The prophecy contained in Revelation Nine is one of the most highly symbolic of all the prophecies. YAHWEH, the Almighty, All-wise GOD, speaks in symbols in order to keep the understanding from those who are not seeking HIM, from those who do not desire to do HIS Will. Yahshua spoke of this in Matthew 11:25,26, which states:

25 At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. 26 Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight.

Also Isaiah 28:11, as correctly translated, brings out:

For with stammering lips and with the tongue of the future HE speaks to the people this.

Stammering lips indicate speech that is not clear. A tongue of the future is another tongue, one that is not understood until a later time. Without YAHWEH'S Spirit the understanding is a closed book, and only those whom YAHWEH deals with possess an accurate knowledge. And who does YAHWEH deal with? Psalm 149:19,20 brings out that YAHWEH deals with Israel alone. HE deals with HIS True Nation, those who strive to serve HIM, who desire to please HIM and put HIM first—The Restored Israel of YAHWEH. Through the Resurrected Prophets of Old, Israel has received the understanding of Revelation Nine and of all the prophecies. This chapter has been grossly misinterpreted by the religions of this world, some of whom claim that the events recorded herein will have a literal fulfillment. But when properly explained, the symbols are revealed and are seen to harmonize perfectly with the other prophecies. This beautiful understanding comes only through Israel.

Throughout this article we will be quoting from The Authorized Version of the Bible (commonly known as The King James Version). The reason for this is that it is the most widely used translation and most people are familiar with it. In cases where another translation is clearer, we will quote from it and indicate so.

Revelation Nine begins with the sounding of the fifth angel. The events that occur with the sounding of the first four angels are recorded in both Revelation Eight and Revelation Sixteen. They concern the preaching work of Israel, wherein politics, commerce and religion are thoroughly exposed, and the establishment of a one-world government. This government—the union of the united states and russia, headed by the pope—lasts only three and one-half years. At the end of this time the pope is cast out of his position but the nations endure for fifteen months. Here is where the events recorded in Revelation Nine begin.

Verse 1:

And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.

The star mentioned herein is a symbol of an Angel, or a Messenger, of YAHWEH. First, because he is given a masculine gender, for the scripture states "and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit." Also Yahshua, who is YAHWEH'S Archangel, refers to Himself as the "bright and morning star." Revelation 22:16:

I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

Revelation 1:20 interprets the symbol of the seven stars in this manner: "The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches."

In describing the bottomless pit, the word pit in its symbolic form should first be analyzed. Psalm
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30:9 states:

What profit is there in my blood, when I go down to the pit? Shall the dust praise thee? shall it declare thy truth?

Isaiah 14:15 in The Amplified Bible (A.B.) throws more light on the subject by portraying the pit as the region of the dead:

Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol [Hades], to the inmost recesses of the pit [the region of the dead].

The term bottomless pit would indicate a pit without a bottom wherein the fall of someone thrown into the pit would be continuous. Therefore it would aptly describe an unending, or continuous, condition of death, also the world of the dead (Isaiah 14:7-11).

The beast ascending out of the bottomless pit mentioned in Revelation 17:8 means that it is raised out of a deathlike condition. Where once it was alive and had a major influence in the affairs of the world in the form of the holy roman empire, it was later exposed, rejected and forsaken by the mightier and more enlightened nations of the world. This occurred with the advent of protestantism. It will again be restored to life, or raised out of the bottomless pit. This is accomplished by the u.s.s.r. and the u.s.a. restoring the pope to the position he possessed prior to the reformation. he will become a temporal ruler to guide the destiny of this world.

But alas, those who have disowned this beast are themselves full of corruption within their own boundaries. They oppress the fatherless and the widows, the poor of the earth. Theirs is a competitive system, wherein there are few winners and many losers. And naturally the losers are those who are not qualified to fight the red tape, political favoritism and financial superiority of their unscrupulous competitors.

YAHWEH'S sentiments ring loud and clear, and are a guide to those who would receive instruction. Psalm 82:3,4:

3 Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy.
4 Deliver the poor and needy: rid them out of the hand of the wicked.

