

The background of the cover is a dramatic landscape. A dark, stormy sky is filled with heavy, dark clouds. Several bright, jagged lightning bolts are striking down from the clouds, illuminating the scene. The ground is dark, and a road or path leads towards the horizon. The overall mood is intense and mysterious.

Revelation
UNVEILED

BOOK 2

GEORGE AKALONU

Revelation Unveiled – A Commentary on the Book of
Revelation Book 2



George Akalonu

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Revelation Book 2

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Use of Hebraic Names of the Most High

Yahweh, Elohim, Yeshua. During our walk with the Lord, we discovered by leading of Holy Spirit how fundamentally flawed was the intrusion of Rome into the gospel from 4th Century AD. Replacement Theology led Rome to take away all Hebraic/Jewish connections as root of what is now called the Christian Faith. What He has led us to do is to call our Father by the Name He revealed Himself to Israel which is Yahweh. In the same way, rather than call our Creator by the generic title God, we find it more appropriate to call Him by the Hebraic Name He revealed to humanity through Moses which is Elohim. The Name, Elohim properly conveys His Unity in Plurality as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! We also call our King the Name His Father gave Him, Yeshua as well as the Anglicized translation, Jesus derived from the Greek translation, Ioseus. We do this as led by Holy Spirit, not as part of the so-called sacred Names movement. Neither do we subscribe to the legalistic methods of Judaizers intent on dragging saints into the dead works and rituals of Judaism. We do not condemn or malign those who have not yet caught this depth of revelation. Please feel free to call the Most High by what He reveals to you and what you are comfortable with.

Preface for the Kingdom Culture Series

We have tarried before the Lord for some time to receive a rhema concerning how to introduce the books in the series you are about to read. He directed us to share a little bit of how He ordered our steps over a 21-year period between 1996-2017. In 1996, the Lord called us out of denominationalism to serve His Body and Kingdom. As we resigned from a Pastoral calling and began to serve Him and the Body in a community in Africa (Owerri, Imo State of Nigeria), we held on to one critical vision He released beginning August 1996. At that time, we joined other saints to lament the sad state of Africa on almost all fronts of life. It was surreal to hear the Lord comfort us by saying He had appointed His Church in Africa as instrument of a quick work: Rescuing His Kingdom program in the earth realm from corruption in preparation for the return of King Yeshua, Jesus.

In August 2006, He directed us to relocate to London which as centre of the world would make our Acts 1:8 assignment more impactful on a global scale. Looking back, because we did not see it then, it is significant that it was 100 years after Azusa Street Revival that the Lord in 2006 birthed Global School of Ministry as a catalyst of Reformation, Restoration, and Revival. Again, we did not see clearly then how extensively it was to be used to rediscover Truths which were missed out by Martin Luther in the Protestant Reformation of 1517. Interestingly, the Lord used various means to make it clear what He was about to do was not raise a man or woman, like Martin Luther was raised prominently and publicly. But rather activate a company of saints worldwide with understanding of Him and the Church. A company of saints who embrace His Kingdom pattern and take their place as His sons who would

do all His will. In this regard, the Lord made it clear the election of His Church in Africa was not for the purpose of building an 'African Cultural Church'. The wider and more strategic scope was to use it to use His remnant 'out of the seed of Ham' to impact and connect His seed out of Shem and Japheth to constitute the fourth race which is the Elect Remnant or 'one new man' spoken of by Apostle Paul.

In other words, the focus of the Lord was simply to use the Global School of Ministry project to activate His elect remnant to walk in unity of the Faith. And, be empowered to represent Him and the Kingdom right where they are in various corners of the world where He preserved them from the claws of Babylon. It was then Holy Spirit provided illumination of this anchor scripture:

Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace (Romans 11:5).

There is a simple, yet grand key to understand the fundamental difference between the Martin Luther Protestant Reformation and the Kingdom Culture project. The Reformation of Martin Luther was designed to 'Protest' some of the dogma and practices of the Roman Catholic Church when he received revelation of their unbiblical origins. The Kingdom Culture project, on the other hand, is designed to take the Church back to what it was before the Roman Empire embraced the larger wing of the Church which was tired of persecution and martyrdom in the 4th Century. In other words, through the Kingdom Culture project, the Omega or End Time Church will be a logical conclusion of what had started in the Alpha or First Century Church.

Unlike other reformation projects before it, Kingdom Culture, through the Global School of Ministry and annual Master Class series of the Global Advanced Mentorship Program have two simple keys: Get the Church back into the ‘School’ Paradigm where Study of the Word is central to both congregational and general ministry. Second, to challenge all saints to receive the Four-dimensional work of Holy Spirit: He Is the Seal of redemption; He uses the Word to Transform Life of Believers from inside out, He Unites saints to live as one indivisible Body of Yeshua notwithstanding their locations or sects; He releases Power through which saints are able to demonstrate the awesome powers of the Risen Yeshua, Jesus!

These are accomplished when leaders and saints sincerely and diligently embrace the ministry of Holy Spirit and the Word through the T>T>E>A>R process. It is one where leaders are used by Holy Spirit to:

Teach saints the whole counsel of Holy Scriptures

Train saints to discover and take their places as effective members of the Body of Yeshua

Equip saints with what it takes to walk in victory through mentorship and support

Activate the Gifts and callings of Holy Spirit which may lie dormant in them

Release the saints into productive ministry. This may be by public ordination or Commissioning during ministry events. 500 years after the Protestant Reformation of 1517, the Lord Yeshua, Jesus is activating throughout the earth realm this framework. The framework through which Holy Spirit will undertake training of Reformers who will receive proper

understanding of the Pauline Epistles and Master Plan of the true Kingdom Church contained therein, and build individual lives, ministries and congregations accordingly.

This Kingdom Culture project involves release of 40 books on dedicated websites where all saints worldwide who desire to discover, pursue and fulfil their callings as the Royal Priesthood after the order of Melchizedeck can find the teaching resources to train in the comfort of their own homes. On the other hand, these 40 books will put in the hands of the great company of elect ministers across the world who know the flock is not theirs but Yeshua's. These books are tools with which to systematically transform the operating systems of the ministries committed to their trust from 'Theatres' to 'Schools'. These books collectively make up the curriculum with which to launch their own Global School of Ministry project. The curriculum will ensure every two or three years, fresh sets of fit for-purpose ministers of the gospel who will serve the Lord with all their hearts are produced.

All 40 books on the websites constitute what it takes to root out the leaven of Babylon derived from our various experiences with Christian Religion. They therefore constitute what we need to embrace and walk in true Kingdom Culture. It is through ministry of the Word that the Church will be prepared and made ready for return of her Groom:

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but

that it should be holy and without blemish
(Ephesians 5:25-27).

Please intentionally study this and the other resources in the series prayerfully under unction of Holy Spirit with your Bible to confirm all the points made. As you train, necessity is upon you to make your vessel available for Holy Spirit to use to transmit these empowering truths to other saints who yearn for empowerment!

The Lord gave the word: great was the company
of those that published it (Psalm 68:11).

And the things that thou hast heard of me among
many witnesses, the same commit thou to
faithful men, who shall be able to teach others
also (2 Timothy 2:2).

May Elohim, our heavenly Father make you the instrument
of His Grace He designed you to be!

Chapter 14

The Great Tribulation in High Definition

5th and 6th Trumpet Judgements

Exposition of Revelation chapter 9

The Book of Revelation is one of the greatest manifestations of the love of Yahweh for His sons in the earth realm. In it, He lays out a vivid picture of things to come within the last half of the last 7 years preceding the end of the age and inception of the manifest Kingdom. He placed a blessing on reading, hearing, and responding to this special book:

Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand (Revelation 1:3).

For this reason, Yeshua told John not to seal or close the book but to release it to His Body so that people will make informed decisions which will determine their eternal destiny.

And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done. 7 Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the

sayings of the prophecy of this book (Revelation 22:6-7).

And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. 11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. 12 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. 13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last (Revelation 22:10-13).

The Book of Revelation unveils what Yeshua warned us will surely happen in the last days.

For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened (Matthew 24:21-22).

Concerning its impact on the nation of Israel and the Jews, here is how Prophet Jeremiah describes what will happen:

Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? 7 Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it (Jeremiah 30:6-7).

The good news is that Yeshua has planned a way of escape for those who will hearken to His voice, love righteousness, hate iniquity, embrace Kingdom culture as a lifestyle, stay prayerful and watchful. They have nothing to fear as His Grace will keep them from falling.

But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. 2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. 3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. 4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. 5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. 7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. 8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. 9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. 11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do (1 Thessalonians 5:1-11)

The first way of escape is participation in the rapture or catching away of those who live in consciousness of these truths.

Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality (1 Corinthians 15:50-53).

But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

The second way of escape for those who missed the rapture is to know the certainty of these things to come. Such people, having been pre-warned, will make up their minds to refuse the mark, name, and number of the beast during the time the anti-Christ will rule the earth.

Book 1 of Revelation Unveiled contained expositions of the truths hidden in plain sight within the pages of Revelation chapters 1-8. Revelation 8 closes with this ominous warning:

And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound! (Revelation 8:13)

WHEN HELL INVADES THE EARTH

Revelation chapter 9 contains two of the three woes. It is one of the passages which reveal the horror of life in the earth realm during the Great Tribulation. This chapter goes forth with a prayer: May no one watching the video or reading the book ever have cause to experience these terrible things to come, in the Name of Yeshua, Jesus our King, amen!

THE 5TH TRUMPET JUDGEMENT

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 (Revelation 9:1-2).

COMMENTARY

With the sounding or blast of the 5th Trumpet, the scenes shift from the earth and heavenly realms in the previous

chapters to a new setting: what originates from the realm of hell will affect the earth.

- The star which fell from heaven to earth is most likely an angel.
- It is not a lifeless star, but an angelic being that is given the key to the bottomless pit. For context, we see in Revelation 20:1-4, that it is one angel who is given the authority to bind Satan and lock him away in the bottomless pit for 1000 years so that the manifest Kingdom Yeshua will reign over in the earth realm will have no intrusion of his malign influence.
- The effect of opening the bottomless pit is felt in the earth realm, as well as the first and second heavens. Smoke from the fire which does not burn out is so intense that the sun and air are darkened. Yeshua told us in Mark 9:44, 46, 48 that the fires of hell are not quenched.

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 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 (Revelation 9:3-5).

COMMENTARY

The effect of opening of the bottomless pit is dramatic in the earth realm:

What comes forth are called locusts

This speaks of capacity to ravage or destructiveness. In the bible, locusts are instruments of divine judgement to eat up what humans accumulate. This was the case with the judgements against Pharoah and Egypt in the days of Moses and Aaron (Exodus 10. See also Joel 2:25). However, these are not ordinary natural locusts. They are a demonic army that would be unleashed from hell as subsequent verses make clear. These demonic locusts are also vested with power to torment humans in the way scorpions do. The sting of scorpions does not kill. However, they create great pain that can cause many painful reactions in victims. Verse 4 shows that they were to avoid hurting the grass, trees, or vegetation. Verse 4 also shows the target of the demonic locusts is humans who do not have the seal of Elohim on their foreheads. Let us remember that in Revelation 7, Elohim made provision for sealing of 144,000 Jews and an innumerable company of His remnant out of the Gentiles. That seal or mark of Divine ownership would be the insurance from harm! What an awesome, loving, and compassionate Elohim to make a way of escape of His remnant though they missed the rapture. Victory over sin is a mark of the remnant.

Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. 20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. 21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for

the master's use, and prepared unto every good work. 22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart (2 Timothy 2:19-22).

Verse 5 reveals the mandate of the demonic locusts as that of torment:

“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.”

As said earlier, the sting of scorpions is one of the most painful experiences. That demons would be given the mandate to execute this assignment of inflicting pain is sobering.

And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them (Revelation 9:6).

COMMENTARY

The effect of the sting on humans is described here: People will be so traumatized that they would prefer death. Unfortunately for such tormented people, the judgement they would be under is not to die but to suffer intense pain which could cause disorientation. The 5th Trumpet Judgement would not lead to loss of life but intense gnashing of teeth.

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. 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 (Revelation 9:7-10).

