joshua, 'Take your shoes off your feet for the place on which you stand *is* Holy.'.... [same thing He told Moses when Moses came to look at the burning bush] ...And Joshua did so" (vs 13-15).

Let's see how God's tactics were used and what a tremendous thing that it was.

Joshua 6:1: "And Jericho was completely shut up because of the children of Israel. None went out and none came in. And the LORD said to Joshua, 'See, I have given Jericho into your hand, and its king, *and* the mighty men of war.... [here's how I want you to fight] ...You shall go around the city, all the men of war. Go around the city once. So you shall do for six days. And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of ram's horns in front of the ark.... [they were to blow those horns] ...And the seventh day you shall go around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.

And it shall be when they make a long *blast* with the ram's horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout. The wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall go up, each man straight before him” (vs 1-5). *That's quite a tactic!* Well, that's what happened.

Verse 8: “And it came to pass when Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests bearing the seven ram's horns passed on before the LORD and blew the ram's horns. And the ark of the covenant of the LORD followed them. And the armed men went before the priests who blew with the ram's horns. And the gathering army came after the ark as *the priests* were going on and blowing with the ram's horns” (vs 8-9). *So, this was quite a sight!*

Just picture yourself as one of the soldiers or citizens of Jericho and you're looking down at the wall and you're expecting an imminent invasion, because you can't go out and no one can come in. You're wondering what's going to happen. They're not building ramparts to come up to the wall. For six days they walk around once. Then on the seventh day they do it seven times. They did it all the way through.

Verse 15: “And it came to pass on the seventh day they rose early, at the dawning of the day, and circled the city in the same way seven times. Only on that day they went around the city seven times. And it came to pass, at the seventh time, when the priest blew with the ram's horns, Joshua said to the people, ‘Shout, for the LORD has given you the city! And the city shall be devoted to the LORD, it and all that is in it. Only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all with her in the house because she hid the messengers that we sent’” (vs 15-17).

They were to collect all the gold, all the silver, and everything else, so that's how the city of Jericho was conquered.

Now let's look at another application of it for time of war, and we are facing terrible and difficult times. In Ezek. 33 is a principle that is happening. Let's understand about a watchman.

I think today, and Dolores and I have talked about this an awful lot, there are a lot of watchmen who are not ministers in the Church. The reason being is that people in the world are not going to be listening to ministers in the Church, but they will listen to radio talk show hosts and there are many, many of them out there and what are they warning? ***They're warning about everything that's going to take place in this nation!*** They are also warning

about the ***financial things***, they're warning about the ***wars***, the ***potential wars***, and things like that. So even some of them refer to the Bible. You also have some of them on television who are doing the same thing. Even a few of them have referred to themselves and even these Scriptures saying that there has to be a ‘watchman on the wall.’

I think this is important for us to understand, because as we go forward with this day and see what's going to happen with the world, we need to ask:

- Why is God going to nearly destroy the whole earth?
- Why are so many people going to be killed?
- Is God evil and hateful? *He's vengeful and vengeance is His, that's for sure!*

or

- If God is a God of love, maybe the destiny for humankind is so great that ***this is part of the penalty to get there!***

This is why the world can't understand *because they don't keep the Holy Days of God* and they don't know a thing about the Last Great Day or the second resurrection.

People will say, ‘Oh well, men wrote this.’ ***Oh?*** Maybe they did, but who told them what to write? ***God did!***

Ezekiel 33:1: “And the Word of the LORD came to me saying, ‘Son of man, speak to the children of your people, and say to them, “**When I bring the sword upon a land...**”’” (vs 1-2).

Let's understand something: ***No war goes on or is started or ended without the consent of God and the angels and demons that rule this world!*** You need to understand that.

“...and the people of the land take a man from among them, and set him for their watchman; if, when he sees the sword come upon the land, he blows the ram's horn and warns the people, then whoever hears the sound of the ram's horn and does not take warning, if the sword does come and take him away, his blood shall be on his own head” (vs 2-4).

We've had lots of warnings! Go back and look and think about WWII before it started. How many warnings did we have; from how many people, from how many sources? To give you an understanding that ***God sets up other people that the world will listen to*** who do not have a part of the Church of God. ***But only those in the Church of God know the true outcome of all of these things!***

Verse 5: “He heard the sound of the ram’s horn and did not take warning. His blood shall be on himself. But if he had taken warning, he would have delivered his life. But if the watchman sees the sword coming, and does not blow the ram’s horn and the people are not warned; if the sword comes and takes *any* person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity. But I will require his blood at the watchman’s hand.’ And you, son of man, I have set you as watchman to the house of Israel. **Therefore, you shall hear the Word from My mouth, and warn them from Me.** When I say to the wicked, ‘O wicked one, you shall surely die’; if you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked one shall die in his iniquity, but I will require his blood at your hand” (vs 5-8). *A little incentive to do what needs to be done!*

Verse 9: “But, if you warn the wicked of his way, to turn from it; if he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity, but you have delivered your soul. And you, son of man, speak to the house of Israel. Thus *shall* you speak, saying, **“When our transgressions and our sins are on us, and we are wasting away in them, how then shall we live?”**” (vs 9-10).

I’d like you to take this v 10 and I would like you to keep this in mind while you’re watching the events in the world and the events of the nation and see that this is true. ‘Our transgressions and our sins are on us.’ Here’s what God says how He thinks, because in all of this we need to understand how does God think? Why is He doing this?

