

THE OPENING OF THE SIXTH SEAL

PART I OF III

Cecil duCille

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“Loose the four angels that are bound in the great river Euphrates”
(Revelation 9:14)

We will begin by first describing what is meant by the seals. We will start with Revelation, Chapter 5, reading from Verses 1-10.

“And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.”

First of all, let us identify what is meant here when it says, “the book.”

It is the Word of God. It is the Bible. It is no other book. It is no other writing. It is absolutely the Word of God; and when we speak of the “Word of God,” we are speaking of what God meant when He said what He said, and when He got His men to write it and to put it in a book which we call the Bible. There are many renditions of the Bible today where men have disfigured the Word and they say that it is still the Word of God, but if the Word of God is disfigured, it is not the Word of God. The Word of God is what God said and what He meant when He said it. We all know that something is lost when the Word of God (or any word) is translated into other languages. What we need then is the revelation of the Spirit of God to tell us what God meant when He said what He said; and when we have this, this is what we call “the Word of God.”

In other words, the Word of God must be “revealed.” It is revealed by the Holy Spirit in the heart of the individual, so that if one man says that this is what God meant when He said so and so, then to be able to say “Yes” or “No,” the other man must have the Spirit of God. If the Holy Spirit witnesses with your spirit that this is God’s Word, then it is so, for the Spirit of God is one Spirit and cannot say two different and opposing things.

Now, the next thing we should identify is the person spoken of in these verses, of whom it says,

“...hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.”

His name is Jesus Christ (“Yeshua HaMesshiach,” the Messiah of the Old Testament), the second person of the Godhead. He is the only one who could open the seals and read the book. Now, what do we mean by the “seals”? He said that the book was written with “seven seals,” and that from the first page to the back page, it was written in seven parts. We are talking about the Bible, and these are the seven mysteries of God that are revealed in the Word of God. For those who have not heard them before, let me name them just as quickly as I can.

The first mystery is Salvation: How a man can be saved. We have many different religions and even in the Christian religion, we have many different thoughts as to how someone can be saved. One group says you can be saved by studying the Word of God. Another group says you can be saved by baptism. Another group says you can be saved by just believing what your teachers tell you, or that once you belong to this certain group you are a saved person. However, the Word of God states very completely and categorically just what Salvation is. Salvation begins with a sinner repenting of his sins. The Scriptures say that this Gospel (of “repentance and remission of sins”) shall be preached to all the world until the end comes (Refs. Matthew 24:14, Luke 24:47). So we find that the sinner must repent of his sins and he must receive by the Spirit of God a touch of the blood of Jesus, where a

newness comes into his soul. The Spirit of Life from God comes into his soul and he is saved. That is what we mean when we say someone is “saved.” It is where the individual by the blood (Life) of Jesus Christ has been translated from being a sinner to being a saint.

Now, you ask then, “What is this blood of Jesus Christ? Where is it? How can I find it?” The blood of Jesus Christ is right here, and the blood of Jesus Christ is the “Life” of Almighty God that has been poured out in the earth, and is available for all those who can reach up by faith. Since we cannot see it, feel it, or hear it, we cannot get our senses to be alerted as to where the blood (the Life) of Jesus Christ is. We must accept it by faith, that the Word of God says that if we call upon the Lord we shall be saved.

In John, Chapter 3, and Verses 14 and 15, it says,

“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

So then, it is believing on Jesus Christ that gives us life.

Now, other groups say, “Oh, you can believe on this other person,” or “You can believe in this other way.” There is no other way of salvation but by a person believing on Jesus and being quickened by the Spirit of God; and we call it “salvation” (which actually can more accurately be termed as being the beginning of one’s salvation). The Word of God is dogmatic concerning this and leaves no space for conjecture,

“This (Jesus Christ) is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

The second mystery is baptism (sanctification and consecration).

The third mystery is walking in union with Jesus Christ. That is, “the candlestick walk,” wherein we and God work together to bring forth life in the world.

The fourth mystery is feasting upon Christ.

The fifth mystery is the offering of the soul.

The sixth mystery is the overshadowing of God, the completeness of His overshadowing; where man crosses through the veil and comes into the Spirit, where he will no more go in and out, but will totally, continuously, dwell in

the Spirit. Revelation 3:12 says,

“Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.”

Finally, the seventh mystery is the “man child”-a (corporate) man coming forth in the image of God, where we are filled with the fullness of Christ and we have the fullness of the Godhead bodily incorporated in us. Jesus prayed for us in John 17, and in Verses 22-23, He said,

“And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.”

Those, in a nutshell, are the seven seals. We cannot explain them here, but there are other books and things that we can give for the explanation. We will be talking in this message specifically about the “sixth seal,” and so we want to get right to it. I am just explaining here what the “seal” really is.

We see then that the Gospel has been sealed in seven seals, and there is a timetable of God where these seals are being opened. Let us turn to Revelation, Chapter 6. This sixth chapter is a Summary that runs you from the opening of the first seal right down to the opening of the sixth seal, and it shows you the very end of things. We will begin with Verses 1-4,

“And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, and I heard one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow: and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer. And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.”

Let us talk about these first two seals. The first seal is the coming of Jesus Christ. The second seal is an angel of death being let loose on the earth to begin a work of war, where men will fight men; and this thing has been going on for a very long time. We see that immediately after Jesus Christ opened the first seal all these wars started. War started and it never ceased; but there is one peculiar thing that happened in there. It is that there has been a growth and a development in man’s ability and power to destroy, and this power to destroy comes to its fullness when we see that this scripture says, “...and there was given unto him a great (“megas” in the Greek) sword.” Verse 5, “And when

he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse....”