COMMENTARY

The description of the demonic locusts is fairly graphic here. Let us note however, that most of what John saw was symbolic: images that were comprehensible to his mind as a human. The shape of the locusts is like horses prepared for battle. They had on their heads what looked like crowns of gold. They had faces which looked like humans. Their hair was long – like that of women. Their teeth were like those of lions. They had breast plates that looked like iron. Their wings sounded like chariots of many horses running to battle. Their tails were like those of scorpions and that is where they sting or strike humans. Their assignment is dated: to hurt humans in the earth realm for 5 months.

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 (Revelation 9:11).

COMMENTARY

In the natural, locusts are very organised creatures but have no king.

The locusts have no king, yet go they forth all of them by bands; (Proverbs 30:27).

As final evidence that the locusts are indeed demons, they are pictured as having a king! Their king is the angel of the bottomless pit. Their king has a name. In Hebrew, his name is Abaddon, in the Greek it is Apollyon. This fallen angel is most likely Satan who was Lucifer, the anointed Cherub in the Throne of Elohim before his fall and subsequent expulsion from heaven (Isaiah 14:12-15 and Ezekiel 28:12-19). It is also possible that this king is one of the principalities that Satan assigns over nations, entities, and sectors of the earth realm.

One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter (Revelation 9:12).

We have seen so far, the effect of one of the remaining trumpet blasts. Two more remain of which one, the 6th follows shortly.

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 (Revelation 9:13-14).

COMMENTARY

We now come to the 6th Trumpet judgement, which ushers in massive disaster for the earth realm.

- o At the sound of the 6th trumpet, John heard a voice from the four horns of the Golden altar before Elohim.
- o The voice was an instruction to release the 4 angels that are bound in the river Euphrates. The River Euphrates is one of the great rivers of the world with

a history stretching to the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:10-14). Elohim decreed that it was the uttermost border of Israel in Genesis 15:18. However because it was part of the Chaldean empire of Babylon whose originator was Nimrod (Genesis 10:8-14), the city of Babylon became a centre of occultism and all kinds of satanic worship as seen in the days of Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 1).

- Demons walk about freely as their master, Satan and we are called to bind them and overcome their devices (Ephesians 6:10-18, Mark 16:17-19). But owing to some extraordinary activities beyond what was permitted, some fallen angels had been imprisoned and prevented from free operations (Genesis 6:1-2, Jude 1:6, 2 Peter 2:4).

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 (Revelation 9:15).

COMMENTARY

The four angels were loosed from their chains for a specific purpose.

- They were prepared for an hour, day, month, and year.
- Their mandate is to kill one third of the world's population at this specific period.

And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them. 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 (Revelation 9:16-19).

COMMENTARY

- With the loosing of the 4 angels at Euphrates, some other things manifest: we are shown an army of 200,000,000 who emerge. It is noteworthy that only China, with 1.5 billion people can field an army of 200 million. There is however no evidence that this is an army of natural humans. It is possible therefore that this is a supernatural army reserved for assignment in the last days.
- In Verse 17, John describes the looks of an army which will manifest in the end times – horse men with breastplates of fire, Jacinth, and brimstone (are these nuclear bombs or other destructive devices?) The heads of the horses were as the heads of lions. Out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone (again we ask, was John describing nuclear devices or other destructive ordnances?)
- The source of the high mortality figure of one third of humans is made known in verse 18: by fire, smoke, and brimstone.
- Verse 19 says the power of the destructive army is in their mouth and tails, which are like serpents.

- These descriptions were made in the first century concerning things that will be manifested at the end of the age. In that regard, the actual components of these destructive devices cannot be fully known until that day.

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 (Revelation 9:20-21).

COMMENTARY

- The hardness of human nature is evident here. Two-thirds of humans who survived this deadly decimation of the earth realm did not repent. The question is why? The answer is this: they may have been given over to reprobate hearts as reward for consistent rejection of Elohim and His mercy (Romans 1:18-32).
- Their sins are pathetic: exaltation of the works of their hands (outside of grace); worship of devils; idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood.
- That human beings can stoop low to worship inanimate objects which cannot see, hear or walk shows the evil of idolatry and is one of the consequences of sin.
- Verses 21 also lists some sins that humanity seems most addicted to and find it difficult to repent or turn away from: murders, sorceries, fornication, and

thefts. These are still among the top sins of this generation.

The Lord has been gracious to release these aspects of the Great Tribulation not to scare us but to enable us to make the right choices to remain in Him, grow in Grace and partner with Him to ensure that as many as possible can be reconciled to Him while there is time.

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please share short summaries of the 5th and 6th Trumpet Judgements. 2. What is your personal take away from the lessons in this chapter?

Chapter 15

Another Interlude

Exposition of Revelation Chapter 10

One of the features of the Book of Revelation is the reality that all the chapters do not contain a sequential chronicle of things which will happen in the future. There are also interludes between some activities. In execution of the Seal Judgements, chapter 7 was an interlude which revealed the sealing of the remnant of Elohim from the Jewish people and the large number of tribulation saints. In execution of the Trumpet Judgements, after 6 were sounded, an interlude comes up between Revelation 10 to Revelation 11:1-4. It is only in Revelation 11:15 that the 7th angel sounds the 7th trumpet.

Verses by verse commentary on Revelation 10

And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: 2 And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth (Revelation 10:1-2).

COMMENTARY

In receiving the Book of Revelation, John saw many angels of different categories. He saw the Living beings or Cherubim at the throne of Elohim and an innumerable company of the angelic hosts. He also saw other angelic beings some of whom spoke with him directly or who he was shown in action, carrying out specific assignments.

- Here he saw what appears to be a special angel ‘another mighty angel’ who came down from heaven.
- This angel was clothed with a cloud, had a rainbow upon the head. His face was radiant as the sun and feet were as pillars of fire.
- With an open little book in his hand, this angel exudes authority over the earth realm with his right foot upon the sea and left foot on the earth.
- Some commentators have speculated over the identity of this angel, claiming it describes Yeshua, Jesus. Some attribute this notion to the way Yeshua, Jesus was described in Revelation chapter 1.
- For safety, we caution against such speculations. The basic principle in prophetic scriptures is the principle in Deuteronomy 29:29. The secret things belong to Elohim.

And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. 4 And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not (Revelation 10:3-4).

COMMENTARY

- The voice of the angel is described as similar to the roaring of a lion.
- The angels loud voice triggers the response of 7 thunderclaps which were audible messages.
- As John set out to write what was uttered, he heard a voice from heaven asking him to seal up the words and not record them.
- Curious students may ask why John was given permission to see and hear what may have been such a powerful message and prevented from documenting same for humanity. The most biblical response is this: if the Lord wanted us to know what was uttered, He would have allowed it to be documented. At end of the day, we need to accept the reality that Elohim is Supreme, knows what is best for us and has worked all things out. All things that pertain to life and godliness, He has provided for us including revelation that we need to fulfil our destinies. We should learn to trust His judgement as embrace the principle of Deuteronomy 29:29

“The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.”

And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, 6 And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein

are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer: (Revelation 10:5-6).

COMMENTARY

- The angel lifted up his hand to heaven and swore by Elohim that time was up for the consummation of all things. From that point on, the programme set by Elohim for the end of the age is activated for fulfilment.
- The angel did not issue the decree of himself but cited his authority: He Who is immortal, Creator of heaven and all the things therein; the earth realm and all things therein; the marine world and all that are therein. The angel relied entirely on the authority and power of Elohim to make his powerful proclamation. So should we, when confronted by mountains of life.
- We need to count ourselves fortunate to have a heavenly Father Who would reveal these things over 2000 years ago, document them for our learning and have the patience and long suffering to hold back the end as it were so that more of us can be ready and as many as possible will be saved. Peter puts it succinctly when answering those who made mockery of end of the age.

This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: 2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour: 3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, 4 And

saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. 5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: 6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: 7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. 8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. 11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, 12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. 14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless (2 Peter 3:1-14).

But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets (Revelation 10:7).

COMMENTARY

The statement here in verse 7 is subject to various interpretations. We shall offer what we believe is the most scripturally sound.

- o Elohim is a mystery. We receive a revelation of His Person, nature, and attributes entirely by Faith. The reality that we see in the Holy Scriptures of Elohim as Three Persons in One – Father, Son and Holy Spirit is a profound mystery. Many have stumbled by trying to use their carnal minds to apprehend and comprehend the triune Godhead. When we open our hearts by faith as babes to receive the plain report of scriptures, this huge, profound truth becomes a living revelation in our lives and experiences. It is in this way that these kinds of passages are received as sure confirmation.

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth (Genesis 1:26).

And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: (Genesis 3:22).

And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. 6 And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. 7 Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech (Genesis 11:5-7).

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. 7 If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. 8 Philip saith unto him, Lord, show us the Father, and it sufficeth us. 9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father? 10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. 11 Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake (John 14:6-11).

In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. 38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. 39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not

yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.) (John 7:37-39).

If ye love me, keep my commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. 18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you (John 14:15-18).

- o One of the most profound truths we can ever receive is the reality that a day will come when the veil of mystery of Elohim will be pulled back! We shall see Him as He Is and relate with Him.

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. 2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. 3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure (1 John 3:1-3).

We believe the angel was announcing this phase of life captured in these words:

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. 2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride

adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. 4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. 5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. 6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. 7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son....22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. 23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. 24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. 25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. 26 And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it (Revelation 21:1-7, 22-26)

And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. 2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits,

and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. 3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: 4 And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. 5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever (Revelation 22:1-5).

- o Concerning mysteries, the Bible has a few things to say about specific aspects of Elohim's plans, which show there is always a person/persons, date, and time when what was hidden is revealed or unveiled.
- o Mystery of falling away and ultimate salvation of the Jews.

For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. 26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: 27 For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. 28 As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the father's sakes. 29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance. 30 For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief: 31 Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy

they also may obtain mercy. 32 For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all. 33 O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! 34 For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? 35 Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? 36 For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen (Romans 11:25-36).

o Mystery of the Church

For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, 2 If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: 3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, 4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) 5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; 6 That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: 7 Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power. 8 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; 9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world

hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: 10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, 11 According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: 12 In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him (Ephesians 3:1-12).

- o The reality of presence of Yeshua and Holy Spirit inside of saints.

And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. 21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled 22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight: 23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister; 24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church: 25 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; 26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: 27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the

glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: 28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: (Colossians 1:20-28).

Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? 17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are (1 Corinthians 3:16-17).

But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. 18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. 19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's (1 Corinthians 6:17-20).

Let us continue our study of Revelation 10:

And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth. 9 And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. 10 And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter. 11 And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again

before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings (Revelation 10:8-11).

COMMENTARY

This short chapter ends with a powerful demonstration of grace which John enjoyed: Elohim had confidence in him and preserved him for a special assignment of which we all are partakers.

- John was instructed to take the little book in the angel's hand.
- In holy boldness, John did as he was told.
- John was instructed to eat it up. Though sweet to taste in the mouth, the book was bitter in his stomach.
- John received a mandate to prophesy before many people, nations, tongues, and kings. The Gospel according to John, the Johannine epistles and the Book of Revelation contain some of the most detailed prophetic descriptions of the divinity of Yeshua, Jesus, His desire for the Church to be a holy organism of loving saints and full details of the end of the age. These have been studied by people of all races, gender, socio-economic status (royalty and commoners alike), worldwide from the time they were written until today.

Inferences

- o The standard of Elohim is to make us partakers of His word (when we eat or ingest it) before sending us forth to be His witnesses.
- o If we enjoy an intimate relationship with Elohim, His word can then flow from the innermost parts of our being to touch lives of many.
- o To be with The Lord needs to precede to go for Him.

And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him. 14 And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, 15 And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils: (Mark 3:13-15)

He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water (John 7:38).

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please share any 5 things you learnt from the lessons in Revelation chapter 10.
2. What aspect of this chapter provided much insight or challenged you most?

Chapter 16

The Two Witnesses

Exposition of Revelation chapter 11

Let us continue our systematic study and commentary on the Book of Revelation by examining the trove of truth in Chapter 11.

And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein (Revelation 11:1).

COMMENTARY

Some parts of Revelation 11 are among some of the most puzzling in the whole book.

- John was given a reed like a rod to measure the temple of Elohim, the altar, and those who worship.
- The concept of measurement implies ownership. That the temple is measured on divine instruction possibly conveys the idea that He knows all about the future temple and all things that will happen therein are part of or will work together for manifestation of His determinate counsel.
- Evidently, this temple is on earth – in Jerusalem. We are not told if this is the same as the 3rd Temple that will be built in the city where the

abomination of desolation of Desolation will take place. Since that event will surely come to pass as a major marker of the 7-year post-rapture world, it is safe to assume that this may be the same temple referenced by Daniel, Yeshua, and Paul.