Verse 11: “Say to them, “As I live,” says the Lord GOD, “I have no delight in the death of the wicked, except that the wicked turn from his way, and live....””

God wants them to turn! We’re going to see later in the book of Revelation *that men refuse to repent!*

“...Turn you, turn you from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?” (v 11). *Quite a thing!*

Today on the Feast of Trumpets we’re ***picturing the Day of the Lord*** and the day of the war of the Lord against all the inhabitants of the earth. Now come to the prophet Joel. We’re going to see there’s a lot in the Old Testament that tells us about the Day of the Lord.

- Are we in the midst of a drought here in California?
- Have we had fires?
- ***Yes, all because of the sins of the people!***
- Do we have budgetary problems?

- ***Yes, all because of the sins of the people!***

When you really understand what’s going on, you will realize that you cannot solve spiritual problems by political means. Why? *Because there’s no repentance by trying to solve it politically! You’ve got to go to God!*

I don’t know how many saw the special down there in the San Joaquin Valley that was on the news the other night. They turned the water off to save a fish. Everybody says turn on the water. But the system is so screwy and goofed up because of the sins of the politicians, the sins of the people, that nothing works; so, here it is a barren waste. As I read this, I want you to think about that. Think about other areas. Think about it when you drive home and you look at the hills, a lot of them are already burned from the fires. You look at all of that tinder dry vegetation that is out there on the hills. I was down in the L.A. area when the fires started down there and that was really quite a thing!

Joel 1:12: “The vine is dried up, and the fig tree is wasted away, *the* pomegranate and the palm tree, and the apple tree; all the trees of the field are dried up, for joy has withered away from the sons of men. Gird yourselves and lament, you priests... [Who does He blame first? *The religious leaders, because they know better!*] ...howl, you ministers of the altar. Come, lie all night in sackcloth, you ministers of my God, for the grain offering and the drink offering are held back from the house of your God. Sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the elders and all the people of the land *unto* the house of the LORD your God, and cry out to the LORD” (vs 12-14).

We’re going to see when we get into the book of Revelation that because of the events that take place, there is going to be a mass repentance before all hell breaks loose for the last year of the Tribulation.

Verse 15: “Alas for the day! For the day of the LORD is at hand, and it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty.”

When God sets His hand to do something, it’s going to be awesome indeed. God uses people, He uses instrumentalities to do it and after He’s done that, then He intervenes with His own weapons.

Joel 2:1—God says: “**“Blow the ram’s horn in Zion, and sound an alarm in My Holy mountain!”** Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the Day of the LORD comes, for *it* is near at hand—a day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness. As the morning *is* spread across the mountains, *so comes* a

great people and a mighty people; there has never been the like... [tie in Rev. 9, an army so great we can hardly comprehend it] ...nor shall there ever be again, even to the years of many generations” (vs 1-2).

What did Jesus say about the beginning of this time? ***‘For then shall be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, nor shall be!’***

We are in a time in this world that we can see this coming. We are in a time that we know these things are going to come about, so God wants us to know and to understand what we need to do. Here’s how it’s going to come, when that army comes:

Verse 3: “A fire devours before them, and behind them a flame burns. The land *is* as the Garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness—and nothing shall escape them. Their appearance *is* as the appearance of horses; and as war horses, so they run” (vs 3-4).

Now what I want you to do, just as an aside, to keep up on these things, watch the specials about futuristic weapons and futuristic soldiers and what they are planning. They are planning to make them nearly indestructible. They are developing weapons—I saw a special on laser weapons—they now have a laser weapon that is instantaneous and it can destroy missiles in the air. They can now put it on the front of an airplane and beam it down to the ground and incinerate the target. We’re talking about awesome weapons. We’re talking about some tremendous things that are going to take place.

- that’s why we *look to God*
- that’s why we *trust in God*
- that’s why we *believe in God*

—because (as we will see), He says ***He’s going to spare those who are His!***

Verse 5: “They shall leap with the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains, with the noise of a flame of fire that devours the stubble, like a mighty people set in battle array. In their presence the people shall *greatly* tremble; all faces shall grow pale. They shall run like mighty men. They shall climb the wall like men of war...” (vs 5-7).

Did you know they have a special rubber-soled shoe now that you can actually run up walls?

“...and they shall march each one in his path, and they shall not break their ranks. And each one shall not crowd another; they go every one in his *own* path. And when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded. They shall run to and fro in

the city; they shall run upon the wall; they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble. The sun and the moon shall grow dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. And the LORD shall utter His voice before His army; for His camp *is* exceedingly great; for powerful *is He* who executes His Word, **for the Day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can endure it?**” (vs 7-11).

- What do you do on days like that?
- What do you do when trouble comes on that scale?

Verse 12: “‘Therefore even now,’ says the LORD, **‘turn to Me with all your heart...’**” Like He says, ‘I do not delight in the death of the wicked, but if the wicked won’t repent, die he shall.

“...and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning. Yes, **rend your heart...**” (vs 12-13).

Everyone out there who has bitterness, anger, hatred and so forth, *it’s going to be so powerful that there are going to be a lot of people who will repent!* That’s called the great innumerable multitude. There will be some who will not. That’s what God wants. God doesn’t want your money; that is only used to do the things that are necessary to preach the Gospel and feed the flock of God. ***God wants your heart; He wants you! That’s what God wants.***

Note sermon series: *Why God Hates Religion*, That’s a real eye opener. ***He wants your heart!***

“...and not your garments, and return to the LORD your God... [How do you return to God? *In love and obedience!*] ...for He *is* gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and He repents of the evil” (vs 12-13).