Now, we see here that with the opening of the third seal, there is a release of the “black horse” and thus the coming of “darkness” upon the earth. Isaiah 60:2 says,

“...darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people.” We notice that the darkness in people has been growing, and growing, and growing-and remember now, there are four horses spoken of here in Revelation 6, and all four of these horses are now riding on the earth. That is, the first horse started to ride, and as he rode the second horse began to ride also alongside; and then the third horse ran alongside them both, so that we have three horses riding now. Or, in other words, there are these three great spirits riding in the earth, and we come now to the fourth rider who we will read about in the 7th Verse of Revelation 6. However, first let us look further into what it said about this third horse, the “black horse.” Verses 5-6, “And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.”

We see that the chief thing that was going on here was the selling and the buying. There was commerce. We have really developed in great commerce across the whole world today, and commerce has become the god of some people. It says, “...a measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny,” and, you know, in the Bible wheat and barley refer sometimes to human beings, and we note that it says in Revelation 18, in speaking of the Babylon of this age, that they sell “the souls of men.” He said here, however, “...see that thou hurt not the oil and the wine.” The “oil” here speaks of the Holy Spirit, and the “wine” is the Word of God. “See to it, that you do not hurt these...” because those who hurt the oil and the wine will come under the judgment of Almighty God.

Verses 7 and 8, “And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.” I want you to take a note of that word “beasts” here, because we are going to have to deal with it sometime in the future. We see here that power was given to “Death” and “Hell.” So, we are talking about the death of sinners; for if it is “Death,” with “Hell” following after, it means that there will be a lot of people dying who will be going to hell.

Remember, war is still working, and this beast has joined the others,

and so it said,

“And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.”

This is not speaking of natural beasts, but it is speaking of humans who have become beasts. We will explain that.

Verses 9-11, “And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.”

Now, what this means is that there is a last company of people who will be killed by the killers of the world-by those who kill Christians. They will be killed. The devil is going to try his last, best effort to kill the sons of God in the end of time, but it will be actually a trap set for Satan. God said that there are some that God is preparing for the devil to kill, for the devil is going to make the same mistake he made at Calvary when he killed Jesus and it destroyed him completely. The blood of Jesus was shed, and because of this, I and millions more like myself, we received life, and life went out even to those who were in the grave. It says (in Matthew 27:51-53) that after Jesus’ resurrection, that many (because of the life that went forth from the cross of Jesus Christ) rose from the dead and walked through the streets of Jerusalem and showed themselves. That is our resurrection also, for we also will be resurrected; and we are actually “indestructible” because of the blood of Jesus Christ. We are “alive for evermore.” Praise God!

Now, let us continue reading, beginning with Verse 12,

“And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood. And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be

able to stand?"

Please notice that the things that are said here will take us right down to the end of Chapter 6, to where the judgment of God will come forth. We have the "sixth seal" and then we have the "sixth trumpet." The opening of the seal is the opening of God's Word. The trumpet is the going forth (the trumpeting or preaching) of the Word. It is the giving forth of the power of God for humanity to understand, so that that part of God's Word will no longer be a mystery. Remember, we are talking about seven mysteries, and so all the mysteries coming down to the sixth mystery have been revealed, and the only mystery yet to be revealed is the seventh mystery; and when that is revealed it will be peace on earth. We shall have overcome.

It is most important that we understand these few lines here before I go into the real meat of what I am talking about today. He said here that the sixth seal was opened and there was "a great earthquake." In the Scriptures, "earthquake" can well be understood as "earth (humanity) revolting." It is like what Jesus said in Luke 21:25, when He was describing the time of the end,

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring."

In Verse 11 there in Luke, Jesus said,

"And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven."

We are talking about the "earth" quaking. There are different meanings that represent the word "earth" in Scripture. It does not necessarily mean that we will be seeing more earthquakes today than we have ever seen before, although it can be proven that earthquakes across the earth in recent times have been increasing. So then, it is saying that every "earth" (number one earth; number two earth; number three earth) will be quaking. In other words, "worldliness" is an earthiness, and man (humanity) is spoken of in Scripture as being the "highest" earth (Ref. Proverbs 8:26); and then also, the earth (the terra firma out there) will be quaking.

So, going back to what is said in Verse 12 of Revelation 6, when the sixth seal was opened,

"...and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair,"

We understand that Jesus Christ is the "sun" and He has given forth light, but if you notice, darkness has gotten an opportunity here, reaching back to the time of the opening of the third seal when the "black horse" was

released. So we can see that there is a development and each of these spirits are maximizing. Now, the first spirit (the “white horse”) is also maximizing. That is, people are growing in God, and coming towards the point where they will be like Jesus Christ. At the same time, we find also that with the “red horse” men are maximizing in their ability to fight, to war, to destroy humanity; and I feel that we have reached to a point in the ability of man to destroy, where (except for the mercy of God) we will destroy the whole earth and make this a dead planet. You know, one day I questioned the Lord about this and He spoke back to me that man had come to the place where they could destroy this planet. I was shocked and I said, “Lord, could You show me that in the Scriptures?” He turned me to Matthew 24 and Verses 21-22, which read,

“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened.”

