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Series: For the Time is Near
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A Demonic Army Unleashed
Revelation 9:1-21

We're going into Revelation Chapter 9 this morning, so if you have your Bibles please open them up.

As I went through Chapter 9 of Revelation and I saw what was going to happen here, when these two trumpets are blown, it's amazing! It's like something out of a sci-fi movie. It's just absolutely crazy what takes place upon the blowing of these two trumpets!

But you'll see at the end of this chapter, how the people that are left on the earth respond, and it really should bring a sense of urgency to each and everyone of us to not wait for that to take place. Not to wait to start to see these things happen, but rather know that they're about to happen and respond. There are ways in which we can respond and demonstrate by our very own lives that these things are real, that we actually believe what the Bible is laying out before us.

So the title of this morning's message is: *A Demonic Army Unleashed*. I thought, "Hey, if Hollywood and TV shows, and books can have these crazy, dark titles, then let's lay out what's real here and what is going to happen in reality." It's not something that is made-up in Hollywood. It's not something that's done behind the scenes, but it's actually something that is real. It's going to happen and a demonic army is going to be unleashed.

And the fifth angel blew his trumpet, and I saw a star fallen from heaven to earth, and he was given the key to the shaft of the bottomless pit.

[Prayer] *Father, we come to You this morning, asking that You would not only give us understanding to know these things, but I pray that You would move us to respond to these things in a manner that You wish. You desire that none should perish but that all should reach repentance. Father, I pray that we would understand what it means to live lives that are repentant. It's not just one moment that we repent and we turn from our sins and turn to You, but it's each and every day that we fall to our knees and we humbly ask for forgiveness and ask that You would help us and strengthen us on our walk with You. I pray Lord, that You would place within us a sense of urgency also, that we would be bold and confident in telling others about the good news of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that it would move us to find joy in You and You alone. That we would hold lightly the things of the world and yet cling to Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord. So before us are two trumpets that are about to be blown. I pray that we would understand the devastation that will come after those two trumpets are blown, and that we*

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would hope, desire zealously, to pursue all those who don't know You and explain to them that there is still a chance, still an opportunity to turn away from eternal separation from You and turn, being repentant of their sins and understand salvation in Jesus Christ -- that above all is what I hope. So we want to commit this time into Your hands Lord. We thank you for this time and we thank You for Your word. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

I just want to start out by saying that the first four judgments that we've seen, were judgments that were all directed toward the earth. The destruction of green grass and trees, oceans, rivers, and the sky; the sun, the moon and stars were all darkened for about a third of the day. So we have a third more night, darkness as a result of that.

But these last three judgments that come are judgements that come by the hands of demonic angels led by Satan himself, and brought upon all of mankind who are left on the earth.

I want to remind you that it's during this time that the church has been raptured already; as it not mentioned again until Chapter 19. So the church is absent from the earth during this time. What is happening here is during the Tribulation Period, and to those who have not surrendered their lives to Jesus Christ. But the question that I want you to think about is, "Will they turn to Christ as these terrible and awful judgments come about?"

I'm reminded of a story in Luke Chapter 16:19-31. It tells the story of Lazarus and the rich man. Lazarus was a poor beggar and he just hoped for the crumbs that would fall off the table of the rich man. They both died and Lazarus went to heaven, the rich man went to hell. There was a great chasm between them. The rich man was asking Lazarus for relief from the torment that he was going through. He just wanted just a little bit of water to quench his thirst that was unimaginable, but Lazarus couldn't help with that. Well, there's this great chasm, and it's amazing that the rich man and Lazarus could actually see each other from either side, but they couldn't cross over. The rich man asked if Lazarus could be sent to his family so that upon the rising of the dead (because they knew that Lazarus has died) that they would come to believe. This is what Luke 16:31 says, **"He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"**

We're about to read and learn what should make most people cringe, absolutely cringe! We're about to read and learn about something that I would think most people would hope not to ever experience in their lives. There are many people today that read these things, or are told about this by someone who has learned about them, and believe that they're simply fairytales, nothing but fantasy and those that believe these things are weak-minded individuals who have been duped.

