

Signs of the End of the Age The Beast Out of the Abyss

Studio Session 91

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In heaven, a great and wondrous sign appeared: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head, and she was crying out in labor, as one about to give birth. Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns, and its influence, or tail, drew a third of the stars of the heaven and flung them to the earth. (Inserted – actual verse—**“A great and wondrous sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth. Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. – Revelation 12:1-4a)**

In our last broadcast we looked at the signs in the heavens above relating it back to what Jesus said, and that was recorded three times in the New Testament: in **Matthew (Matthew 24)**, **Mark 13** and **Luke 21**. In all three cases Jesus said there would be “signs in the heavens above,” and indicated that the signs would foretell, or portend that the powers of the heavens had been shaken and, from **Hebrews** we know that “shaking” means the removing of created things that are in the heavens that are destined to be removed. Out of all of this we saw that the demonic forces that occupy the second heavens will be swept into the earth and the dirge of the writer of the book of **Revelation**, the writer John in **chapter 12**, is a chilling dirge: “Woe to the inhabitants of the earth because the devil has gone down to you and he is filled with fury for he knows his time is short.” (Inserted – actual verse—**“ ‘But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short.’” – Revelation 12:12b)**

In the sign that appears in the heavens, the constellation Draco, the dragon, represents of course the evil one, and his tail—or influence that drew a third of the stars of the heavens, attracted them and they were flung to the earth—is the indication, in the stars of the heavens, of the coming out of the Abyss of the demonic hordes into the earth. This of

course is something that is rarely ever spoken of and you can understand why. What self-respecting preacher wants to risk his reputation for sane and rational preaching to suggest to you that the demonic hordes that now occupy the second rank of the heavens will come into the earth and fall into the earth as it were, like falling stars? Well the fact is that the culture is prepared for this. From the scientific community to the social community, people are wanting to know whether we are the only life in the universe.

You will regularly see, from reports that come back, where various space crafts that are sent into deep space to photograph the surface of some of the planets... you watch scientists pour over the pictures and come up with suggestions that perhaps there was life, or indications of what might sustain life, on these planets. The fact is that most people, when they look up into the night sky and see the myriad of stars there, ponder the question of whether or not we are alone in the universe. And if you subscribe to a view different from what the Bible says, then it seems probable that we are not the only life in the universe and the educated mind prefers to believe that there has to be other life in the universe. Our movies and popular culture have pretty well convinced the population that there are aliens “out there.” Movies such as “Independence Day,”—a huge blockbuster and various others... since the fifties many movies have had a common theme of aliens coming. In fact a recent mega-hit by the star Tom Cruise was just such a premise as that: the remake of the famous film “War of the Worlds”.

It is almost a given now in the consciousness of people that there are aliens and we somewhat tongue-in-cheek talk about Roswell and Area 51 and so on, with varying degrees of skepticism. It is common to have movies or television programs indicating that there are other life forms. The culture, as a whole, wants to believe that there are other life forms in the universe. When these demonic spirits come out of the heavens, they will not come as spirits. They will come as physical beings who now, because they have been forced out of the heavens and God has ordained that they be on the earth, they will have bodies—not human bodies—but a sort of conglomeration of parts.

Here is the description that **Revelation 9** speaks of. It says that they are like locusts, so they come out swarming like locusts, and they have tails like scorpions and they are allowed to sting people, except those who have the mark of the Lord in their foreheads. Then he says, **“The locusts looked like horses prepared for battle.”** Those are rather large locusts you would have to admit and, **“On their heads they wore something like crowns of gold...”** We remarked that in their former estates many of these spirits—many of these former angels—occupied positions of great authority, respect and weight as they served before God. Now they seem to have the vestiges of their former state. **“On their heads they wore something like crowns of gold, and their faces resembled human faces. Their hair was like women’s hair, and their teeth were like lions’ teeth. They had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the thundering of many horses and chariots rushing into battle.”** (Inserted – **Revelation**

9:7-9)

You've heard the old saw that "this is probably figuratively speaking of helicopters." That's rubbish. This is an actual description of what the creatures look like once they are forced to take on a physical appearance inasmuch as God has ordained that they are now creatures of time and space. They do not occupy their former estates; they have been reduced in this way. And in this condition of being encased in a type of flesh—in a type of physical form—they know this: that their time is short. Because as spirit-beings they are not subject to time, but as creatures now in time and space, clothed in a kind of flesh, they are subject to time and space, and one of the things about time is: that time ends and that is why the enemy is furious, because he knows his time is short.

Now for him, the time being short doesn't mean that he surrenders. It means that he is limited in the time he has available—he is limited by time—and he is pressured to formulate new options for his survival. He, in previous times, was nearly successful in obliterating the human race. At the time, for example, of the flood, he came within one family of destroying the human race. His work is predicated upon this truth: that God cannot fellowship with evil. He knows that God started this creation with the intent that when it was done God would have sons who would arise out of this creation. His view is very simple: if you could turn all of the creation against God then God would be obligated to destroy them and start over, or destroy as many of them as he would and then start over. He came very close to achieving this end with the Flood. But for Noah and his household—a total of eight souls—he would have achieved it. God in fact started over at that point.

