

## THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Week 3 – Woe, Woe.... (Rev. 8:13 – Rev. 9:1-21)

September 26, 2017

Rev. 8:13 - *And I looked, and I heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!"*

During the seven-year Tribulation there are three series of devastating, intensifying judgments: seven seals, seven trumpets, and seven bowls. When ALL seven seals are loosed – the end of the Tribulation will have come. HOW does that happen? The seventh seal includes the seven trumpets which will sound at the second half of the Tribulation (Rev. 8:1-2). The seventh trumpet includes the seven bowls that are poured out in rapid succession near the end of the Tribulation. The seals, trumpets, and bowls are not parallel with one another. They are unleashed in sequence, spanning the entire seven-year Tribulation. We see a successive unfolding of judgments.

The Tribulation will demonstrate God's righteous wrath as He judges a wicked, rebellious world and cleanses the earth. The Tribulation will prove to be a time of purging/cleansing for Israel. The Tribulation will unmask Satan!

The end of last week's lesson brought us through to Rev. 8:12 to the fourth trumpet. We saw cataclysmic/violent natural eruptions impacting a limited part of the earth. These judgments are the supernatural judgments of God. The last trumpet judgments, the fifth, sixth, and seventh, are labeled as "woes"! The Greek word for "woe" is *ouai*. It is primarily an exclamation of grief, a sudden cry due to anguish, affliction, anger, or pain. These three woes are the final judgments from God on the evil inhabitants of the earth...in order to spur them to repentance. Result of first two woes: Rev. 9:20 - *But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk.*<sup>21</sup> *And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.* I'm suggesting that the trumpet judgments occur during the second part of the Tribulation. The three woes, the fifth, sixth, and seventh trumpets will come toward the end of the seven-year Tribulation and unleash the bowl judgments which will unfold exponentially quickly at the end of the Tribulation directly before Jesus' Second Coming.

Revelation 9:1-12 - *Then the fifth angel sounded: And I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit.*<sup>2</sup> *And he opened the bottomless pit, and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace. So the sun and the air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit.*<sup>3</sup> *Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.*<sup>4</sup> *They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads.*<sup>5</sup> *And*

*they were not given authority to kill them, but to torment them for five months. Their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it strikes a man. <sup>6</sup> In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them. <sup>7</sup> The shape of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle. On their heads were crowns of something like gold, and their faces were like the faces of men. <sup>8</sup> They had hair like women's hair, and their teeth were like lions' teeth. <sup>9</sup> And they had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots with many horses running into battle. <sup>10</sup> They had tails like scorpions, and there were stings in their tails. Their power was to hurt men five months. <sup>11</sup> And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon. <sup>12</sup> One woe is past. Behold, still two more woes are coming after these things.*

In Revelation 9, hell comes to men!

Rev. 9:1 - *Then the fifth angel sounded: And I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit.* We have viewed the activity of stars in Revelation: Rev. 6:12-17; Rev. 8:12-13 – unusual disturbances in the starry heavens; Rev. 6 - the stars of heaven fall and heaven rolls up as a scroll; Rev. 8 - a great “star” falls from heaven into the waters on earth making them bitter; this “star” is possibly a meteor/asteroid/comet bursting into flames as falls through earth’s atmosphere.

Regarding the identity of the star in Rev. 9:1, there is speculation. Scholars are divided as to whether this “star” is an angel (perhaps the fifth angel that sounds the trumpet), a special messenger from God (*angel* means messenger), a fallen angel, or Satan himself. We need to note that the “fifth angel” is distinct from “a star fallen from heaven to earth.” In Rev. 8:2 we see that the angels sounding the trumpets are standing before God – in His throne room.

The star fallen from heaven to earth is the one who was given the key to the bottomless pit.

“Fallen” is in the perfect tense in the Greek which emphasizes a completed action – in the past.

Luke 10:18 – When the disciples reported their success at exorcising demons to Jesus, He said, *I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.* Jesus’ words refer to Lucifer’s fall (Isa. 14:12-15 - *How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!....*)

No explanation is offered in Rev. 9 concerning the identity of this “star;” however, aside from Jesus’ words in Luke 10:18, we read in Rev. 12 that during the middle part of the Tribulation Satan will be cast to the earth.