Think about that! Think of what we just read here, the awesome army that is coming and right after that ***He gives an opportunity for repentance, yes, God does that!*** He wants repentance. He wants yieldedness to Him, because He created you in His image. He has a great purpose for you and that purpose He wants to fulfill in your life, but it has to start with repentance.

Verse 14: “Who knows *if* He will return and repent and leave a blessing behind Him—a grain offering and a drink offering unto the LORD your God? Blow a ram’s horn in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly. Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the

children and those who suck the breasts. Let the bridegroom go forth out of his chamber, and the bride out of her room. Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, ‘Spare Your people, O LORD, and give not Your inheritance to shame, that the nations should rule over them. Why should they say among the people, “Where *is* their God?”’” (vs 14-17).

Now let’s look at some other things concerning this day and concerning what God wants us to do. Here’s what Isaiah wrote. We’ve thought about this a lot, and said, ‘Oh, it’s going to be nice, we’re going to be alive when Jesus returns.’ But when we say that we forget about all the trouble that comes ahead before that time, so here is a depiction of it:

Isaiah 64:1: “Oh that You would rend the heavens *and* come down, *that* mountains might quake at Your presence, as when the melting fire burns, the fire causes water to boil, to make Your name known to Your adversaries, *that* the nations may tremble at Your presence! When You did awesome things *which* we did not look for, You came down, the mountains quaked at Your presence. And from ancient times men have not heard, nor did they perceive, neither has the eye seen, a God besides you Who acts on behalf of those who wait for Him” (vs 1-4).

Even with all of this death and destruction that is going to happen, which we will see here in just a bit, God has a work that He’s going to do in using these things.

Many other Scriptures we can add into it. We can tie Rev. 6 back in to the event that happens on next to the last Pentecost, ***because Pentecost pictures the resurrection of the saints, and that will occur on the last Pentecost before the last Trumpets*** when Christ and the saints come to the earth. So, the book of Revelation has an awful lot here for us, but when God makes His presence known, it is going to be spectacular! No one is going to miss it! Everyone is going to know, because here’s what He’s going to do.

Revelation 6:12: “And when He opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as *the hair of* sackcloth, and the moon became as blood... [this ties in with many Scriptures in the Old Testament that prophesied of these events] ...And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its untimely figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. **Then the heaven departed like a scroll that is being rolled up...**” (vs 12-14). *What an introduction to God!*

- Do you believe God exists? *All those on the earth who don’t, they’re going to be surprised!*
- How are they going to explain this?
- How are they going to explain that when the heavens roll back as a scroll that there is another bright light out there just like another sun that they have never seen before?

The whole earth is shaken by God! He says, ‘I’m going to shake the heavens, shake the earth, shake the seas, shake the dry ground.’ No one’s going to say, ‘Oh, God doesn’t exist.’ There will be some who will reject Him. They will think that He is the antichrist coming, ***but He is the literal Christ!***

Now here’s what’s going to happen, here’s the reaction of men, instead of repenting. Now there will be some as we will see in Rev. 7 who will repent.

Verse 15: “And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the powerful men, and every bondman, and every free *man* hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains; and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, ‘Fall on us, and hide us from *the* face of Him Who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, **because the great day of His wrath has come, and who has the power to stand?**” (vs 15-17).

There will be some people who will repent. That’s why we have the 144,000 from the children of Israel. That’s why we have the great innumerable multitude. ***They’ll repent!*** They will see all of these things coming to pass and their whole bodily system will just, in quivering repentance and crying and tears, cry out to God, ‘Spare me!’ ***So, God does!*** So from Pentecost until the next Trumpets, 144,000 are sealed and the great innumerable multitude, because God does not like to see the death of the wicked. So here He fulfills His will and His promise that ***if they will repent, He will spare them.***

(go to the next track)

Let’s set the timeframe. The Tribulation begins when the abomination of desolation stands in the Holy place proclaiming that he is God (Matt. 24, 2-Thess. 2, Rev. 13). The Tribulation begins, first of all, with wars of men against men, and that is basically against Israel. There’s even talk in reports that when the dollar totally collapses, there will be such chaos in America that it will split into six different divisions. The U.N. will send in troops to control the situation. So, if they’re talking about it, are they planning it? I’ll let you think on that!

The Tribulation against Israel directly lasts for two years into the third year, because Hosea 6 says that *after two days He will revive us and in the third day we'll have relief*. So, the time setting that we have with Rev. 6:12 is just before Pentecost, day or two ahead of Pentecost.

Then on the next to the last Pentecost, the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude are sealed. All the battles—because of what goes on and the heavenly signs and the sign of the Son of Man appearing as another sun in the heavens—cease for a while, because the armies have to re-gather, get their forces, get their equipment. And they have to repair it.

In the meantime, the 144,000 are sealed and the great innumerable multitude and that covers the time from the next to the last Pentecost down to the next to the last Trumpets, a period of about three and half months. After the earth shaking like it says here, and all the mountains collapsing, the valleys rising, it's going to take time for them to get re-organized again.

Do you remember the earthquake in 1989 right here in this area? *That happened right during the Feast of Tabernacles!* And we're sitting here watching the news and we looked at it, and here's this double deck highway pancaked into one level and all the destruction that happened. Listen, that is nothing compared to what this is going to be!

