

Continuing and finishing the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Book of Revelation, it says,

*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. And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts (Revelation 9:20-21 NKJV).*

Now look at this. Power was given to the army of two hundred million, under the rule of these four angels who were bound and specifically prepared and waiting for that hour, in that day, in that month, in that year; and then they were released to kill a third of mankind. So, what was the measure of their authority? What were they permitted to do? They were released to kill a third of mankind. They were not released to kill all mankind. They would have if they were not bound in that way.

You know, we read these things, and we do not pick up the cover and just look under it for a moment. Even in these fierce doings, with the demons who have no love for mankind, who have the means to kill mankind and have the motive to kill mankind, they are not allowed to do it indiscriminately and unchecked. So they are given a sphere of rule, which includes a third of mankind. We saw that earlier in the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter, as it regarded tormenting men for five months. Why not six months or four months or ninety days? It is what we observed in the Book of Job: that the activities of the demonic are strictly regulated by permission granted by God. In this case, God is distributing His wrath through the saints.

I understand that when I say that, I can hear somebody say, “Oh no, no. It cannot be so, because we love people. There is no way we would be in charge of issuing these decrees that consume a third of the world’s population. Our gospel is a gospel of love, so that cannot be right.” And the same bunch would have to admit, God cannot be doing that to anybody, because, you know, God only loves. God can only pick you up and coddle you. Then He needs to go back and repent for having destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah; or more than that, He needs to repent for destroying the

entire world with a flood. These witless folk are commenting on a God they neither know nor understand. And the shocking truth is, these are the leading theologians today. These are the religious voices. These are the same people whose every response to crises in the world is to quote some passage of Scripture that usually ends up saying, “Oh, we have got to love everybody,” or “We have got to give money to help people do this, or that, or the other thing.” They have no comprehension of how God uses adversity, how God directs us by the Holy Spirit. They are completely untethered to either the mind of God or His ways.

This God, who gave His only begotten Son, is the same God who destroyed the entire world, save eight people.<sup>1</sup> Why? Because there is an aspect to God that religion, actually even Christian religion, never actually allows, and that is that man has no intrinsic value. I understand, I am not only treading on toes, I am crushing toes because these things are the truth. Forget about the philosophical rubbish that has made it into the church and masquerades as truth. Man has no intrinsic value. Man is no more than assembled protoplasm subject to death and destruction, the same as everything else in creation, with one exception: it is the exception that I call, the original intent.

Of all creation, the only thing that has value to God, and the only thing for which He established creation, is to produce, in the person of Christ, a man in the image and likeness of God. That is all creation is about. It is not about being Jew or Gentile. It is not about being slave or free. It is not about your social condition. None of it has any value except what God reaps out of all of it. And of that that He reaps, Christ is the sickle with whom He reaps the crop. He is the measuring rod to determine who has value in creation as judged from an eternal point of view, which is time out of mind. Before there was nothing of the order of creation, there was God, and God determined creation should be to produce one end, one purpose: that that He could inhabit to the display of His glorious nature.

The ungodly, according to the 1<sup>st</sup> Psalm, are not like the godly.

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

<sup>1</sup> See 1 Peter 3:20: “who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while *the* ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.”

*Blessed is the man  
Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly [unrighteous],  
Nor stands in the path of sinners,  
Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;  
But his delight is in the law of the Lord,  
And in His law he meditates day and night.  
He shall be like a tree  
Planted by the rivers of water,  
That brings forth its fruit in its season,  
Whose leaf also shall not wither;  
And whatever he does shall prosper. [Because God is with him. His purpose is bound up  
in eternal realities.]*

*The ungodly are not so,  
But are like the chaff which the wind drives away (Psalm 1:1-4, comments added in  
brackets).*

Isn't it silly that preachers today choreograph their messages so that the ungodly might approve of them? That is actually why there is so much garbage—vile, contemptible theology that people believe, that people try to live, try to practice—the earmarks of which all have to do with what you can control. I am showing you the end thereof, in Scripture, at a time when God has separated out and sealed that man in the image and likeness of God—sealed with the name of the Father on their foreheads, which is to say, acknowledges that they are of a divine nature. The rest is like the chaff which the wind drives away. The rest is to be purged, and He is releasing the demonic to do it. This is the first major installment of the demonic doing so.

Now, here is what it says after the third had been killed.