NOTE: At Lucifer’s fall, we know Satan was on earth – in Eden – in the wilderness tempting Jesus.... But, Satan continued to have access to God (Job 1). Satan accuses believers today. In Rev. 12 when we read that war will break out in heaven,

Michael and his angels fighting with Satan and his demons, Satan will be cast to the earth, no longer having access to heaven, no longer accusing believers before God!  
Rev. 12:7-12 - *And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, <sup>8</sup> but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. <sup>9</sup> So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. <sup>10</sup> Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. <sup>11</sup> And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. <sup>12</sup> Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.*

Re: the fallen "star" as Satan, consider: this "star" cannot be a literal star as a key was given to him. "Key" in Scripture speaks to authority (Matt. 16:19; Rev. 1:18). This passage speak to the unlocking of a preliminary prison.

Jude v.6 - *And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day. This is a preliminary prison for those fallen angels who "did not keep their proper domain" - who had sexual relations with the daughters of men on earth in Noah's day (see Gen. 6:1ff; Gen. 6:4 – giants were on the earth in those days - *when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.* Their final and permanent abode will be the lake of fire (Rev. 19:20; Rev. 20:10).*

In Rev. 9:1 we read that the key to the bottomless pit, or pit of abyss, will be given to this fallen star. The "bottomless pit" – the "shaft of the abyss" (Gr., abyssos) is a deep opening in the ground to a sealed-in well (*Analytical Lexicon of the Greek NT*, p 402). This is the abode of demons according to Luke 8:31. (The Greek word is found seven times in Revelation (9:1, 2, 11; 11:7; 17:8; 20:1, 3).

Those who believe that the "star" is Satan believe that he will be given the key to the pit of the abyss with power to release those who are confined there. Those who do not believe the "star" is Satan teach that it is unlikely that God would entrust the key of the bottomless pit to Satan or to any fallen angel – but that Jesus will give one of His angels the key since we are told in Rev. 1:18 that Jesus has the keys to death and hades. The text does not state that Jesus gave one of His angels the key...

Rev. 9:1b-2a - *To him was given the key to the bottomless pit. <sup>2</sup> And he opened the bottomless pit....* "Given" - throughout Revelation we have noted and will note that God is the One Who grants authority – even to Satan. Nothing occurs without His divine permissions.

Rev. 9:2b-4 - *and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace. So the sun and the air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit. <sup>3</sup> Then out of the smoke locusts*

came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. <sup>4</sup> They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> And they were not given authority to kill them, but to torment them for five months. Their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it strikes a man.

We have seen smoke associated with judgment, doom, and torment in Revelation. This smoke darkens the sun and the air. As we are looking at what comes forth from the bottomless pit, we must conclude that the locusts represent demons swarming out into the earth like locusts.

Six factors that support the view that these beings are demons:

- It appears that their leader is a fallen angel or demon (Rev. 9:1).
- They come from the abyss which is the place where some fallen angels or demons are consigned (Luke 8:31).
- They cannot be literal locusts because they attack people, not vegetation (Rev. 9:4). Literal locusts feast on vegetation and not people.
- These locusts only torture those who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads (Rev. 9:4).
- Demons apparently have the ability to appear in a variety of material forms, both human and animal. In Revelation 16:13 demons appear as unclean frogs.
- The description of these beings as given in Revelation 9:7-10 goes far beyond anything from this world.
- Literal locusts have no king over them. Prov. 30:27 - *The locusts have no king, yet all of them go out in ranks.* By contrast, the locusts described in Rev. 9:11 have “the angel of the abyss” as their leader. These are demonic beings in material form let forth by their king, “the angel of the abyss.”

“Revelation 9...shows us that a time will come when the invisible warfare (possibly technological warfare – cyber warfare) of today will become insignificant compared to the frontal assault of the enemy’s army during the Tribulation.... Apparently, the abyss is also the place where certain demons have been kept in prison until judgment (Luke 8:30-31; II Peter 2:4). Given the context of the end-time judgments, it appears that the opening of the abyss in Revelation 9 forecasts a short-term release of demons prior to their final condemnation in the lake of fire.” Chuck Swindoll

What will it be like when countless numbers of demons who have been chained in the abyss for thousands of years run rampant throughout the earth in visible form during the Tribulation? We cannot comprehend! ADD to this that Satan and his fallen host will be cast down from heaven to the earth. There will be a demonic crossfire with Satan and the fallen angels cast from the above on to the earth and the demons from the abyss below are dredged up to the earth!

To these demons power was given AS the scorpions of the earth have power. They were not to harm the grass of the earth or any green thing or tree – which things locusts are

known to do. Therefore, they are not locusts. These demons are to harm the men who do not have the seal of God (His name) on their foreheads.

Rev. 9:5 - *And they were not given authority to kill them, but to torment them for five months. Their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it strikes a man.* These demons will be given limited power. They will not be able to kill the men without the seal of God. Even the torment they will cause is limited as far as time is concerned: five months. The torment is likened to the torment that scorpions inflict.