But HIS words fall upon deaf ears. These nations are, in reality, fulfilling the words so aptly recorded in the Book of Isaiah, Chapter 59:1-10:

1 Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:
2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.
3 For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness.
4 None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity.
5 They hatch cockatrice' eggs, and weave the spider's web: he that eateth of their eggs dieth, and that which is crushed breaketh out into a viper.
6 Their webs shall not become garments, neither shall they cover themselves with their works: their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence is in their hands.
7 Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths.
8 The way of peace they know not; and there is no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace.
9 Therefore is judgment far from us, neither doth justice overtake us: we wait for light, but behold obscurity; for brightness, but we walk in darkness.
10 We grope for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if we had no eyes: we stumble at noon day as in the night; we are in desolate places as dead men.

For these reasons YAHWEH is not dealing with these nations, but permits the god of this world, satan the devil, whom they have chosen to follow, to direct their paths. 2 Corinthians 4:3,4, A.B.:

3 But even if our Gospel (the glad tidings) also be hid—obscured and covered up with a veil [that hinders the knowledge of God]—it is hid [only] to those who are perishing, and obscured [only] to those who are spiritually dying, and veiled [only] to those
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who are lost.
4 For the god of this world has blinded the unbelievers' minds (that they should not discern the truth), preventing them from seeing the illuminating light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ, the Messiah, Who is the image and likeness of God.

(Refer also to 1 John 5:19, R.S.V.) The All-wise GOD, whose Name is YAHWEH, tells HIS People what this path is and where it will lead those who do not understand the Truth. They will follow the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit, which is the resurrection to life of the beastly organization that lost its dominating influence in the affairs of the world. They will restore the pope of rome as the temporal ruler of the world and the mediator of the world's disputes and differences. The united nations will no longer function in this capacity.

To continue on the subject of the bottomless pit, we find that the devil will be thrown therein (Revelation 20:1,2). In reality this tells us that he will be dead for a certain length of time (Revelation 20:7). There is really no bottomless pit, for YAHWEH'S Word is filled with symbols in order to seal the Understanding from all except those who sincerely desire to know the Truth. These have the proper appreciation for the Truth, and these are the ones who put YAHWEH first and foremost over all their desires.

Being that the bottomless pit is only a symbol of the condition of death, there need be no real Angel to open up a non-existing pit. Both are symbolic and are used to signify that those living upon the earth will be faced with the reality of imminent death and forced to understand that in this world, or system of things, there shall be no escape.

Verse 2:

And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.

The opening of the bottomless pit would symbolize that death would no longer be sealed to the living, but that the way to death would be opened.

The smoke that ascends out of the pit, or out of the land of the dead, is an omen that which was in the pit (namely death) has escaped and will permeate the land of the living that death may encompass all things and reign supreme.

The sun and the air being darkened by reason of the smoke makes it clear that death will pervade all of their land. They will neither see anything nor breathe anything that will not present death continuously around them. The knowledge of the certainty of death will dominate all things.

Verse 3:

And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

The locusts are used to symbolize a plague and are not to be taken literally. However, the feeling of dismay experienced by the recipients of a plague of locusts is the literalization. It alludes to the agony of being overwhelmed by forces that they cannot cope with.

Having power "as the scorpions of the earth have power" means that they, the symbolical locusts, would be endowed with the ability to inflict severe pain. Literal locusts are unable to sting anyone; they can cause no physical pain. Their weapon lies in the ability they possess to devour the vegetation of the earth, which directly or indirectly is man's source of food, his means of survival.

Specifically, the plague of locusts refers to the imminent destruction of mankind. The distressing, heartfelt pain (symbolized by the sting of scorpions) is brought about by man coming to realize that he has reached the end. His end.

Verse 4:

And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.

The beauty of this chapter lies in the understanding of the symbols employed. The Holy Bible is YAHWEH'S Word. In it is set forth HIS Purpose for mankind. However, to most people HIS Purpose is hidden in a cloak of obscurity, masked in a maze of symbols, representations of the characters intended.