So God says here that just before man destroys the world, He is going to drop the curtain and shorten the time, and stop them anyhow. This is a promise of God that is clear in my heart and soul, and I want you to get it too, so that there will be no fear that God will not intervene. It is getting bad and it will get worse, but just praise God for He has promised that He is going to stop humanity from destroying His world.

Looking again at the 12th Verse in Revelation 6, where it says concerning the opening of the sixth seal,

“...and the moon became as blood.”

This is saying that that part of the church that is called the “moon” is going to be destroyed. In other words, Christians will be slain.

Then in Verse 13, he said,

“And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth....”

Let me get back to that part about the “moon” because there is somebody who will not understand it. Let me get a scripture that would explain what the scriptures mean here about the “moon.”

In Revelation, Chapter 11, and Verses 1-2, we read,

“And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple (called the “outer court”) leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the

holy city (meaning the church) shall they tread under foot forty and two months.”

This shows that there is one part of the church that will be trampled, and this is the “moon” church. To further explain this for those who have not read or heard it from me before, the revelation of the church being the moon is in Revelation 12, Verses 1-2,

“And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.”

Verse 5, “And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron...”

We are talking about a church (“a woman clothed with the sun”) pregnant with the church (“a man child”), and standing on top of the church (“the moon”).

We find here, twelve “stars” in the woman’s crown, and stars mean, “sons of God.” Here “the moon” means the church, but just a certain part of the church. The “woman” here means a part of the church; and the “man child” that she was pregnant with, means another part of the church. Therefore, there are three parts of the church represented here.

I will give you another example. It is found in Genesis 37. I will not read it, but you can look it up for yourself. It says there that Joseph had a dream. He dreamt that the “sun,” the “moon,” and the eleven “stars” fell down and bowed before him. He told the dream, and Jacob his father said, “What? Are you saying that I and your mother and your brothers are going to bow down before you?” So, it was brought to pass. Of course, his mother had already died, but they bowed down before him. The woman was the “moon,” the father was represented by the “sun,” and the “stars” were Joseph’s eleven brothers.

In Verses 3 and 4, it says,

“And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth...”

Where it speaks of the “stars of heaven” falling upon the “earth,” it could not be natural, because if just one star were to fall to earth, then the whole earth would be destroyed. So, we are talking about spiritual language here, and God is saying that “stars” are falling; and these stars represent sons

of God who will fall from their place of light and power. We have seen many of our men falling, and falling, and falling; and I think that, according to the Word of God, that there are others yet to fall.

Now, we have given you the summary here. I am not teaching the whole thing, but I am just talking about the sixth seal. I have run through the summary, and now I am going to give you some details. Chapter 6 of Revelation is a summary, and Chapters 7, 8 and 9 are the details. Let us get into the details about this. We see then, Chapter 9 and Verse 13 coming at us again. It says,

“And the sixth angel sounded....”

We are talking about the “trumpets” now. After the mystery is revealed (the seals are opened), then the message must be broadcast (the trumpets sounded). The Word was a mystery to mankind, but Jesus Christ (the rider on the “white horse” in Revelation 6) broke the seals. Through history, as each seal is broken, there has been a progression and a growth. The disciples understood the Gospel of Salvation first, and then they came to Pentecost and sanctification when they received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Then there was a growth in humanity and we came up to “walking with Jesus”-working with Him, pleasing God; then “feasting on Christ,” the “bread of life.” Then we came to the “golden altar,” the fifth seal, and the fifth mystery, wherein God asks man to offer up his soul unto God. Then, after this fifth mystery, we are now in a position to “enter in through the veil.” However, we can enter only if the offering is perfect. Before a man can enter into the holy of holies, he must first offer up his soul to God. His soul must come into a place of total sanctification by the blood of Jesus Christ before he can go through that veil.

Now, going through the veil means that man is about to lose all that is of man. In other words, Jesus Christ will be his head, completely, absolutely, and totally. Going through the veil, man is now going in and under “the shadow of the Almighty,” so that even as God protects the angels under His shadow, so God will protect the man who has crossed the veil under His shadow. God will deliver him from every evil thing, from every evil work.

The angels on the mercy seat (which is located on the top of the ark of covenant) were made of pure beaten gold, and they overshadowed the mercy seat. They were just small images of a cubit in size (something like 18 inches). Their wings came together in the middle, and they completely covered the mercy seat. This was all according to the very specific pattern that God gave for the building of Moses’ tabernacle. However, later, when Solomon built the temple, God instructed Solomon to make much larger images of these cherubim (angels). No longer were there to be just small sized ones to cover those who kneel at the mercy seat, but now these larger ones were placed there, whose size was enough to cover the whole congregation. So then, these

two angels stood forward, and the one wing of one angel would touch one wall, and his other wing would touch the one wing of the second angel; and the second angel's second wing would touch the other wall, so that there was a total overshadowing. Then, when God appeared in the tabernacle as the Shekinah Glory, the glory would shed the shadow of the angels over the entire congregation. This then, is definitely a symbol showing the magnitude of God's great overshadowing under grace and how it differed from the small covering that was under the law.