And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate

And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate (Daniel 9:27).

And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days (Daniel 12:11).

When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) (Matthew 24:15).

Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; 4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the

temple of God, shewing himself that he is God
(2 Thessalonians 2:3-4).

But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months (Revelation 11:2).

COMMENTARY

- o John is asked to not measure the outer court.
- o The reason given is profound: it is given to the Gentiles.
- o The Gentiles will tread Jerusalem under foot or rule it for 42 months – three and half years.
- o This is consistent with a theme first cited in the book of Daniel which when compared with other scriptures, shows that the ‘hottest’ part of the Great Tribulation is when the anti-Christ would be fully manifested, after he commits the abomination of desolation. This will be for three and half years: 42 months = 1,260 days when he seeks to exterminate the Jews as a people.

When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: 18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. 19 And woe unto them that are with

child, and to them that give suck in those days!
20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: 21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened (Matthew 24:15-22).

And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. 14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. 15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. 16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. 17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ (Revelation 12:13-17).

- o When Romans destroyed Jerusalem in AD 70, they demolished the temple completely, just as Yeshua prophesied in Matthew 24:

And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. 2 And

Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down (Matthew 24:1-2).

If the word of Yeshua is true, then what people call the Wailing Wall is certainly not part of the Temple. When Muslims conquered Jerusalem the Caliph 'Abd al-Malik ibn Marwan built the third holiest shrine of Islam, the Dome on the Rock, between AD 685 and 691, supposedly on the site of the First and second Temple. Interestingly, some archaeologists have established that the actual site of the Temple of Solomon rebuilt by Herod is located to the north of the Dome on the Rock. If the Temple Institute actualises its dream of the 3rd Temple, it is believed that where the Islamic shrine is located would be the court of the Gentiles!

And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. 4 These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth. 5 And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. 6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will (Revelation 11:3-6).

COMMENTARY

- o The Lord will raise up two witnesses during the Great Tribulation. There have been different speculations as to their identity. Some have suggested that they could be Moses and Elijah, because of the similarity of their ministries and

because the ministry of both did not appear to have been completed. It is safest however to avoid speculations in such a profound matter as this. Let us stay within ambit of the revealed word.

- They shall prophesy throughout the second half of the Great Tribulation – 1,260 days.
- Clothed in sackcloth implies that they would be in a mournful mood, separate from the prevailing culture of the time.
- They are of high rank in the Kingdom: regarded as two olive trees and candlesticks standing before Elohim.
- Their ministry would be truly supernatural: fire will proceed out of their mouth to devour their enemies. They will shut up heaven so that there would be no rain; turn water to blood and smite the earth with plagues as often as they will.

And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them. 8 And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. 9 And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. 10 And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth (Revelation 11:7-10).

COMMENTARY

- When the two witnesses complete their assignment, the anti-Christ will fight them, overcome, and kill them. Having finished their assignments, death was no longer a torment to them but the pathway to their glorification!
- Their dead bodies would lie in the open in Jerusalem. It is called Sodom and Egypt possibly speaking of their spiritual identities in Sin and bondage.
- Because of advances in information communication technology and the interface of satellite, cable and television, sinners worldwide will see the display of their dead bodies for the 3 and half days they lie unburied. Their death would be highly celebrated by sinners who may have been tormented by the truth of their preaching and prophecy.

And after three days and an half the spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. 12 And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them (Revelation 11:11-12).

COMMENTARY

- After three and a half days, the two witnesses will be resurrected by quickening of the Holy Spirit, just as Yeshua also experienced (as per Romans 8:11).
- They were summoned to heaven by Elohim and ascended promptly.
- The ascension of the two witnesses was visible, just as Yeshua in Acts 2:9-11

And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven (Revelation 11:13).

COMMENTARY

- A massive earthquake struck the city at that time which destroyed a 10th part of Jerusalem, leading to death of 7000 people.
- Those who survive were frozen with fear and gave glory to Elohim.

The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly. 15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever (Revelation 11:14-15).

COMMENTARY

- The last woe of the woes is announced by the blast of the 7th Trumpet.
- The substance of the announcement is the imminence of the manifest Kingdom of Elohim when Yeshua would rule this earth realm for 1000 years.
- The prophecy of Daniel regarding the manifest Kingdom makes the case that all human rule would end and fold into the Kingdom, just as Revelation 11 verse 15 reveals.

And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to

other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. 45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure (Daniel 2:44-45).

And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, 17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. 18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldst give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldst destroy them which destroy the earth (Revelation 11:16-18).

COMMENTARY

- o The 24 Elders first seen in Revelation 4 are shown again, prostrate before Elohim and worshipping Him with words of exaltation.
- o The Name of Yahweh means the I AM Who Am: He Who Is, was and is to come.
- o They declared that the nations were angry. The reason is that the spirit of rebellion against Elohim's authority was about to be broken by the stretched out hands of the Most High Who tolerated humanity for too long.

- They declared that time of judgment and recompense is due for the nations.
- They also declared that time is due for reward of His servants the prophets, all saints and those who fear His Name.
- Those who destroy the earth would be destroyed.

And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail (Revelation 11:19).

COMMENTARY

- The temple of Elohim was opened in heaven.
- The ark of His testament is displayed. What Elohim showed Moses on the Mount was a shadow of the real deal in the heavenly realm.
- The lightnings, voices, thundering and earthquake and great hail remind us of previous manifestations of the Divine presence.
And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off (Exodus 20:18).

And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God (Revelation 4:5).

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please outline 3 things you learned from Revelations chapter 11. 2. What will you do with the lessons in this chapter?

Chapter 17

Satan's War Against Israel and the Man child

Exposition of Chapter 12

This chapter is filled with imagery of such magnitude that only light from Holy Spirit and diligent comparison of scripture with scripture will enable us to understand what is said. Those who proceed without these two enablers may pluck words out of context and use them in ways which are inconsistent with the intent of Elohim.

And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: 2 And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered (Revelation 12:1-2).

COMMENTARY

What John saw was a great wonder. That means the words used are signs pointing to the actual rather than the actual themselves.

- While there have been various speculations as to the identity of this woman, including Roman Catholics who claim that she is Mary, a more biblically sound and theologically consistent interpretation is that this woman is the nation and Jewish people of Israel.

- o This interpretation is consistent with the dream of Joseph.

And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me. 10 And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth? 11 And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying (Genesis 37:9-11).

There, the Patriarch Jacob represented the Sun. Rachel, the matriarch, represented the Moon, and the 12 tribes were pictured as Stars.

- o In some Old Testament texts, Israel is pictured as a bride of Elohim who He exalted above all other people groups in the earth realm.

Fear not; for thou shalt not be ashamed: neither be thou confounded; for thou shalt not be put to shame: for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood any more. 5 For thy Maker is thine husband; the Lord of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called. 6 For the Lord hath called thee as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a wife of youth, when thou wast refused, saith thy God (Isaiah 54:4-6).

But I said, How shall I put thee among the children, and give thee a pleasant land, a goodly heritage of the hosts of nations? and I said, Thou shalt call me, My father; and shalt not turn away from me. 20 Surely as a wife treacherously departeth from her husband, so have ye dealt treacherously with me, O house of Israel, saith the Lord (Jeremiah 3:19-20).

Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I sware unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord God, and thou becamest mine. 9 Then washed I thee with water; yea, I thoroughly washed away thy blood from thee, and I anointed thee with oil. 10 I clothed thee also with broidered work, and shod thee with badgers' skin, and I girded thee about with fine linen, and I covered thee with silk. 11 I decked thee also with ornaments, and I put bracelets upon thy hands, and a chain on thy neck. 12 And I put a jewel on thy forehead, and earrings in thine ears, and a beautiful crown upon thine head. 13 Thus wast thou decked with gold and silver; and thy raiment was of fine linen, and silk, and broidered work; thou didst eat fine flour, and honey, and oil: and thou wast exceeding beautiful, and thou didst prosper into a kingdom. 14 And thy renown went forth among the heathen for thy beauty: for it was perfect through my comeliness, which I had put upon thee, saith the Lord God (Ezekiel 16:8-14).

And I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and

in judgment, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies. 20 I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the Lord (Hosea 2:19-20).

- o The Crown of 12 stars on the head of the woman is most likely a reference to the 12 tribes of Israel.
- o Verse 2 speaks of the prophetic reality that the Messiah, Yeshua Jesus is Jewish.
- o The child here speaks of Yeshua, Jesus Who was of Jewish descent.
- o The birth pangs speaks of the negative effects of both Roman colonial rule at the time of birth of Yeshua and the insecurity of King Herod the Edomite who was ruler (Matthew chapter 2).

And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. 4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born (Revelation 12:3-4).

COMMENTARY

John also saw another wonder or sign in the heavenly realm. Let us patiently mine the depth of the two verses to understand identity of the second wonder.

- o The great red dragon with 7 heads, 10 horns and 7 crowns is Satan, the Devil. Since 7 speaks of perfection while 10 speaks of completion, what is

presented is a picture of Satan in the fullness of his evil nature and agenda of opposing the will and plans of Elohim in the earth realm.

- The tail of Satan drawing a third part of the stars of heaven who were cast into the earth realm has two potential connotations.
 - An event in eternity past, when Lucifer rebelled against Elohim and deceived one third of the angels to embrace his rebellion. This accounts for the innumerable number of demons and evil spirits in the earth realm.
 - This may also be a cataclysmic event that will occur in the midst of the 7-year period after the rapture, possible after the abomination of desolation.
 - The dragon standing before the woman to devour at birth speaks of how Satan tried to use King Herod to kill Yeshua at birth. Knowing that he could not prevent manifestation of the prophecy of the Seed of the woman (Genesis 3:15), Satan evidently opted for a strategy to have Yeshua killed.

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, 2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. 3 When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the

people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. 5 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, 6 And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. 7 Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. 9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. 11 And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh. 12 And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way. 13 And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him. 14 When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: 15 And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

Out of Egypt have I called my son. 16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men. 17 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, 18 In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not (Matthew 2:1-18).

And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne (Revelation 12:5).

COMMENTARY

- o The description of the man child shows clearly that this is Yeshua. The rod of iron with which He will rule the nations speaks of His successful campaign against armies of the anti-Christ and world rulers in Revelation 19 and His millennial reign during the manifest Kingdom. This described in

Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying, 3 Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. 4 He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. 5 Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex

them in his sore displeasure. 6 Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. 7 I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. 8 Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. 9 Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. 10 Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. 11 Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. 12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him (Psalms 2:1-12).

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. 8 Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. 9 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. 10 Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah (Psalms 24:7-10).

- o The child caught up to Elohim and to His throne speaks of the Resurrection from the dead and subsequent Ascension of Yeshua to heaven.
- o In the first 5 verses of Revelation 12, Elohim shows the opening and closing of the Incarnate state of Yeshua: His conception and birth and His death, resurrection, and ascension. It is a case of Mission Accomplished, notwithstanding all plots of Satan and his hosts.

And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days (Revelation. 12:6).

COMMENTARY

- Satan has always targeted Israel since he discerned that it would be the nation and people group through whom the Messiah (Seed of the women) would come to crush his head.
- Following his failure to prevent the Messiah from being born and after seeing the futility of inspiring Jewish leaders to demand His death (which sealed the deal at Calvary), Satan has continued to unleash his fury, seeking the destruction of Israel. Since the state of Israel was re-established as the homeland of the Jews in May 1948, various satanic plots to wipe it off the earth have been made and executed. It has always been Elohim Who miraculously saved the nation, just as He promised.
- During the invasion and destruction of Jerusalem by the Roman army led by General Titus in AD 70, many disciples of Yeshua fled to the rocks and mountains of Petra where they were saved.
- During the Great Tribulation, some Jews will be saved because of the Seal they received in Revelation 7 as insurance against evil plans of the anti-Christ.
- Some Jews will also be saved by remembering and acting upon the prophecy of Yeshua in Matthew 24:15-22 and flee to safety.

- o Elohim has prepared a place in the wilderness to preserve Israel during the 3 and half year reign of terror of the anti-Christ. That is what the 1, 260 days amount to. Most likely, this conflict will follow the Jewish rejection of the claim of anti-Christ that he is Elohim, demanding worship (2 Thessalonians 2:1-11).

