

1 **A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION**

LESSON 31

2 **FLOOR PLAN GRAPHIC**

3 **RECAP**

- We are in the 9th chapter and under the 7th seal
- Under the 7th seal are the 7 trumpets and vials which, when sounded or pour out, result in 7 plagues on earth
- We read last week in Lesson 30 Revelation chapter 9 verses 1-3 where the 5th angel sounded which is the 1st woe

4 **THE FIRST WOE & FIFTH PLAGUE**

Revelation 9:1-4

1 And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.

2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.

3 And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

4 And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.

5 **THE FIRST WOE & FIFTH PLAGUE**

Revelation 9:5-8

5 And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.

6 And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.

7 And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their

faces were as the faces of men.

8 And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions.

6 **THE FIRST WOE & FIFTH PLAGUE cont.**

Revelation 9:9-12

9 And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle.

10 And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months.

11 And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.

12 One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter.

7 **THE FIRST WOE & FIFTH PLAGUE cont.**

Revelation 16:10-11

10 And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain,

11 and blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds.

- Remember these are not earthly locusts – they are supernatural beings and they are infernal
- They are a sort of infernal cherubim that are part of the followers of Satan
- In every respect they are the opposite of the living ones which are before the throne

8 **THE FIRST WOE & FIFTH PLAGUE cont.**

- The description of them the horse, the man, the lion, and the scorpion, are combined in the description of them

- There is no stopping them; mankind is powerless against them
- There is also no escape from them to the point that men will seek death but not find it
- This shows the control God has over all things, death is in His hands
- We cannot die just because we desire to die
- At this time there will be no death, they will be tormented for 5 months

9 **THE FIRST WOE & FIFTH PLAGUE cont.**

- These horrible creatures from hell have a degree of intelligence as commands are addressed to them
- They are able to distinguish those who have the seal of the living God upon their foreheads (the 144,000 Jews)
- They have a king over them but he is not Satan himself
- Satan is, indeed, the chief of all the powers of darkness, but he has princes under him, with their own particular commands
- It is Satan who is given the key and opens the door to let these creatures out of the bottomless pit

10 **THE FIRST WOE & FIFTH PLAGUE cont.**

- Until this time God commanded them to be chained in this pit that they might not be upon this earth
- This reminds us of the Scripture "...only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way." (2 Thessalonians 2:7)
- God has never before loosed upon this earth all of Satan's powers and Satan's demons; God will not allow them as long as He has a people on this earth
- Once He takes His bride out then still He seals the Jews, the 144,000 that are His, so that they cannot be touched
- When we stop and think about this we wonder how anyone could not seek God with all their heart and all their mind because this time is coming
- It is just as sure as we are sitting here right now

11 **THE FIRST WOE & FIFTH PLAGUE cont.**

- It is Satan who opens the door in 9:1-2 for the release of these creatures from the pit but their immediate king is one of Satan's angels – the angel of the abyss
- These creatures are a type of cherubim, as a created species of fallen angels
- This king has a very descriptive name which is given in Hebrew and Greek showing that this plague has to do with Jews and Gentiles
- This king's name is Abaddon in Hebrew (destruction) and in Greek Apollyon (destroyer)
- He is in every way the opposite of Jesus whose name means Savior

12 **THE FIRST WOE & FIFTH PLAGUE cont.**

- The pain from the sting of a scorpion, though not generally fatal, is perhaps the most intense that an animal can inflict on the human body
- The duration of this plague is to last 5 months
- Death itself would be preferable to living in a world infested by such malignant demons from which there is no protection day or night
- People will fervently desire to die and "shall seek death"
- One of the features of this woe is that men cannot find death and so cannot escape for "death shall flee from them"

13 **THE FIRST WOE & FIFTH PLAGUE cont.**

- Satan does not have any people, he just wants to keep them from God
- Satan has no compassion and he does as he is commanded by God, he has no power over what God says or does
- Satan would destroy all of mankind if he could
- We have a choice and a free will now because God gives it to us
- No death applies to the scorpion-like creatures, they cannot be killed during this woe
- They won't die until God puts the curse of God upon them

14 **THE FIRST WOE & FIFTH PLAGUE cont.**

- Satan himself will be destroyed at the end of the thousand-year

reign, aka the millennium

- Satan himself will be imprisoned in the bottomless pit during the thousand-year reign
- Angels are created without the sentence of death
- We received the sentence of death in the Garden of Eden when sin entered in
- We have that free will as far as our soul is concerned but God chooses the judgement if we choose the wrong way, it's up to Him
- God created us for love; to give and receive love

15 **THE FIRST WOE & FIFTH PLAGUE cont.**

- It is only when we are reborn back into God's realm, the spiritual realm, that we begin to pattern ourselves after His life again
- It is then that we can become like Him and become the sons of God
- God has all the power, all of it!
- Angels are often called by a descriptive name but are still the messengers of God
- These that fell from grace, from their first estate, is descriptive of them
- The next woe is quite lengthy

16 **THE SECOND WOE & SIXTH PLAGUE**

Revelation 9:13-16

13 And 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 which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.

15 And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men.

16 And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.

17 **THE SECOND WOE & SIXTH PLAGUE cont.**

Revelation 9:17-19

17 And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone.

18 By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths.

19 For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt.

18 **THE SECOND WOE & SIXTH PLAGUE cont.**

Revelation 9:20-21

20 And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood; which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:

21 neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

•We will to the parallel chapter in Revelation the 16th chapter

19 **THE SECOND WOE & SIXTH PLAGUE cont.**

Revelation 16:12-16

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

13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.