Now, from the account in the Bible of how God led Israel in the wilderness, we know what kind of covering that God gave under the law, and let me just touch a few things here. Under the law, the children of Israel left Egypt, and God led them into the wilderness, and if anyone has the slightest experience of what a desert is, then they would know that the people could not have lasted even a day in the wilderness under 120-130 degree heat. Traveling with women, children, and cattle, it would have been impossible for them to survive more than a number of hours in that kind of a heat. They would all be dehydrated and die of sunstroke. God, however, sent a covering over them. There was a canopy of cloud that followed them and covered them as they went. So, although they were walking in the sun, they were under the shade; and at night, He would give them light. The same cloud formed a light, and the cloud would stop at the place that they should camp because God Himself chose their camp.

God covered them and He fed them in the wilderness. When they were thirsty, He gave them water, and the Scriptures say that Christ was that "Rock" that followed them (Ref. 1 Corinthians 10:4). So, therefore, they were taken care of and they called God by the name of "El Shaddai" (the big-breasted Mother, the great Provider, Who feeds Her children and takes care of them).

Let us read of God's promise of this overshadowing. We read from Psalm 91, and Verse 1,

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."

These words mean that the man who dwells in the "holy of holies" (spiritually speaking), he will remain protected under the shadow of Almighty God.

Verses 2-10, "I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers (the wings of the angels), and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor

for the arrow that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.”

This, definitely, is the promise of God to those who abide, to those who dwell, to those who go in; to those who give up their self life unto God and become embedded into God and into Christ, and become one with Christ.

These people will be protected.

Of course, it is by faith that we enter in, and that we remain in the holy of holies.

Beginning at Verse 10, it says,

“There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.”

Now, this is a promise of God, and this promise is through all the ages. We can look at the Red Sea crossing. These brethren followed Moses to the Red Sea. They could see the sea before them, there were mountains on both sides, and Pharaoh's host was coming behind. They had nowhere to go, and we read in Exodus 14:13 what God spoke then through Moses, “And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever.”

That means they were going to hell, and God was leading His people into a heavenly realm, for He said, “...ye shall see them again no more for ever.”

The sea obeyed the voice of God. Through Moses, the sea opened. There was a highway, and they ran on the highway across; and when Pharaoh and his men tried to come after them, angels of God took off their chariot wheels and they perished in the waters. I want you to know that we are not helpless.

We are not helpless. Angels of God took off his chariot wheels, and drowned them all in the flood of the Red Sea; and the children of Israel came out on the other side victorious-not losing one soul! God Almighty is trying to tell us that the God of Moses, the God who opened the Red Sea, that He is the same God that we serve today, and He wants us to come, "... under the shadow of the Almighty." For this is what the sixth seal means.

Now, under the sixth seal we have the "sixth trumpet," and when the sixth trumpet begins to sound, God says that He will loose the devil. For there are devils who have been bound, who are saying, "We have a right to be loosed because You have given Your people all this power." Jesus says to us in Matthew 28:18-20,

"All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

It so happens that there are some parts of the world that have been taken by satanic forces that have hindered the preaching of the Gospel in their country. They kill every Christian they catch who has preached the Gospel.

If we come to the point where we can believe the Word of God, we will walk over them. We will walk in Saudi Arabia. We will walk in all the places where they are destroying and killing Christians, and we will preach the Gospel and no man will be able to stop us.

God Almighty is doing a marvelous thing in our time. He is inviting us to come, and to lay yourself on the "altar of incense." Let it burn. Let all the essence of your father and your mother and your ancestors burn out of you. Put your soul on the altar. Your mind must no longer continue to be functioning as just the human mind. It must function under God. He said,

"Put your will under the will of God. Put your emotions under the will of God."

Now, that is a very hard one to do. I know that it is very difficult for people to get their emotions under God, but I am telling you that by fasting and prayer we will be able to overcome our own emotions; and we will be able to be reviled and revile not again, because the Word of God is so strong in us that we will not feel the pressure of those who curse us, but we will turn to God and rejoice in His spirit and in His goodness.

Let us look at Revelation 9 and Verses 13-14.

“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.”

I would like to touch on something here before we continue. It says that the voice spoke from the “golden altar,” which is the angel of the “fifth seal.” The fifth seal was calling to those in the sixth seal, and saying “Loose the four angels....” Why? It is because God would not loose angels upon the people unless His people were prepared and ready to handle the situation. In other words, when you offer your soul to God (the fifth seal), you have become ready, because you are now under the protection of God and you are now abiding under the shadow of the Almighty. This is what the sixth seal means: that you are now under the shadow of the angelic beings on the mercy seat; that God has at last brought man into the holy of holies; and this is why God could say “Loose the four angels....” It is because His people would be under His protection at that time.

Now, we have some very important things to say right here, because if the sixth seal is opened and the sixth trumpet is sounding, and we find that we are not yet under the protection of God, it is a case where we should then be running to get under that protection. Then, also, we need to know how to do that.

Now, the gist of this message lies within the 14th and the 15th verses, which we just read. Let us read it again, beginning with Verse 13,

“And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God.”

Verses 14-15, “Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. 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.”

These verses tell us that the sixth angel sounded his trumpet and that the four angels were loosed that were bound in the river Euphrates. Now, we have to understand what this is saying before we can go any further. First of all, this sixth angel represents the “sixth seal,” which speaks of man being “...under the shadow of the Almighty.” It speaks of man being in a safe place. This seal then, tells us that we have crossed the point to where our humanity no longer reigns. It is like in Ezekiel 47. We are at the fourth measurement of a “thousand,” as described in the fifth verse of this chapter in Ezekiel. The angel (“the man that had the line in his hand”) led Ezekiel to a point where he

was into waters where he could no longer walk. His feet were not touching firm ground any more. He was taken away by the flood, and it is a place where a man has to swim. We are talking here, therefore, about an area of time when angels of destruction will be loosed upon the earth, and where man's only safety is for him to be under the shadow of the Almighty God. His only hope, his only safety, is to be under the shadow of God, where the angels overshadow him.

