

## ENDGAME

### A Study On Revelation (Week #45)

Pastor Jason Goss

**Revelation 9:1** Then the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star from heaven which had fallen to the earth; and the key to the shaft of the abyss was given to him. **2** He opened the shaft of the abyss, and smoke ascended out of the shaft like the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened from the smoke of the shaft. **3** Then out of the smoke came locusts upon the earth, and power was given them, as the scorpions of the earth have power. **4** They were told not to hurt the grass of the earth, nor any green thing, nor any tree, but only the people who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. **5** And [it was given to them] they were not permitted to kill anyone, but to torment for five months; and their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it [strikes] stings a person. **6** And in those days people will seek death and will not find it; they will long to die, and death [flees] will flee from them! **7** The [likeness] appearance of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle; and on their heads appeared to be crowns like gold, and their faces were like human faces. **8** They had hair like the hair of women, and their teeth were like the teeth of lions. **9** They had breastplates like breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots, of many horses rushing to battle. **10** They have tails like scorpions, and stings; and in their tails is their power to hurt people for five months. **11** They have as king over them, the angel of the abyss; his name in Hebrew is [destruction] Abaddon, and in the Greek he has the name [destroyer] Apollyon. **12** The first woe has passed; behold, two woes are still coming after these things. (NASB)

- Star that had fallen
  - Him; He
    - ▶ Reference to Satan; Devil; Lucifer
- Locusts
  - Demonic creatures (not insects - Prov. 30:27)
    - ▶ shaped like horses prepared for battle
    - ▶ faces like of men
    - ▶ hair like of women
    - ▶ teeth like of lions
    - ▶ breastplates like iron
    - ▶ sounding like chariots
    - ▶ tails like scorpions
- King of locusts
  - Abaddon (Hebrew); Apollyon (Greek)
    - ▶ Destruction; Destroyer

**Revelation 9:4** They were told not to hurt the grass of the earth, nor any green thing, nor any tree, but only the people who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. (NASB)

**Ezekiel 9:1** Then the Lord thundered, "Bring on the men appointed to punish the city! Tell them to bring their weapons with them!" **2** Six men soon appeared from the upper gate that faces north, each carrying a deadly weapon in his hand. With them was a man dressed in linen, who carried a writer's case at his side. They all went into the Temple courtyard and stood beside the bronze altar. **3** Then the glory of the God of Israel rose up from between the cherubim, where it had rested, and moved to the entrance of the Temple. And the Lord called to the man dressed in linen who was carrying the writer's case. **4** He said to him, "Walk through the streets of Jerusalem and put a mark on the foreheads of all who weep and sigh because of the detestable sins being committed in their city." **5** Then I heard the Lord say to the other men, "Follow him through the city and kill everyone whose forehead is not marked. Show no mercy; have no pity!" **6** Kill them all—old and young, girls and women and little children. But do not touch anyone with the mark. Begin right here at the Temple." So they began by killing the seventy leaders. **7** "Defile the Temple!" the Lord commanded. "Fill its courtyards with corpses. Go!" So they went and began killing throughout the city. **8** While they were out killing, I was all alone. I fell face down on the ground and cried out, "O Sovereign Lord! Will your fury against Jerusalem wipe out everyone left in Israel?" **9** Then he said to me, "The sins of the people of Israel and Judah are very, very great. The entire land is full of murder; the city is filled with injustice. They are saying, 'The Lord doesn't see it! The Lord has abandoned the land!' **10** So I will not spare them or have any pity on them. I will fully repay them for all they have done." **11** Then the man in linen clothing, who carried the writer's case, reported back and said, "I have done as you commanded." (NLT)

The \_\_\_\_\_

- How many "men" bringing judgement?
  - Genesis 19: Sodom & Gomorrah? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Exodus 11: Egypt's final plague? **1**
  - Ezekiel 9: Jerusalem? **6**
    - ▶ Judgement is harsher for the Godly.
    - ▶ 6 Nations of Babylon's army?
  - Revelation 16: Earth? **7**

\_\_\_\_\_ vs. \_\_\_\_\_

- Judgement: Response of love to sin
  - Pain of discipline
    - ▶ Effective discipline involves establishing and maintaining fair and reasonable rules, boundaries and expectations. It provides safety and structure while teaching ways to be respectful and responsible.
- Wrath: Response of holiness to sin
  - Pain of punishment
    - ▶ Punishment is a deliberate infliction of pain that is imposed to attempt to force a person to submit, comply, defer, and/or experience humiliation. The hope is typically that the fear of punishment motivates people to avoid behaviors for which they will be punished.