Listen, there will come a time when the church is raptured. We podcast all these messages, so there may be someone at some point that pulls up this podcast and says, "You know what? They were right the whole time! Here's another message and another, and it all refers to the same group of verses. They kept telling us over and over!"

The prophets were thought to be the same thing – wackos! And they were killed by the very people whom God sent them to warn.

The Lord is warning. The Lord is coming soon. There will come a time when the church will be taken up. It will be raptured and all hell will break loose here on earth. Those that have been warning you people of the earth of what is to come are not going to be around anymore to bug you or telling you these things anymore. The church will be raptured and the people will receive the judgments that they said were a bunch of fairytales.

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I'd like to hear from anyone that can prove that God has been wrong up to this point. Challenge is out. Anyone? Any prophecies (and there's more to come), anything that's been wrong so far? Ok, I hear nothin' but silence. You know why? Because He hasn't been wrong! All of His predictions have come true just as He said they would. In fact, further archeological discoveries only serve to further support exactly what the Bible says! I love science! Bring it on! Science is not something that disproves the Bible, it actually proves the Bible!

I'm convinced that God laid these things out so that people would know that:

1. Judgment is coming. That's mercy right there! If someone were to tell you , "Hey, listen, if you continue going down this path, doing the things that you're doing in life, you're conclusion is already known. If you keep going down this road, driving, it's a dead end! By the way, there's a cliff!" Do you know what that would be? It would be merciful. So I believe that one of the reasons why God laid this out even for the church to understand and know, is because He is a God of mercy.
2. Take it a step further, so that you would know grace is offered. There will come a time when the earth will not hear from the church about the coming judgment of hell or salvation through Jesus, but will only experience what it's been warned of.

The Fifth Trumpet (vv. 1-12)

So we see here, the warning. The fifth trumpet has blown. Going back to verse one and reading through:

And the fifth angel blew his trumpet, and I saw a star fallen from heaven to earth, and he was given the key to the shaft of the bottomless pit. ² He opened the shaft of the bottomless pit, and from the shaft rose smoke like the smoke of a great furnace, and the sun and the air were darkened with the smoke from the shaft. ³ Then from the smoke came locusts on the earth, and they were given power like the power of scorpions of the earth. ⁴ They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any green plant or any tree, but only those people who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. ⁵ They were allowed to torment them for five months, but not to kill them, and their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it stings someone. ⁶ And in those days people will seek death and will not find it. They will long to die, but death will flee from them.

⁷ In appearance the locusts were like horses prepared for battle: on their heads were what looked like crowns of gold; their faces were like human faces, ⁸ their hair like women's hair, and their teeth like lions' teeth; ⁹ they had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the noise of their wings was like the noise of many chariots with horses rushing into battle. ¹⁰ They have tails and stings like scorpions, and their power to hurt people for five months is in their tails. ¹¹ They have as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit. His name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in Greek he is called Apollyon.

¹² The first woe has passed; behold, two woes are still to come.

I want to go through and just point out a few things to you here through these verses. We have here a star fallen from heaven to earth. He was given a key to the shaft of the bottomless pit. He didn't have it in his possession before that, but someone gave him this key who *did* have the authority and the power of the shaft of the bottomless pit. So in and of himself, this angel fallen from heaven had no authority, no power at all. Is it the

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same angel that we read of in verse 11 where it says, ***"They have as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit. His name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in Greek he is called Apollyon."***? By the way, those two words, Abaddon and Apollyon, mean *destruction* and *destroyer*.

Exodus 12:23 says, ***"For the Lord will pass through to strike the Egyptians, and when he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the Lord will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you."***

Daniel 8:24 says, ***"His power shall be great—but not by his own power; and he shall cause fearful destruction and shall succeed in what he does, and destroy mighty men and the people who are the saints."***

2 Thessalonians 2:3 says, ***"Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction..."***

If this indeed is the same being then who we are reading about is Satan, who is going to be given the key to the shaft of the bottomless pit where there are angels who have been kept up to this point, but will now be let loose to wreak havoc on the people of the earth.

Now, this shaft and where it leads to, the bottomless pit, is something we want to make very clear. We have to say that this is **not** the lake of fire. From the lake of fire there will be no escape, none whatsoever. But this here is the place where these angels have been kept. The lake of fire is the final, eternal place that they will have no escape from, according to Revelation Chapter 20.