Rev. 8—we're going to see some very interesting things here with this, what it's telling us and how we're doing it. We are now dealing with the last year from Trumpets to Trumpets and if you have our Daniel/Revelation series, you will see on the big chart that based on the Calculated Hebrew Calendar that that year is undoubtedly 13 months long. In other words, it would be a leap year. So, from Trumpets to Trumpets!

After this time of silence and after this time of the 144,000 and great innumerable multitude being converted, then God sees the rest of them are not willing to repent. Now He starts dealing in a different way. We no longer have men against men. Now we have the angels of God against the demons and men. This escalates the fighting, this escalates the kind of war that is taking place, which was prophesied in the Old Testament.

Revelation 8:1: "Now when He opened the seventh seal, *there was silence in heaven for about a half hour*. Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them" (vs 1-2).

Remember what I said. ***Nothing happens without God giving permission or being directly***

involved or causing human instrumentalities or angelic instrumentalities or demon instrumentalities to do it! So we here we have directly from God.

To announce these things, v 3: "And another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar; and much incense was given to him, so that he might offer *it* with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar that *was before the Throne*."

With the great innumerable multitude and the 144,000, there are a lot of people out there praying. What does this tell us? *All prayers come to God!* All prayers come before His throne. Spiritually speaking, it's like incense ascending to God. Incense was to be a sweet smelling savor to God. This shows how much God wants our prayers and will hear and answer our prayers. Here it comes up that way.

Verse 4: "And the smoke of the incense went up before God from *the hand of the angel*, ascending with the prayers of the saints. And the angel took the censer, and filled it with the fire from the altar, and cast *it* into the earth... [God's direct intervention now] ...and there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings, and an earthquake" (vs 4-5).

We're going to see in addition to shaking the heavens and the earth, there are at least three, maybe four major earthquakes that are going to hit the earth.

Verse 6: "Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets..." *It starts on the Feast of Trumpets and the trumpets come in sequence; so this announces God's war against men and demons by God's angels!*

Verse 6: "...the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound *their* trumpets. And the first angel sounded *his* trumpet; and there was hail and fire mingled with blood, and it was cast upon the earth; and a third of the trees were burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up" (vs 6-7).

We will see a third, *a third, a third* all the way down through here. When we get to the seven last plagues, it's total, it's not a third, it's a whole. Over a period of time after grass burns up—and we will see with what happens here with the change of the climate—there is going to be a great deal of rain that is going to come on the earth. What happens? *The grass grows!* The grass doesn't know that there's a war going on, it just knows it was burned up. Now comes water, so it grows.

We'll see in Rev. 9 that it says 'it's not going to hurt the grass and it's not going to hurt the trees.' And these happen quite quickly. The first angel, the second angel, third angel and fourth angel.

Verse 8: “Then the second angel sounded *his* trumpet; and *there* was cast into the sea as *it were* a great mountain burning with fire, and a third of the sea became blood... [to say nothing of the tsunami waves that followed] ...and a third of the living creatures that *were* in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed” (vs 8-9).

You can imagine that with tsunamis, even the great big gigantic ships we have today, they're nothing but tinker toys and like little flies and specks on water compared to God.

Verse 10: “And the third angel sounded *his* trumpet; and *there* fell out of heaven a great star, burning like a lamp; and it fell on a third of the rivers, and on the fountains of waters. Now, the name of the star is Wormwood; and **a third** of the waters became wormwood; and many men died from *drinking* the waters because they were made bitter. Then the fourth angel sounded *his* trumpet; and **a third** of the sun was smitten, and **a third** of the moon, and **a third** of the stars; so that **a third** of them were darkened; and **a third** part of the day did not shine, and likewise *a third part of the night*” (vs 10-12).

Can you understand why no man knows the day or the hour? ***Time is all messed up, so only God knows the day and the hour!*** We can know the seasons. We can look and see the events taking place, which are building up, and we can anticipate how that may develop. But always remember this: ***If there is repentance, then God will push it out further, because He's in control of all of the events!*** Yet, all human beings are in control of their own choices, except those who receive the *mark of the beast*. This is quite a thing when that happens.

Notice how this crescendos, notice how it builds in power, v 13: “And I looked; and I heard an angel flying in the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, ‘Woe, woe, woe to those who are dwelling on the earth, because of the voices of the remaining trumpets of the three angels who *are* about to sound *their* trumpets!’” *They are ready to sound!*

Revelation 9:1: “And the fifth angel sounded *his* trumpet; and I saw **a star that had fallen** from heaven to the earth, and there was given to him the key to the bottomless abyss.”

In this case ***a star is an angel***, because it was given to him a key and the bottomless abyss. What's in the bottomless abyss? *Some people think that that may be down deep in the ocean because demons are afraid of water!* Remember what happened when the swine were there and they said, ‘Don't cast us into the water, cast us into the swine.’

He said, ‘Go!’ So what happened? They went into the swine and they came down and all drowned in the water. So, maybe there's something to it that the abyss can be even the depths of the ocean, we don't know, but at least that is brought up to help maybe give us a little understanding.

Verse 2: “And he opened the bottomless abyss; and there went up smoke from the pit, like *the* smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by the smoke from the pit. Then locusts came onto the earth from the smoke; and power was given to them, as the scorpions of the earth have power... [demonic weapons] ...And it was said to them that they should not damage the grass of the earth... [it grew back] ...or any green thing, or any tree, **but only the men who did not have the seal of God in their foreheads**” (vs 2-4).

