

## Revelation Lesson 102

### The Sixth Trumpet & 2<sup>nd</sup> Woe – Part I: The Form of the Demonic Arm

Revelation 9:17 And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses *were* as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone.

In our last lesson we covered in detail the Four Angels that were bound and saw the Army that had in its ranks 200 Million demons. Tonight we see the form of this army, John describes them and boy are they hideous.

**And thus I saw** – Previously John said that he heard the number of the horsemen and now we again observe that John is seeing this unfold.

**the horses in the vision**, - He states here that he is seeing the horses – now note - “in the vision.” While many are quick to point and say “see? John is experiencing a vision!” and they stretch this vision throughout the entire book of Revelation. When I have looked up the word vision in Revelation, this here is the ONLY occurrence of the word in this book. Not to say there are not others, for example in Revelation 12 John sees “a wonder” which is another vision, but this vision is clearly seen by him.

Think of what we watch many times, we watch the TV, which is Television abbreviated. So there it is that we watch visions too. Thus we must remember that John is outside of time and has traveled through time to arrive in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Heaven. Then God shows him, allows him to experience – in many cases – the events of the future. We recall from last week's study, however that the angels loosed here will be loosed on a certain day, month, year and time whenever God decrees that they should be loosed.

That being the case we see that God is allowing John to observe the situation from Heaven and he is looking into the future in regards to the events – in this case. But remember John is experiencing this so we can surmise he is IN the future and is experiencing these events but some of them are shown to John via a vision.

**and them that sat on them**, - When you get to areas like this in Revelation some people go haywire with their allegorical and symbolic interpretations. Some say these horses are tanks, others claim they are helicopters. One commentator I reviewed said that the four angels are comets and then they will break up in Earth's atmosphere into 200 million fragments. Others speculate that this 200 million man army will be composed of some nation in the Orient as yet unidentifiable due to the colours on the breastplates.

McGee relates: “In his book on Revelation, William R. Newell makes this very timely observation, “Believe, and you scarcely need any comment.” The problem with men who come to Revelation and say that it is difficult to understand and impossible to interpret is that they do not believe it. If you simply believe it and read it, it is very clear.”

**having breastplates** – Remember that a breastplate covers the torso. Here is implied a military-grade breastplate – thus it is made to protect vital organs. These breastplates are described by 3 colours: fire, jacinth and brimstone.

**of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone:** - I want to share with you what Barnes stated in his commentary, for this is indicative of the “common” interpretation: “This [breastplate] was said to be composed of “fire, and jacinth, and brimstone”; that is, the part of the body usually encased in the coat of mail had these three colors. The word “fire” here simply denotes red. It was burnished and bright, and seemed to be a blaze of fire. The word “jacinth” - means “hyacinthine.” The color denoted is that of the hyacinth - a flower of a deep purple or reddish blue. Then it refers to a gem of the same color, nearly related to the zircon of the mineralogists, and the color mentioned here is deep purple or

reddish blue. The word rendered “brimstone” means properly “sulphurous,” that is, made of sulphur, and means here simply yellow. The meaning of the whole then is, that these horsemen appeared to be clad in a special kind of armor - armor that shone like fire, mingled with blue and yellow. ”

So the commentators say here that “fire” actually is referring to the colour red. Okay, if that be so why didn't John just say “of red, blue and yellow?” What we're seeing here I think is another case of the book = a scroll when John plainly knows the difference between “book” and “scroll” as he uses both words in Revelation. Again we see here that the word “red” was used in Revelation 6:4 and will be seen again in Revelation 12:3. Again note that John is seeing this, so when he says the breastplate was “of fire” that means that he is SEING the fire or what looks like it.

The reason many try to explain away these descriptive words is that they are looking for a human army and as such no human could wear a breastplate composed of fire. Hence this again shows us the demonic origin of these horsemen.

Now if we take our literal approach of the composition of the breastplate – we would be looking at a breastplate composed of Jacinth which is not only a colour but properly defined in the law of first mention, it is a rock. Furthermore we note that the first occurrence of “brimstone” is in Genesis 19:24 when God rained upon Sodom and Gomorrah “fire and brimstone.” (SHOW SULFUR BALL FROM SODOM AND GOMORRAH) Thus this Jacinth also has within it brimstone and this jacinth/brimstone breastplate is on fire. That means that these horsemen will be a terrible sight and again the fire and brimstone point in symbolism to GOD'S JUDGMENT.

**and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions;** - Notice again the descriptive “were as” again this is the language of comparison and we know of no horse out there that has what appears to be the head of a lion, thus we have to interpret these horses as demonic in form. Again, noting the locusts before, these have shape-shifted into the forms of horses (which are war-like) and have the heads of lions (which denotes their power's origin – the roaring lion Satan – seeking whom he may devour). These lion-heads also hearken back to the “lion's teeth” of the locusts. Both demonic armies receive their orders from and are loyal to Satan.

**and out of their mouths issued** - Now these horses with the lions heads are going to breath out three plagues upon the people.

**fire and smoke and brimstone.** - These three plagues mentioned here are literal plagues. The fire is literal, the smoke is literal, and the brimstone is literal. The same thing took place at the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. I believe this world during the Great Tribulation period will actually be worse than Sodom and Gomorrah. People talk about homosexuality attaining respectability in our day. Well, it was the accepted life-style in Sodom and Gomorrah, but homosexuals went out of business— God put them out of business. If you think God is going to permit mankind to go into eternity an unnatural creature, you are wrong.