Rev. 9:6 - *In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them.* During the Tribulation we are viewing what separation from God looks like.

Rev. 9:7-12 - *The shape of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle. On their heads were crowns of something like gold, and their faces were like the faces of men.<sup>8</sup> They had hair like women's hair, and their teeth were like lions' teeth.<sup>9</sup> And they had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots with many horses running into battle.<sup>10</sup> They had tails like scorpions, and there were stings in their tails. Their power was to hurt men five months.<sup>11</sup> And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon.<sup>12</sup> One woe is past. Behold, still two more woes are coming after these things.*

- *Like horses prepared for battle* – the demons will be mobile; likened to cavalry.
- *Crowns of something like gold* – not the real deal; fake; counterfeit like their leader. Could this represent victory over the unsaved world?
- *Faces like the faces of men* – Intelligence? Determination?
- *Hair like women's hair* – Perhaps long and loose – rather wild? Perhaps strikingly beautiful – speaking of attracting people to them.
- *Teeth...like lions' teeth* – ferocious, tearing, ripping apart.
- *Breastplates like breastplates of iron* – breastplates protect vital organs and sustain the life of soldiers. The breastplate is nearly impenetrable.
- *The sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots with many horses running into battle* – a battle will rage and the demons, countless in number, will come upon this earth with great speed and power.

We should note that John is using comparative terms (i.e. like). John is being shown what he has never before seen. We need to consider that we know next to nothing re: the demonic realm. Satan can be transformed into an angel of light (II Cor. 11:14).

Rev. 9:11 - *And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon.* Prov. 30:27 – locusts have no king which further proves that these are not literal locusts. These are demons in submission to a king.

Consideration: if Satan is understood as the “fallen star” to which the key is given to open the pit (presumably from the outside) and this angel named *Abaddon*

(destruction)/Apollyon (destroyer) is from the pit, there appears to be a distinction between the “fallen star” and the “angel.”

Consideration: Satan’s domain – Eph. 6:12 - *spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places*. Eph. 2:2 – *prince of the power of the air*. Satan does not appear to be associated with the abyss until he is cast into it (Rev. 20:1-3).

Consideration: This king from the bottomless pit might be an angel as the text states. It appears that it is neither Satan nor the antichrist but a high-ranking fallen angel who has served as king over the imprisoned demons for the duration of their time in the pit. There is hierarchy among the holy angels (Michael – archangel). Might there be an hierarchy among fallen angels?

Are we now more aware of the spiritual corruption – like never before – on the earth that will occur during the Tribulation?

Rev. 9:12 - *One woe is past. Behold, still two more woes are coming after these things.*  
Rev. 9:13-19 - *Then the sixth angel sounded: And I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God,<sup>14</sup> saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, “Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.”<sup>15</sup> So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind.<sup>16</sup> Now the number of the army of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them.<sup>17</sup> And thus I saw the horses in the vision: those who sat on them had breastplates of fiery red, hyacinth blue, and sulfur yellow; and the heads of the horses were like the heads of lions; and out of their mouths came fire, smoke, and brimstone.<sup>18</sup> By these three plagues a third of mankind was killed—by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which came out of their mouths.<sup>19</sup> For their power is in their mouth and in their tails; for their tails are like serpents, having heads; and with them they do harm. The sixth trumpet signals the advance of a great army numbering 200 million that will kill one-third of mankind (Rev. 9:15-16). Many have speculated that this passage describes a Chinese invasion of Israel. Why?*

- The army of 200 million in Rev. 9 has been incorrectly viewed as parallel with the kings from the east crossing the dried-up Euphrates in Rev. 16. These judgments are not to be understood as parallel but as successive – unfolding. The following passage speaks to Armageddon.

Rev. 16:12-14 - *Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared.<sup>13</sup> And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.<sup>14</sup> For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. No 200 million army is noted*

I’m suggesting that it better fits the context of these two woes when we understand the fifth trumpet as the first wave and the sixth trumpet with the massive army (in Rev. 9) as the second wave of demonic invaders who assault the earth during the Tribulation.