He came close again when Israel came up to the mountain and refused to come into the presence of God and be transformed. God said that He would wipe them all out and start over with Moses but Moses asked God for mercy, God granted him mercy and the process continued. He came within probably two tribes of destroying the Holy Seed. Do you remember? Israel was taken into Babylonian captivity... actually what was taken into Babylonian captivity of Israel were only two tribes: Judah and Benjamin. And if he had succeeded in perverting Judah, then what would have been the result? The result would have been very simple: the Messiah would not have come. No salvation for the human race because the tribe would have been perverted. But he didn't succeed.

What is in fact his plan? What does he plan to do? This is not the question of how he plans to achieve this, but what is it that he plans to do? He plans to wage war against the saints and to, in his goal, utterly destroy them, because if he can then God would have to start over. So when he finds himself short on time his intent is fueled by his fury, and his intent is to try and destroy the whole human race—or more specifically, to try to destroy what God loves. So he will wage war against the saints. The question will become—and we will address this question—how exactly does he intend to wage war against the saints

and what does he hope to achieve by this method?

That is for a later broadcast, but for now what we are noticing here is that he comes out of the Abyss and when they come down, out of the Abyss, they come as creatures of time and space... bizarre creatures, from the human view of their appearance—bizarre creatures, nevertheless creatures. They are no longer allowed the anonymity that characterizes their present state. They are not invisible as spirits anymore; they are not able to come and go between the realms anymore. They are limited by a physical form and that is how they look. They come to torment humans. The evil one comes with them out of the Abyss.

Here is a very specific reference to this concept two chapters over, in **Revelation**, the **11th chapter** (we were reading in **chapter 9**). In **Revelation 11**, this is what is said... first there is a description of the people of God and they are described in a pattern that is common to the Old Testament—they are described as “the two witnesses.” You’ll find the references to the two witnesses as early in the Scriptures as the book of **Zechariah**, where they are referred to as the “two sons of oil,” they are “the anointed one.” (Inserted – actual verse—**“Then I asked the angel, ‘What are these two olive trees on the right and the left of the lampstand?’ Again I asked him, ‘What are these two olive branches beside the two gold pipes that pour out golden oil?’ He replied, ‘Do you not know what these are?’ ‘No, my lord,’ I said. So he said, ‘These are the two who are anointed to serve the Lord of all the earth.’” – Zechariah 4:11-14**) This ties in perfectly with the anointings of king and priest: the royal priesthood, the order of Melchizedek, which all of the sons of God, all of the children of God are. So, in a sense, when he refers to the two witnesses he is referring to the twin anointings of kings of righteousness and princes of peace.

Now concerning these two witnesses he says, **verse 7 of Revelation 11**, “Now when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the Abyss,” we had just been reading in **Revelation 9** about how this Abyss is opened and a stream of the demonic flows out of the Abyss which “the beast which comes up from the Abyss will attack them”—them, the witnesses. (Inserted – actual verse—**“Now when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the Abyss will attack them, and overpower and kill them.” – Revelation 11:7**) And the witnesses here are typical of the twin anointings of king and priest. That’s why they are referred to in the same language that Zechariah refers to them, as the two sons of oil, representing the twin anointings.

Sons of oil—oil is the type in Scripture that represents anointing—and the twin anointings, if you go back to **Zechariah**, the twin anointings are very clear: typified by the lampstand and the olive trees. On the earth, in the days of Zechariah, a crown was made of silver and gold. There were two men in the earth who represented the Lord in those days. One was the prince, or the ruler named Zerubbabel, and the other was the

priest named Joshua, or Jesus. The crown normally would be given to the prince—to Zerubbabel in that case—but in this case the crown was given to Joshua, the Old Testament equivalent of Jesus, meaning that the royal priesthood was conferred upon Jesus and this was done in the midst of the restoration of the Levitical order inasmuch as they had just returned from Babylonian captivity and were setting up the kingdom again.

This anointing was given to Jesus, the Royal Priest, because a priest ordinarily doesn't wear a crown; a king ordinarily wears the crown. The crown however was put on the head of the priest, not on the head in those days of the king named Zerubbabel. He establishes—in the midst of the Levitical order—he establishes the anointing of the twin anointings: the royal (meaning kingly) priesthood, and that's the order of Melchizedek. So it is a reference here, the reference of the two sons of oil is a reference not just to two human witnesses, but the twin anointing that is able, like Elijah, to shut up the heavens so that it does not rain.

Now, the beast who comes up out of the Abyss wages war against the twin anointings. Here it is in plain language: **“Now when they have finished their testimony,” verse 7, Revelation 11, “...the beast that comes up from the Abyss will attack them, and overpower and kill them.”** Now if you are left in any doubt as to this being allegorical, it goes on to say, **verse 8, “Their bodies will lie in the street of the great city, which is figuratively called Sodom and Egypt...”** So it tells us that it is figurative. Ordinarily you interpret the Scriptures—especially the prophetic Scriptures—literally, unless they tell you it is figurative. In this case, the two witnesses are specifically spoken to be figurative and that is easy enough to see because there is no city that is known as “Sodom and Egypt,”—Sodom was in northern Israel, in the northern borders of Israel and Egypt was way down south.