Now, we see here these "four angels." What are they? We will have to go into this to see exactly what they are, and why they were loosed. Let us here take the question, "Why were they were loosed? God would not loose angels of destruction upon the earth until His people were ready and safe.

Let us give you a case in point.

In Exodus, Chapters 11 and 12, God spoke to Moses in Egypt, and He said,

"Moses, there is going to be death moving through the land of Egypt at midnight. Get the people of Israel, and let each household kill a lamb, and let the blood of the lamb be placed on their doorposts and on their lintels, and let them stay indoors. There must be no Israelite caught outdoors at midnight, for at midnight the death angel will pass through the land of Egypt."

Now then, why were they to be in this place of safety; and why was it safe, anyhow? The reason is that God called out evil angels over the land of Egypt. In Psalm 78:49, it says concerning this time that God sent out "...evil angels among them." Now, evil angels will destroy evil people. Evil angels came forth to destroy any first born that they could find. That was their order. "Go through any door and kill any first born that you find."

Then God turned around, and He told His people how they might prevent themselves being killed. God Himself became their defense, and the people of God learned how to take the blood and put it over their doorposts and the lintels. They had no idea, absolutely, of what the blood was going to do but God knew. God knew that that blood represented the blood of the Messiah, Jesus Christ, Who would come and shed His blood for us. The Messiah has not yet come, but Israel's faith and obedience here concerning the applying of the blood to the doorposts bore the approval of God. Thus, there was a glory and a light that shown from that in the spiritual realm that no demonic angel could face. It would just totally cancel him out. He had to run from that light on the door of the Israelites.

So, we can see then that it is the same for us. God had this written and He gave that to us as an allegory to what exactly was going to happen in the

last days, when the only shelter that man will find is in Christ Jesus. There will be shelter only for those who are born again and hiding under the shadow of the Almighty.

These four angels, therefore, are angels of destruction and doom; and they will be let loose. Now, we need to take a peek again where we had looked before into the sixth chapter of Revelation. There we find that the four angels, and we learn from Revelation 9:21 that these all work to bring forth “murders,” “sorceries,” “fornication,” and “thefts” in the earth; and all the forces of destruction are already lined up. “Death” and “hell” (the pale horse), “darkness” (the black horse), and the angel of “war” (the red horse)-all these angels have been maximizing their power to this point in time when they will use their maximum force against humanity to destroy human flesh.

Now, these angels, they really get their power from men. They must feed. We are told this way back there in Genesis 3:14, when God said to Satan,

“And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life.” This meant that the devil would have to get his strength and his power from man and out of the carnal realm, for God said to Adam there in Genesis,

“...for dust thou art , and unto dust shalt thou return.”

Now, the devil has been causing blood to be shed from the very beginning when he caused Cain to kill Abel. It is because he gets strength out of the blood that is shed, and that is a spiritual matter and I do not think I will have to go into explaining all of that at this point. However, I will say this-that at this time there will be more blood shed in the earth than has ever been shed before.

Now, he said, “...Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.” Why? Let us go back and see what is meant by, “...the great river Euphrates.”

The Euphrates is one of the rivers that gave life to the Garden of Eden. Let us look at Genesis, Chapter 2, and we read from Verse 10.

“And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads. The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone. And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia. And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth

toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates.”

In other words, we see these are actually tributaries that flow into the Euphrates and God is saying this was the border of the land of Eden. Now, when you take a map and look at the whole picture, you see that the one branch of the river started in Mt. Ararat in Armenia. From Armenia, which is a part of Russia, the river flows through Turkey, Syria, Iran, and Iraq; and it comes out into what is called the Sheph-al-Arab. This river is about 1700 miles long, and it is this whole river basin that we are talking about.

We notice that the lands around this river are all Muslim lands, and what really is being spoken of here are the spirits that will occupy the people in those lands, for spirits do not occupy rivers. Spirits occupy people. We, therefore, are talking about the “four angels (spirits)” that were “bound in the river Euphrates.” They were bound, as shown in Revelation 7:1-3.

“And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw another angel (the fifth angel) ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.”

These four spirits were bound here by the fifth angel. The fifth angel (the many-membered Body of Christ) commanded them not to loose the four winds of destruction until the people of God were sealed in their foreheads (See also, Ezekiel 9, 2 Thessalonians 2:6-7). When reference is made to the Euphrates River, spiritually it speaks of the lands through which the Euphrates flows—Persia and Babylon (the present day countries of Iran and Iraq), Syria, and all the Islamic countries there. They represent the cradle of humanity, and that is where the land of Nimrod was.

Now, we read Revelation 7:1, and it tells us there of these four destructive angels who have been waiting for the order to release their destruction. Verse 2 says that there was a fifth angel (that is, the messenger of the Church) commanding them not to release the destructive winds until, “...we (the multi-membered fifth angel; the body of Christ) have sealed the servants of God in their foreheads. This shows that it is a message to the soul. This says that after the sealing of the servants of God, that the four angels will be loosed.

The next scripture reference is Ezekiel 9:1-9, where it says that “six” men with weapons were ordered to destroy, but not before the one man with an “inkhorn” had marked the people of God in their foreheads.