Biblical narration is many times interrupted abruptly by a phrase or thought that has nothing whatsoever to do with the subject under discussion. Three brief examples being Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 9:2
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and Isaiah 28:9-11.

For this reason it has become obvious to the greater majority of mankind that the Bible will never be understood, and if one claims to have an understanding, another will be able to contradict that understanding. This is true of the Bible "scholars" who have not been chosen by YAHWEH. These men are giving their own personal interpretations, and, regardless whether they are accepted by many or few, when the interpretation is not YAHWEH'S, it is incorrect. For 2 Peter 1:20,21 states:

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.
21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost [Spirit].

But not so with those who have been endowed with YAHWEH'S Holy Spirit, which is HIS invisible power that influences the minds of HIS Chosen People. For these selected Members, YAHWEH has this to say in Isaiah 54:17:

No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

Also Luke 21:15:

For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.

It is therefore not surprising to see YAHWEH dealing with locusts in verse 4 when in reality HE is referring to a plague, the locusts being used to represent an agonizing situation that will soon befall mankind. When HE commands the locusts not to "hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree," HE sheds more light on the prophecy in order that HIS People may see more clearly that HE is not dealing with locusts. For apart from harming the vegetation, literal locusts would not be capable of afflicting evil on anyone.

The plague will torment only those who have not the seal of GOD on their foreheads. Again it must be repeated that the locusts represent a plague. It is a plague that will afflict all those who have not met with YAHWEH'S approval. This is what is meant concerning those who have not the seal of GOD on their foreheads.

Verse 5:

And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.

The plague is a promise of death. All men who have put their trust in the machinations of this world will know that they will soon be killed. The actual slaughter does not begin until the end of a chaotic five months, during which time the insuperable problems of this world will completely overwhelm all of its would-be rulers.

The two dominant powers, the u.s.s.r. and the u.s.a., whose collaboration with one another forms the two-horned beast, will at this time have reached a parting of the ways. It is the time when the union of the iron and the clay (symbols representing the dictatorial u.s.s.r. and the democratic u.s.a. respectively) "shall not cleave one to another" (Daniel 2:43). A violent disagreement will develop wherein charges and countercharges will be hurled at one another for a period of five months. The people will then fully realize that the differences between the two nations are absolutely insolvable and that they (the people) will be the victims of the most horrible massacre the world has ever known or will ever know again.

This five month period of hideous anticipation is the plague. And the pain that it brings to men is aptly described by YAHWEH as "the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man."

Verse 6:

And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.

The Bible states in Ecclesiastes 9:5 that, "the dead know not any thing." In death one is relieved of the agonies of life, and it is this irresistible desire to be delivered from the torments of this plague which is symbolically referred to as death. Death to them would be a termination of conscious existence, cessation of the functions of the brain, a
total escape from the horrors of reality. If an individual wanted to really quit and choose death, he could commit suicide. And no doubt some will at this particular time. Death does not flee from anyone; it never has. But the intelligent awareness of what will shortly come to pass cannot be blotted out. It is more than they can stand. They will be swamped by the most terrifying circumstances which they will strongly desire to obliterate from their minds. This they will not be able to do, for the hideous situation will be ever present, always pressing towards its climax of doom. The tranquility that would result from a solution of their problem is what really flees from them. There will be no solution.

How contradictory are the emotions of YAHWEH'S People at this time. For them it will be a time of hope, a time of rejoicing, for the appointed time for the destruction of the remnants of the horrible abomination has arrived. The proper frame of mind for YAHWEH'S People at this time is set forth in Luke 21:28:

And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.

Further proof of the character of the plague is found in the shape of the locusts, or the form of the plague.

Horses prepared for battle is simple enough to understand—it simply denotes a preparation for war. When the u.s.s.r. and the u.s.a. cast vehement charges at one another after a brief period of apparent tranquility, the outcome of this disagreement will be known to all.

Verse 7:

And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men.

