

What Will You Do With Jesus?

Jesus is standing in Pilate's hall
Friendless, forsaken, betrayed by all:
Hearken! What meaneth the sudden call!
What will you do with Jesus?

Jesus is standing on trial still
You can be false to Him if you will,
You can be faithful through good or ill:
What will you do with Jesus?

Will you evade Him as Pilate tried?
Or will you choose Him, whatever betide?
Vainly you struggle from Him to hide:
What will you do with Jesus?

Will you, like Peter, your Lord deny?
Or will you scorn from His foes to fly,
Daring for Jesus to live or die?
What will you do with Jesus?

"Jesus, I give Thee my heart today!
Jesus, I'll follow Thee all the way,
Gladly obeying Thee!" will you say,
"This will I do with Jesus!"

What will you do with Jesus?
Neutral you cannot be;
Some day your heart will be asking,
"What will He do with me?"

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

"The Army of Two Hundred Million"
Revelation 9:13-21

Introduction

1. The time of the Tribulation is the setting for this chapter. Seals, trumpets, and vials are the three series of judgments of this period (chaps. 6, 8, 9, 11, 15, 16).

2. The 6th trumpet is the content of this section. It is related to the second great woe of the period (11:13). It concerns terrible judgment.

3. The details of the trumpet judgment are clear. Study them and you will see God's just judgment against sin:

1. ORIGINATION of the army vv. 13-15.

a. Ultimately

The 6th trumpet was sounded and a voice was heard from the horns of the golden altar before God. This is not the brazen altar (5:9), but the golden (8:3-5). This is the place of prayer; now it has become a place of judgment. The horns of the altar suggest power in relation to what is done at the altar. The thrice repeated definite article identifies this altar without question.

b. Mediately

The voice from the altar horns commands (aorist imperative form) the trumpet angel to loose four other angels. These are apparently evil angels given their freedom by a good angel under the order of God. The verb "bound" is a perfect tense verb confirming the sovereign intervention of God here. The four evil angels come from the Euphrates where false religion started (Gen. 4:3; 10:9, 10; 11:4) and where it will all come to an end (Rev. 17, 18).

c. Immediately

The four evil angels were loosed (aorist). They are marked as having been prepared (aorist passive) for this exact time. The definite article before "hour" notes

that these evil creatures were held in bondage until this precise hour of usefulness to the hand of God.

2. INTENTION of the army v. 15.

The loosing of the angels from the Euphrates was designed for one purpose: death! It is revealed here that 1/3 of the population would be decimated by the judgment described here. Twice this specific figure is given (here, v. 18). Already 1/4 of the population has been killed (6: 8). Hence, along with the other judgments mentioned, the world population has now probably been reduced by 1/2. Obviously this is no mean judgment. It is truly the Great Tribulation. Man's day is now getting its judgment from God. Some have sought to localize this judgment in the Middle East, but this is a strain upon the truth of the Tribulation Period which has significance for the entire world.

3. DESCRIPTION of the army vv. 16-19.

a. Its number

The figure provided is 200 million. This is an enormous army and some have identified it with the hordes of people to come from the East at the time of the Battle of Armageddon (16:12). This seems unnecessary in the light of the obvious superhuman description of the creatures here. This superhuman figure is probably related to an army of demons loosed by God for this particular judgment time.

b. Its distinctions

1) Horses

a) Heads. The army was made up of horses. This fantastic number is incredible, but Scriptural. Although there is temptation to link this with modern implements of warfare, this must not be done. The horses heads were like those of a lion.

b) Tails. These were like serpents, and these had heads which were designed to hurt. The tail did not kill, but it tormented.

2) Riders The riders of the horses are indicated to have a breastplate or coat of mail. The color was

gleaming red like fire, jacinth (dark blue) and brimstone (yellow). This was a bright array in a day of judgment.

4. DESOLATION of the army vv. 17, 18.

The text declares that out of the mouths of the horses came forth fire, smoke, and brimstone. It is by these three plagues that the third part of men is killed (vv. 15, 18). The term "plague" refers to the effect of this sixth trumpet judgment. How horrible. There is nothing in the tribulation period to warrant the church being there. No wonder the church is gone and fundamentalists believe in the pretribulation rapture of the church!

Conclusion What with the terrible destruction of life under this trumpet judgment, one would want to believe that the survivors would run to get right with God. Not so! Read the awful results of this judgment for those who remain. There is total lack of repentance (Greek: no change of mind). Rather than a repentant heart and mind, the Scripture notes that men will persist in their wickedness. The extent of their lack of repentance is listed as they carry on in: 1. Demon worship. 2. Idol worship. These are described as being of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood. The sad fact is that none of these idols see, hear, nor walk! 3. Evil practices: murder, sorceries (enchantment with drugs; same word from which we get the modern term pharmacy), fornication, thefts. This catalogue of sins can be likened to the truth of Romans 1. Judgment from God has not changed the heart of man. The love of Calvary did not change the unrepentant and here neither has judgment. What remains? An eternal hell!