

At the command of the voice that came from the golden altar, the sixth angel sounded. When that trumpet was sounded, there was a release of the four angels who were bound at the great river Euphrates.¹ This one single statement is very, very insightful to us, because it adds a dimension of understanding that is not typically and normally understood. We have come to understand that in the realm of the demonic there is a certain order to these demonic spirits.

For example, when Daniel was in Babylon, the time came for Israel to be released from the captivity in Babylon—the seventy-year period of that captivity that Daniel himself spoke about. When it was time to release Israel, the angel Gabriel was sent to tell Daniel that the time had come for this release. In fact, Daniel was already agreeing with heaven because he was praying at that very time when Gabriel was sent to him. Now he did not pray before that time for the release of Israel because he understood, by his own language and in his own words, he said, “I understood, by what had been spoken through the mouth of the prophet Jeremiah, that the captivity of Israel would last for seventy years.”² Daniel, being cognizant of the prophetic Scriptures, did not see a point in starting to pray for the release of Israel back to the land of Israel prior to the completion of the seventy years of captivity.

When we approach prophetic Scriptures, we must understand that it is not all about conjecture and supposition. There are hard, underlying realities that anchor the things that are said, that we cannot see, in a prevailing reality that we can see. It keeps us from becoming entirely speculative and conjectural. I mentioned in the last broadcast that one of the reasons that God causes things to become circular in the prophetic references is so that we understand and observe the patterns. Now I am introducing a second principle of prophetic Scripture, and that is that God will, with

All Scripture quotations are from the NKJV Bible, unless otherwise noted.

¹ See Revelation 9:13: “Then the sixth angel sounded his trumpet, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar before God saying to the sixth angel with the trumpet, ‘Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.’ ”

² See Daniel 9:2-3: “in the first year of his reign I, Daniel, understood by the books the number of the years *specified* by the word of the LORD through Jeremiah the prophet, that He would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes.” See also Jeremiah 29:10.

specificity, identify reliable earmarks concerning certain prophetic Scripture. So there is a reality that is knowable, and on that basis the Holy Spirit then will tether the prophetic reference to that knowable reality so that, as it moves out on the line of that tether into the future, you are not simply spinning in the wind or unmoored in reality. Let me explain what I mean, and I will give you an example in just a moment.

In the Book of Daniel, it is specifically said that there was the prince of Persia who had opposed the angel Gabriel when he was coming to bring the word to Daniel, in response to Daniel’s timely prayer after Israel had been in Babylonian captivity for seventy years. All of those are very concrete things. The prophet Jeremiah, whom Daniel quoted, said, “It will be for seventy years.”³ They understood that it was God’s judgment upon a disobedient people for having failed to observe the Sabbath year for 490 years. That would mean there were seventy Sabbath years, where the land should have been idle, and they refused to obey that portion of the Law of Moses to which they were bound. God simply took them into captivity and let the land remain idle for seventy years.⁴ Daniel knew that because Jeremiah had told him that—or it was written in Jeremiah—so he did not begin to pray until after the seventy years were complete. But the day the seventy years were complete, that is when Daniel went to pray. So the timely prayer of Daniel resulted in an immediate visitation from God. While Daniel was still praying, is the language that Gabriel used to tell Daniel that he was dispatched directly in response to Daniel’s prayers.⁵

Following that, the angel Gabriel was making his way as the messenger of God. We talked about this earlier: he is one of the angels who stands before God to do His bidding—He told Zacharias that of himself, as you may recall.⁶ Anyway, as Daniel was praying, Gabriel came to bring this answer, but the demonic spirit assigned to dominate the nation of Persia opposed him, and that

³ See Jeremiah 29:10: “For thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place.” See also Jeremiah 25:11-12.

⁴ See 2 Chronicles 36:20-21: “And those who escaped from the sword he carried away to Babylon, where they became servants to him and his sons until the rule of the kingdom of Persia, to fulfill the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her Sabbaths. As long as she lay desolate she kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy years.”

⁵ See Daniel 9:20-23

⁶ See Luke 1:19: “And the angel answered and said to him, ‘I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings.’ ”

spirit was called the prince of Persia. So, yes, there were human rulers over Babylon, and then Persia—there was Darius, the first of the Medes and the Persians; and then Cyrus; and then there would be Xerxes later; and then there would be Darius II, and so on—there were earthly rulers, but there were demonic spirits assigned to these nations to continue the systemic deception of the nations, and that through kings.

Gabriel told Daniel, “While you were praying, I was dispatched. And since I was on a mission from God, the prince of Persia intended to oppose me.” Because the prince of Persia is an enemy of God. All demonic spirits, whether they are high princes in authority or low-level operatives, they are the opponents of God, and therefore, by extension, our opponents. They are enemies to us and enemies to Him. So Gabriel was sent, and the prince of Persia detained him. Then he said, “No one came to my aid except Michael, the great prince.” Michael came to his aid, overthrew the prince of Persia, and the messenger came through. Then he said, “And as I return, the prince of Greece will come” (cf. Daniel 10:10-21). Apparently, the overthrowing of the prince of Persia was a permanent thing, to be replaced by the prince of Greece. Meaning, that on the earth, where human rulers are being deposed and replaced, in the same way, in the heavens, in the invisible realm, demonic spirits are opposed and demonic spirits are replaced, and replaced by other demonic princes.