*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. And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts (Revelation 9:20-21).*

What does that tell you about the third who had been killed? How were they different? Do you suppose that they were sinners in a more egregious sense than the two thirds who were not killed? No. They were the same bunch. It was just a third that was killed. This is the condition of mankind upon whom judgment has come. It reminds me of something from the Book of Luke, when Jesus asked certain ones, “Do you suppose that those whom Pilate killed and mingled their blood with their sacrifices, do you suppose they were sinners above all else? I tell you, no, but except you repent, you shall all likewise perish? Or the eighteen upon whom the tower in Siloam fell and slew them, do you suppose they were sinners above all else? No. I tell you, unless you repent, you shall all likewise perish” (cf. Luke 13:1-5). It has been in the Book. It has been in the Book all along. But a people who only have ears to hear what they want to hear and eyes to see what they want to see, to them the truth of Scripture remains hidden.<sup>2</sup> And it is unnecessary that it remains hidden. Seeing they see not, and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.<sup>3</sup> So, no, out of the whole population, of which one third was killed, their general condition was that they did not repent of the works of their hands.

That is what I said about the fiery red. It devours the works of your hands: wood, hay, and stubble.<sup>4</sup> You know, most of what people are building today, anything you are building today that is built apart from the intention to honor God with it, and the only thing that you can build that can fulfill that intention to honor God with it is what the Holy Spirit leads you to build. Everything else is trash. I was struck some time ago. I was in Laguna Beach, California, and I saw prominent names on buildings as I drove through town: businesses, recreational halls, medical facilities, etc. I was reminded of the fact that when people leverage themselves up by their bootstraps, doing whatever they do to gain wealth and to become notorious by comparison to other people, to gain notoriety, at the end of that practice, often rapacious practice, that results in gaining wealth, they attempt to rehabilitate their image by putting their names on a university building (and here I am not speaking

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<sup>2</sup> See 2 Corinthians 4:3 KJV: “But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:”

<sup>3</sup> See Matthew 13:13: “Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.”

<sup>4</sup> See 1 Corinthians 3:12-13: “Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one’s work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one’s work, of what sort it is.”

of Laguna Beach), their names on a medical or hospital facility, courthouse, and the like. The works of your hands, unless they are what the Holy Spirit did through you, will be burned up.

I am not saying not to be diligent. I am not saying not to work. I am not saying not to work hard. I am not speaking against wealth. I am speaking against a mindset that says your value is in the works of your hands, or worshiping idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood. Back in the days of antiquity, people actually fashioned idols out of gold, and silver, brass, stone, and wood. They do not so much do that today. And these are not references to sculptural pieces that you may have in your house. It has to do with what you could do. What image of yourself, what expression of what is in your heart do you wish to cast, whether in gold, silver, brass, stone, or wood? And in the hope that they can survive you. These things cannot walk. They cannot see. They are not alive. Eventually, you know, they will tear down all these buildings to make new ones, if time lasts, and they will not put the names of the former honorees on the new buildings. An English poet once said, “The paths of glory lead but to the grave.”<sup>5</sup>

But then there are other things here: they did not repent also of worshiping demons. Now, it is not really likely that someone says, “Here is a demon that I know, and it is my demon. I am going to worship it.” It is typically not what you do. You worship doctrines of demons. That is what Paul says: “In the last days, people will not endure sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will heap to themselves teachers for whatever they lust for. They will turn away from the truth, and they will turn to fables.”<sup>6</sup> Paul to Timothy said, “They will give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons,” and he gave an example of a doctrine of demons: commanding to abstain from meats which God has created to be received with thanksgiving for those who believe and know the truth; the other example of a doctrine of demons is forbidding to marry.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> See “Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard” by Thomas Gray

<sup>6</sup> See 2 Timothy 4:3-4

<sup>7</sup> See 1 Timothy 4:1-3: “Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.”

Now, it is fine if you choose not to marry. But the doctrine of celibacy as a condition of the priesthood or as a condition of religious service—as I said, fine if you choose to be celibate; there is nothing wrong with that—but a doctrine of celibacy as a condition of serving God is one of two examples cited by Paul in his letter to Timothy as a doctrine of demons, one that is practiced by people who “speak lies in hypocrisy, having their consciences seared as with a hot iron.” There is quite a resurgence today and fascination with the Old Testament dietary laws. It is fine to do that. It does not mean anything to God. It does not make you holy or unholy. That is for a carnal-minded person, a person whose mind is uninformed by the Spirit, whose entire approach to God is based upon a legalistic point of view—a belief that there is a kind of righteousness in your activities. Because, if God says not to do these things, and you do not do them, then you have obeyed God. And if God says to do these things, and you have done them, then God owes you. No. These were shadows of things to come, types and shadows.