The crowns like gold represent alleged but fraudulent authority. These crowns are symbols and they refer to the rulers of this world. It is the rulers of this world who will reach an impasse. Their disagreements with one another and their promise to settle them by force of arms is what constitutes the plague.

Their faces being as the faces of men means that they were not locusts but men who brought about this plague upon humankind.

Verse 8:

And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions.

In YAHWEH'S arrangement the head of the woman is the man. 1 Corinthians 11:3,14,15:

3 But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.
14 Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?
15 But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering.

The long hair of the woman being a glory to her also characterizes her role as being one of submission to the man, whose head is Yahshua. If, in an individual case, it so happens that the head of a man is not Yahshua and the man does not desire to follow after the Truth, then the woman must pursue the Truth without him. She is absolved from her submissive role because her natural head, in the form of the man, has proven himself unworthy of guiding her in a course pleasing to YAHWEH with its resultant rewards of everlasting life and blessings.

The long hair on these rulers who bring about the plague places them in a feminine role in this respect. As a woman has received no authority over the man, neither have these would-be rulers received any authority from YAHWEH to rule over HIS people. They are simply behaving as impatient and stupid women, who think they can go it alone without their GOD-given Head. Oh yes, they mention GOD, but this is done to conceal the fact that they are in reality GODless and that they are doing as they please. If they knew only a little of the Truth, they would not be in politics; they would not endeavor to govern the devil's world.

Concerning all of these rulers, YAHWEH employs the number ten as a symbol and states in Revelation 17:12, A.B.:

Also the ten horns that you observed are ten rulers (kings) who have as yet received no royal dominion, but together they are to receive power and authority as rulers for a
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single hour, along with the beast.

This means that none of the earthly rulers have received any dominion from YAHWEH. Concerning the rest of verse 8, their teeth being "as the teeth of lions" tells us that these rulers have the ability to kill, destroy and consume.

Verse 9:

And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle.

Verse 9 continues to give evidence that the plague will be man's preparation for all-out war. Breastplates were at one time used as a protection against various weapons of war. They were donned only when preparing to go into battle. When the sound of chariots and horses running to battle is heard, it does not require a great deal of imagination to realize that the actual battle is very near. War at this time is imminent, as certain to occur as though the rival armies were already charging at one another.

Verse 10:

And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months.

Each of the symbols employed by YAHWEH represents an important detail of the Divine prediction in order to further clarify the overall nature of the plague to HIS Chosen People and to all others who will receive instruction through them.

The tail is the symbol used to represent a prophet (Isaiah 9:15). A prophet is one who can prophesy, or one who can foretell future events. The tails being similar to scorpions' tails, possessing the ability to sting, simply means that it is the promise of what the future holds in store for them, as a result of this argument between the u.s.s.r. and the u.s.a., that causes them pain. This argument would then lead to an all-out struggle to annihilate one another. Briefly this is what the tail with the sting represents: the tail represents the future; the sting represents the agonies associated with it.

For a period of five months the two antagonists will justify the course they are about to take. During these five months the killing will not as yet have started. Revelation 9:5:

And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.

Verse 11:

And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.

A king, besides being the chief head and ruler over his subjects, should also be one with his people. They should work together for the common interest of all concerned—one leading, the others following obediently.

An angel is a messenger. The bottomless pit represents the abode of the dead, or death itself. Technically, that which impels them to act (the king) is a messenger (the angel) of death (the bottomless pit). Plainly speaking, the order of the day will be for the people to understand and obediently accept the fact that they will soon all die.

The name of the king being abaddon in the Hebrew tongue means "destruction," and in the Greek apollyon means "destroyer." The king of hades and destruction rules over death. Life is his adversary; he can issue only one command which he will repeat until his mission is accomplished: "Destroy! Destroy! Destroy!" so that death may conquer and reign supreme.

Verse 12:

One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter.

The woe herein mentioned as being past is attributed to the sounding of the fifth angel; two more are yet to come. This makes a total of three woes.