This is an interesting wrinkle that we had not seen before, and that is, whereas we know that certain spirits are bound in Tartarus, even presently, and will be released out of Tartarus at the command of God to be participants in the judgments upon mankind that will come, all of these spirits that are bound are not necessarily bound in Tartarus. Remember, we read that when the demons in the demoniac in the country of Gadara begged Jesus not to send them into the abyss. So, we know that there are certain demonic spirits in the abyss, bound in chains in darkness. We see them being released out of this bottomless pit, this Tartarus, which is less about the depth of the pit and more about the completeness of their detainment—the helplessness and hopelessness of their detainment. They are bound, meaning that they are thoroughly restrained. And there were demonic spirits ruling in territories, and these would be what are considered, according to Ephesians, the 6th chapter, the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms, in the heavenly places.

So there are the highest heavens, which are the heavens of God. There is the second heavens, which is the realm of the demonic, from which invisible place they control the activities of humans in territories on the earth, where humans, by various means—whether by ancestral agreements, or by false religion, or by deceptions of various sorts—these demonic spirits have been given access to the control of these nations: prince of Persia, prince of Greece. So when the angels sinned and were cast out,

- Some were put in the second heavens;⁷
- Some were put in chains in darkness in the place called Tartarus;⁸
- Some were allowed to move around on the earth. Satan acknowledged that he had been walking up and down in the earth and going to and fro in it, when God asked him for an account concerning his activities in the matter regarding Job.⁹
- We see that certain of these spirits that were on the earth were afraid that they might be sent into the abyss. They asked Jesus not to send them into the abyss. That was a real fear that they had. And they understood that it was possible that Jesus could send them to the abyss. They begged for permission to go into the pigs.¹⁰

But here is yet another category of the demonic: demons who have been bound in certain locations, awaiting for certain time frames. Let's look at where it is described in Revelation 9:14-15. These four angels (four demonic spirits) had been prepared—this is not accidental. That they were bound by the great river Euphrates—that is intentional. But they were not only bound, they were prepared for an hour, in a day, in a month, in a year. That is the construction in the Greek: that they had been prepared for, it says, the hour and the day and month and year. But in the construction, it means there was an hour, in a day, in a month, in a particular year—precise. That goes with the notion of being prepared.

⁷ See Ephesians 6:12: “For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.”

⁸ See 2 Peter 2:4: “For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast *them* down to hell and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;”

⁹ See Job 1:7: “And the LORD said to Satan, ‘From where do you come?’ So Satan answered the LORD and said, ‘From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it.’ ”

¹⁰ See Matthew 8:28-34; Mark 5:1-20; Luke 8:26-39

Now it is God who had established these restraints. I am distressed at the level of power and authority we assign to Satan and to the demonic. Listen, it is only our ignorance of their ways that gives them the advantage that comes with invisibility. Yes, they do have the advantage of being invisible; but no, we are still the sons. That is why the Scriptures say that the people of God perish because they are ignorant.¹¹ They do not know what is true. Look, if you go to church every Sunday to learn how to live your best life now, and that is the garbage you are fed week after week after week, then of course you do not want to have to talk about the demonic, because you do not know anything about them. And they have tremendous abilities because they are invisible. But if you know about them, you can look narrowly on them and be entirely unintimidated by the fact that they have the power of deception as their principal cloak and weapon. We have the power of the truth, including knowing who we are vis-à-vis who they are. We are the sons. They want what we have, and they were never designated as the heirs of God.

But one of the deceptions of the enemy is to have you focus on and exalt as your priority, your present human circumstances, and get God to agree with you that your imperatives need to be His, and your imperatives being what you can eat, what you can drink, wherewithal you should be clothed, where you live, your health, your wealth, and the rest of it. That is why these doctrines are so deceptive, because they all focus on the immediacy of your human circumstances, and you are terrified by the fact that the demonic lives in and amongst us, but you do not know anything about them. From their position of invisibility, they can threaten you, they can torment you, they can give you the sense of insecurity, they can instill fear in you, and the rest of it. Now that is the behavior of children. These doctrines that focus exclusively on your human circumstances appeal to the appetites of children, and they are in fact the doctrines of demons. They aid in your subjugation. They aid in your torment. They aid in keeping fear preeminent in you.

We have just watched how fearful the evangelical church has come to be. It is just being disclosed how fearful they are, to the point of delusionment, to the point where the evangelical church and

¹¹ See Hosea 4:6a: “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.” See also Isaiah 5:13: “Therefore my people have gone into captivity, Because *they have* no knowledge; Their honorable men *are* famished, And their multitude dried up with thirst.”

its leaders, by and large, with very few exceptions, have become delusional: which is to live in an alternative reality because of the traumatic nature of fear, inasmuch as you do not know the truth.

