

TWBS



THE SIXTH TRUMPET
(THE 2ND WOE)

TOPICAL TEXT:
And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, **Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.**

Revelation 9:13-14

TRAJECTORY

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STUDY TEXT:

Revelation 9:13-21 (KJV)

Revelation 9:13 And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God,

¹⁴ Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.

¹⁵ And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men.

¹⁶ And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.

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.

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¹⁸ By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. 1

¹⁹ For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt.

²⁰ And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:

²¹ Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

APPLICATION POINT:

As is made transparently clear in the present account (as was in the case of Pharaoh, king of Egypt during Moses' era) the soul hardening condition of prevailing sin is not dislodged or changed merely because of the external experiences of cataclysmic events in the external world, regardless of whether they are natural or supernatural in origin. Only the inner work of the Spirit of God (divine grace) in the heart transform that naturally entrenched condition of our fallen state.

THE SIXTH TRUMPET: *(THE 2ND WOE)*

FOCUS TEXT: And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. **Revelation 9:13-14 (KJV)**

As observed, Apostle John reported that the sounding of the Sixth Trumpet (the 2nd Woe) initiated another breath-taking, spectacular series of supernatural events that will unleash a subsequent, increased level of devastating activity into the sphere of the ungodly world, during the evil reign of the Antichrist.

Recall that in **verse 8:13**, the angelic decree cited: **“And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!”**

Hence, we observe in this subsequent account the actuality of that supernatural reality. And given that we undoubtedly struggle to frame some mental portrait in our attempt to envision and understand the profound impact of the events related to the sounding of the Fifth Trumpet, it is only obvious that the level of challenge doubles when we attempt to contemplate the foreboding supernatural events cited in the current text.

Nevertheless, let us not forget and become fearful, but rather continue to thoroughly examine and take the time to seriously examine the details of the present prophetic truths, as

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we look to the Spirit of God to aid us in our efforts to comprehend that which the Living Lord has open made available for us to know.

Again, recall in **Revelation 1:3**, the Word of God joyfully pronounced: “**Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.**”

From the Horns of Heaven’s Holy Altar

The sounding of the Sixth Trumpet promptly directs our focus upward to identify the origin of “the voice” heard by Apostle John that issued the heaven-sourced orders that initiated this next series of astonishing events.

That source was identified thus: “**from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God,**”

And since we have no point of reference to able to truly explain the “how” of this matter, we are resigned to accept by faith what we have been shown.

Now clearly many have attempted to do otherwise, even to the point of providing an alternative figurative or allegorical interpretation of the event.

Yet we are still generally directed by the guideline principal truth of **Deuteronomy 29:29** that stated: “**The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.**”

The Release of the Bound Euphrates Angels

The mysterious voice originating from the heavenly altar directs the Sixth Angel (“which had the trumpet”) to perform a subsequent activity in relation to his origin duty; namely to

“loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.”

Here again, we find ourselves trending on uncertain territory in relation to our understanding of these purely “cross-over elements” that pertain to the natural and the spiritual realms.

Hence, none of us came truly claim superior expertise in this purely area of “undiscovered study,” thus attempting to be dogmatic in our explanation only demonstrates our folly and prideful vanity.

Rather prudently, we must allow the Spirit of the Lord to guide our understanding as we contemplate the ramifications of such “high matters.”

Now per the details cited in the prophetic record, regarding these angelic beings, we observe several highlighted features:

- 1) their present physical state: **“bound”**
- 2) their present physical location: **“in the great river Euphrates”**
- 3) the number of them: **“four angels”**
- 4) their term of service: **“prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year**
- 5) their appointed mission: **“for to slay the third part of men”**
- 6) the compliment of their support military force: **“And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand” (2 million)**
- 7) an incomprehensible description of their army’s physical features: **“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.”**
- 8) a clear graphic depiction of their means of rendering harm and devastation: **“out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone.”**

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- 9) the sure result of their mission: **“by these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire.”**
- 10) the distinct subsequent reaction of those who survive this horrible period of destruction: **“and the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk.”**

As is made transparently clear in the present account (as was in the case of Pharaoh, king of Egypt during Moses' era) the soul hardening condition of prevailing sin is not dislodged or changed merely because of the external experiences of cataclysmic events in the external world, regardless of whether they are natural or supernatural in origin.

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