And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, 8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. 9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him (Revelation. 12:7-9).

COMMENTARY

We are shown a scene of great conflict.

- o From a historical perspective, this could have been an event which occurred in eternity past – on the day the former arch angel Lucifer rebelled against Elohim and became Satan. That is when Satan and the angels he deceived were expelled from heaven by Michael and loyal angels. While the angel Gabriel is pictured as the Minister of Communication who took messages from Elohim to specific recipients, including Mary, Michael is presented as the Commander of the heavenly hosts in war and guardian angel of Israel. (Daniel 10:13, 21; Jude 9).

And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even

to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book (Daniel 12:1).

- o Verse 7-9 could also be referring to a future war in the heavenly realm. Traditionally, Christians believe that after Satan was expelled by Michael, he lost access to Elohim and heaven. The bible teaches otherwise, as these scriptures affirm:

Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them. 7 And the Lord said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. 8 And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? 9 Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? 10 Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. 11 But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face. 12 And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord (Job 1:6-12).

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

before the Lord. 2 And the Lord said unto Satan, From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. 3 And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause. 4 And Satan answered the Lord, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life. 5 But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face. 6 And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life (Job 2:1-6).

And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. 2 And the Lord said unto Satan, The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan; even the Lord that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire? 3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel (Zechariah 3:1-3).

- o It is possible to deduct that Satan will finally lose access to the throne of grace and the heavenly realm during this great battle in the time of the great Tribulation.

And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast

down, which accused them before our God day and night (Revelation 12:10).

COMMENTARY

Satan is called the accuser of the brethren. As one who never experienced Grace, Justification and Righteousness, these are alien concepts to Satan. That is why he is heavily invested in accusing saints even in things which Elohim has forgiven them, and justified them, having cleansed their sins with the Blood. To execute His evil enterprise, Satan recruits saints to accuse others through a judgmental spirit. To escape the snare of the enemy, saints need to love radically and intentionally.

And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins (1 Peter 4:8).

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please share any 3 things you learnt from the lessons in this chapter. 2. What will you do with the lessons learned?

Chapter 18

Satan's War Against Israel and the Man child.

Exposition of Chapter 12 Part 2

In the previous chapter, we ended with a commentary on Revelation 12:10. Let us refresh our hearts with the role of Satan as accuser of the brethren.

And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night (Revelation 12:10).

COMMENTARY

- The voice from heaven extols salvation, strength, the Kingdom of God, and the power of the Messiah. The New covenant is all about Yeshua, Jesus and the Kingdom. It was the gospel of the Kingdom that Yeshua asked the Church to proclaim in Matthew 24:14.
- Before he is finally barred from access to heaven, one of the main works of Satan against saints is that of accusation. Unable to comprehend Grace, Justification and righteousness, Satan constantly seeks to latch unto legalism as the basis of his accusatory assignment. When he tried to claim ownership of the Body of Moses in Jude 9, it was based on the past of Moses. He could not comprehend how Elohim forgave Moses, justified

him, and called him home. The enemy is using the ministry of accusation to activate a state of sin, rather than righteousness consciousness in believers. To worsen matters, he has successfully recruited many believers to snitch accusations on each other, rather than love the way Yeshua wants (John 13:34-35, 1 Peter 4:8, 1 Corinthians 13).

Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. 14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness (Colossians 3:13-14).

- o Satan is called the accuser of the brethren. As one who never experienced Grace, Justification and Righteousness, these are alien concepts to Satan. That is why he is heavily invested in accusing saints even in things which Elohim has forgiven them, and justified them, having cleansed their sins with the Blood. The word ‘accuser’ implies a tendency to hurl judgements concerning people to Elohim. Satan practised this with Job, a righteous man two times in Job chapters 1 and 2. In each case, he secured permission from Elohim to touch the innocent man.
- o Believers are called to love one another, withhold judgement, and let our love cover the nakedness of our brethren.

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. 35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another (John 13:34-35).

Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law (Romans 13:8).

Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; 2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour (Ephesians 5:1-2).

When we love like this, the outcome is a deep bonding together, which makes organic unity possible. We are focused on the Lord, identifying, and celebrating His glory and grace in other brethren we relate with. In that case, we forgive forward and give Satan no room to smite or capture any saints. To escape the snare of the enemy, saints need to love radically and intentionally.

And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins (1 Peter 4:8).

Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: 23 Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained (John 20:21-23).

When saints refuse to forgive and forget, they become instruments in the hands of Satan for the execution of His evil enterprise. Without realising it, they are recruits doing the work of Satan by accusing others through a judgmental spirit, contrary to the command of Yeshua, Jesus.

Judge not, that ye be not judged. 2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. 3 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? 4 Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? 5 Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye (Matthew 7:1-5).

Let us give heed and escape the trap of a judgmental spirit.
Let us see each other with the eyes of grace.

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death; and they loved not their lives unto the death. (Revelation 12:11).

COMMENTARY

This verse offers us some important insights:

- The grand tool of victory over Satan is the reality of the finished work of the Blood of Yeshua, which was shed at the Cross of Calvary. It is a done deal which we should stand on by faith and proclaim, knowing the certainty that Satan lost it there and then.
- The word of our testimony complements the Blood in spiritual warfare. This is affirmation of the reality that we were saved by the Blood which Yeshua shed as a substitution for us. Knowing and declaring this powerful truth shuts the mouth of Satan.

- o The Blood of the Lamb also is powerful against Satan, just as the Name of the Lord, Yeshua. When we proclaim the Blood, by faith, we sign up for affirmation of its efficacy.

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:9-11).

- o Our willingness to suffer for and embrace martyrdom, if need be, is a powerful tool in spiritual warfare. It takes away fear, which Satan uses to manipulate and control people.

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage (Hebrews 2:14-15).

Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time (Revelation 12:12).

COMMENTARY

- There is a valid question of whether Verse 12 speaks of a past event or something which will occur in the future. At the moment, he is called the prince of the power of the air and walks up and down the heavenly and earth realms (See Ephesians 2:2, Job 1 and 2).
- There is a sense where this verse makes the case that the final expulsion of Satan and his been barred from the heavenly realm is one of the high points of the Great Tribulation. During this time, Satan will unleash the fullness of his fury upon humans because he senses that the time remaining is indeed short before he is conclusively consigned to the prison called hell for 100 years (Revelation 20:1-4) and into eternal damnation (Revelation 20:7-10).
- The anti-Christ and False Prophet with their cohorts will implement the agenda of Satan in the earth realm. (Revelation 13, 14, 15).

And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. 14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. 15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. 16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth (Revelation 12:13-16).

COMMENTARY

- It is interesting to witness the extreme fury of Satan against Israel continues unabated.

- o Verse 14 speaks of divine help for Israel for the 3 and half year period of the Great Tribulations. This length of time for the worst set of events in the Great Tribulation is fairly consistent:

“And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.”

- o Verse 15 and 16 reveal an interesting imagery. Satan releases a flood (various types of crises and troubles?) to destroy Israel, but the earth opened its mouth to swallow the flood. This is a picture of supernatural help for the nation and people of Israel. Indeed, this word has always been true and will yet be fulfilled.

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. 2 My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. 3 He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber. 4 Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. 5 The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand (Psalm 121:1-5).

So shall they fear the name of the Lord from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him (Isaiah 59:19).

And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the

commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ (Revelation.12:17).

COMMENTARY

- The fury of Satan against Israel is enduring. He has used various Gentile powers to fight Israel from Egypt, through Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greco-Macedonian and Roman empires. Israel has suffered terrorism, threats to national security, anti-Semitism, and Replacement theology. During the Great Tribulation, Satan will be more directly involved in the effort to wipe out the State of Israel and its people.

- When he cannot destroy Israel, Satan will turn his attention to the remnant of her seed. Most likely, this refers to believers – both Jew and Gentiles who are saved by Grace but were left behind after the rapture. They will suffer intensely for refusing the mark, name, and number of the Beast. Satan will also make war with them.

CONCLUSION

With all these warnings, it makes sense for all of us who are part of the spiritual seed of Abraham to be prepared, determined, prayerful, and watchful so that we can be accounted worthy to escape the wrath to come.

And Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is (Mark 13:33).

But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer (1 Peter 4:7).

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please share 3 things you learned from this chapter.
2. What will you do with the lessons of this chapter?

Chapter 19

The anti-Christ and False Prophet

In the early part of the human story, there arose a man whose heart was full of rebellion against Elohim and gave himself over to Satan to use to influence his generation which has lasted all these years. Called Nimrod, he was the first world ruler as it were.

And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. 9 He was a mighty hunter before the Lord: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the Lord. 10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar (Genesis 10:8-10).

Nimrod inspired the building of the Tower of Babel as an act of rebellion against the commandment of Elohim for humans to increase, multiply and fill the earth. Since the days of Nimrod, humanity has experienced the rise of wicked men of various sorts who Satan used to execute his evil designs on humanity.

The end of the age will unveil the worst of them all: a man who will deceive Israel and the Church to embrace him as champion. He will eventually be the tormentor in chief of both streams of humanity. The full profile of the anti-Christ and his negative assignment is captured in a companion resource titled: *The Things to Come: What Next?* available for free download on the websites of Kingdom Books Club and GSOM.ac

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and

upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy (Revelation 13:1).

COMMENTARY

- The anti-Christ is pictured as a Beast rising up, out of the sea. This implies he will manifest from the sea of humanity. The anti-Christ will be a human who is unknown to both wife, children, associates as well as the principal people he would have deceived up till the day of manifestation, Israel and the Church.

- The anti-Christ is pictured as having 7 heads and 10 horns which had crowns. This speaks of rulership over the key nations which matter. There is a notion that some nations will be so distraught with state of the earth: crises, wars, terrorism, and effects of the rapture that they would willingly cede power to a ‘strong man’ as a way to save humanity from being wiped out. Whether the nations would be from territory of the old Roman Empire (Europe) or include confederacy of the strongest 7 or 10 nations on the earth at this time is not certain.

- The name of blasphemy is inscribed on head of this fellow. This possibly implies receiving glory and honour due to the Messiah by presenting himself as saviour of the Church and Israel. It may also imply one who would go as far as take on some blasphemous title such as Antiochus IV Epiphanes who projected himself as ‘God manifested’.

The valid question is at what point in time will the anti-Christ Rise? All through history, the spirit of anti-Christ has been manifesting as a dress rehearsal for the real deal. The pre-Tribulation school of thought makes the biblical case

that the taking away of faithful saints who live like the wise virgins at the rapture is the prelude to manifestation or unveiling of the anti-Christ. The clearest biblical reference which makes a close connection between the rapture and timing of manifestation of the anti-Christ is this passage:

Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, 2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. 3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; 4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. 5 Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? 6 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. 7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. 8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: 9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, 10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: 12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had

pleasure in unrighteousness (2 Thessalonians 2:1-12).

It is the Kingdom Church which hinders the rise of the anti-Christ. Once she is taken out of the way, the apostate Church (product of the falling away) which rejected Yeshua's rule as King, will be open to embrace a false Messiah. This is also the case with Israel who rejected the true Messiah but will embrace the false.

I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive (John 5:43).

And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority (Revelation 13:2).

COMMENTARY

Two principal tranches of truth are presented here.

- o Description of the anti-Christ. A Leopard signifies speed. The anti-Christ will outrun people in his orbit and adversaries. The Bear signifies strength. This fellow will operate with prodigious strength, able to do some heavy lifting. Lion signifies boldness and courage. The fellow will speak with such confidence and boldness that humans who are weak will gladly embrace and submit to him.
- o Dark mandate of the anti-Christ. Satan, pictured as the Dragon will give this personality 3 things: his Power, Seat and Great Authority. The anti-Christ will most likely emerge from the political world,

which Satan rules and uses to deceive, dominate, control, and manipulate masses of people nationally. This time, he will entice a man with a king-sized ego with world power and dominion.

And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast (Revelation 13:3).

COMMENTARY

- One of the 7 heads will be wounded almost to death. Could this be one of the ‘Mountains’ of society on which the anti-Christ plays prominently will be hurt? This could imply a loss of political power to the degree that people will write off the man as ‘finished’.
- The deadly wound was healed. The anti-Christ will be the greatest comeback kid of his generation. From what seemed to be a loss of power, he would with Satan’s authority, return to power.
- All the world wondered after the beast. The ‘miraculous’ return to power of this personality will dazzle the world, inspire many to not just admire him but also basically hand over rule of their lives to him. His political exploits will inspire confidence.