Listen, this is a day of reckoning. It is also a day of separation. It is a time when, if you are just a child, if you have been cultured to the doctrines of children, you do not know how to live in a terrifying world. But I am telling you, and the primary purpose of these messages in unveiling the Book of Revelation is to remind you of what is true. But this, frankly, is a message of wisdom among the mature. And if you are not mature, if you try to eat this food, you will regurgitate it because your stomach has not been trained to handle strong meat; you are carnal, and you are immature.

Look, these demonic spirits, if you just read that there were these four angels who were bound by the great river Euphrates for a certain hour and day and month and year, and they will be released to kill a third of mankind, if that is all you know, then you do not want to know that. You will hide your head in the sand, and it will appeal to you when someone says to you, “All that has been fulfilled in the days of the Roman Empire.” Some of the commentaries are actually humorous because they talk about—and I am sure in the day, they seemed very credible—but they talk about the rise of Islam and the Turkish forces of the Ottoman Empire. This is quaintly archaic at this point, and wholly irrelevant, but there was a day when that carried the day. The fact is, God intends that we be mature so we can handle these mysteries, to the end that they encourage us rather than frighten us.

So, there are certain fallen angels (the demonic) that are not in the second heavens; they are not in chains in Tartarus; they are not walking around on the earth tormenting mankind, including and especially unbelievers; there are certain others that are bound. Their assignment is to certain locations in time, and they are bound in those places. God bound them and prepared them for a certain hour, within a certain day, within a certain month, within a certain year. They are precisely prepared so that, when it is time for a third of mankind to be killed—this is not a third of the sons of God; this is a third of mankind to be killed—they are ready to do what they were prepared to do.

Now why would they be by the great river Euphrates? This is Babylon. Babylon is synonymous with religious deception, with falsehoods. Egypt was synonymous with economic deception. The primary deception of Babylon is a god in your own image. In the visions of Nebuchadnezzar, the pictures are of idols that are shaped in the form of men: head of gold, chest and arms of silver, belly and thighs of brass, legs of iron and clay. This is a picture of a man: head, chest, arms, legs, thighs—a picture of a man. So Babylon was primarily the exaltation of the primacy of man. And in fact, in the Book of Ezekiel, when God speaks of the impending taking away into Babylon, it is precisely because Israel had neglected the ways of God, and the princes of Israel, and the priests, and the people all consented to a deception that had to do with money and with the glory of man. And so, God gave them a belly full of it in Babylon.

The notables in Babylon, men like Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, were those who held out for an understanding of God in spite of the threats and even the executions of threats against the Most High God. Daniel would pray with his window opened toward Jerusalem three times a day. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to eat the king's meals and, in fact, adhered to the dietary laws of Israel and in the law. The central thematic structure of Babylonian captivity was that God put Israel into a country where the gods that they worshiped were made in the images of men and in the images of creation.

So, the four angels bound at the great river Euphrates and prepared are uniquely able to take full and complete advantage of a human population that has become narcissistic, that has become self-worshipping. All you need to do is go back and read what Paul wrote to Timothy in the 3rd chapter of 2 Timothy, when he said, “Perilous times will come in the last days. Men will be lovers of pleasure, lovers of themselves, haters of the good, proud, boastful, arrogant, refusing to submit to authority,” and the rest of it (see verses 1-8). All of which speaks of the exaltation of man as the primary image of God.

Today, we have theology that would trap God in the demands of man. That is why I call these doctrines, the doctrines of demons. Look, you ought always to seek first the Kingdom of God and

His righteousness, and the stuff will be added to you.¹² But God is never going to be your surety, to provide for you what you think you should have, irrespective of who God is or the ways of God. This is creating a god in your own image. Mankind is going to be trapped in that, and that is what these four angels are about. They have the spirit of Babylon to them, which is the religious worship of nature, and man at the center of it. We are living in a time where the human affection is for this kind of narcissistic religion.

Look, most popular preachers today use the Scripture as motivational speech. They are just motivational speakers who appeal to the soul, who supply you with supposed Kingdom nuggets—which are just trash. They are gold painted rocks that have to do with, if you think a certain way, then you will get the goods. This is just an updated version of René Descartes’ humanistic philosophy, where he says, “Cogito, ergo sum” — “I think, therefore I am.” They are simply taking it to the next level. Whatever I think is who I am; so if you think positive thoughts, then a positive outcome will come. This is trash. This is narcissistic rubbish. It exalts only the primacy of man, and it deceptively, in the worst form of deception, convinces the most diligent adherers that what is true is whatever nonsense you think up—whatever lustful things you think up, whatever unbiblical, unspiritual notions you come up with—then God is obligated to give you those things, and that is your best life now. It is the rootstock of present-day evangelical religion, and there is nobody who is popular today who has not drunk from that tainted cup. And most of the people today, most of the wannabe preachers, that is what they want to be. They want to find something that the people love and will follow them because they are telling them what they want to hear. But the Scriptures say, “What shall they do in the end thereof?”¹³

These four angels will kill a third of mankind. We have not gotten to how they are going to kill them yet. We will do that in the next broadcast.

I am Sam Soleyn. Join me as we go forward. See you then.

¹² See Matthew 6:33: “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”

¹³ See Jeremiah 5:31KJV: “The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?”