But this pit is also the place where Satan will be temporarily kept during Jesus Millennial Reign, according to Revelation 20:1-3. It's described as a great furnace as it is opened up smoke pours out of it, further darkening the skies with smoke. As if it's not bad enough already, we have a third of the light that will be taken away, as we read last week. Whatever's left is darkened by this smoke that rises up from this great fiery furnace.

The danger is not the smoke, but what comes out of this pit. It's an army of locust-like creatures that are able to torment everyone on earth that does not have the seal of God on their foreheads.

We read about the 144,000 who have the seal of God applied to them beginning in Revelation Chapter 7:3: ***saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." 4 And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel..."*** And it goes on to list the tribes.

These things that have been dispatched are described as John as being locusts. They are there to bring judgment. And their lifespan is five months. Their destruction is amazing, but these creatures are not allowed to destroy the vegetation of the earth, that was already done. They are only to torment the people on earth for five months, according to verses 5 and 10.

Can you imagine these things? John was describing them the best way that he could. There is nothing, absolutely nothing, that we could take a look at today that would match-up to this description that is given to us here in these verses. They will actually have this tail that brings a sting like a scorpion. It'll be inflicted upon the

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people with pain and anguish, and torment that we have never seen up to this day! They will wish that they were able to die, that's how bad it will be, but they're not going to be able to, according to verse 6. "Just kill me now. Be done with it. Put me out of my misery." And it won't happen. They won't be able to die.

If you know me and how I teach, I'm very clear about not going on tangents as far as speculating on what these are. They are so odd and so wild in description that there is nothing that matches them. I'm not going to tell you that they are this or that, because we don't know. All we would be doing is speculating. I always say we'll lose the point of the whole matter. We'll lose it! We can get so intellectual, so wrapped up in, "Well, you know this armament that's come up, it's equipment that's been introduced. It sure does sound like this." Quite frankly, I don't care. We can get lost in all that and then take our eyes off of the Lord, take our noses out of the Bible and then put them on all kinds of other things and speculate about them. We don't need to do that, we really don't. That's why I'm not going to spend much time on it. Read it for yourself, and respond to it the way God would have you respond to it.

Their appearance is *like* locusts, but they're not locusts, or horses with weird faces and heads. Locusts in number are a destructive force. Horses are for war, we know that. But these have heads, faces, breastplates, teeth, tails, and a noise that can't be likened to anything here on earth. Just amazing! Unfortunately, not deadly. Death would be welcomed for those that are inflicted with pain from their tails.

They have a king and locusts don't have a king. According to Proverbs 30:27 [*the locusts have no king, yet all of them march in rank*], there's no one leading them, they just go along with everyone else. But this king is the destroyer who brings destruction.

The Lord Jesus said in John 10:10, "*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.*" That's the destroyer, that's who brings destruction. It's Satan. But remember this -- God is still in control and He who gave the key has the authority to take the key.

There is no judgment that will be out of place and there will be conclusion out of place, or time. It will happen exactly the way it's supposed to happen, at just the right time and in just the right way. We need to always remember that as we read through these verses, as we understand them, that God is sovereign. He's always in control.

Again, what do these things cause you to do? They should cause us to move and to respond, and to surrender to the Lord just that much more.

The Sixth Trumpet (vv. 13-19)

So the first woe has passed, behold two woes are still to come.

¹³ Then the sixth angel blew his trumpet, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar before God, ¹⁴ saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." ¹⁵ So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour, the day, the month, and the year, were released to kill a third of mankind. ¹⁶ The number of mounted troops was twice ten thousand times ten thousand; I heard their number. ¹⁷ And this is how I saw the horses in my vision and those who rode them:

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they wore breastplates the color of fire and of sapphire and of sulfur, and the heads of the horses were like lions' heads, and fire and smoke and sulfur came out of their mouths. ¹⁸ By these three plagues a third of mankind was killed, by the fire and smoke and sulfur coming out of their mouths. ¹⁹ For the power of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails, for their tails are like serpents with heads, and by means of them they wound.

