

Revelation Chapter 7.

Revelation 7:1

Bill Holdstock

Angels holding up the storms that damaged the earth

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.

The Lord will use the elements of wind to blow upon the earth and cause rain and floods which in turn brings damage and devastation to people and the land. This chapter shows us He uses these elements as judgment. Recently we have seen wind and rain flood the ground and bring untold damage to millions of homes, businesses, farms; and transport even as I write. This has the potential to affect the food chain bringing more financial hardship. In the UK the emergency services are finding it hard to keep up with the problem. The water will not recede quickly enough, and they are at a loss to know what to do. No one has the answer to the strong wind that whips the sea into a frenzy producing waves higher than the houses along the beach and strong enough to lift those houses and plant them into the sea; we have seen this happen only a few miles from our house.

Our verse tells us that four angels were placed at the four compass points of the earth to stop the wind from blowing on the earth, the sea, nor against any tree. We know from recent experience that the strong wind and rain can bring down the biggest of trees and has caused death in doing so. In our verse here the angel has power over the wind restraining it from blowing on the earth creating damage and uprooting trees. At this time the Angel is withholding judgment at the command of God proving He has total control. I know many Christians who believe the Lord sits in judgment over the nations at this time of flooding, storm and devastation and they look for a prophet to give us God's 'word' about these terrible conditions. We forget the Bible is our guide to living Godly lives, pleasing to Him, what more 'words' do we need. It was sin in the land that made Ezra pray and confess Israel's rebellion, she said to God "...we are before you in our trespasses for we cannot stand before you because of our sin". Ezra 9. 15

You even You (speaking of Christ) are to be feared: and who may stand in Your sight when once you are angry? Ps.76;7 If You Lord should mark iniquities O Lord who shall stand? Ps.130; 3 We continue on our own way, pleasing ourselves, doing what we think best and not giving God a thought. And then we wonder why our nations are being tormented by the elements. War and strife is everywhere, our governments have lost control, justice has gone,

the law has failed us, most businesses have crooked leadership and people are full of mistrust and in despair. If we have tried everything else and we are still disillusioned why don't we turn to God? He says He has the answer, why not give it all over to Him. But still the world rejects Him.

Verse 2.

And I saw another 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 till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.

The Seal of identification

The procedure of the judgment of God was temporarily halted by the angels at the four corners of the earth until a seal of identification was made on the foreheads of the servants of God. Moses was told by God to mark the doorposts and lintels with the blood of a lamb to show the Angel of Death those that belonged to God. Ezekiel saw a man in his vision that was clothed in white linen with pen and ink attached to his belt who was sent by God to mark the foreheads of the men who sighed and groaned over the abominations that were being committed (Ezk. 9: 2-4). These marks are also a seal of ownership showing all others including Satan, they are sealed as servants of the one true God. It is a mark of security showing they are constantly guarded by God (1 Peter 1:5) Not only does He know us by name He has marked us indicating our preciousness to Him.

Those that the Lord marked are those who followed Him, those who are blood washed and wore a pure white garment of righteousness and praise. We are the ones who know the Lords ways, we have been to the foot of the cross, we know about the love of God, about peace, about justice, about truth, we know about righteousness, about Godly living and what would bring the favour of God upon our lives. We are the ones who 'sigh' and 'groan' like they did in Ezekiel's day over the abominable condition our world is in. With such Godly living there is no need for the storms of judgement to fall; do we really need a prophet to tell us what we can read in God's Word and what most of us know anyway? So we know that with that mark of God comes His seal of approval and ownership. Ephesians 1: 13 encourages us by saying,

In whom (which is Christ) you also trusted after you had heard the Word of Truth, the Gospel of your Salvation, in whom also after that you believed you were Sealed with the Holy Spirit of Promise.

So this Seal is different to the previous Seals this is a Seal of identification, for marking the complete company of the redeemed. The 144,000 are not servants of Christ when the Rapture occurs otherwise they would be translated with those that are born again committed followers of Jesus. (2 Thessalonians

2:7). These 144,000 are those who have accepted Christ after the Rapture in the revival predicted in Acts 2. 16-21. and become servants of God by the time they are sealed. Just as God reserved 7,000 men to Himself in Elijah's day so He is going to reserve 144,000 Jews to Himself in the final 3.1/2 years of Daniel's 70th week. They are from 12 of the 13 tribes of Israel, they are not Gentiles, and they are not any part of the Church because the Church has been Raptured. In Revelation chapter 7 verse 5 to 8 is a list of the tribes of Israel from which the 144,000 came.