16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew

tongue Armageddon.

20 **THE SECOND WOE & SIXTH PLAGUE cont.**

- The battle does not actually take place on the plain of Megiddo they just gather there
- The battle is against Jerusalem
- This sixth plague, the second woe, comes out of the river Euphrates
- It was in this locality that the powers of evil and of Satan first made attempts against the human race
- We do not know who these 200 million evil spirits are
- We do know that there are angels that "*kept not their first estate*"
- They are (were) reserved in prison to be judged in the Day of the Lord

21 **FALLEN ANGELS/EVIL SPIRITS**

Joel 2:1-3

1 Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand;

2 a day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations.

3 A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them.

22 **FALLEN ANGELS/EVIL SPIRITS cont.**

Joel 2:4-7

4 The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run.

5 Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array.

6 Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall

gather blackness.

7 They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks:

23 **FALLEN ANGELS/EVIL SPIRITS cont.**

Joel 2:8-11

8 neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded.

9 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.

10 The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining:

11 and the Lord shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; and who can abide it ?

24 **FALLEN ANGELS/EVIL SPIRITS cont.**

- These spirits evidently once lived on the earth because they are imprisoned near the river Euphrates
- They could not be in any way of the Adamic race
- All of the dead of Adam's race are accounted for at the Great White Throne judgement

II Peter 2:4-5

4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

5 and spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

6 and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;

25 **FALLEN ANGELS/EVIL SPIRITS cont.**

- We have no excuse for our sins when we see what God does for sin
- These spirits belong to Satan's kingdom
- These are angels that left their own environment to cohabit with people on the earth
- They sinned just before the flood and are imprisoned until the day of judgement, the Day of the Lord

26 **FALLEN ANGELS/EVIL SPIRITS cont.**

Jude 6, 7

6 And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

- The particular sin of these angels was going after strange flesh
- They left their own dominion that God had chosen for them

27 **FALLEN ANGELS/EVIL SPIRITS cont.**

- They came down to this earth and cohabitated with the daughters of men
- The various versions of the Scriptures vary the wording but not the meaning
- Those angels who did not keep the position originally assigned to them but deserted their own proper habitat, God reserves in everlasting bonds, in darkness, in preparation for the judgement of the great day
- Also Sodom and Gomorrah, and neighboring towns in the same manner, having been guilty of gross fornication and having gone astray in pursuit of unnatural vice are now before us as an example of the punishment which they are undergoing

28 **FALLEN ANGELS/EVIL SPIRITS cont.**

- There are spirits in a special prison waiting judgement
- These are not the ordinary kind of human beings
- They must be a very special group, somewhat different from the human race in its purity as they are treated as a group apart

I Peter 3:18-20

18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

19 by which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;
20 which sometime were disobedient, when once the long-suffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

29 **FALLEN ANGELS/EVIL SPIRITS cont.**

- Why Jesus had to go and preach to these spirits in prison, as well as in paradise, we are not told
- This does show however that this was a special group which required more than is given the sons of men
- This preaching seems to have had no result
- These were disobedient in the days of Noah when only Noah and his family were saved
- We do not know the character of Noah's preaching or its purpose but we do know the no one was saved by it
- Surely repentance was part of their preaching but this only speculation based on other Scriptures

30 **FALLEN ANGELS/EVIL SPIRITS cont.**

- According to the parable of the poor man and the rich man paradise, at that time, was in the bowels of the earth
- There was a fixed gulf that separated paradise and hell
- Paradise is no longer in the depths of the earth (II Corinthians 12:4)

- Jesus took the captives with Him back to paradise which is in heaven (Ephesians 4:8)
- We should look into the Word to see how many more Scriptures we can find that deals with these creatures

31 **FALLEN ANGELS/EVIL SPIRITS cont.**

Genesis 6:1

1 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,

Job 1:6

1 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them.

Genesis 6:2

2 that the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

32 **FALLEN ANGELS/EVIL SPIRITS cont.**

Genesis 6:3-4

3 And the Lord said, My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be a hundred and twenty years.

4 There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.

- These were a very peculiar, different race
- This is a description of what started these creatures

33 **CLOSING GRAPHIC**