**Isaiah 8:11** The Lord has given me a strong warning not to think like everyone else does. He said, *(NLT)*

The \_\_\_\_\_

- Where did they come from?
  - Out of the north (Jer 1.14)
- Where did they place themselves?
  - Brazen altar
    - ▶ Place where sacrifices / atonement made
    - ▶ They acted as destroyers, they acted as sacrificers, not from any personal revenge or ill-will, but with a pure and sincere regard to the glory of God.
    - ▶ They stood by the altar, as it were to protect and vindicate that, and plead its righteous cause, and avenge the horrid profanation of it.
- Who was among them?
  - Man was clothed with linen, as the priests were.
  - Idiom of \_\_\_\_\_
    - ▶ He had a writer's inkhorn hanging at his side, as anciently attorneys and lawyers' clerks had
    - ▶ He was to make use of, as the other six were to make use of their destroying weapons.
  - He is our high priest, clothed with holiness.
    - ▶ Book of life?
  - He was not summoned like the punishers.
    - ▶ Always ready to provide salvation.

- Who are those who are marked?
  - Those who did not practice idolatry.
  - Those who wept, cried out for the sins of others.
    - ▶ It is not enough that we do not delight in the sins of others, and that we have not fellowship with them, but we must mourn for them, and lay them to heart; we must grieve for that which we cannot help, as those that hate sin for its own sake, and have a tender concern for the souls of others.
  - Marked by grace in their soul.
  - Marked by love in their hearts.
  - Passed over by the ones who punish.
- What is the command given?
  - Cut off and destroy all that were either guilty of, or accessory to, the abominations of Jerusalem.
    - ▶ Matthew 3:12 (Separate chaff from wheat)
  - Destroy all without exception.
  - Destroy all without compassion.
  - Spare those with the mark.
    - ▶ Rev 7 - 144,000 marked
    - ▶ Rev 13 & 14 - Mark of Beast

**Revelation 9:13** Then the sixth angel sounded, and I heard [one voice] a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, **14** saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." **15** And the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released, so that they would kill a third of mankind. (NASB)

**Revelation 9:13** Then the sixth angel sounded: And I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, **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 and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind. (NKJV)

**Revelation 9:13** Then the sixth angel blew his trumpet, and I heard a voice speaking from the four horns of the gold altar that stands in the presence of God. **14** And the voice said to the sixth angel who held the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great Euphrates River." **15** Then the four angels who had been prepared for this hour and day and month and year were turned loose to kill one-third of all the people on earth. (NLT)

The \_\_\_\_\_ **Armies: Army #2**

- Gold altar
  - This is at the Altar of Incense featured in Rev 8:3-5
    - ▶ The golden altar is the place of prayer, which seems to indicate that this is in response to the prayers for justice.
    - ▶ Exodus 30:8 also calls this "the Lord's supremely holy altar."
    - ▶ Therefore, we can also see this as the Holy response to all unholiness.
  - The Avenger of Blood is about to answer those prayers.
    - ▶ Note: Blood offered here, too, on Yom Kippur (Ex 30:10; cf. 1 Kgs 13:2,3)
  - "...Four angels...": Four seems to be the number of creation.
    - ▶ Could this be because we know only 4 of the 10 dimensions of the universe?
    - ▶ These are apparently wicked angels since they are bound and must be loosed.
    - ▶ Since 1/4 were killed already (Rev 6:8), this means that over half of the world's population will be dead by the time the 6th trumpet is completed. Possibly as low as 1/4 of population remain.