However, prior to the sounding of the trumpet of the fifth angel, four other angels have already sounded their trumpets (or accomplished their mission). Refer to Revelation 8:7-12. These soundings are not pictured as woes, for their mission is simply to expose the devil's organization in its true light. The only real harm done to the nations of this world at this time is that they will
lose their most noble members, 200,000,000 in all; but as for any real sign of destruction, they will not as yet have seen any real evidence of this, and they will not be overly concerned with a mere denunciation of their system.

Not so with the sounding of the fifth angel. The die-hard members of the devil's organization will then be faced with a total division amongst themselves; this situation can then be truly evaluated as a woe.

Verse 13:

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

Horns are symbols used to represent power (Daniel 7:7; 8:20; Deuteronomy 33:17; Psalm 75:10; Zechariah 1:18-21 and Revelation 5:6).

Being four in number associates this power with the four primary attributes of YAHWEH. These attributes are love, justice, wisdom and power. HIS power will be demonstrated only after the most loving consideration has been given to understand HIS justice and wisdom in doing what must be done.

The voice coming from the four horns of the altar giving the next command means that it is just and right for HIS Purpose to move forward. All reasonable evidence has already been given and demonstrated for the benefit of those who claim that they love righteousness and want to follow the True and Living GOD.

Before this voice is heard (symbolically referring to the next event) YAHWEH'S Prophets will have previously foretold all the events that the inhabitants of the earth will now be witnessing. They will have been foretold of the still future event consisting of the collaboration between the u.s.a. and the u.s.s.r., by this time it will have been a thing of the past. The choice of the pope by these two powers to mediate for the nations in their disagreements; the pope's promise that he is able to bring everlasting peace on earth, claiming to be Christ's representative; his brief reign of three and one-half years, during which time the people will be denied the full expression of their basic freedoms, especially when these freedoms are not employed to further his scheme of operation—the hardest hit will be YAHWEH'S Servants who will roundly denounce the whole procedure as a scheme of the devil to stamp out the beginning of the establishment of GOD'S Kingdom here on earth—the pope's failure at the end of the three and one-half years to satisfactorily mediate for the nations, after which time he will be cast out and thoroughly exposed as being nothing more than an opportunist for himself and the organization he heads. And finally, the disagreement which will have no solution between the u.s.a. and the u.s.s.r. which YAHWEH chose to depict as a plague of locusts in order to keep the Understanding hidden from all except those who revere the Most High GOD and want to please HIM in every way possible. For the most part, these as yet have not been gathered together. The opening up of the understanding of the most difficult chapters of HIS Word the Bible will do this very thing.

All of these events mentioned herein will now be history except for the plague of locusts which will be in operation during the sounding of the sixth angel. All will have been foretold by YAHWEH'S Two Witnesses. All will have been fulfilled.

Verse 14:

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

The meaning of the word Euphrates is "to grow, bear fruit, increase, prosper or flourish." The river herein mentioned is a symbol employed to denote the prosperity, or success, of the devil's organization in their efforts to subdue the world and to subject all mankind to the new world order, which YAHWEH has named the abomination of desolation.

For YAHWEH'S Servants to speak at this time will be most inopportune, for no one will be interested; no one will pay attention. Yes, because of this flourishing success, YAHWEH'S work will be forcibly brought to a halt. Firstly, because the message will irritate the world leaders and secondly, because of the people being satisfied with things the way they are. This is portrayed by HIS Angels, or Messengers, being bound by the river Euphrates, or held in subjection because of the flourishing success of the devil's plan. At this time there will not have been sufficient evidence to prove that the LORD'S People are correct. They do not believe this is the devil's system. They do not believe it will destroy itself. They will, however, believe the pope while his star is still ascending.

When the devil's organization begins to really fall apart, as prophesied by YAHWEH'S Two Witnesses, the fulfillment of this prophecy will do more to
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convince the people of goodwill than any amount of speaking could ever do. It is then that the work of gathering YAHWEH'S People will resume. This is portrayed by having the sixth angel loose the four Angels that are bound by the river Euphrates.

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.

The Angels being prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, shows that the exact time had now arrived for YAHWEH to perform the next phase of HIS strange work (Isaiah 28:21). And what does the work consist of?