- The fifth trumpet judgment is clearly a demonic invasion of the earth. The fifth and sixth trumpets are to be seen together in that they are the first two of three “woes” (Rev. 8:13).
- Fallen angels lead this armada just as they do in the fifth trumpet judgment. Rev. 9:14 – four angels who have been bound will be released. The bound angels are fallen. Scripture does not speak to God’s ministering spirits/angels as being bound. Heb. 1:14 - *Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?* The rather fearsome description in Rev. 9:17-19 may better fit supernatural beings better than modern warfare.
  - *Heads of the horses like heads of lions* – fierce, terrifying, destructive. Natural horses do not breathe fire, smoke, and brimstone.
  - Consider: A demonic army of 200 million – 80% of the US population!
  - *Plagues* – recalls the plagues in Egypt. Just as the plagues in Egypt hardened Pharaoh (along with his own heart hardening him), hardcore unbelief and stubborn willful rebellion will be the result of these plagues.

Therefore, it doesn’t appear that the army of 200 million in Revelation 9:16 is a human army employing modern or futuristic weapons but a demonic cavalry invading the earth.

*at the great river Euphrates* – The River Euphrates is in the Mesopotamian Valley which was the cradle of civilization. It was where the garden of Eden was located; it was where the first sin was committed; it was where the first lie was told (Satan to Eve); it was where the first murder was committed (Cain killing Abel); and it was where the first grave was dug. It was in this region where God saw that the wickedness of man was great and, thereby, sent the universal flood. It was where men attempted to build a tower that would reach into the heavens, so that God confounded the languages. Nimrod built the tower of Babel. It was from this region where ancient Israel’s most oppressive enemies came: the Assyrians, the Babylonians, the Medes and Persians. It is here that God has kept in confinement four fallen angels who will be loosed upon the earth when the sixth trumpet is sounded. It might be that God chose to bind these angels at the place of Satan’s first apparent “victory – serving notice to the world that this “victory” will be overturned.

During the Tribulation, demons will overrun the earth, afflicting men with great pain and ultimately slaying one-third of the people on earth (Rev. 9:15, 18).

In Scripture, when have we seen demonic activity? In the Gospels, during Jesus’ earthly public ministry at His first coming.

Matt. 10:5-8 – *These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them, saying: “Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans.<sup>6</sup> But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.<sup>7</sup> And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’<sup>8</sup> Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.*

Jesus was announcing that He had come – and if Israel as a nation would accept Him as Messiah, the Kingdom of heaven/God would be given to them.

What will take place in the earthly Millennial Kingdom that God promised to Israel? Isa. 35:5-6 – healing of the deaf, the lame, and the blind. And, Jesus infers that there will be NO DEMONS! Read Isaiah 35 which describes the glory of the Millennial/Messianic Kingdom. Rev. 20 tells us that Satan will be bound when Jesus establishes His kingdom!

Rev. 20:1-3 - *Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. <sup>2</sup> He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; <sup>3</sup> and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.*

The sad conclusion of the first two woes:

Rev. 9:20-21 - *But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. <sup>21</sup> And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.*

This is a refusal to change their minds regarding Who God is and the worship of Him. YET, demons who are the instruments of man's destruction in the fifth and sixth trumpets are worshipped! Men worship the very things that destroy them.

There are over 600 warnings in Scripture about judgment and evil.

The judgments that we are reading about are just a small glimpse of eternal hell which is a place of fire and smoke (lake of fire). It is a place of pain (Luke 16). Hell is a place of crying. Hell is a place where a person cannot die. Hell is a place of separation, torment, and agony!

May God give us opportunities to share Who He is!

### QUESTIONS

What are your observations?

Any V8 moments?

Disagreements?

How does this impact your walk with the Lord?

### SUGGESTED HOMEWORK

Reread the handout with the references.

Jot down your observations and questions.

If you disagree, begin to put your view together with Biblical verses as support.

Read week 4's handout when you receive it.

## ADDENDUM A

### SALVATION IN THE OT/NT/TRIBULATION/MILLENNIAL KINGDOM

#### SALVATION:

Scripture teaches one way of salvation: by grace through faith in God's revealed message. God's revealed message always reveals Jesus. Acts 4:12 - *Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.*

#### Regarding salvation in the OT:

Habakkuk 2:4 - *the just shall live by his faith* – teaching that salvation is by faith apart from the Law!

Romans 3:20 - *Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.* Justified – being declared righteous.

Gal. 3:24 - *Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.*

Romans 4:13-15 - *For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.* <sup>14</sup> *For if those who are of the law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise made of no effect,* <sup>15</sup> *because the law brings about wrath;* Abraham could not have been saved by keeping the law as he lived over 400 years before the law was given!

Scripture clearly teaches that the way of salvation has always been through faith. In the Old Testament, it was faith in the promise that God would send a Savior. Those who lived in the time of the Old Testament looked forward to the Messiah and believed God's promise of the coming Servant of the Lord (Isaiah 53). Those who exercised such faith were saved. Today we look back on the life, death and resurrection of the Savior and are saved by faith in Jesus Christ's redemption for our sins (Romans 10:9-10).