| Event  | Population                               | %             |
|--|--|---------------|
| <b>World Population</b>                        | 8,000,000,000                            | 100%          |
| <b>Christian Population (Current Estimate)</b> | 2,000,000,000                            | 25%           |
| <b>Remain for Tribulation</b>                  | <b>6,000,000,000</b>                     | <b>75%</b>    |
| <b>Seal #2 &amp; 3 (Guess)</b>                 | <u>1,500,000,000</u>                     | 25%           |
| <b>Seal #4 (1/4 Earth Die)</b>                 | 1,500,000,000                            | 25%           |
| <b>After Seals (Remain)</b>                    | <b>3,000,000,000</b>                     | <b>50%</b>    |
| <b>Trumpet #6 (1/3 People Die)</b>             | 1,000,000,000                            | 33.33%        |
| <b>Remaining Population</b>                    | <b>2,000,000,000</b>                     | <b>66.67%</b> |
| WW1: 1.75% of population died (40 million)     | WW2: 3% of Population died (2.3 billion) |               |

**Revelation 8:3** Then another angel with a gold incense burner came and stood at the altar. And a great amount of incense was given to him to mix with the prayers of God's people as an offering on the gold altar before the throne. **4** The smoke of the incense, mixed with the prayers of God's holy people, ascended up to God from the altar where the angel had poured them out. **5** Then the angel filled the incense burner with fire from the altar and threw it down upon the earth; and thunder crashed, lightning flashed, and there was a terrible earthquake. (NLT)

**Euphrates:** \_\_\_\_\_

- The river Euphrates is the eastern boundary of Israel
  - It's the traditional boundary of east and west—the Romans lived in constant fear of the Parthian Empire on the other side of the river.
  - It's the boundary marker given in the Garden of Eden.
    - ▶ Gen 15:18; cf. Deut 1:7; Josh 1:4; 1 Kgs 4:21,24
  - Sin began here
    - ▶ Gen 2:14,15; 3:6,7
  - The first murder
    - ▶ Gen 4:8
  - Nimrod "We will rebel"
    - ▶ Gen 10, 11
  - Tower of Babel = Babylon: The fountain- head of idolatry and false worship.
    - ▶ Gen 11
  - Babylon will be the scene of the last stand
    - ▶ Zech 5:5-11
- Spiritual beings can be bound by location.
  - Released from their location by God.
- A divided kingdom cannot stand.
  - This appears to be a division in Satan's kingdom.
  - As far as Asia is concerned, demon religions are all east of the Euphrates.
    - ▶ India is said to have 33 million gods.
    - ▶ All the gods of the heathen are demons (Ps 96:5 LXX).
  - It is interesting that in the 1991 Gulf War, the U.S. Army's 24th Mechanized and 101st Airborne Divisions trapped the elite Republican Guard of Iraq by pinning it against the Euphrates River.
- Perfect timing
  - For this day, hour, month, year.

**Genesis 2:8** The Lord God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed. **9** Out of the ground the Lord God caused every tree to grow that is pleasing to the sight and good for food; the tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. **10** Now a river [was going out] flowed out of Eden to water the garden; and from there it divided and became four rivers. **11** The name of the first is Pishon; it [surrounds] flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. **12** The gold of that land is good; the bdellium and the onyx stone are there as well. **13** The name of the second river is Gihon; it [is the one surrounding] flows around the whole land of Cush. **14** The name of the third river is Tigris; it [is the one going] flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates. (NASB)

**Revelation 9:16** The number of the armies of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them. **17** And this is how I saw in my vision the horses and those who sat on them: the riders had breastplates the color of fire, of hyacinth, and of [burning sulfur] brimstone; and the heads of the horses are like the heads of lions; and out of their mouths \*came fire and smoke and [burning sulfur] brimstone. (NASB)

**Revelation 9:16** Now the number of the army of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them. **17** And thus I saw the horses in the vision: those who sat on them had breastplates of fiery red, hyacinth blue, and sulfur yellow; and the heads of the horses were like the heads of lions; and out of their mouths came fire, smoke, and brimstone. (NKJV)