Verse 2, “And, behold, six men came from the way of the higher gate, which lieth toward the north, and every man a slaughter weapon in his hand; and one man among them was clothed with linen, with a writer's inkhorn by his side: and they went in, and stood beside the brasen altar.”

Verses 3-5, “...And he called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer's inkhorn by his side; And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof. And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity:”

Here again, the word “forehead” appears to have the meaning of the “mind” or the “soul.” “Six” being the number of man, it is used here to show us that this first judgment on humanity will be done by man himself, and it followed immediately after the sealing was done. Men were the destroyers. It is therefore the message (the “trumpet”; the Word) that will seal the people of God in their souls. In Egypt, on the first Passover night, the houses which bore the mark of the blood were the place of hiding.

The thing we need to understand about spirits is that over time they “maximize.” They actually grow. They actually learn. They actually deal with people until they become a part of nations and a part of people. They try to mix with men, but they do not cleave one to the other, just as iron cannot cleave to clay (Ref. Daniel 2:43).

We want to look into what the nature of these spirits are that have been bound up in the Euphrates River area, and for this we will look into more scriptures to see what God says about these people, coming along from their very beginning.

We go back to the very inception of humanity, and we think of the two brothers, Cain and Abel. We think of the spirit of murder coming into Cain and him murdering his other brother because of jealousy. There was jealousy because God seemed to have accepted his brother's offering and did not accept his. So, he decided to kill him. That spirit of murder entered into Cain, and if you follow the Scriptures, you can see that in his generation, in all his people after him, that they became very murderous. Let us look at the some scriptures carefully here, which tell us and show us that there is a nature that is imbibed and deeply buried within these people.

If we look in Genesis 4, we see that Cain had children, and down the line, among those who are recorded here as having come through the line of Cain, it speaks of the man “Lamech.” In Verses 23-24, it says,

“And Lamech said unto his wives, Adah and Zillah, Hear my voice; ye wives of Lamech, hearken unto my speech: for I have slain a man to my wounding, and a young man to my hurt. If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy and sevenfold.”

This is the testimony that God has put into the Scriptures, so that we can see that over time there is a development and an increase of the demonic force in the human realm. We can read on to Genesis 6, to the time of Noah, when wickedness and evil men had increased and increased to the point where they had taken hold of the whole world, and murder had become common place. God, therefore, decided then to send the flood to destroy the whole world and to start it new.

But, guess what? The world was destroyed and the evil men were destroyed, but the spirits remained. The spirits were not destroyed, and after the flood they were biding their time to again find men who were “giants” (intellectual giants) that they could use. For Noah had three sons (“...Shem, Ham, and Japheth”), and it is after the flood and in Ham that we see this evil seed turning up again. Let us read about the children of Ham, in Genesis 10, beginning with Verse 6,

“And the sons of Ham; Cush, and Mizraim, and Phut, and Canaan. And the sons of Cush; Seba and Havilah, and Sabtah, and Raamah, and Sabtechah: the sons of Raamah; Sheba, and Dedan. And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be mighty one in the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the Lord: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the Lord.”

Now, the story of “Nimrod” is that he became so powerful that the people began to worship him, and he became not only a “mighty hunter” and a killer, but also a mighty sorcerer. You know, in the law that God gave Moses, it is stated, “Thou shalt not kill,” but in the Hebrew, it is not the word “kill,” but actually it reads, “Thou shalt not murder.” We find, however, that murder is a spirit that continues in the human race; and here it came up again, for the spirit of murder was in Nimrod. He began to rule people and to take over the world. His name is only mentioned as Nimrod here this one time in the Bible. However, elsewhere in the Scriptures, he is called “Baal,” and in Baalism there was murder, and it was murder in the name of religion. That is, they were killing people and offering them as sacrifices. While many of the people thought that they were sacrificing to God, they were in reality sacrificing to the devil. They thought that they were sacrificing to God, but God said not to kill human beings. A human being cannot be a sacrifice, except Jesus was the great Sacrifice of God to stop all sacrifices.

We find then that this spirit of murder took on many forms. Under Baalism, under Nimrod, it took on a form that it had never taken before—a form called “religion.” They were going to do it because this is what “God”

wanted, and so that spirit is one of the spirits that have been loosed into the human realm.

When we look in Genesis, we see that God promised Abraham a son, and Abraham was encouraged by his wife to go to his maid, an Egyptian woman, because Sarah said, “Well, I am too old.” She did not believe God’s promise, and because of unbelief here, Abraham has a child (Ishmael) with the Egyptian woman. It was not the child of promise, and in Genesis 16, Verses 11-12, this is what God said concerning this child that Abraham was to have through the Egyptian woman,

“And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Behold, thou art with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction. And he will be a wild man...”

We see here that it says concerning Ishmael that, “...he will be a wild man,” but in the Hebrew, it says that he will be, “...a wild ass of a man.” So, we go on and we read it as,

“...And he will be a wild ass of a man; his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.”

Here we are reading a testimony of what is happening to us at this time. It says that his wild man, Ishmael, is going to have a generation of people who will be wild, and always their hand will be against their brothers and their brother’s hand will be against them. This is exactly what we have today. The children of “Ishmael” want to destroy the world, and particularly, they hate America.

Let us look again and see how this story continues. Genesis, Chapter 17, beginning with the 18th verse,

“And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee! And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him. And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year. And he left off talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.”