Who are those that have the seal of God in their foreheads? *There are three groups of them:*

1. those of the Church who are in the place of safety
2. the 144,000
3. the great innumerable multitude

God severs these actions from those who are converted; so it won't touch them. This is what you call ***God's grace and mercy!*** Just like it was with the children of Israel when the plagues were coming. At a certain point they didn't come upon the children of Israel.

Verse 5: “And it was given to them that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months; and their torment *was* like *the* torment of a scorpion when it stings a man.”

Now, I've never been stung by a scorpion, I don't know what it's like, but I'm told that it is quite a thing, and you have quite a paralysis from it. But here they're able to recover. When we look at this, we can tie this fifth seal into Dan. 11 when the King of the North came against the King of the South, took over the Holy Land, that's when *the beast* goes in and says that he's ‘God.’ Later he hears of tidings from the north and the east, and he went to make war against them. So, here must be the war, *a secret weapon of demonic sources!*

Now if you have a chance, and you have the History Channel or the National Geographic Channel, watch for the special on the *Third Reich and the Occult*. I think that will amaze you, because a lot of these inventions do not come from the knowledge of men, but from the knowledge of demons.

Verse 6: “And in those days men will seek death but will not find it; and they will desire to die,

but death will flee from them. And the appearance of the locusts *was* like horses... [recall Joel 2] ...prepared for war; and on their heads *were* crowns like *those* of gold; and their faces *were* like *the* faces of men; and they had hair like women's hair; and their teeth were like *those* of lions. And they had breastplates like iron breastplates; and the sound of their wings *was* like *the* sound of chariots *drawn* by many horses running to war; and they had tails like scorpions, and stingers; and they were *given* power to injure men with their tails *for* five months" (vs 6-10). *Notice who's in charge of them:*

Verse 11: "And they have over them a king, the angel of the abyss; his name in Hebrew is Abaddon, but *the* name he has in Greek is Apollyon." *That's Satan the devil! Apollo is the war god! Five months ends.*

Verse 12: "The first woe is past.... [that's the fifth seal] ...Behold, after these things two more woes are still to come.... [we have angels coming against men and demons] ...And the sixth angel sounded *his* trumpet; and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar that *is* before God; *and* it said to the sixth angel, who had the trumpet, 'Loose the four angels who are bound in the great River Euphrates.'.... [again, down in the water] ...Then the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were loosed..." (vs 12-15).

What does this tell us? *Prophecies are right on time!* A lot of us have heard the saying, 'Well, prophecies are speeding up, prophecies are slowing down.' No, it's only the appearance that they may be. They're all right on time and it's all on God's schedule.

"...so that they might kill a third of men" (v 15). *Here's this tremendous army, never heard of!* You're not going to have them all in one place. You're going to have them strung out from the river Euphrates going clear back to Asia. ***They will come!***

Think of the logistics. How long did it take us to get ready for the Iraq War I or II. Took months to get all the equipment over there. These armies must have been coming and then that sting of the scorpion weapon stopped them in their tracks for five months. *Now they're coming again!* The way has to be prepared. Probably all the bridges across the Euphrates have been blown up. Sound like something we've heard of on the news? Isn't it interesting that we've been fighting in Iraq, which is right where the Euphrates and Tigris rivers are? Isn't it one of the bloodiest places on earth? *Yes, indeed!*

Verse 16: "And the number of *the* armies of the horseman *was* two hundred thousand...

..."—*that's 200-million!* An unheard of army!

In WWII of all the armies everywhere in all the theatres of war, they only had 50-million men under arms. Now here's ***200-million***, four times that amount. Notice what kind of equipment and things that they had described by John.

Verse 17: "And so, I saw the horses in the vision, and those sitting on them, who had fiery breastplates, even like jacinth and brimstone. And the heads of the horses *were* like heads of lions, and fire and smoke and brimstone shoot out of their mouths."

Secret weapons! Like I mentioned, the laser weapon! They have the laser weapon now that they can just disintegrate things far away. So, whenever we think, 'Oh, we've come to the final weapon.' I think they thought that when the Gatling gun was invented. Now look at what they have, laser weapons. *Bzzit!* you're smoke!

Verse 18: "By these three, a third of men were killed; by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone that shoot out of their mouths. For the power is in their mouths; for their tails *are* like serpents, *and* have heads, and with them they inflict wounds" (vs 18-19).

Now I can just envision a modernistic tank with a laser weapon on it, and also fire that comes out of it that is just unstoppable. Notice their attitude. The time of repentance with the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude, that was over.

Verse 20: "But the rest of the men who were not killed by these plagues still did not repent..."

This ties right in with Eze. 33 where God says to the wicked, 'Turn you, turn you, why will you die?' There they are! Completely madmen dedicated to their cause. Have we seen this? Do we not see a foretaste of this with these madmen suicide bombers? *They don't care if they blow themselves up!* They don't care if they take little children, put bombs on them, and tell them, 'Go find mommy in the shopping center.' So off they go and a remote control, they blow up the kid, kill other people.

No repentance! Has Osama ben Laden repented? *No!* Have any of them repented? Have any of the terrorists that they've gathered up and put in Gitmo, have any of them really repented? Those who said that they changed their mind, went back, and 70% were out on the battle field again, as soon as they got back. This is what we have here.