**Revelation 9:16** I heard the size of their army, which was 200 million mounted troops. **17** And in my vision, I saw the horses and the riders sitting on them. The riders wore armor that was fiery red and dark blue and yellow. The horses had heads like lions, and fire and smoke and burning sulfur billowed from their mouths. (NLT)

### The \_\_\_\_\_ Army

- A 200-million mounted army
  - A demonic "army" from the Far East?
    - ▶ The enormous population of China is one of its most powerful weapons. Russia is terrified of the growing emigration jeopardizing its eastern border.
- Horses with riders
  - Riders have armor
  - We are only given a description of what the riders wore, while the main part of the description is of the horses.
  - It seems that everything terrible comes from the horses.
  - Colors are as striking as the creatures are unnatural:
    - ▶ fiery red
    - ▶ dark blue
    - ▶ bright yellow
  - Many have supposed to give this some symbolical meaning.
  - Others have identified these colors as the colors of a country or army. There are many countries with these three colors in their flag, including many Latin American countries.
  - But I don't think the purpose here is so much to identify where they've come from as much as it is to give the idea of the seriousness of their coming.
  - Heads of horse like lion

- Now, maybe these are horses of an awful nature, or maybe this is a description of some kind of machine?
- And this plague of an army was unlike the locust army the locust army couldn't kill, but this army would kill 1/3 of all the people on earth. The really important part is what happens next.
- Breathing: Fire, smoke, and burning sulfur from their mouths
  - ▶ Sulfur in scripture is consistent with the wrath of God.
  - ▶ Sodom & Gomorrah
  - ▶ Hell
  - ▶ Gen 19, Psalm 11:6; Job 18:15
- If you believe, you scarcely need any comment.
- Difficulties with the passage emerge from lack of belief.
- Demonic forces are at work here.

**Revelation 9:18** A third of mankind was killed by these three plagues, by the fire, the smoke, and the [burning sulfur] brimstone which came out of their mouths.

**19** For the power of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails are like serpents and have heads, and with them they do harm. **20** The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands so as not to worship demons and the idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk; **21** and they did not repent of their murders, nor of their witchcraft, nor of their sexual immorality, nor of their thefts. (NASB)

**Revelation 9:18** By these three plagues a third of mankind was killed—by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which came out of their mouths. **19** For [the power of horses] their power is in their mouth and in their tails; for their tails are like serpents, having heads; and with them they do harm. **20** But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. **21** And they did not repent of their murders or their [drugs] sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts. (NKJV)

**Revelation 9:18** One-third of all the people on earth were killed by these three plagues—by the fire and smoke and burning sulfur that came from the mouths of the horses. **19** Their power was in their mouths and in their tails. For their tails had heads like snakes, with the power to injure people. **20** But the people who did not die in these plagues still refused to repent of their evil deeds and turn to God. They continued to worship demons and idols made of gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood—idols that can neither see nor hear nor walk! **21** And they did not repent of their murders or their witchcraft or their sexual immorality or their thefts. (NLT)

## The \_\_\_\_\_ of Death

- Fire
- Smoke
- Burning Sulfur
- Tails like serpents
- Failure to repent
  - Works of their hands
    - ▶ Idolatry - no other gods (#1, #2)
  - Murders
    - ▶ Thou shall not murder (#6)
  - Witchcraft
    - ▶ one who makes use of magic (formulas, incantations - black or white magic) and sorcery (calling upon demonic power to create situations around people. Use of omens, drugs are sometimes included) to accomplish the will of demons.
  - Sexual Immorality
    - ▶ Adultery, Coveting (#7, #10)
  - Thefts
    - ▶ Thou shall not steal (#8)
- These judgments are not remedial, but retributive.
- What happens as a result of this army 200 million killing 1/3 of the people of the earth? Nothing.
- That's an important thing to remember when you think that your good arguments and superior knowledge are going to change someone else's mind.
- Here is the great destruction the world has ever seen and the response is that "they repented not...they continued to worship demons and idols...they did not repent of their murders or their witchcraft or their immorality or their thefts!"
- In all of this they didn't change their minds, they didn't change their actions.
  - Men persist in their sins.
    - ▶ This is demon worship.
    - ▶ The insanity of worshipping the gods that are not and the demons that are!
  - Idols can include work of their own hands, buildings, machines, cities
    - ▶ Dead sinners worshipping dead gods
    - ▶ We become like what we believe and worship (Ps 135:18).