As early as Genesis 3:15, we see the promise of a coming Savior, and throughout the Old Testament there are hundreds of promises that the Messiah would "save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21; cf. Isaiah 53:5-6). Job's faith was in the fact that he knew that his "Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth" (Job 19:25). Job knew that because his Redeemer lives, he would see God in his flesh – he would be resurrected (Job 19:26). Clearly, Old Testament saints were aware of the promised Redeemer, and they were saved by faith in that Savior, the same way people are saved today. There is no other way. The Messianic prophecy found in Psalm 118:22 tells us that Jesus is the cornerstone which the builders would reject.

The Holy Spirit regenerated those who came to faith in the OT. The Holy Spirit regenerates those who are coming to faith during the Church Age and He will regenerate those who will come to faith in the Tribulation and in the Millennial Kingdom.

#### No man ever came into the family of God apart from the work of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus, nearly three years before His death, told Nicodemus, *Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.*

<sup>6</sup> *That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.* <sup>7</sup> *Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'* <sup>8</sup> *The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.*” Jesus verified that the Spirit’s work in the OT brought men to a new birth – to regeneration. That aspect of the Spirit’s ministry did not change after Pentecost.

Being baptized into the body of Christ is a NT truth (I Cor. 12:13). The body of Christ, comprised of Jewish and Gentile believers in Jesus, is the one new man (Eph. 2:15) – the Church – a mystery in the OT.

The great change between the OT and the NT is in the changed relationship to the Spirit of the one for whom the Spirit had brought about the new birth. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit in all believers as of Pentecost has created the body of Christ (I Cor. 12:13). He produces fellowship among the members of the body of Christ, He fosters an intimate relationship with God the Father and God the Son and with Himself. The Holy Spirit since Pentecost compels acts of worship, praise, and the intimacy of abiding in Christ.

In the Tribulation those who become believers will be saved “by the blood of the Lamb” (Rev. 7:14). In Rev. 12:17 we read that Satan will have animosity toward Tribulation saints because they “have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” In Zech. 12:10 – at the end of the Tribulation - *And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.*

II Thess. 2:7 tells us that *He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way* indicating that in the Tribulation the Holy Spirit will no longer restrain evil. However, the Holy Spirit is NOT gone! The Holy Spirit will continue to enjoy an active regeneration ministry during the Tribulation as countless numbers of people will come to faith in Jesus. “There is little evidence that believers will be indwelt by the Spirit during the tribulation.... The tribulation period...seems to revert back to Old Testament conditions in several ways: and in the Old Testament period, saints were never permanently indwelt except in isolated instances, though a number of instances of the filling of the Spirit and empowering for service are found.” John F. Walvoord, *The Holy Spirit*, p. 230.

The Millennial Kingdom will be populated only by believers in Jesus at the outset. The Kingdom will be characterized by the fullness of the Holy Spirit. Joel 2:28-29, 32 - *And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.* <sup>29</sup> *And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. ...* <sup>32</sup> *And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.*

The Abrahamic Covenant will be fulfilled in the Millennial Kingdom. God had promised Abram land (boundaries of which are noted in Gen. 15:18-19), seed (multiple descendants and THE Seed [the Messiah] Gal. 3), blessing (salvation [Gen. 12:3]).

*Deut. 30:1-6 - Now it shall come to pass, when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the LORD your God drives you, <sup>2</sup> and you return to the LORD your God and obey His voice, according to all that I command you today, you and your children, with all your heart and with all your soul, <sup>3</sup> that the LORD your God will bring you back from captivity, and have compassion on you, and gather you again from all the nations where the LORD your God has scattered you. <sup>4</sup> If any of you are driven out to the farthest parts under heaven, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there He will bring you. <sup>5</sup> Then the LORD your God will bring you to the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it. He will prosper you and multiply you more than your fathers. <sup>6</sup> And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.*

*Eze. 36:24-27 - For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land. <sup>25</sup> Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. <sup>26</sup> I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup> I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.*

*Zech. 8:23 – Evangelism will continue during the Millennial Kingdom - Thus says the LORD of hosts: ‘In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, “Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you*

*Isa. 11 – Millennial conditions on a restored earth. Jesus will be the focus (Isa. 11:1-2; Jesus will be the banner for all people (Isa. 11:10).*

*Psa. 2 – the Millennial Kingdom – The Son will reign as King (Psa. 2:6-7); those who do not honor the Son will perish (Psa. 2:12).*