Verse 20: "But the rest of the men who were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the

works of their hands that they might not worship demons, and idols of gold and silver and brass and stone and wood, which do not have the power to see, nor to hear, nor to walk. And they did not repent of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornications, nor of their thievery” (vs 20-21)—*deadly battle, locked in!*

Now Rev. 10 is very interesting. There are seven thunders that are so awful that God told John, ‘Don’t write them.’ So, if anyone tells you, ‘Oh, I know what the seven thunders are.’ ***You know they’re a liar, because God said, ‘Don’t write them.’*** It can’t refer back to the seven seals, because those have already been opened and everything to fulfill those have already happened.

But he was told after he took the little book and ate it, that he still had to prophesy against many people and nations and tongues. What does God do? ***He always send a warning!*** Exactly how that’s going to be accomplished, we don’t know. But because it was commanded to be done, we know that it will be done.

In the midst of all of this, let’s understand something else that is already happening that God has been doing all along, which actually began before the ‘abomination of desolation that stands in the Holy place.’ There are two witnesses. {note sermon: *Two Witnesses and Elijah*} The two witnesses will not be anyone from the Church, period!

Zech. 3-4 shows *one of them is going to be the high priest from the coming temple* that they will build as soon as God says it’s time to build. They have a lot of things all ready to go. When the time comes, they’ll build it. *The other one is going to be the governor of Judea!* Dolores made the comment, looking at Netanyahu years ago, she said, ‘Well, I think Netanyahu could be one of the two witnesses, because of the resoluteness of his mind.’ He could very well be; we don’t know. But we do know this:

When the two witnesses come on the scene, you know the great tribulation’s going to start shortly after that. They prophesy for a 1,260 days. They have great power to shut up heavens and call plagues any place on the earth. They torment men on the earth, and when they finally are allowed to be killed, let’s see what happens and see what the next event is going to be. Remember, ***six of the trumpet plagues have sounded!***

Revelation 11:7: “And when they have completed their testimony, the beast who ascends out of the abyss will make war against them, and will overcome them, and will kill them.”

Remember, up to that point, no one could touch them. If they tried to, fire would come out of the mouth of the two witnesses and incinerate them right on the spot. *Amazing!* I’d like to know what CNN news would do at that time.

Verse 8: “And their bodies *will lie* in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called **Sodom and Egypt**, where also our Lord was crucified.”

Sodom and Egypt tells us the sexual morays of the world and the religious morays of the world, straight out of Egypt and straight out of Sodom.

Verse 9: “Then those of the peoples and tribes and languages and nations shall see their bodies three and a half days, for they will not allow their bodies to be put into tombs.”

Does this tell us that God is going to let all these orbiting satellites stay in orbit, so that there can be a witness to them? ***Everyone’s going to see it, everyone on earth!*** The way technology is developing, it can be on handheld computers and cell phones, you can look and see, ‘Oh, there they are. Finally, we’re certainly glad that they’re dead. Look at what they’ve done to us. Thank you, Beast, for having the power to overcome them.’ Then right in the middle of a great festival celebration that they’re dead, then after three and half days... because they didn’t allow them to be put in the grave.

Verse 10: ““And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, and will make merry, and will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets had tormented those who dwell on the earth.’ Then after the three and a half days, *the spirit of life from God entered into them and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who were watching them*” (vs 10-11). *Quite a thing!*

Now then, we have the fulfillment of what Jesus said. ‘The last shall be first.’ ***These two witnesses ascend into heaven just before the seventh trump sounds!*** So, when the seventh trump sounds as they are ascending into heaven, they are changed from flesh to spirit. Have to be, because let’s see the sequence that happens here.

Verse 12: “And they heard a great voice from heaven, say, ‘Come up here!’ And they ascended into heaven in a cloud; and their enemies saw them *rise*. And in that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell; and seven thousand men were killed in the earthquake. And the rest were filled with fear, and gave glory to the God of heaven. The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming immediately” (vs 12-14).

What is the third woe? ***The seventh trump and the resurrection of the saints on the last Pentecost!***

Verse 15^[transcriber's correction]: “Then the seventh angel sounded *his* trumpet; and *there* were great voices in heaven, saying, ‘The kingdoms of this world have become *the kingdoms* of our Lord and His Christ, and He shall reign into the ages of eternity.’” ***The final solution for the problems of the world in the person of Christ!***

Verse 16: “And the twenty-four elders, who sit before God on their thrones, fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying, ‘We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, Who is, and Who was, and Who *is* to come; for You have taken *to Yourself* Your great power, and have reigned’” (vs 16-17).

All the nations were happy and clapped their hands, and waited for Christ to descend. ***NO!***

Verse 18: “For **the nations were angry**, and Your wrath has come, and the time for the dead to be judged...” ***That’s the resurrection, so this has to be the last Pentecost when that trumpet sounds!***

“...and to give reward to Your servants the prophets, and to the saints, and to *all* those who fear Your name, the small and the great; and to destroy those who destroy the earth...[Quite a thing!] ...And the Temple of God in heaven was opened, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple; and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunders, and an earthquake and great hail” (vs 18-19).

Quite a fantastic display of things going on. You’d have to say the Throne of God is a whole lot closer to the earth at that time than any other time.

