**Revelation 7-9** - December 25th

Today’s Summary: Today is hard. Hard to truly imagine what it will be like to be alive on earth during this time of living hell. But I love that in the middle of the absolute terror and destruction, Jesus keeps giving John visions on earth and then on what is going on in heaven – why? To keep him and us and all people who will seek the truth in the worst of times remembering who is still on the throne and WHO is the ONE who is not only allowing, but causing all of this to happen. The Day of God’s Wrath as foretold for 1000s of years is on the earth. I love that we get a visual of what are prayers accomplish before the throne. Pray right now for all of those you love who are not yet saved and used Christmas to be bold and preach the truth about that baby in a manger and why He had to come.

144,000 Sealed

**7**After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth to prevent any wind from blowing on the land or on the sea or on any tree. **2**Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: **3**“Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.” **4**Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.

**5**From the tribe of **Judah** *(Praise)*12,000 were sealed,

from the tribe of **Reuben** *(the Son)*12,000,

from the tribe of **Gad** *(whose company)*12,000,

**6**from the tribe of **Asher** *(brings happiness)*12,000,

from the tribe of **Naphtali** *(after wrestling)*12,000,

from the tribe of **Manasseh** *(For God has made me forget my toil)* 12,000,

**7**from the tribe of **Simeon** *(after being obedient)*12,000,

from the tribe of **Levi** *(and joined with Him)*12,000,

from the tribe of **Issachar** *(I will get my reward)*12,000,

**8**from the tribe of **Zebulun** *(and dwell with Him)*12,000,

from the tribe of **Joseph** *(and He will add)*12,000,

from the tribe of **Benjamin** *(me to the Son of His right hand)*12,000.

The Great Multitude in White Robes

**9**After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. *(this reminds us of triumphal entry into Jerusalem when the Jews called Him King of the Jews, which ended the 69th week of Daniel 9)*  **10**And they cried out in a loud voice:

“Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.”

**11**All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, **12**saying:

“Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!”

**13**Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes - who are they, and where did they come from?” **14**I answered, “Sir, you know.”

And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

**15Therefore, “they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. 6‘Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them,’ nor any scorching heat. 17For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; ‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’ ‘And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’”**

The Seventh Seal and the Golden Censer

**8**When he opened the **seventh seal**, **there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.** *(signifying the break between the first 6 months (half a year) when the Church is here for the first 6 seals to warn and complete the number of Gentiles – Romans 11 – but now a break in heaven to welcome the Bride and rejoice before the angels and the Lamb go back to war!!!)*

**2**And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.

**3**Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, **with the prayers of all God’s people**, on the golden altar in front of the throne. **4**The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of God’s people, went up before God from the angel’s hand. **5**Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake.

The Trumpets

**6**Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to sound them.

**7The first angel sounded his trumpet**, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down on the earth. **A third of the earth was burned up**, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.

**8The second angel sounded his trumpet**, and something like a huge mountain, all ablaze, was thrown into the sea. **A third of the sea turned into blood, 9a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.**

**10The third angel sounded his trumpet**, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water - **11**the name of the star is Wormwood. **A third of the waters turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter.**

**12The fourth angel sounded his trumpet**, and a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them turned dark. A third of the day was without light, and also a third of the night.

**13**As I watched, I heard an eagle that was flying in midair call out in a loud voice: “Woe! Woe! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the trumpet blasts about to be sounded by the other three angels!”

**9 The fifth angel sounded his trumpet**, and I saw a star that had fallen from the sky to the earth. The star was given the key to the shaft of the Abyss. **2**When he opened the Abyss, smoke rose from it like the smoke from a gigantic furnace. The sun and sky were darkened by the smoke from the Abyss. **3**And out of the smoke locusts came down on the earth and were given power like that of scorpions of the earth. **4**They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any plant or tree, but only those people who did not have the seal of God on their foreheads. **5**They were not allowed to kill them but only to torture them for five months. And the agony they suffered was like that of the sting of a scorpion when it strikes. **6**During those days people will seek death but will not find it; they will long to die, but death will elude them.

**7**The locusts looked like horses prepared for battle. On their heads they wore something like crowns of gold, and their faces resembled human faces. **8**Their hair was like women’s hair, and their teeth were like lions’ teeth. **9**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. **10**They had tails with stingers, like scorpions, and in their tails they had power to torment people for five months. **11**They had as king over them the angel of the Abyss, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon and in Greek is Apollyon (that is, Destroyer).

**12The first woe is past; two other woes are yet to come.**

**13The sixth angel sounded his trumpet**, and I heard a voice coming from the four horns of the golden altar that is before God. **14**It said to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, “Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.” **15**And the four angels who had been kept ready for this very hour and day and month and year were released to kill a third of mankind. **16**The number of the mounted troops was twice ten thousand times ten thousand *(200,000,000)*. I heard their number.

**17**The horses and riders I saw in my vision looked like this: Their breastplates were fiery red, dark blue, and yellow as sulfur. The heads of the horses resembled the heads of lions, and out of their mouths came fire, smoke and sulfur. **18A third of mankind was killed by the three plagues of fire, smoke and sulfur that came out of their mouths.** **19**The power of the horses was in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails were like snakes, having heads with which they inflict injury.

**20The rest of mankind who were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the work of their hands; they did not stop worshiping demons, and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone and wood - idols that cannot see or hear or walk. 21Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts.**