**Romans 3:10** as it is written: "There is no righteous person, not even one; **11** There is no one who understands, There is no one who seeks out God; **12** They have all turned aside, together they have become [depraved] corrupt; There is no one who does good, There is not even one." (NASB)

**1 Corinthians 10:19** What am I trying to say? Am I saying that food offered to idols has some significance, or that idols are real gods? **20** No, not at all. I am saying that these sacrifices are offered to demons, not to God. And I don't want you to participate with demons. **21** You cannot drink from the cup of the Lord and from the cup of demons, too. You cannot eat at the Lord's Table and at the table of demons, too. (NLT)

**Psalm 115:2** Why let the nations say, "Where is their God?" **3** Our God is in the heavens, and he does as he wishes. **4** Their idols are merely things of silver and gold, shaped by human hands. **5** They have mouths but cannot speak, and eyes but cannot see. **6** They have ears but cannot hear, and noses but cannot smell. **7** They have hands but cannot feel, and feet but cannot walk, and throats but cannot make a sound. **8** And those who make idols are just like them, as are all who trust in them. (NLT)

**Psalm 135:18** And those who make idols are just like them, as are all who trust in them. (NLT)

### Characteristic of \_\_\_\_\_

- Murders: we even subsidize murders prior to birth.
  - It is interesting that even ancient pagan cultures had laws to protect the family, since it was the source of young men to man the armies. Population growth was a primary strategic resource.
  - Abortion was a capital crime (punishable by death).
- Sorcery: pharmakia, use of drugs.
  - Witchcraft: φάρμακος; (Greek - pharmakos [far-mak-os']); a poisoner, sorcerer, magician; used of people using drugs and "religious incantations" to drug people into living by their illusions - like having magical (supernatural) powers to manipulate God into giving them more temporal possessions.
  - We get our word pharmacy, since witchcraft uses potions and "magical" brews. The implication is that drugs will be involved. (Rev 9:21; 21:8; 22:15)
  - Drug trade is the largest economic constituency in Washington D.C., and the primary source of funds to the covert intelligence community which some believe presently control the affairs in political life.
- Fornication: the preoccupation of today's culture.
  - Homosexuality; pornography are the cultural "normal."
- Theft: institutional as well as individual.
  - Theft includes socialized abrogation of property rights. Plunder and confiscation is not limited to individuals, but its most insidious forms include social policy and institutionalized theft.
  - Socialism is the plundering of the productive by the unaccountable.

| Plagues of Egypt |                              |          |              |                    |
|------------------|------------------------------|----------|--------------|--------------------|
| Warning          | Plague                       | Exodus   |              |                    |
| Warning #1       | 1) Waters turned to blood    | 7:14-25  | Rod of Aaron | Death              |
| Warning #2       | 2) Frogs on land, homes      | 8:1-5    |              | Darkness           |
| (none)           | 3) Lice on persons           | 8:10-19  |              | Couldn't Duplicate |
| Warning #3       | 4) Flies on homes            | 8:20-24  | No Rod       | Goshen Exempt      |
| Warning #4       | 5) Disease on cattle         | 9:1-7    |              | Cattle Involved    |
| (none)           | 6) Boils, sores: man & beast | 9:8-12   |              | Cattle Involved    |
| Warning #5       | 7) Thunder, hail             | 9:18-35  | Rod Of Moses | Goshen Exempt      |
| Warning #6       | 8) Locusts                   | 10:1-20  |              | Couldn't Duplicate |
| (none)           | 9) Darkness (3 days)         | 10:21-29 |              | Darkness           |
| Warning #7       | 10) Firstborn, man and beast | 11 & 12  |              | Death              |