So we see here that God spoke to Abraham about Ishmael. He said,

“...I will make him a great nation. But my covenant will I establish

with Isaac....”

This is to say, Isaac will be the one to bring forth the Messiah, the Savior-Jesus Christ.

Now, we read in Genesis 15, and Verse 18,

“In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates.”

We find today, that of all the area occupied by Israel and the Arabic, Islamic nations around her, that it is only about .9 of one percent of this total area that belongs to Israel, and yet these nations are fighting Israel to take that away. But, as the scripture said, the hand of Ishmael will be against his brethren. So then, we see the spirits multiplying and coming to a head.

So, now we can understand a little of what God meant when He spoke of the four angels that were bound in the Euphrates. The angels of murder. The angels of death. The angels of subterfuge. The angels of jealousy and war, stealing and fornicating, and worshipping false gods. We see all this being manifested, and then, because this is the time of the fullness of all things, they now must come to their maximum wickedness. It is a development that has been going on from way down there in Genesis and coming right up through the human race for 6,000 years to the present time. So the angels of death and destruction are ready now to do their horrible job in the world.

We read from Revelation, Chapter 9, and Verse 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.”

Now, these angels were bound, first of all, because God could not have loosed them until His people were strong enough or ready enough (until they were sealed) to stand the onslaught. But think of it. Are we strong enough? Are we ready enough? We do not feel it, but God knows. For God has given out His Word, and His Word has come to a certain fullness, that in the dispensation of the fullness of times God has brought His Word to that fullness. So that He has for us in this hour a place to hide, and I think that it is from the noise of battle and the destruction that the men of God and women of God and children of God will flee into the holiest of all. For this is the only place of safety that God has provided for us.

Now, I am about to make a most astounding revelation here, for God said here that in the loosing of these four angels, that they were prepared for a

special “day,” a special “month,” a special “hour,” and a special “year,” “... for to slay the third part of men,” and I believe that we are right there! I understand and I believe that we are right there, and this is why I am coming to you with this word. I believe that the special “day” is a day in the seventh millennium, which is the seventh day of God or the end millennium-which we are now in. I believe also, that the special “year” was the first year of this millennium, which is the year 2001. I believe that the special “month” was the ninth month (September), and I believe then that the special “day” was the eleventh day, and the special “hour” was the hour of 8:45 in the morning.

Why do I believe such a thing? I will tell you the truth, that this nation would never be the first to really use excessive power in the world to destroy another nation, unless something would happen like what has happened this year. Although most of us know the story, let us go over it. On this day, September 11, in New York City, in the morning at about 8:45 AM, many people had not yet gotten to their place of work, but I understand that the twin towers at the World Trade Center in a busy day can typically carry about 50,000 people. So, on a busy day there would be 50,000 or more people in that building visiting and doing their various businesses; and in addition, underneath the building there was a mall where people would be shopping. There was also a train station there, where an underground train would come right in. So there were a lot of people there every day in this whole area.

My niece was coming to work that morning and when she came in sometime after 9:00 AM or so, there was confusion and consternation. She did not understand what had happened, but it must have been the Lord that was speaking to her for she felt inside, “Turn back! Go back home!” After she turned back on the outgoing train, she realized that the whole place had collapsed. It collapsed right down into the train station and the underground and everything was blocked in, and there was death and destruction there.

Now, what happened? That morning there was a plan carried out by some of those who we call “terrorists.” These were Middle Eastern Islamic terrorists who felt that their god Allah had told them to destroy “The Great Satan”-“America.” We understand that they had planned to capture about eight airplanes that day and to drive them into various buildings, including the White House, the Pentagon, and the two towers of the World Trade Center in New York, which were the second tallest buildings in the world. These two towers were something like 110 stories high, and they decided that they would hijack planes and drive them into these buildings.

They hijacked four planes, and there were still others that were about to be hijacked, but the government stopped all planes from taking off before that could happen, and thus quite a number of people’s lives were saved by that action. But, what happened here is that these men went into the airport. They

had plastic knives and therefore they were able to get through the checkpoints undetected, and get onto the planes. Between four and five hijackers were on each of these four planes, and as the planes took off they were able to overpower the people. It is reported that one man's throat was cut and one attendant killed right there on the spot. It frightened the people, and the hijackers were able to take over the planes.

We saw on television this first plane strike into the upper portion of one of the buildings at 400-500 miles an hour with about 30,000 gallons of high-test jet fuel. This plane had been prepared for a far journey to California, which is about five hours flight, and so it was loaded with fuel. It struck the building high up and the building began to blaze; and of course, you can imagine that the fuel was running down and was blazing. It became such an inferno. In minutes, the whole place was engulfed in an inferno.

With amazement, while we were there looking at this over the television, we watched as another plane ran, maybe almost halfway down, into the second building; and it went with such a force that parts of the plane went clean through the building. Parts of it flew out on the other side and pieces flew all over.

People were killed in various buildings around from the debris that flew out at the first strike; and people, of course, were running for their lives, trying to get out of these buildings. Then, one of the towers collapsed, with all the police and firemen and rescuers inside and around, coming in and trying to save people. It collapsed on top of them. This building, 110 stories high, came down.

The amazing part of it was that it did not fall down like something falling down. It came down like it imploded; like when they are demolishing a building, and they have set the explosions, and certain parts of the building come straight down flat. This building, when it came down, it looked like a banana being peeled out. Smoke and debris were gushing out of it and it peeled right down. It came down to the ground.