If that is all you have got when the reality has come, you are way behind the curve. And, no less than the apostle Paul, a Hebrew of the Hebrews, listed these—forbidding to marry, and abstaining from meats which God has prepared to be received with thanksgiving for those who believe and know the truth—these are the two things listed as doctrines of demons. Now, if you are going to forbid people to marry on the basis of religious service, and if you are going to command people to abstain from meats which God has prepared to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth, then at least have the honesty to acknowledge that you neither believe nor know the truth. It is that simple. So, no, in worshiping demons, it is not typical that most people are apt to create something of stone or wood, a representation of the demonic like that, and worship it. But I am telling you that the attempt to worship God through practices essentially reflective of doctrines of demons, that is widespread today.

When you read these things, pull them apart and see what you see. It is amazing. It is not so much that the world is going to come to such desperate straits, finally; it is that that which is already at work is going to become revealed—ripe and full and revealed. When it is that way, God will release the demonic out of the pit to slay a third of mankind. Largely, by working within that which they already accept as true, He is simply showing them how absolutely false and devoid of the

truth these things have been. And He is doing that in order to potentially save a remnant of people who are yet amongst the people who have not made up their minds yet.

But when you have reached the point where a population does not repent of worshipping demons, murders, sorceries, sexual immoralities, or thefts, that population is like Sodom and Gomorrah. That population is like what it was in the days of Noah. And we know what God does in those times and in those circumstances. Listen to this. In case you are still sort of teetering on the edge of whether or not you will even consider or entertain that these things are true, let me read to you the condition of mankind in the last days. Again, the sons of God have been sealed. Whether they are on the earth or in heaven, they have been sealed. Like Israel in Goshen, they are behind the door that has the blood of the lamb on the sides and on the lintel. We are looking at how a remnant may yet be saved out of mankind when the rest of mankind is being judged. Again, I point out to you, there still needs to be a great white throne judgment, because that is the judgment of the souls of men. This is judgment that falls upon the bodies of men. Finally, 2 Timothy, chapter 3.

*But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come [Here is the condition of men as described in the last days and in perilous times.]: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, [and here is a big one, as if those were not big] having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! (2 Timothy 3:1-5, comments added in brackets).*

That is the condition of people in the last days, and that is the condition that is subject to this sort of annihilation. Because, as I said to you early on, there is no intrinsic value to the human being. Apart from God, apart from being in Christ, there is nothing worth saving. No, it is not true. Humanity is not intrinsically valuable. If you measure it from the standpoint of God, the only thing God is looking forward to is reaping a crop out of humanity that is conformed to the image of Christ. Now, if you want to use a different standard, which is human standards, then of course everybody has value. Everybody is important. Everybody is equally important. And whatever you do, if you can justify it by a community, then go for it. That is your standard. That is human standards. That is not an eternal standard.

And a news flash, do you know everybody is going to die? Once you die, human standards do not apply; only a divine standard does. But a further news flash, humans will not get to be this way for as long as they want to be. There is a time coming when God Himself, the Creator—you know, that One that humankind has largely forgotten and thinks is an extension of their own egos or is their alter-ego—that God will assert Himself again in creation to bring about divine reckoning upon the persons, the flesh of mankind.

So, we are not going to persuade many people to live by a divine standard, the one presented to us in the person of Christ and continuing to be revealed to us by the Holy Spirit. We are not actually going to persuade a lot of people that that is the standard that is worthwhile. It is much easier to persuade people that their own standards are the standards of God. Whatever they think God is or whatever they think God ought to be, that is the standard, and especially if you could promote and propagate that standard and get people to agree with you. That is the day we are living in: brutal people, delusional people, people who have no desire for the truth, people who talk about alternative facts, who are happy to live in an alternative universe. Or, people who insist that the facts support their point of view, so they will only tell you a portion of the facts, and they partially live in the reality that the rest of mankind lives in.

All this stuff is heading straight for a time of reckoning because the Almighty God who created us and placed us in this creation is not on holiday. He is still working through to the one objective: a man in the image and likeness of God. When that is complete, we will see just how valuable the chaff, that the wind drives away, actually is to Him. Sober days. Sober warnings. But even as I say these things, I know that, in this environment, everybody has got an opinion that is as valuable to him or to her as the truth. In fact, it is the truth to them. The Truth is a person and remains the standard of divine rectitude. One day, and perhaps not long from now, there is inevitably a reckoning. The ones who are wise will be prepared for that time, while all the rest of mankind slumbers and sleeps.

I am Sam Soleyn. We will continue our study of the Book of Revelation. Thank you. Bye-bye.