So, the sixth trumpet is blown. The command comes from the altar. John hears this voice coming from the golden altar before God to release these four angels to head up these legions of demonic beings. This time it's not to torment, but it's actually to kill a third of the people on earth.

Now, we're given this description of how it is that they were loosed. On the altar we have four horns. Those four horns are used to tie down the sacrifice. The one who tied down the sacrifice is also able to loose the sacrifice. So, we're given this picture. It's by Divine authority that these four angels are allowed to be unleashed from the place that they were. They did not have authority to leave but they were *allowed* to leave.

2 Thessalonians 2:6 says, ***And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time.***

There is a restraining force. By the way, there's nothing in the church that has power whatsoever, it's He who abides with the church. It's His power alone. The restrainer is not the church, but it is God. God, the Father; God the Son; God the Holy Spirit. He can loose, and He can also bind anything and anyone that He wishes.

Today there are fallen angels who are roaming the earth and doing the will of the Destroyer, Satan himself. He has dispatched those who are here on earth and they're doing their destructive duties as Satan has placed before them, up to this point. But there are those who have been bound who will bring death in this prescribed time.

At this point, a quarter of the earth's population has already been killed, according to Revelation 6:8, and now another third, which means that after this killing spree over half of the earth's population will have died, will have been killed.

[Just a little side note, I just remembered something about the locusts and I think it's important for us to understand. They were likened to those things that were sent out to torment for five months. Guess how long locusts live? Five months. They usually come out from May to September. It's interesting that John said that these are like locusts and they're going to torment for five months.]

But this other army that will be sent out to kill. So if you were doing the math, it'll be an army of 200 million demonic beings riding horses who have heads like lions, who have fire, smoke, and sulfur coming out of their mouths by which three different plagues will be introduced and killing a third of mankind. These are the ones that are going to be roaming the earth. They are exactly how they are described, according to what John saw. To top it all, these horses have tails like serpents with heads that inflict wounds on the people. That is absolutely amazing!

Why they are located at the Euphrates River, we don't know. We're not told here, but we do know is that they are bound up to this time and will be released to kill many people on earth.

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What's interesting is that the Euphrates is the location of ancient Babylon; the boundary of the ancient Roman Empire; where the first sin was committed; the first murder; and other revolts that are demonic, rebelling against God. Because anything that goes against God is demonic. It's of demonic origin. Anything that is opposed to the Lord is anti-Christ. It's not just capital Antichrist, it's anyone who is opposed to Jesus Christ, to God, that is anti-Christ. I found it interesting that it is from this area that these things have taken place. It is the old Roman Empire that will somehow be revived at some point, under the rule of the Antichrist (capital A).

So we have here fire, smoke, sulfur, three plagues, tails that wound which bring death to a third of the remaining population of the earth. That's devastating! We're talking about the economy, and what it would do the world. We saw what will happen when the previous plagues take place; we saw a third of the sea, we saw a third of the ships, a third of the vegetation be burned up, but this is way beyond any kind of economic and social impact. This is just devastating!

The Earth's Response (vv. 20-21)

The people at this point should really just drop to their knees, wouldn't you agree? And say, "Oh, God, forgive us!"

Here's a question I would like to ask you. How would you respond if you were to experience all of this and yet were spared? You weren't tormented; you weren't killed; somehow you went through it. How would you respond? And then I want you to think about this: How have you responded to things that have happened around you, up to this point? I just want you to think about that as we continue to move one.

We see here the earth's response:

²⁰ The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshiping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk, ²¹ nor did they repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

That's how the world will respond to what they experience when they're left on earth. We're thinking, "Yes, they should drop to their knees and acknowledge God and say, 'Have mercy on us! We don't want any of this to come upon us!'"

2 Thessalonians 2:9-10 says, ***⁹ "The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, ¹⁰ and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved."***

The only reason is because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. That's the only reason. It wasn't that they weren't offered love, to love the truth and to be saved. But obviously they were given the opportunity to respond to what they have come to know.

We live in a day in which good is called evil and evil is called good. We're in that day and time right now. Although it is seen, it is evil that is worshipped by many still today. We say, "Yes, I'm a Christian and believe in God." And yet the Bible says very clearly that if you love God you'll obey His commandments. It's very clear.