When the saints are resurrected, they’re going to come and stand on the Sea of Glass. So we go back to where the first sign of Christ returning is the great sun in the heavens coming closer and closer and closer to the earth. Then it comes to a point over Palestine, probably over Jerusalem, and here’s this great Sea of Glass. ***Then on the last Pentecost, after the two witnesses are raised, then all those who are in the graves are raised and brought to the Sea of Glass by the angels of God!***

Those of us who are still alive and wondering, ‘Oh, Lord, am I going to make it?’ Then we’ll be changed from flesh to spirit and be taken on up and be on the Sea of Glass.

Now let’s see what happens when we’re on the Sea of Glass. I want you to understand something. There are going to be a lot of things happen on the Sea of Glass. ***That’s going to be a time of:***

- rejoicing
- victory
- great elation

All the servants of God, all the saints of God will all be resurrected to eternal life! They will see Jesus Christ. They will see God the Father! They will see the seven last plagues of God poured out upon the earth.

- there will be the marriage of the Lamb
- we’ll get our new name
- we will get our rewards
- we will be told what we’re going to do when we come back to the earth
- we’re going to have a quick lesson on how to ride the spiritual horse over here
- we’re going to have a quick lesson on how to play a harp and a lyre
- we’re going to sing two songs we have not sung:
 - ✓ the *Song of Moses*
 - ✓ the *Song of the Lamb*

We’ll be able to learn them quickly because we’re spirit beings!

After the saints are resurrected, it’s still not over. God is not done with His war against Satan and the demons and men. Now we have a spectacular thing that takes place:

Revelation 15:1: “Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and awesome; seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them **the wrath of God is filled up.**”

Remember, God has said all the time, ‘Vengeance is Mine.’ Don’t you think God could take care of the enemy better than us? ***Yes, indeed!***

Verse 2: “And I saw a Sea of Glass mingled with fire, and those who had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, *and* over his mark, and over the number of his name, **standing on the Sea of Glass**, having *the lyres* of God.”

Yet, some people say they don’t believe that the saints when they’re resurrected are going to be standing on a Sea of Glass that is in the clouds. What does the Scripture say? ***They’re standing on the Sea of Glass!***”

Verse 3: “And they were singing the song of Moses, *the servant* of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, ‘Great and awesome *are* Your works, Lord God Almighty; righteous and true *are* Your ways, King of the saints.’”

We’re going to see ***God’s vengeance, God’s punishment upon this world*** in a way that has never

been in the history of the world, nor ever will be again. Let's see what happens.

Verse 4: "Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For *You only are* Holy; and all the nations shall come and worship before You, for Your judgments have been revealed." ***This sets the stage!***

Verse 5: "And after these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened." **Where does it have to be?** *Right on that Sea of Glass!*

Verse 6: "And the seven angels who had the seven *last* plagues came out of the temple; they were clothed in linen, pure and bright, and girded about the chest with golden breastplates. And one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels, seven golden vials, full of the wrath of God, Who lives into the ages of eternity... [the final judgment] ...And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from His power; and no one was able to enter inside the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled" (vs 6-8).

Here's what happened: goes out and really devastates the whole earth. This is why it's called ***a woe***. It's the seventh trumpet plague, which begins with the resurrection and then opens with the seven last plagues.

They're told, Revelation 16:1: "... 'Go and pour out the vials of the wrath of God onto the earth.' And the first *angel* went and poured out his vial onto the earth; and an evil and grievous sore fell upon the men who had the mark of the beast, and upon those who were worshiping his image" (vs 1-2).

The *mark of the beast*: they're going to control your thoughts. Those who receive the *mark of the beast will give up their freewill and choice to be controlled by the beast!* There's their punishment. These happen quite quickly.

Verse 3: "And the second angel *went and* poured out his vial into the sea; and it became blood... [all the oceans became blood] ...like *that* of a dead *man*; and every living soul in the sea died. And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers, and into the fountains of waters; and they became blood" (vs 3-4).

Some people would read that and say, 'Oh, a terrible thing! Why does God do this?' But notice what the angels say, who have been alive all during the time that men have been on the earth. They've seen all the hell and war and fighting and plagues and things that took place because of men. Notice what they say of God's judgment:

Verse 5: "Then I heard the angel of the waters say, 'You are righteous, O Lord, Who are, and Who was, even the Holy One, in that You have executed this judgment. For they have poured out *the* blood of saints and of prophets...'" (vs 5-6).

How valuable are you to God? *Look what He's going to do to avenge you!*

"...and You have given them blood to drink; for they are worthy.' And I heard another *voice* from the altar say, 'Yes, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous *are* Your judgments.' And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and *power* was given to it to scorch men with fire. Then men were scorched with great heat; and they blasphemed the name of God, Who has authority over these plagues, and did not repent to give Him glory" (vs 6-9).

I saw a special about what happened to Pompeii and Herculean. If you have a chance to watch that—you know I watch the History Channel a lot—you watch it. They have now determined that the reason that they died was not because of lava, but because of the tremendous heat and the explosion that took place and what that did, it scorched them and burned them to a crisp instantly! When I saw that, I said *whoa!*, that reminds me of Rev. 16. When the sun becomes so hot, it's going to scorch them. You might ask:

- What does it take for men to repent?
- What does it take to try and open such a closed hard heart?

Not even this!

Verse 10: "And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the throne of the beast; and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain, and blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores; yet, they did not repent of their works.... [God will open the River Euphrates] ...And the sixth angel poured out his vial into the great river Euphrates; and its waters were dried up, so that the way of the kings from the rising of *the* sun might be prepared" (vs 10-12).