### The \_\_\_\_\_ Of Egypt

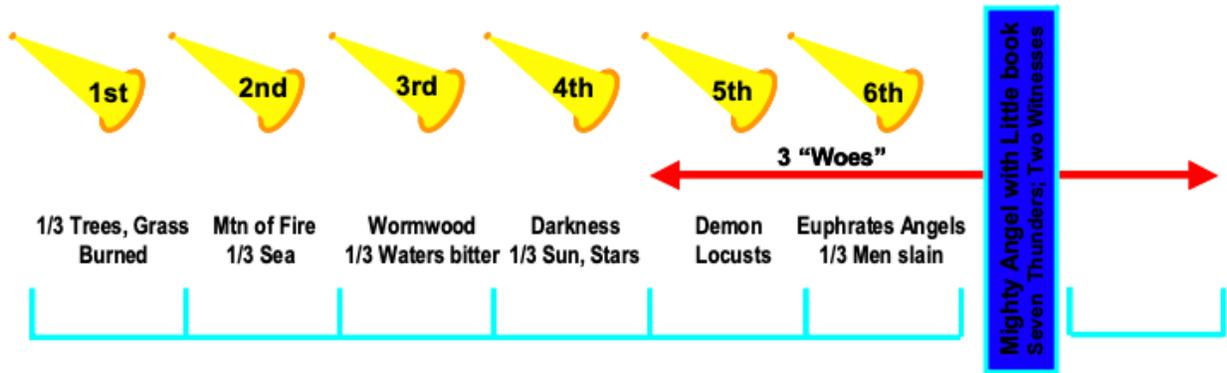
- Against the gods they worshipped (Num 33:4; Judg 10:14)
- Public display of power (Ex 9:16)
- Warning to other nations (Josh 2:8,9)
- Philistines (1 Sam 4:8; Gen 12:3).
- Beelzebub = "Fly" God. This prevented worship by their priests (8:18)
  - They could not reproduce this one.
  - 3X they did:
    - ▶ Rods into serpents 7:12 (2 Tim 3:8)
    - ▶ Water into blood, 7:22
    - ▶ Frogs, 8:7
- Note also miracles by enemies: Rev 16:14
- Pharaoh: "I have sinned"; Ex 4:22, Israel = "firstborn."
  - God knew Pharaoh's heart before the first plague ever took place.

**Exodus 4:21** And the Lord told Moses, "When you arrive back in Egypt, go to Pharaoh and perform all the miracles I have empowered you to do. But I will harden his heart so he will refuse to let the people go. **22** Then you will tell him, 'This is what the Lord says: Israel is my firstborn son. **23** I commanded you, "Let my son go, so he can worship me." But since you have refused, I will now kill your firstborn son!" (NLT)

**Exodus \_\_\_\_\_ Revelation**

- 1) Jacob’s trouble: affliction (Isa 60:14; Jer 30:5-8).
- 2) Cry to God; heard (Jer 31:18-20).
- 3) God will command oppressors: let them go (Isa 43:6).
- 4) 2 witnesses, with miracles before enemies (Rev 11:3-6).
- 5) Enemies will also perform (Rev 13:14,15).
- 6) Sore judgements from God (Jer 25: 15,6).
- 7) God will protect His people (Rev 7:4; 12:6; 14-16).
- 8) Water turned to blood (Rev 8:8; 11:6; 16:4,5).
- 9) Satanic frogs (Rev 16:13).
- 10) Plague of locusts (Rev 9:2-11).
- 11) Boils and pains (Rev16:2).
- 12) Hailstones from heaven (Rev 8:7).
- 13) Darkness (Isa 60:2; Rev 16:10).
- 14) Hearts hardened (Rev 9:20,21).
- 15) Death to multitudes (Rev 9:15).
- 16) Israel to be delivered (Zech 14:3,4; Rom 11:26).

**The \_\_\_\_\_ Trumpet Judgments**



**Interlude**

- We have come to the end of chapter 9, and the 6th Trumpet.
- Now there will be an interlude (Rev 10-14)
- Almost as if to allow everyone to take a deep breath
- For two terrors have come and the worst is yet to come.

**Next Session**

- Read Chapters 10 and 11
  - Who are the Two Witnesses?
  - Justify your answer with Scripture(s).
  - Why were the Seven Thunders not recorded?