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And yet we still get to a point to where we compromise and we worship not the God of the Bible, but the god of our own making, whatever that may be. Whether it be gold, silver, wood, something made in our own image, even ourselves. We love ourselves. There's no need to go into the self-help area of the bookstore because you know how to love yourself very, very well.

There seems to be an attraction to the demonic, the dark, destruction and evilness altogether. So many TV shows, movies and they have these catchy titles (by the way, there's more of them today than there ever has been before). The reason why they're introduced is because people buy them! They go see these shows. They watch these series' and they're like, "Man, this is so cool!" Good is evil and evil is good.

There's a desensitizing that's going on right in our homes and we're introducing it right on the TV. We go and pay money for them; we follow their blogs; we buy their games. It's these experiences that people are willing to subject themselves to in the name of supernatural-experiences. But what really baffles me is that it's the same people that claim to not believe that there is not a God who exists eternally in the Spirit.

"I don't believe any of *that*...but I want to be scared by the ghost."

"Wait a minute, I thought you didn't believe in any of that?"

"Let's break out the Ouija board." Really?!

We see here that although there are some pretty fantastic signs and wonders, people don't repent. They refuse to repent. They continue to worship demons. There is actual demon worship; there's Satan worship. There is! It's going on today!

They'll continue to worship gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood. What does that mean? It means gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood. It's wealth; it's the accumulation of things; power. You could say all of that is included in those things.

The *love* of money is the root of all kinds of evil. It's not money itself, so I want to make sure that I give you the fine print. So let's not just throw out the baby with the bathwater, but we need to understand when that becomes more important, when that is the one thing that you place above the Lord then that is what you idolize, that is what you worship. It's not God, don't fool yourself; it's not God. It's something else, but it's not Him.

These people, even though there are some pretty fantastic signs and wonders that they have seen, they don't turn from murdering either. They're doing the work of the Destroyer. There's people who still will murder. There are people who don't turn from sorceries.

By the way, this word *sorcery* -- the original word in the original text is *pharmakeia*. Does that sound familiar? Pharmaceutical/pharmacy...which means that there is a perversion of that which should heal. And people say, "It's all natural. Why would God place it on the earth if it's not there to enjoy?" Well some things are there for medicinal reasons, I understand that, and they are prescribed by doctors. There's a reason for that, but then there are those that are perverted by people and they're abused. And *pharmakeia* is the use of drugs.

You'll also introduce the occult when you do that. When you're looking for another experience you are opening up the door to the occult. What does that mean? You're being introduced to Satan. These hallucinogens that you're taking, you're "self-medicating". Listen, you're playing with fire; with Satan himself.

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These people didn't turn from their sorceries, this abuse of drugs. There'll be many people, just like there are many people today, who don't turn from drugs. It's only through a relationship with Jesus Christ. I just sat down with someone the other day and we were talking about this.

Listen, I've been there! It's not like you have someone who has never understood what it is to be in your shoes. Let me tell you the road that you're going down. Let me tell you the road that I was going down. There was a conclusion to it. And had Jesus Christ not saved me, had Jesus Christ not pulled me out of that, I would not be here today to tell you. I know it beyond a shadow of a doubt. I know that there are people here who would say the same thing—the only answer to these things is Jesus Christ.

They don't turn from sexual immorality either. I just read something the other day that there's a present day concern for teens in L.A. I've told you before that I remember taking my boys to the doctor and he was trying to introduce this drug which is available today for teens.

Did you know that over 30% of young girls, ages 12 or 13, have some kind of sexually transmitted disease? And it's on the rise! In L.A. it's much higher. I'm sure it has to do with the ability to go on social media and do things that they believe is discreet. Everything is revealed. Everything that is done in darkness will be revealed in the light.

They don't turn from stealing. I think about Ferguson, Missouri. The National Guard had to be called in. This is going on in other places throughout the world. Stores are being broken into and they have nothing to do with it! The windows are being broken, they're being looted, people are stealing from the stores. That's justice? No, that's just an excuse for people to go in and act the way they are.

There's evil and darkness in people's hearts. The only way, the only answer is Jesus Christ.