And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? (Revelation 13:4).

COMMENTARY

- Those who embrace the anti-Christ would worship Satan, the real power behind his throne. They would do this knowingly or unknowingly.
- The anti-Christ would have extraordinary 'charismatic' powers which draw people to pledge bling loyalty to him.
- Fans of the anti-Christ would dare opponents to touch or fight him. They will boast with his name.

And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. 6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. 7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations (Revelation 13:5-7).

COMMENTARY

- The anti-Christ would be very brash and boastful, using blasphemous words as he receives the adulation and worship of fellow humans.
- The period the anti-Christ would be effectively in charge is 42 months or 3 and a half years. This time frame is counted from the day he commits the abomination of desolation spoken by Daniel, Yeshua, and Paul. Yeshua had showed that the great tribulation which the anti-Christ would superintend over will be a short span of time (Matthew 24:15-22).

- This venal human would blaspheme against Elohim, His Name, His Tabernacle and all that dwell in heaven.
- Verse 7 says power would be given to the anti-Christ to make war with the saints and overcome them. This speaks of the large number of tribulation saints who would be killed for their faith as they refuse to take part in the Beast Economic System based on taking the name, number, and mark of the anti-Christ.
- Power would also be given to him to rule over all kindreds, tongues and nations across the world. The anti-Christ will be a world ruler.

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. 9 If any man have an ear, let him hear (Revelation 13:8-9).

COMMENTARY

- All humans whose names are not in the Lamb's Book of life will worship the anti-Christ. After the rapture, there will be two types of people on earth. The first are outright unbelievers. The second, unfortunately, are believers who were not watchful and therefore missed the catching away. Because their names are in the Lamb's book, they will receive grace to not worship the anti-Christ through taking his mark, name, and number. It is sad that they would go through too much trouble because they allowed issues of life to distract them.
- Yeshua, the Lamb, was slain from the foundation of the world. He had volunteered to be the Lamb before

Adam and Eve were created! Elohim knew that humans would misuse their free will and made provision of recovery even before creation. This is an awesome and deep mystery of the vastness of the love of Elohim.

- Verse 9 is a call for believers to take the truth of scriptures seriously. Let us hear with the inner ear, make necessary adjustments for ultimate salvation. The Lord will not force Himself and His Salvation on anyone.

He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints (Revelation 13:10).

COMMENTARY

- During the Great Tribulation, what people sow is what they will reap.
- The specifics are spelt out: Those who lead others into captivity will suffer the same fate. Those who kill others will be killed.
- The patience and faith of saints is what will keep the remnant away from trouble.

Rise of the False Prophet

And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon (Revelation 13:11).

COMMENTARY

- Whereas the first Beast, the anti-Christ rose from the seas, the second Beast will rise from the earth.
- This is the picture of the False prophet who will be a religious leader of an earthly 'church'. This church system is Mystery Babylon.
- The picture gets more interesting: this religious leader will look outwardly like a Lamb (seemingly Christlike: meek) but speak like a Dragon (this speaks of a false authority which holds sway over the lives of followers. While seeming to be a devout religious leader, this fellow will be working for Satan to deceive people.
- Yeshua had warned of false prophets in the last days (Matthew 24:11, 23-24). He was also definite that no one should be fooled by 'accuracy of prophetic utterances' but discern the fruit of the lifestyle of all who come in His Name (Matthew 7:15-23).

And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed (Revelation 13:12).

COMMENTARY

- The False Prophet will exercise all the power of the anti-Christ.
- He will validate the anti-Christ as a real messiah who deserves loyalty and acceptance.

- Religion will go rogue: be used by Satan, its master to deceive humans.
- The mutually beneficial relationship of Politics and Religion is what occasions Mystery Babylon, an apostate ‘church’ system which differs from the gospel of the Kingdom. After using each other to gain advantage, the anti-Christ will destroy Christian Religion, which is devoid of true Salvation in Yeshua.

Mandate of the False Prophet

And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, 14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. 15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed (Revelation 13:13-15).

COMMENTARY

- The false prophet will flow in a false anointing marked by false miracles, signs and wonders including making fire come down from heaven.
- The purpose is simple: to use those miracles to deceive as many people as possible. This would be a deliberate trading in the souls of humans.

- The false prophet would take idolatry to new heights: make an image of the beast (anti-Christ) which he will infuse with power of life. The image would have capacity to communicate intelligently.
- The false prophet would show his true colours at a stage by ordering the execution of those who refuse to worship the image of the beast.

And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: 17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. 18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six (Revelation 13:16-18).

COMMENTARY

- He will institute the Beast Economic System for the world.
- To take part in the economy, locally, nationally, or globally, one needed to have mark of the beast in the right hand or forehead.
- It is not just the mark! Other versions of the same evil are to take the name or number of the name of the anti-Christ.
- The number of his name is 666: could this mean the ultimate of expectations of who a successful man is since 6 is the number of humans. Physical stature;

Wealth, Charisma, and other metrics with which humans are deemed as successful.

- The reason many will fall for this gambit and risk eternal perdition is that they were compromised in a long game and cannot extricate themselves from the claws of Satan.

- These two personalities are to work with Satan to be the ultimate imitation of Elohim: an evil triad where Satan is the Dragon imitating the Father; the anti-Christ is imitating Yeshua the Son and the False Prophet imitating the Holy Spirit.

- The world, Israel and apostate Christian religion which rejected the gospel of the Kingdom and relationship with Elohim will heartily embrace this fake godhead and suffer eternal damnation for so doing.

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please summarize what you learned about the anti-Christ
2. Please summarize what you learned about the False Prophet.
3. What new insights did you gain from this chapter?

Chapter 20

Triumph of Tribulation Saints, Warning against the anti-Christ System and Judgement for Sin

Looking at Revelation 13, there is the temptation to presume that Evil (represented by the anti-Christ and the False Prophet) triumphed in the earth realm. Fortunately, that is not the end of the story. Chapter 14 is the grand sequel that reveals the glorious future of righteousness and doom for sin.

And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. 2 And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: 3 And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. 4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb. 5 And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God (Revelation 14:1-5).

COMMENTARY

- The triumph of the 144,000 Jewish remnant who were sealed in Revelation 7:1-5 is the substance of this passage.

- The substance of the seal is described: it is The Father's Name. This will be their insurance against the seal of the anti-Christ, which most of those alive will take during the Great Tribulation. At the current time, the Lord alone knows those who have His seal! (2 Timothy 2:19).
- These 144,000 remnants stand with the Lamb. This shows that they will be saved by Grace, not under the veil of Moses.
- The song of victory and triumph is because they overcame the reign of the anti-Christ and false prophet. The most plain interpretation is that they are part of the tribulation saints who refused the mark, number or name of the beast and possibly martyred for their faith.
- The song they sing at the throne of grace before the 24 elders is not known to others. The instrumentation seems elaborate: "I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps:

"And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders"

- These were not just believers, they were celibate by choice to maintain a high level of purity of thought, word, and deed. In Matthew 19:12, Yeshua declared that some people will embrace celibacy for the sake of their Kingdom assignments. He also alluded to the reality that family responsibilities will increase pain during the Great Tribulation.

And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! 20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: 21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened (Matthew 24:19-22).

Paul also alluded to the value of celibacy in times of trouble.

But this I say, brethren, the time is short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as though they had none; 30 And they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not; 31 And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away (1 Corinthians 7:29-31).

- o These 144,000 Jewish believers are the first fruits of the saints to be reaped from the earth realm during the Great Tribulation. Many more people who embrace martyrdom, will be saved during this period.
- o They are pictured as close companions of Yeshua.
- o Their testimony is a powerful picture of what grace can do in human vessels that are willing:

And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God. 6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to

preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, 7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters (Revelation 14:6-7).

COMMENTARY

- The gospel is given to humans to preach as instruments of reconciling others to the Father (2 Corinthians 5:17-19).
- This is the only place in the scriptures that an angel is assigned to preach. What the angel preaches is the everlasting good news to all inhabitants of the earth (every nation, kindred, tongue, and people).
- Extraordinary times require extraordinary approaches. With gross darkness covering the earth during the Great Tribulation when the False Prophet will make an image of the Beast to be worshipped and asking people to take the mark, name, or number of the anti-Christ as the only way to survive (Revelation 12:13-18). Elohim goes to extraordinary lengths to make a way of escape by commissioning an angel to summon humanity to the path of sanity:

“Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters”

And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication (Revelation 14:8).

COMMENTARY

- The second angel will make an ominous announcement about the fall of the Babylonian system (the Political-Religious union of Mystery Babylon and the Commercial/Business portion based on greed/covetousness. These two aspects of Babylon and their end will be the substance of Revelation chapters 17 and 18.
- Babylon is pictured as a great city which seduces nations of the earth to commit fornication (by taking their hearts away from Elohim and His righteousness in Yeshua in favour of a life of hedonism, seeking pleasure).
- All the lovers of Babylon who partake of her evil, ungodly ways will drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. This means they will suffer the same fate as the evil system.

And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, 10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: 11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name (Revelation 14:9-11).

COMMENTARY

- A third angel will bring forth a strong warning to all inhabitants of the earth against worshiping the image of the anti-Christ (set up by the False Prophet in Revelation 13:14-18 and taking his mark in the forehead or hand.
- The angel pronounces the judgement of all partakers in the beast economic system as eternal damnation in the Lake of fire and brimstone:

“The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: 11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.”

- With this clear warning issued over 2000 years ago, no believer who misses the rapture has any excuse to take the mark, number, or name of the beast by whatever form it is offered: chips, bar code or whatever.
- The mark of the beast will not be a secret thing or imposed on people against their will. This is an incentive offered to those to reject the sovereign rule of Yeshua and rather accept the rule of the anti-Christ for temporal gain or comfort. Acceptance will be wilful, not coercive. That is why the punishment will be eternal damnation.

Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus (Revelation 14:12).

COMMENTARY

- The Lord releases this vivid picture to encourage saints to be patient and continue in righteousness by living out His words.
- Everything we can ever be or do in the Kingdom comes from our Faith in Yeshua, Jesus. Through Faith in Him, all things are possible, mountains are moved, and we triumph over adversity.

Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done. 22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive (Matthew 21:21-22),

And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets: 33 Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions. 34 Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. 35 Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they

might obtain a better resurrection: 36 And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: 37 They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; 38 (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth (Hebrews 11:32-38).

Let us continue our commentary on Revelation 14.

And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them (Revelation 14:13).

COMMENTARY

- The next voice John hears from heaven instructs him to write the fate of the righteous dead: they are blessed for holding on to their faith in Yeshua till the end.
- The death of the righteous differs from the death of the wicked. It is first, rest from the labours of life – pursuit of education, career, business, fending for family with deliverance from all such pressures.
- Works which are done by grace will follow the translation of the righteous dead. The chronicles of what they allowed the Holy Spirit to do through their vessels will be opened and rewards will be given in due season. Apostle Paul expresses his expectations in these timeless words.

For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. 7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: 8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. 25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. 26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: 27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway (1 Corinthians 9:24-27).

And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. 15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. 16 And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped (Revelation 14:14-16).

COMMENTARY

- o John is shown a personality who looks like Yeshua, Jesus the Son of man.

- This personality is pictured with two objects: a golden crown on the head and a sharp sickle in the hand. One interpretation is that Yeshua will sit as the righteous Judge over the earth at this time.
- The announcement shows that humanity, at this point in time approaches the hour of judgement.
- The picture is that of a vineyard when the harvest is ripe, and clusters of grapes are to be brought in for crushing.

And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. 18 And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. 19 And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. 20 And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs (Revelation 14:17-20).

COMMENTARY

- Angels of Elohim will also play a prominent role in execution of divine judgement over the earth in the last days.
- One of the angels has power over fire, which will be one of the tools of Judgement.

- o With the imagery of a winepress in a vineyard, there is a sign how the wrath of Elohim will be poured out at the end of the age.
- o The quantity of blood of those to be slaughtered (most likely at the Battle of Armageddon) is said to be up to the bridle of a horse and will cover a space of 1,600 furlongs. This is equivalent to 200 miles. Apart from previous judgments when the Seal was broken and Trumpets sounded, there will be more judgements coming upon inhabitants of the earth in some chapters of the book of Revelation. The human age will end with the defeat of the armies of the anti-Christ and false prophet as they seek to stamp out the nation of Israel at the battle of Armageddon.