Strangely enough, these symbolical Angels are now prepared to kill one third of mankind. You may ask, if, because of the success of the devil's plan, YAHWEH'S work is stopped and it is to be resumed only when the devil's organization begins to fall apart, why do YAHWEH'S Angels, or Messengers, want to kill one third of men? This turn of events in the affairs of the world should provide the necessary evidence to convince these men to break their affiliations with this world and come over to YAHWEH'S side of the issue. Furthermore the situation apparently becomes even more baffling when we read in Zechariah 13:8,9:

8 And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein.
9 And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

Revelation 9:15 states that one third will be killed, while Zechariah 13:8 says that one third will live. Before attempting to clarify these apparently contradictory statements, we will have to continue with YAHWEH'S Word.

Verse 16:

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

Verse 16 states that an army of 200,000,000 will be used to do this killing.

The Angels mentioned in verse 15 are symbols of an invisible power. Symbolically they are holding back an event which could only take place after the most convincing course of events have taken place in fulfillment of YAHWEH'S predictions. These predictions are voiced by the mouths of HIS Two Witnesses (Revelation, Chapter Eleven).

However, the fate of one third of mankind is in the hands of 200,000,000 of YAHWEH'S Servants here on earth.

It is man that YAHWEH is using to vindicate HIS Name here on earth, and not the Angels. It is man upon whom HE pours HIS Holy Spirit. It is to man that HE reveals the understanding of the deep and hidden passages recorded ages ago in HIS Holy Word the Bible, the understanding of which the Angels desire to look into (1 Peter 1:12).

Verse 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.

This army of 200,000,000 horsemen is a most unusual army.

The breastplates of fire are worn over the heart. The heart is the seat of motivation. In Jeremiah 17:9 the heart is described in this manner:

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

In other words there are ulterior, sinister aims motivating the greater majority of mankind. And as the literal heart is invisible to the outward observer, so are the intents of the heart concealed in a cloak of hypocrisy.

YAHWEH, who knows the intents of the hearts of men, has this to say concerning the false religionists of Yahshua's day:

Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God (Luke
convince the people of goodwill than any amount of speaking could ever do. It is then that the work of gathering YAHWEH'S People will resume. This is portrayed by having the sixth angel loose the four Angels that are bound by the river Euphrates.

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.

The Angels being prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, shows that the exact time had now arrived for YAHWEH to perform the next phase of HIS strange work (Isaiah 28:21). And what does the work consist of?

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8 And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein.
9 And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

Revelation 9:15 states that one third will be killed, while Zechariah 13:8 says that one third will live. Before attempting to clarify these apparently contradictory statements, we will have to continue with YAHWEH'S Word.

Verse 16:

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

Verse 16 states that an army of 200,000,000 will be used to do this killing.

The Angels mentioned in verse 15 are symbols of an invisible power. Symbolically they are holding back an event which could only take place after the most convincing course of events have taken place in fulfillment of YAHWEH'S predictions. These predictions are voiced by the mouths of HIS Two Witnesses (Revelation, Chapter Eleven).

However, the fate of one third of mankind is in the hands of 200,000,000 of YAHWEH'S Servants here on earth.

It is man that YAHWEH is using to vindicate HIS Name here on earth, and not the Angels. It is man upon whom HE pours HIS Holy Spirit. It is to man that HE reveals the understanding of the deep and hidden passages recorded ages ago in HIS Holy Word the Bible, the understanding of which the Angels desire to look into (1 Peter 1:12).

Verse 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.

This army of 200,000,000 horsemen is a most unusual army.

The breastplates of fire are worn over the heart. The heart is the seat of motivation. In Jeremiah 17:9 the heart is described in this manner:

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

In other words there are ulterior, sinister aims motivating the greater majority of mankind. And as the literal heart is invisible to the outward observer, so are the intents of the heart concealed in a cloak of hypocrisy.

YAHWEH, who knows the intents of the hearts of men, has this to say concerning the false religionists of Yahshua's day:

Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God (Luke