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came [Jesus speaking] that they may have life and have it abundantly." [John 10:10]

This signals that people's hearts are not just hardened, but they have seared consciences that have no feeling or reaction toward God. I pray that there's no one here in that place! I know there are people who listen to the gospel, they hear about these things, and they continue to reject and deny and want nothing to do with it.

It reminds me of what happens to us after severe tragedies! Many people, not just a few, but many go right back to business as usual. Churches don't even see an impact after a tragedy like Charleston, South Carolina, or the San Bernardino shooting, or massive flooding. Do you remember 9/11? Oh, man! The churches were filled! And now we have tragedies and it's like life just keeps on going.

2 Thessalonians 2:11-12 says, ***"Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, ¹² in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness."*** That's the thing – there's pleasure in unrighteousness, but it's only for a season and its end is destruction. That's the warning.

Do you want to know what to get out of all this? Respond by really the only answer – Jesus Christ, surrendering to Him. "I don't want any part of all this. I understand that the path that I've been taking is apart from You. I want to know forgiveness. I want to know grace. I want to know salvation."

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Listen, Satan knows he cannot and does not win in the end. He knows that! His whole purpose is to steal, kill, and destroy as many people as he possibly can until the day that he is thrown into The Lake of Fire. He wants to take as many people as he can with him. But let me tell you that you don't have to be a part of that group that is duped by him and spend eternity in hell. You don't have to! You can exercise your will. It's ok!

I was a part of that group that would make fun of Christians. To my shame, my sister was the number one person that I made fun of. And I had others around me at the time I came to Christ. I didn't give them much thought because at some point I figured out that they didn't really care much about me. The One who cared the most about me was actually offering me forgiveness. He died on the cross for me and gave His life, but He also resurrected after three days. In Him I have life today, life eternal. In Him I have a whole new life. In Him I can tell you this is for certain, this is true -- I am not the same person. It's not because I willed it. Not because I went through a program and learned how to do it, it's not because I read a book. It's because I believed Him and I surrendered my life to Jesus Christ!

G.K. Chesterson said, "*When a man stops believing in God, he doesn't then believe in nothing, he believes in anything.*"

Think about that. I know people who say, "Well, I don't need to believe in God. In fact, I don't believe in anything."

Actually no, you believe in just about anything that comes your way.

"Oh, I accept that...and that, too." That's not mercy, that's not grace, that's not anything but a deception. It's that person being duped and everyone who listens to him.

Be warned! The demonic army will be unleashed, but no rebellion, no rejection, no demons, no Satan will overcome the King of kings, and Lord of lords. None! Jesus is the Victor and I pray that He is your Victor!

I've given you questions along the way. These things to think about. These are the last questions I'll ask you, and I pray that today is the day of salvation for you. With all my heart, I would beg you to consider this: Is He your Victor? And along with that, is there evidence of that in your life?

We are always up here, myself and Pastor Chuck, and the other elders and some wives, are all up here to pray with you. Hopefully sometimes to pray *for* you, to intercede for you. I pray that today you take advantage of that. If you have any questions about salvation, I hope that you would ask. If you want us to come alongside you and help you in your walk and point you in the right direction, I hope that you take advantage of us. Come up here and be prayed over.

I pray that if you don't know salvation in Jesus Christ that today you surrender your life to Him, asking for His forgiveness, and asking Jesus Christ to be the Lord of your life.

[Prayer] *Father, we are truly amazed by the love that You showed to us. We thank You for the grace that You've demonstrated through Your Son, Jesus Christ, even though we were still sinners, even though we were still your enemies. You sent Your Son to die for us. As we surrender our lives to Jesus, we know that our sins are forgiven –*

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past, present, and future. That is absolutely amazing! You place our sins away from us, as far as the east is from the west. We have eternal life through Your Son, Jesus Christ. I pray, Father, that if there is anyone here who has not surrendered their life to Jesus Christ that today be the day of salvation, that today they know what it is to be a new person with a new heart in Jesus Christ. I pray that they understand Your grace. So we are truly thankful. You are wonderful and amazing in all of Your ways. We thank You that You are the Victor, and we can place our trust and our faith in You. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.