Here it comes for the final battle of Armageddon. Now they have to be convinced to come, so what does Satan do?

Verse 13: "Then 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; for they are spirits of demons working miracles, going forth to the kings of the earth, even of the whole world, to gather them

together to the battle of that great day of the Almighty God" (vs 13-14).

A little inset verse. If you read this and you get a little afraid, trepidatious, read; v 15: "Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is the one who is watching and is keeping his garments, so that he may not walk naked and they may not see his shame." *A little inset verse of encouragement!* You find that a lot in the Bible.

Verse 16: "And he gathered them together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon. Then the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, 'IT IS FINISHED'" (vs 15-17). *God is the One who declares when it's over*, right from the Throne of God.

Then great hail the weight of a talent. I used to say it was a 180 pounds, but someone kindly corrected me. It's only 90 pounds. Ninety is still pretty heavy.

Revelation 19:1: "And after these things I heard *the* loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, 'Hallelujah!... [Who's the great multitude? Resurrected saints, angels of God!] ...The salvation and the glory and the honor and the power *belong* to the Lord our God. For true and righteous *are* His judgments; for He has judged the great whore, who corrupted the earth with her fornication, and He has avenged the blood of His servants at her hand.' And they said a second time, 'Hallelujah! And her smoke shall ascend upward into the ages of eternity'" (vs 1-3).

That is a literal scientific fact. Did you know that? When these things ascend into the atmosphere, and they now know from satellite pictures that there is an envelope around the earth, almost an *invisible* envelope. Every once in a while it opens up and burps out the radiation that goes into space. And once something is in space, it is there *forever!* Just like with the smoke of the torment of those who receive the *mark of the beast*, as it is here. Once it gets up there and that envelope opens up, then it's gone into the universe.

Now, let's see the conclusion of the matter. This is after the marriage of the Lamb, and so forth:

Verse 11: "And I saw heaven open; and behold, a white horse; and He Who sat on it *is* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He does judge and make war.... [because the final battle is now ready to begin] ...And His eyes *were* like a flame of fire, and on His head *were* many crowns; and He had a name written that no one knows except Him. And *He* was clothed with a garment dipped in blood; and His name *is* The Word of God.... [we

know that's Christ] ...And the armies in heaven were following Him on white horses..." (vs 12-14). *That's us!*

Now you can fight. That's why He told Pilate, when Pilate asked, 'Are you really a king?' He said, '*To this end was I born. And if My Kingdom were of this world, then would My servants fight.*'

Now it's of this world under Christ and we're going to fight. That's when you can really fight with righteousness and power, because you'll be a spirit being. That'll be great. You won't have to worry about losing, you're going to win.

"...and they were clothed in fine linen, white and pure. And out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He might smite the nations; and He shall shepherd them with an iron rod... [they are going to learn] ...and He treads the winepress of the fury and the wrath of the Almighty God. And on *His* garment and on His thigh He has a name written: King of kings and Lord of lords. Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in *the* midst of heaven, 'Come and gather yourselves together to the supper of the great God so that you may eat *the* flesh of kings, and *the* flesh of chief captains, and *the* flesh of mighty men, and *the* flesh of horses, and of those who sit on them, and *the* flesh of all, free and bond, and small and great" (vs 14-18).

God saves the two instrumentalities of human beings that caused this, *the beast and the false prophet*, for a special reward.

Verse 19: "And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies, gathered together to make war with Him Who sits on the horse, and with His army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet who worked miracles in his presence, by which he had deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. Those two were cast alive into the Lake of Fire, which burns with brimstone; and the rest were killed by the sword of Him Who sits on the horse, *even the sword* that goes out of His mouth; and all the birds were filled with their flesh" (vs 19-21).

So here we are coming down from the Sea of Glass with Christ and all these vultures, eagles, buzzards, and all the flesh-eating birds are coming to just glut themselves on all the flesh and blood that will be there, and clean it up. Here we're coming down to the earth, and God sends an angel out and he takes the beast, takes the false prophet, cast them into the Lake of Fire. Another angel comes down, he

takes Satan the devil and casts him into the abyss, covers him up. That takes us to the Day of Atonement.

That's what this day pictures, the most momentous and universe-shaking events to transpire in the history of the world. Brethren, *we are a part of that!*

Scriptural References:

- 1) Leviticus 23:1-2, 23-25
- 2) Joshua 5:13-15
- 3) Joshua 6:1-5, 8-9, 15-17
- 4) Ezekiel 33:1-11
- 5) Joel 1:12-15
- 6) Joel 2:1-17
- 7) Isaiah 64:1-4
- 8) Revelation 6:12-17
- 9) Revelation 8:1-13
- 10) Revelation 9:1-21
- 11) Revelation 11:7-19
- 12) Revelation 15:1-8
- 13) Revelation 16:1-17
- 14) Revelation 19:1-3, 11-21

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Revelation 7
- Matthew 24
- 2-Thessalonians 2
- Revelation 13
- Hosea 6
- Daniel 11
- Revelation 10
- Zechariah 3 & 4

Also referenced:

Sermons:

- *Why God Hates Religion*
- *Daniel/Revelation Series*
- *Two Witnesses and Elijah*

Books:

- *God's Plan for Mankind* by Fred R. Coulter
- *Occult Holidays or God's Holy Days—Which?*
by Fred R. Coulter

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