This marking is not for God's sake, the Bible tells us He knows those who are His, and He calls us by name, this marking is to show the enemy those who belong to God. When men are crying out for the rocks to fall on them, when men will commit suicide for a quick get out but they will not die, these will know that those with that mark will have nothing to fear! But still those who have no mark will reject Salvation in Christ.

Malachi 3:17

And they shall be mine, says the Lord of Hosts, in that day when I make up My jewels and I will spare them as a man spares his own son who serves him.

There are three sets of seven Judgments in Revelation which will unfold during the seven year tribulation.

The seal Judgments Revelation 6, 8.

Seal 1: The rider on the white horse... (the Antichrist)

Seal 2: The rider on the red horse..... (Conflict killing and destruction)

Seal 3: The rider on the black horse.....(Inflation and famine)

Seal 4: The rider on the pale horse.....(death)

Seal 5: The martyred Tribulation saints

Seal 6: A great earthquake

Seal 7; Silence in heaven and the beginning of the trumpet judgments.

The Trumpet Judgments Revelation 8-9 11

Trumpet 1; One-third of vegetation destroyed

Trumpet 2; One-third of the sea is turned to blood

Trumpet 3; One-third of the waters are contaminated

Trumpet 4: One-third of the sky is darkened

Trumpet 5: Locust like creatures plague the earth (the first woe)

Trumpet 6: An army destroys one-third of all people (the second woe)

Trumpet 7: The seven bowl judgments begin (the third woe)

The Bowl Judgments (Revelation 16)

Bowl 1; The Terrible sores appear on those who follow the Antichrist

Bowl 2; All seas are turned to blood

Bowl 3; All drinking water is turned to blood

Bowl 4; The earth is scorched

Bowl 5; Darkness covers the earth

Bowl 6; The Euphrates River dries up and an army marches to Armageddon
Bowl 7; A massive earthquake is followed by 100 pound hailstones

Symbolically, whose mark do you have in your forehead today Satan's or The Lord's? You must have one or the other there is no sitting on the fence. You know in your heart if you seek after the pleasures of the world and the lusts of the flesh that will keep you from eternal life with Jesus. Jesus is not a 'kill-joy' it's just that Satan's pleasures are only for a short while here on earth, Jesus has an eternity of joy, happiness, and a life filled with goodness and riches we cannot put into earthly words down here.

Revelation 7 verse 9

After this I beheld and lo a great multitude which no man could number of all nations, kindred's and people, and tongues, stood before the Throne and before the Lamb clothed with white robes and palms in their hands and cried with a loud voice saying Salvation to our God which sits upon the Throne and unto the Lamb. And all the Angels stood round about the Throne and about the Elders and the four Beasts and fell before the Throne on their faces and worshipped God.

Right! Stop what you are doing, put that coffee or tea down shake the 'cobwebs' from your brain and read that verse again and this time visualise or imagine what you read. John saw a great multitude which no man could number possibly many millions who will be saved in the Great Tribulation from all over the world standing before the Throne and before the Lamb with their sin-stained garments washed in the blood of the Lamb. These souls, dressed in pure dazzling white robes were crying with loud voices praises to the Lamb, the only one found worthy to open the Book of Life. What a sight! What a volume of worship, praise and great joy over what Jesus had done on the cross at Calvary all saying Amen, and Glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and Honour, and Power, and might, be unto our God forever and ever Amen.

Verse 13-17

The question was asked "Who are these people" and "Where do they come from" and the answer came these are they who came out of the great tribulation and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. They are before the Throne of God and serve Him day and night in His Temple and He who sits on the Throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; neither shall the sun light on them nor any heat for the Lamb which is in the midst of the Throne feed them and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

I am grateful to my friend Graham Towse for his valuable support and contribution.

Be blessed
Bill@Holdstock.com

More studies on Google, www.wordlightmypath.com