Then the second tower came down, and for all that happened that morning, everybody thought that at least 20,000 people were dead, but (by the grace of God) many were saved because it was too early for the place to be already full. The malls were not filled, and everything else.

One of my wife's cousin was among the many who were reported missing, and her body was found some days after. However, many others were reported missing and their bodies have not been found because the heat was so great. The temperature was over 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit that these buildings were burning at (I think somebody said 1,500 degrees). The very metal melted, and the weight of the building brought it right down. It is now

over two months since that fateful day, but smoke is still coming from the rubble and just today, it is reported in the news that they have discovered three more bodies.

So then, they were murdered! We call it murder. I do not know what name the terrorists have for it, but it was murder. The people in the airplanes did not have a chance. They were flying at 500 miles an hour into a steel building and they had no chance at all.

So about 15-20 minutes after this happened, the second building camecrashing down in the same manner, and blood and fire and smoke and debris were scattered all over for miles around; and it was the most devastating scene that anyone could look at.

Since then, over the weeks, we have been counting the dead and so far they have counted around 3000 to 4,000 people dead. Earlier they thought the count would be more like 6,000, but the truth is that nobody will ever know exactly how many people are dead there, because nobody knows how many people were in the buildings, and people might be missing months from now and years from now, who will not be found.

<http://slgospel.com/OM/2001-12-1.htm>

Now, I repeated this story as a matter of record. Because the word of the Lord that comes to me has to do with this story of destruction and death in New York City. Thousands of people are bewildered and many are asking, “Why did God allow this to happen to us? Why would our loving God allow terrorists to have the power to destroy so many of our people?”

I would rather look at it the other way, and say “Thank God for His saving grace and His ability to save to the uttermost,” for the terrorists had no intention of just killing 3,000 or 6,000 people. They wanted to kill the 40,000 or 50,000 people who under other circumstances might well have been in that building. However, they failed in the light of what they wanted to do, and what they did was only what God allowed. Because I have heard the testimony of a man who was on the 83rd floor. He said that he got up in the morning to get ready to go to work; and he felt something peculiar, so he prayed. He prayed, and when he had prayed he felt that there was something more that he had to do, and so he went back and he prayed again and he asked God to cover him with His blood; and so he went out not knowing what was about to take place.

He went up to his office in one of the towers, and as he was there somebody called him and said, “Look at the television.” When he switched it on, he saw that the building beside him was on fire. He went to look, and he saw fire coming out from the top; and so he called to his assistant and said, “Let’s get out of here.” They ran and got down to the outside to go out, but the

guard turned them back, and said, "Oh no, no, no! It is just an accident that has occurred in the next building. Go back up."

He said that all the people from his office went back up, but he turned to this young girl who was his assistant and said to her, "I will tell you what. It has been enough trauma for the day. Go home. Take the day off." She went home, and he went back up to his office.

No sooner than He got back to his office, he picked up his phone to speak to someone to tell them what was happening, and he saw an airplane coming straight at him through the glass! He said that he ducked under his desk, and the plane tore through the building and fire was all over, jumping all over. He rushed to where the stairs were but he said that they were now blocked by a wall. He said that he called out in the name of Jesus and he struck the wall; and the thing actually gave way. Then he saw another man on the other side with a flashlight. It was total darkness by then, and both of them fought their way down; and just as they got to the bottom and were running out, the building began to fall. He said that they ran to a church on the other side and they were saved.

But, I tell you, we have heard many stories like that. I can tell you a story that another man said that he was on one of those high floors and the building came down with him and he rode on the building coming down and the thing threw him out and he was saved.

We happened to be there ministering in Kenya that time (in 1998) when the American Embassy was attacked in Nairobi. It was a most horrible devastation. The death and destruction, of course, were less than this that happened in New York, but it was just the same trauma. I remember how God that day saved one of our sisters in the Lord. She is a doctor and she was to be in that building that morning. She had an appointment and she went to the building, but she forgot something at home, so she turned back and went home for it. By the time she got back, the whole building was destroyed. God saved her that way.

There was another sister. We were in service the night after, and a woman came in and she was excited. She did not have a scratch on her, but she said that her desk was in the center of the floor, and the bomb blasted and all the people around her died. People died in the building behind her and people died in the railway station across the street, yet nothing happened to her, and she was there. So, praise be to God! We know that Jesus saves, and I am saying that our hiding place is in Christ Jesus.

As to the destruction that came upon us on September 11, the question that was asked was, "Why did God allow this?" Some of our Christian leaders came up with a very simplistic answer. They said that it was because of the

homosexuality, and it was because of the abortion situation and the murdering of so many millions of children, and that it was because of the wickedness of the people that God allowed the destruction of the Twin Towers. Now, we do not want to have any answer that is just part way. The true answer comes from looking at the situation from its true perspective.

For this we will turn to Genesis, Chapter 18; and look at the situation that is recorded there.

Here we are. Abraham is at his home and here comes three angels to him; and the Lord told Abraham that because of their wickedness He was going to destroy Sodom, Gomorra, and the five cities of the plain. The chief wickedness was homosexuality, and He said that He was going to destroy them; and Abraham began to plead with Him; and God said, “All right, if I can find ten righteous, I will not destroy Sodom.” Ten righteous souls were not found in Sodom and Gomorra and all five cities-they could not find ten righteous people, and so the cities were destroyed.