They are not the same location geographically, therefore this had to have been figurative and it tells us that it is. And when it is figurative of course, then it has to be interpreted, and it goes on to say, “... Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified.” Well Jesus was not crucified in either Sodom or Egypt. He was crucified in Israel. So again, the figurative nature of the passage is established for us. What do we know then about the implications here? We know that the twin anointings is a reference to all of the children of God who walk in this office of king and priest. We know that the beast that comes out of the Abyss is Satan himself, together with all of his minions.

But we also know from the earlier reading and we know from the subsequent reading, from **chapter 9** and **chapter 12**—when the star appeared in the heavens, the constellation called Draco—it said, “This is the constellation that had seven heads and ten horns.” (Inserted – actual verse—**“Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads.” – Revelation 12:3**) Now that is an absolute key, because we find often and

frequent references to seven heads and ten horns. The first of these references is found in **Daniel 7**. **Daniel 7** describes for us a brilliant vision of Daniel—that is a brilliant vision that Daniel had in the night and let's go to it, because it begins to allow us to see the “how.”

How does Satan—coming forth upon the earth, kicked out of the heavens—how does he intend to wage war against the saints? We know “why.” He wants to destroy them because that is his opportunity to extend his time. He knows that his time is short... in order for him to extend his time he has to destroy that in which God is interested. By destroying them, God has to start over—Satan has more time. See, he doesn't think he will lose the war. He thinks that he has had some setbacks, but he certainly doesn't think he will lose. He just needs more time to formulate a better strategy. But now we see that he begins to wage war against the saints with the intent of destroying them so that he may extend his time.

The question for us is: how? What is his strategy? And the key, the clue that we have been given is, as we said earlier, in **Revelation 12**, in the reference to the falling of the demonic out of the heavens, this specific reference that says, “**Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads.**” This is the “how” he intends to engage the saints because **Daniel** will let us into a secret. The secret is that this beast is in fact a kingdom: a kingdom that will rule the whole earth. The secret is simply this: he intends—when he comes to the earth—he intends to establish a kingdom, together with kings, to entrap the whole earth. You may not have been noticing, but every system upon which human life depends on the planet today has been becoming global. Many of the preachers who have talked to us about the beast of **Daniel 7** and **Revelation 12 and 13**, they have said to us that the seven heads represent seven geographies that will be ruled over by ten kings.

The fact of the matter is that it is not about geographies, it is about systems, and I will lay that out for you in subsequent teachings in Scripture. These are about systems, systems that will control human life. One of the things that is said about the beast is that you cannot “buy or sell unless you receive the mark of the beast.” (Inserted – actual verse—“**He also forced everyone, small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on his right hand or on his forehead, so that no one could buy or sell unless he had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of his name.**” – **Revelation 13:6,7**) And the other thing that is said about the beast—this kingdom that will arise from the earth—is that you cannot wage war against it successfully. (Inserted – actual verse—“**Men worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, ‘Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?’**” – **Revelation 13:4**) The problem is: increasingly, evangelical Christians are thinking they will not have to face these things... that the rapture will come and they will be taken out. And so these things will come on the earth,

yes, (or they will come in some form) but it is no concern of ours. I want to tell you unequivocally: We are going to be here. So it is important that we know about these things.

The Scriptures are abundantly clear and unmistakably plain that the saints are going to be here and we will have to understand the provisions of God for us. You know life would be incredibly easy if Jesus had not said, and the gospels had not recorded his teachings that, “the powers of the heavens will be shaken and there will be signs of it in the sun, moon and stars,” and that we would be “handed up, or delivered up, to all the nations to be persecuted for his name’s sake.” (Inserted – actual verse—“ **‘But in those days, following that distress, “ ‘the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.’” – Mark 13:24,25)** (Inserted – actual verse—“ **‘Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me.’” – Matthew 24:9)** He put it this way: He said, “And you will be hated by all the nations because of me.” (Inserted – actual verse—“**All men will hate you because of me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved.’” – Matthew 10:22)**

What the Lord is revealing to us in this hour—in this hour when on the earth there are earthquakes at the same time that there are pestilences, at the same time that there is famine, at the same time that the roaring of the seas is taking place, at the same time that the spirit of antichrist is arising: birth pangs on a pregnant woman—what is happening on the earth is that things are in serious turmoil. We are going to have to understand what this turmoil is indicating and learn the things that God will give us to survive during this time. It doesn’t get better. These are but the beginnings of sorrows, but troubles are ahead for us that are worse than the world has ever seen. That’s not good news in the strict sense of the term, but it is where we are heading and you had better find out about it. So continue to study with me. I’m Sam Soleyn and we will talk about this some more.

Scripture References:

Revelation 12:1-4a

Revelation 12:12b

Revelation 9:7-9

Zechariah 4:11-14

Revelation 11:7

Revelation 12:3

Revelation 13:4,6,7

Mark 13:24,25

Matthew 24:9

Matthew 10:22