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 (Revelation 16:13-16).

And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; 18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. 19 And I saw the

beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. 20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. 21 And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh (Revelation 19:17-21).

This is consistent with what Yeshua said would happen at the end of the age

So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, 50 And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth (Matthew 13:49-50).

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please share 3 things you learnt from this chapter. 2. In the light of Revelation chapter 13, why was Chapter 14 written right after? 3. What will you do with the lessons in this chapter?

Chapter 21

Preparation for the Vial (Bowl) Judgements

INTRODUCTION

One of the features of the Book of Revelation is that the chapters are not written in any specific chronological order. John writes various scenes he was shown. Some episodes are written to reinforce some specific issues. Chapter 15 is one of the shorter passages in the book. What is written therein is a prelude to what will happen in the next chapter. The events here are set in the throne room of Elohim in heaven and show how the things on earth are ordered from the heavenly realm. We are getting to the end of the book and the chapter shows us how a patient and long-suffering Elohim is getting ready to release judgement against humanity which rejected His salvation in Yeshua, Jesus

Verse by verse commentary

And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God (Revelation 15:1).

COMMENTARY

A sign is something which points to something else. John is shown another sign in heaven which he describes as ‘great and marvellous’. Here is how the KJV dictionary defines a sign:

- A token. something by which another thing is shown or represented; any visible thing, any motion, appearance, or event which indicates the existence or approach of something else. Thus we speak of signs of fair weather or of a storm, and of external marks which are signs of a good constitution.
- A motion, action, nod, or gesture indicating a wish or command. They made signs to his father, how he would have him called (Luke 1).
- A wonder; a miracle; a prodigy; a remarkable transaction, event, or phenomenon. Through mighty signs and wonders. (Romans 15, Luke 11).
- Some visible transaction, event or appearance intended as proof or evidence of something else; hence; proof; evidence by sight. Show me a sign that thou talkest with me (Judges 6).

*The Book of Revelation contains a record
of these signs*

- The woman representing Israel in Chapter 12.
- The Dragon representing Satan.
- The man-child representing Yeshua, Jesus.
- Offspring of the woman representing Gentiles who receive Yeshua.

- Beast out of the sea, represents the anti-Christ in Revelation 13.
- The Beast out of the earth representing the False Prophet of Revelation 13.
- The sign involved 7 angels who will execute the 7 last plagues.
- The last plagues are described as full of the wrath of Elohim God.

And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God (Revelation 15:2).

COMMENTARY

- John sees what looks like a sea of glass mingled with fire. The image of fire may be a hint at the impending doom that would be released from the presence of Elohim into the earth realm.
- The scene before the throne of Elohim has some difference from the one in Revelation 4:

“And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind.”

- John sees tribulation saints. These are those who refused to take the mark, name or number of the anti-Christ or worship his image. As has been made clear

through this work, those who die for the faith during this period are automatically translated to the throne of Elohim.

- Though they were killed by the anti-Christ and False Prophet, these saints are described as victorious. Death is swallowed up in victory for all true saints as 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 says. For those who receive grace to escape the Beast economic system, it will be a major victory indeed.
- The tribulation saints stand on the sea of glass and are given harps with which to celebrate their victory. Up till this time, only angels use harps in heaven.

And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints. 4 Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest (Revelation 15:3-4).

COMMENTARY

- The song that the tribulation saints sing is called the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb. We can infer that the two strands of Elohim's dealing with humanity are brought together seamlessly in the song. The Law reveals our unworthiness and need for a Messiah. Through the New Covenant of Grace, we are reconciled to Him only through the perfect sacrifice of Yeshua.
- The content of the song is worthy of further examination:

“Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty;” – this speaks of exaltation and worship *“just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.”* – this speaks of submission to the will and acceptance of the ways of Elohim

“Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name?” – this rhetorical question is profound. In the light of Who He Is and What He does, who will withhold awe and glorification of the Name of Yahweh?

“for thou only art holy:” - Elohim is indeed the spring, and fountain of holiness

“for all nations shall come and worship before thee;” - all nations shall come and worship before Elohim. This will be a practical reality during the millennial reign of Yeshua and for all eternity.

“for thy judgments are made manifest;” – the judgements before and that which are to come upon the earth realm are made manifest. They are not hidden but done openly.

THESE ARE SOME NOTEWORTHY FEATURES OF THE SONG:

- Intense focus on Elohim alone: Thee, Thy, thou.
- There is an exaltation of His Person, Holiness, and Power.
- There is a declaration that He deserves worship from all humanity.
- There is acknowledgement of His Righteous indignation and Justness of His judgement over humanity.

And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened: 6 And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles (Revelation 15:5-6).

COMMENTARY

- o John saw the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven. Students of the bible know that the design of the tabernacle Elohim gave Moses was a shadow of the real deal. The one on earth was a mere imitation of the real deal in the heavenly realm:

And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. 9 According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it (Exodus 25:8-9).

Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount (Hebrews 8:5)

- o 7 angels came out of the temple having the 7 last plagues to be poured upon the earth in the next chapter.
- o They were clothed in pure white linen and golden girdles across their chests (breasts). This signifies righteousness of the wrath of God on sin.

And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who liveth for ever and ever (Revelation 15:7).

COMMENTARY

- One of the 4 living creatures (beasts) who are before Elohim's throne hands to the 7 angels, 7 golden vials (or bowls).
- The vials or bowls are full of the wrath of Elohim.
- We thus know what lies ahead: the human story which started with Grace will end with righteous judgement.
- Many sinners and backsliders remain in their bad spiritual states because the enemy blinds them to the great danger ahead. If we could only reflect on these realities: Adam and Eve lost their estate in Eden. The old world was wiped away with the Flood of Noah when iniquity filled the earth. Sodom and Gomorrah were totally obliterated for their evil ways. Israel went into captivity to Babylon when they forgot Elohim. There is a long list of antecedents that should give us cause to turn to the Lord and remain rooted in His Grace. He alone can uphold us from falling away.

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, 25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen (Jude 1:24-25).

And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled (Revelation 15:8)

COMMENTARY

- John saw the temple filled with the smoke from the glory of Elohim and His awesome power. This is consistent with what scriptures say of the glory of the Lord in the days of Moses and Solomon.

Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. 35 And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle (Exodus 40:34-35).

And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the Lord, 11 So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of the Lord (1 Kings 8:10-11)

It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick, and praised the Lord, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the Lord; 14 So that the priests could not stand to minister

by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of God (2 Chronicles 5:13-14)

- o Once this scene is displayed, access to the temple is barred! The deal is signed to be done and nothing can undo it.

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please share any 3 things you learned in this chapter. 2. In what way has this series helped you to take eternal destination of your soul seriously?

Chapter 22

The Vial or Bowl Judgements

Exposition of Revelation Chapter 16

One significant thing to note is the similarity in imagery used during execution of Elohim's wrath against Pharaoh and Egypt with the Bowl judgements of this chapter. The plagues of Egypt had some of these features: the turning of water to blood in Exodus 7:14-25; Boils on humans in Exodus 9:8-12; and darkness during the day in Exodus 10:21-29.

Verse by verse Commentary

And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth (Revelation 16:1).

COMMENTARY

- In what seems like standard operating procedure, John heard a great voice giving instructions to the 7 angels who were made ready in the previous chapter.
- The mandate sounds ominous, suggesting that the Great Tribulation had entered the crescendo stage:

“Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.”

And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image (Revelation 16:2).

COMMENTARY

As the first angel poured out his vial (or bowl),

- Noisome and grievous sores broke out upon those who had the mark of the beast and who worshipped his image as proposed by the False Prophet in Revelation 13:14-18.
- They ‘enjoyed’ the fruit of their disobedience for a fleeting moment of time (less than 3 and a half years, it was payback time. Their suffering, which is intense ‘noisome and grievous’ would be much worse in the Lake of Fire and Brimstone.

And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea (Revelation 16:3).

COMMENTARY

With the pouring out of the second vial by the second angel,

- The seas of the earth realm most likely including the oceans were turned into an odious sight: what looked like the blood of dead people.

- o All living things in the seas of the world died off.

And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood (Revelation 16:4).

COMMENTARY

With the pouring out of the 3rd vial:

- o The rivers and fountains of waters became blood.
- o The effect of the third vial differs from the second in some respects. This one is on fresh waters while the previous was on large bodies of water. In the previous the effect was to make the waters look like blood of dead people. In this one, the waters simply became blood.

And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. 6 For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy. 7 And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments (Revelation 16:5-7).

COMMENTARY

Let us examine the contents of the words of the angel of the waters:

- o Thou are righteous – the Judgement of Elohim is righteous

- Thou hast judged thus – the vials that are poured out are His just recompense on recalcitrant humanity.
- Since they shed the blood of saints and Prophets, it is a righteous thing to give them blood to drink.
- Another voice out of the altar in heaven reaffirms that the judgement on the waters is righteous.

And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. 9 And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory (Revelation 16:8-9).

COMMENTARY

- The sun received power to burn the skin of men. It is as if the ozone layer was removed, and rays of the sun just penetrate human skins.
- As humans were scorched with great heat, they do not find it necessary to repent.
- Rather, they blasphemed the Name of Elohim Who alone had power over the plagues.

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 (Revelation 16:10-11).

COMMENTARY

- The kingdom of the anti-Christ suffers gross darkness.
- Intense pain runs through lives of people.
- Even in that state, people blasphemed Elohim.
- The people could not repent of their sins. This is because they were now in a state of reprobate heart which is irredeemably hardened and devoid of capacity to repent. They are living out the preview of a hellish life which will be in forever.

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 (Revelation 16:12-16).

COMMENTARY

With pouring out of the 6th vial,

- It was specifically localised to the River Euphrates.
- The River dried up to create space for the Kings of the East. Evidently, this will be the long march of their armies on Israel.

- 3 unclean spirits that looked like frogs proceeded out of the mouth of the evil triad: the Dragon (Satan), the Beast (anti-Christ) and the False Prophet.
- The mandate of the foul spirits is clarified: to mobilise and summon kings of the world and their armies to the Battle of Armageddon.

“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....16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.”

- In the midst of this disclosure, Elohim releases a message to the remnant to reassure them that His return is imminent:

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

And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. 18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. 19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. 20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. 21 And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every

stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great (Revelation 16:17-21).

COMMENTARY:

- It is done! Mission Accomplished is pronounced regarding the judgements and wrath of Elohim upon those who reject His mercy and love.
- There were voices, thundering and lightnings.
- There was also a great earthquake of such magnitude that the headquarters of the anti-Christ was divided into 3 parts.
- Cities of the nations fell.
- Great Babylon as a city and system came in remembrance before Elohim to receive the just recompense for her life of evil. The wrath of Elohim is fierce
- Faced with the great wrath of Elohim, Islands fly away (vanish?) while Mountains are uprooted.
- Great hailstones rained down from heaven weighing about a talent. This is equivalent to 100 grams or 45 kilograms. Their effect must be devastating as Elohim purges the earth realm of debased humanity (Matthew 24:29).

Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the

stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: 26 Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. 27 And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. 28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: 29 For our God is a consuming fire (Hebrews 12:25-29).

Despite what sinners experienced, their reaction shows how much they had detached from reality: *“and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.”* As we race towards end of the age, what remains in the earth realm are three main things: Mystery Babylon and its judgement; Commercial Babylon and its Judgement and return of Yeshua to vanquish armies of the anti-Christ and False prophet.

ASSIGNMENT

1. Please write brief descriptions of the 7 vial judgements. 2. What is your personal take away?

Chapter 23

Mystery Babylon

Exposition of Revelation 17

Part of the tool Satan used to execute the falling away (before the rapture) and keep humanity in a state of religious blindness and bondage during the Great Tribulation stem from one of his greatest actions against Elohim: ultimate creation of an apostate religious system which feels like, looks like but is essentially NOT of the same substance, nature and pattern of the true Church of Yeshua which is His Bride and Body.

The historical background

While Yeshua was on earth to proclaim the gospel of the Kingdom, demonstrate its power and pay the price for the redemption of its citizens, Satan also went to work to create his own ‘church system’

Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: 25 But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. 26 But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. 27 So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy

field? from whence then hath it tares? 28 He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? 29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. 30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn (Matthew 13:24-30).

No less a personality than Yeshua, Jesus explained this principle in these verses:

He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; 38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; 39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. 40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. 41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; 42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear (Matthew 13:37-43).

In a previous setting, He explained the reality that there would be some who would want to do His work with an alien nature.

Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. 21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity (Matthew 7:20-23).

Paul the apostle addressed the same issue in some inspired writings in 2 Corinthians 11:12-15 and Philippians 3:17-19, among others.

Less than 70 years after the Church was birthed on the day of Pentecost, Yeshua Jesus came to inspect City churches across Asia Minor, 5 out of 7 were found wanting. In His letters to the churches, The Lord was explicit in the picture of various degrees of falling away in Revelation 2 and 3. The Lord gave to John an insight into what was going on: the spirit of anti-Christ had struck to deceive some, confuse others with a corruption that led to break of relationship with the true Head of the Church.

Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. 19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us (1 John 2:18-19).

The false church system produced leaders who worked overtime to take eyes of the brethren from off the return of the Master. They openly sneered at attempts to remind brethren that just as Yeshua ascended to heaven bodily, He would surely return in a visible form to consummate the Kingdom project in the earth realm as the angels said in Acts 1:9-11.

Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, 4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. 5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: 6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: 7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. 8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up (2 Peter 3:3-10).

These teachings and prophecies captured backsliding and apostasies, which occurred within the first century of the Church. In speaking of what would happen later, John was given a vision of how the falling away of the church would be formalized into a union with the political and social system to create a brand-new reality called Mystery Babylon.

The History and concept of Babylon

Babel was the city of Nimrod, the first public rebel against Elohim (Genesis 10:8-10). Through his inspiration, humanity sought to counter the directive of Elohim in Genesis 1:28-30 to increase, multiply, and fill the earth. Rather, they sought to build a tower all the way to heaven. Elohim confused their language and scattered them in Genesis 11. Babylon was a land seeped in idol worship, enchantments, and things which pollute. The first time Joshua's army suffered defeat the cause was a Babylonish garment which Achan took and hid in his tent (Joshua 7:20-21). In the days of Nebuchadnezzar, the principle of Babylon gained a new more sinister meaning. Whereas the nations which took Israel captive often allowed them to maintain their identity and culture, the case of Babylon was different. When Babylon sacked Israel about 600 years before Yeshua was born, it adopted the policy of assimilation. Jews were required to lose their identities and be wholly assimilated into Babylonian culture as the book of Daniel attests. Revelation 17 shows judgement of False Religion or Mystery Babylon. This chapter offers an understanding of the term Mystery Babylon. It connotes mixture, syncretism, and falsehood masquerading as light. The chapter also shows the end of the False Religious System, which will dominate the world system at the end of the age.

Verse by verse commentary

And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: (Revelation 17:1).

COMMENTARY

One of the angels who executed the vial judgements invited John to see the judgement which awaits the great whore (prostitute) which rules the world system as its bride. Sitting on many waters. Waters stands for a multitude of people. This connotes a system of religion that would be widely embraced by people of the world, which is a corruption of the true gospel.

With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication (Revelation 17:2).

COMMENTARY

This great whore is distinguished by the reality that she cavorts with kings or rulers of the earth realm. Inhabitants of the earth are pictured as drunk with the wine of her immoral relationship with the world.

So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet-coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns (Revelation 17:3).

COMMENTARY

The prostitute religious system is pictured as sitting upon a scarlet-coloured beast which is full of the names of blasphemy, with 7 heads and 10 horns. There is a connection here with a system of religion which will embrace a 'mutually beneficial relationship' with the anti-Christ. Only him fits the profile of the beast:

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy (Revelation 13:1).

The reality of this description is a religious system which will need political institutions to achieve its strategic objectives. This could mean that rather than preaching the gospel of the Kingdom which transforms lives of those appointed to Salvation, government edicts and laws will be the chief instruments of a false morality that is used to wage cultural wars against the very sinners the true church is required to reach out to in love. Because this pattern of fake morality will be done in the name of 'God', it will be a system full of blasphemy. Before his manifestation, the anti-Christ system would have corrupted the gospel as part of the great falling away.

And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: (Revelation 17:4).

COMMENTARY

These are colours which convey opulence, magnificence, and expensiveness. Interestingly, these are colours with

which the Episcopal religious priesthood loves. The Church of Rome first embraced this diversion from the simple priesthood after the order of Melchizedek. This system of robbing the clergy with expensive attire in an imitation of the defunct Aaronic and Levitical priestly forms. In the new testament, this is called the Nicolaitane system which Yeshua says He hates.

But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate...15 So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate (Revelation 2:6, 15).

And upon her forehead was a name written, Mystery, Babylon The Great, The Mother Of Harlots And Abominations Of The Earth.6 And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration (Revelation 17:5).

COMMENTARY

- o The name written on the forehead of the woman was 'Mystery Babylon the Great'. John was given a vision of what would happen almost 300 years later: This is the Church system that is based on forsaking of Yeshua as Head and Lord in favor of co-habitation or marriage with the Political systems of the world. Starting with union of Rome and the larger wing of the Church between AD 310-381 which was tired of persecution and impatience that Yeshua had delayed his return. This false religious system, which had deceived an innumerable number of people, will be destroyed by the political system which sustained it. It will be a classic case of use and dump.

Unfortunately, many people are trapped in the system with eyes which cannot see and ears which cannot hear until it is too late. The reason is that though pursuing what seems like morally sound objectives, they are sincerely wrong because Yeshua and His Kingdom are relegated to the back burner while Religion replaces relationship. Spiritually, Mystery Babylon connotes a syncretic mixture of religion and worldly culture.

- It is also described as THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. This means we must look beyond the Roman Church alone to understand the concept of Mystery Babylon. This system of religion (rituals performed inside buildings on certain holy days mediated by professional priests which displaces relationship with Elohim has been perfected into a high art in the Protestant world.
- The woman was drunken with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. This speaks of the extreme persecution which true saints faced at the hands of the Roman Church system. People like Martin Luther who discovered that Salvation is by Grace through Faith were excommunicated. Others, like John Wycliff and William Tyndale were burned at the stake for printing and distributing bibles. The Foxe's Book of Martyrs contains a chronicle of the cruel ways Rome sought to stamp out the true gospel.
- John wondered greatly at the sight of Mystery Babylon.

And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that

carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns (Revelation 17:7).

COMMENTARY

The angel offered to explain to John the meaning of what he was seeing.

- Through John, we gain insight into practical manifestations of the strange sight he saw.
- The woman is a mystery. The Beast she rode on had 7 heads and 10 horns. We will soon understand what the heads and horns mean.

The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is (Revelation 17:8).

COMMENTARY

- With great clarity, we see that the Beast which the woman rode upon is the anti-Christ of Revelation 13!
- Those who are church goers – engaged in religion without relationship with The Father based on the finished work of Yeshua on the Cross will be deceived by this false system. Their names are not written in the book of life because they are not converted. This is one of the sad features of what is called ABC Churchianity: Attendance of Crowds of Milk drinking babes who flock into elaborate

‘church’ buildings and generate enormous cash for their leaders.

And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth (Revelation 17:9).

COMMENTARY

This verse can be interpreted to mean either of these:

- The location of the seat of the anti-Christ may mean Rome, the City of 7 hills.
- It could also mean the 7 Mountains of worldly culture.

And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space (Revelation 17:10).

COMMENTARY

- The 7 kings of which 5 are fallen could have a historic significance. This could mean the reality that these empires: Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greco-Macedonia had already ruled the world before the days of John.
- The one that should be the Roman Empire, which is the Legs of Iron in Daniel 2 that stamped out all previous empires.
- The one which would come and continue a short space most likely is the anti-Christ who would arise from the ashes of Rome.

- To continue a short space may refer to the reality that the rule of the anti-Christ would be for 7 years – the shortest reign of all world rulers.

And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition (Revelation 17:11).

COMMENTARY

- The anti-Christ would be the 8th world ruler.
- He will arise from the rump or remains of the 7th empire which is Rome. He will be an offspring with the DNA of Rome. This implies a European ancestry – from Europe to North America (US and Canada), Australia and New Zealand along with South America.
- He will go into perdition. His work of opposing the Messiah and seeking worship instead of Him is an act of perdition which will lead to his inevitable fall.

And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. 13 These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast (Revelation 17:12-13).

COMMENTARY

- It appears there will be 10 kings to arise in the last days who will make a confederacy with the anti-Christ.

- Since 10 is the number of completion it may imply all the world powers who see the need for unity of man to preserve civilization.
- Geographically, Europe and the EU are leading candidates of where this confederacy will emanate from.
- To receive power as kings for one hour shows that this confederacy of convenience will last for a very short time.
- That these 10 kings will give their power and strength to the anti-Christ also implies that there may be a common cause in the last days for world powers to reject rabid nationalism and opt for a one world system as the only way to escape perhaps annihilation of humanity through nuclear weapons. Picture a world which is so desperate to get off the cliff of mutually assured destruction that the leaders prefer to cede power to a strong man. This is consistent with the desire of Paul-Henri Spaak who loudly expressed the desire for a strong human leader with capacity for imposing peace on earth.
- We believe the present ultra-tense stand offs and internal implosions from Europe to America and Asia and Africa make this a distinct possibility.

These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful (Revelation 17:14).

COMMENTARY

- The anti-Christ and his armies will make war against King Yeshua, but He will prevail.
- Yeshua will have a formidable army of saints who meet 3 criteria: They are called, chosen and faithful.

And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues (Revelation 17:15).

COMMENTARY

There is an added emphasis that the great whore of religion has a global following, encompassing multitudes of people, of various nations and tribes.

And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire (Revelation 17:16).

COMMENTARY

After the Beast allows the Whore to ride upon it, there is a change in the relationship.

- The anti-Christ system at some point would have no more use of the religious ladder it used to climb to power.
- It will turn around to destroy organised ‘religion’ – make her desolate, naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire.

For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled (Revelation 17:17).

COMMENTARY

- All things that would happen in due time will ultimately be part of the determinate counsel of Elohim.
- Even in the dark days of the Great Tribulation, all things in the earth realm are ordered by what His word and will says.

And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth (Revelation 17:18).

COMMENTARY

- In the days of apostles, the code name for Rome was Babylon and the great City.
- Everything about this chapter has Rome as its linchpin.
- Since the 4th century, the religious wing of Rome has triumphed through co-habitation with the Kings of the earth. The Lateran Treaty of 1929 conferred sovereign status on the Vatican City. It has in independent diplomatic relations with world powers.

We see that ultimately everything which is corrupt shall be taken away so that the Kingdom of Elohim will be manifested globally in the earth realm.

ASSIGNMENT

1. Share 5 things you learned. 2. What new insight did you gain through this chapter 3. What will you do with the lessons in this chapter?

Chapter 24

Judgement of the Babylonian Economic System

After Mystery Babylon, the apostate church system of religion is judged in Revelation 17, we are introduced to something else which takes the hearts of humans away from Elohim: the religion of quest for money, comfort and 'success'. After millennia and centuries of human existence marked by greed, it is time for judgement on the economic system of Babylon. This is the elaborate system that takes affections of humans away from Elohim as they pursue the idols which drive the system, namely Mammon and covetousness. Of these two idols, here are what the scriptures say:

But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows (1 Timothy 6:9-10).

Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: 6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience (Colossians 3:5-6).

As a system, Commercial Babylon is structured as opposite of the Kingdom economic system, offering rewards to those who will serve Mammon rather than Elohim.

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. 25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? 26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof (Matthew 6:24-34).

And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened

with his glory. 2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. 3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies (Revelation 18:1-3).

COMMENTARY

- John saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great power and the earth was lightened with his glory. It is in the book of Revelation that we see the angels in worship of Elohim and on various assignments to announce or bring judgement. Angels are messengers of Elohim (Hebrews 1:7,14).
- The angel announced authoritatively that Babylon the great is fallen and would become desolate: habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird

The reason for judging Commercial Babylon is stated: it seduced nations of the world into fornication by causing them to seek wealth, comfort, entertainment, and carnal satisfaction over and above obedience to the laws of Elohim:

“For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.”

And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that

ye receive not of her plagues. 5 For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. 6 Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. 7 How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow. 8 Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her (Revelation 18:4-8)

COMMENTARY

- True to type, Elohim allows His angel to warn the remnant to come out of a system which is ordained for destruction. The Bible recognizes guilt by association. Believers should extricate themselves from business models which are built on greed, covetousness, extreme competitiveness, and which sap life out of them to pursue elusive targets. They gradually erode trust in Elohim, lead to burning the candle of life on two ends and at end of the day, make saints not to seek first the Kingdom.

These declarations are made about commercial Babylon:

- Her sins have reached unto heaven – the cup was full.
- God has remembered her iniquities.
- It is time for payback! Reward her double for her evils.

- o The Babylonian system glories in wealth and pleasure so it was time to experience the consequences: torment and sorrow.
- o Pride and arrogance of riches in Commercial Babylon make people think that they can control the narratives of life including absence of sorrow which they think money can cushion or eliminate.
- o The judgement of Elohim will be swift, decisive, and total on this evil system which takes hearts of people away from covenant relationship with Elohim:

“Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her.”

And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning, 10 Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come (Revelation 18:9-10).

COMMENTARY

The Chief men of the earth realm mourn the destruction of Babylon because it worked for them. Unlike Mystery Babylon which worldly rulers used for their own ends and discarded, economic Babylon was the life wire of the world. That is why they mourn its demise while they did not mourn demise of Mystery Babylon.

And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more: 12 The

merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble, (Revelation 18:11-12)

COMMENTARY

Economic Babylon was extensive in its reach, affecting all spheres of life in the post rapture world. That the system through which people unleashed all the evil nature of man is destroyed will cause anguish to many. The list of items of trade speaks of luxury, convenience, comfort and what makes people feel important and fulfilled.

And cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men (Revelation 18:13)

COMMENTARY

Apart from the various luxury and necessities, the Babylonian Economic system has at its core, exploitation of humans whose souls are traded for profit. Greed has a way of taking away the humanity of people as it makes them see others as mere objects of exploitation.

And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all (Revelation 18:14)

COMMENTARY

The fall of commercial Babylon effectively ends a prime driver of life in the world since after the Fall in Eden. In a real sense, it signals imminence of the human age which has been in rebellion against the ordinances of Elohim.

The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, 16 And saying, Alas, alas that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls! 17 For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, 18 And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city! 19 And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate (Revelation 18:15-19)

COMMENTARY

- The profiteering system which exploits humans for ungodly gain would one day be decisively judged.
- Those who have profited from this evil economic system will of necessity feel her demise, weeping and wailing.
- The Judgement of Elohim will be swift and decisive: ‘for in one hour is she made desolate.

Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her (Revelation 18:20)

COMMENTARY

- o The heavenly realm is called upon to rejoice over the fall of this economic system which made the principle of Matthew 6:19-34 of none effect.
- o The system was rigged against holy apostles and prophets – servants of Elohim who remain faithful to His charge to seek first the Kingdom and enthrone Yeshua as sovereign. Their earthly contemporaries must have mocked them for not accumulating all the material possessions and indulging in the ungodly pleasures of the Babylonian economic system.
- o The Judgement of Commercial Babylon is an act of Divine vengeance on behalf of His elect. In some scriptures, Elohim reserves for Himself the power of vengeance.

Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord (Romans 12:19).

For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people (Hebrews 10:30)

And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all. 22 And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee; and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft he be, shall be found any more in thee; and the sound of a millstone shall

be heard no more at all in thee; 23 And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived (Revelation 18:21-23)

COMMENTARY

- A mighty angel seals the deal by illustrating the finality of the end of Commercial Babylon by demonstrating when a great millstone is thrown into the sea and sinks to the bottom with no prospect of floating to the surface again.’ Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.’
- The list of things which sustained the system is very telling: voice of harpers, musicians, pipers, trumpeters, craftsmen, sound of millstone, light of candle; voice of bridegroom and bride. What Yeshua said of life in the end of the days which caused many to miss His second coming is clearly implied:

But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, 39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be (Matthew 24:37-39)

- Commercial Babylon was a system which thrived on sorceries, witchcraft, magical spells: ‘for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived.’ The negative

religious energies generated by sorceries keeps hearts of humans away from Elohim.

And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth (Revelation 18:24).

COMMENTARY

The Political, Social and Economic system undergirding the renegade world will one day be weighed, judged, and punished! As a system, it was stacked against genuine servants of Elohim and His saints. As a system, it gave room for oppression and exploitation of the innocent by the shrewd businesspeople of the world system. For the sake of riches, people cared little about the shedding of innocent blood.

This whole evil system will end one day. Righteousness will triumph over evil.

ASSIGNMENT

1. What is Commercial Babylon? 2. Kindly outline some features of Commercial Babylon which causes its destruction at the end of the age. 3. Why would the great people of the world weep for Commercial Babylon and not for the end of Mystery Babylon? 4. What other thing did you learn from this chapter?

Prelude to Book 3

The second in the series of Revelation Unveiled stopped at Revelation 18 where the judgement of Commercial Babylon was implemented. The third book in the series covers Revelation 19 – 22 and the epilogue series.

In book 3, these critical issues are examined:

- The Marriage Supper of the Lamb and His Church.
- The Second Coming of Yeshua in glory as a conqueror-Messiah to save Israel from annihilation by the anti-Christ, False Prophet, and their armies at the Battle of Armageddon.
- The chaining of Satan in prison by one angel for 100 years.
- The Manifest Kingdom, also called the Millennial reign of Yeshua when He will rule the world from Jerusalem, His capital city.
- The release of Satan from prison to try the hearts of those who got a free pass into the millennium and the strange truth that he could deceive some.
- The final consignment of Satan into the Lake of Fire and Brimstone where the anti-Christ and False Prophet were cast into 1000 years before.
- The Great White Throne Judgement when all sinners of all ages would be judged for their works, since they rejected grace.
- The New Heavens and earth.
- The New Jerusalem.
- Eternity with Elohim.

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Course Impact Assessment

1. In what scripture is the blessing give to those who read, hear, and respond to the message in the Book of Revelation?

2. True or False: John was told to seal the Book of Revelation.

True False

3. Explain the first way to escape for those who miss the rapture. Support your response with a minimum of 2 scripture references.

4. Explain the second way of escape for those who missed the rapture. Support your response with a minimum of 2 scripture references.

5. The 5th trumpet ushers in a new setting which originates in which of the following:

- From the new heaven
- From the spiritual realm
- From the realm of hell

6. Which of the following is not true of the star with the key to the bottomless pit?

- The star is Yeshua
- The star is an angel
- The star is Satan

7. Which of the following statements best describes the angel with the little book in his hand.

- The angel's feet were as coal
- The angel's face was like fire
- The angel had a rainbow upon his head

8. True or False: a day will come when the veil of mystery of Elohim will be pulled back

- True False

9. Which of the following is not a mystery?

- Mystery of falling away of the Jews
- Mystery of the rapture of Saints
- Mystery of the Church

10. True or False: John was given a reed like a rod to measure the temple of Elohim, the altar, and those who worship.

- True False

11. Explain The last woe of the woes announced by the blast of the 7th Trumpet.

12. True or False: The Name of Yahweh means the I AM Who Am: He Who Is, was and is to come.

- True False

13. Briefly summarize one of the wonders or signs John saw in the heavenly realm.

14. True or False: Satan has stopped seeking the destruction of Israel

- True False

15. Explain the grand tool for victory over Satan.

16. Who is Nimrod and what is his significance related to the end of the age?

17. Which of the following is a hindrance to the emergence of the anti-Christ

- The various denominations in the earth realm
- The number of members in the body of Yeshua
- The True Kingdom Church

18. Provide a description of the anti-Christ based on your understanding of this course. Please support your response with a minimum of three scripture.

19. Which of the following is the correct sequence of events:

- The Return of Yeshua, the Great Tribulation, the emergence of the man of sin
- The Return of Yeshua, the Rapture of Saints the Great Tribulation
- The emergence the anti-Christ, the emergence of the man of sin, the rapture of saints

20. True or False: During the Great Tribulation, what people sow is what they will reap.

- True [] False

21. Explain the connection between the False Prophet and the anti-Christ

22. Explain the mandate of the False Prophet

23. True or False: These 144,000 Jewish believers are the first fruits of the saints to be reaped from the earth realm during the Great Tribulation.

True False

24. True or False: With this clear warning issued over 2000 years ago, no believer who misses the rapture has any excuse to take the mark, number, or name of the beast

True False

25. True or False: The mark of the beast will be a secret thing or imposed on people against their will.

True False

26. Which of the following represent the golden crown and sickle in Revelation Chapter 14?

- Grace
- Judgement
- Mercy

27. Summarize the scene before the throne of Elohim in Revelation 15.

28. Summarize the Vial or Bowl Judgements. In your summary include the following: a). what are the vial judgments and their purpose?

29. Explain the history and concept of Babylon.

30. True or False: The apostate church system of religion is judged by Elohim

True False

31. Which of the following is not a declaration about commercial Babylon:

It is a system that glorifies Elohim

It is a system that glorifies in wealth

Masterclass Curriculum

The curriculum includes 43 courses and is divided into five modules consisting of basic and advanced courses. The basic courses are foundational Christian doctrines and beliefs, based entirely and completely on the bible as well as practical principles and practices concerning Ministry and how to fulfil same.

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Course 102: Understanding Yeshua

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Course 104: The 16 Fundamental Glorious Truths

Course 105: The 9 Fundamental C's

Course 106: The Ultimate Three: Faith, Hope and Charity

Course 107: Grace

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Course 109: Kingdom Oriented Church Growth

Course 110: The Church of His Vision

Course 111: The Kingdom

Course 112: The Fivefold

Course 113: Spiritual Gifts: What, Why, How

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Postscript

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- Promote these revelations to the wider Body through electronic or print means or via Facebook and other Social Media.
- Be part of those who will use revelations in this course to train other leaders and saints within your loop of Kingdom influence.
- You have the skills/capacity to edit or proofread these materials.
- You can support in any other way: financially or otherwise.

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The 16 Fundamental Glorious Truths

The 9 Fundamental C's

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About the Author



Apostle George Akalonu and his wife, Pastor Grace Akalonu were called out of denominational Christianity in 1996 and set apart by the Lord to be instruments of connecting, manifesting and empowering saints to function as His one single Body and Kingdom Church held together by Love. They are visionaries of the Global Advanced Mentorship Program (Annual Master Class series), Global School of Ministry, Global Missions Board and Arise Metropolitan Assembly. From their base in Hornchurch, London, England where they live with their five children: Favour, Elect, Arise, Praise and Destiny, they are vessels through which Holy Spirit empowers countless saints and ministers worldwide through the unique Teach, Train, Equip, Activate and Release process committed to their trust. They also serve as International President of International Ministers Fellowship worldwide. They co-labour with a dynamic army of principal officers, mentors, and other volunteers across the globe.

Revelation UNVEILED

This is the second of the trilogy appropriately titled Revelation Unveiled Book 1 covered the events of Revelation chapters 1-8.

This second book covers Revelation chapters 9-18. The focus is the last 3 and half years of the human journey on this side of eternity when the wrath of Elohim is poured out without measure on the earth realm. Called the Great Tribulation, it features these developments:

- Sounding of the 5th, 6th and 7 Trumpet Judgements
- The two witnesses
- Satan's war against Israel
- The anti-Christ, False Prophet, the Mark, name, and number of the Beast
- Continuation of the Great Tribulation – the darkest chapter of the earth realm
- The final Bowl Judgements which devastate the earth realm
- Mystery Babylon – the apostate church of Christian Religion
- Judgement of Commercial Babylon – the spirit of profiteering
- The Marriage Supper of the Lamb
- The Second Coming of Yeshua, Jesus with the saints to defeat the armies of anti-Christ and false prophet at battle of Armageddon

Revelation Unveiled is part of the suite of 6 courses which make up Systematic Applied Kingdom Eschatology, which expound the end times and eternity from a sound biblical perspective. They are part of the courses in the Global School of Ministry and Global Advanced Mentorship Program through which critical truths that have been lost to religion are recovered. The eBooks of this and other books/courses are available at www.kingdombooksclub.com and www.gsom.ac. Video lessons are available on GSOM TV and True Kingdom Live Channels on YouTube as well as daily Facebook livestreams.

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