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I would also encourage you to go to Amazon and pick up a copy of “**Liberating the Book of Revelation, Returning to the Source of the Message.**” This book is intended to help us all know what the Spirit said and how He said it. This book is focused not so much on interpreting the book of *Revelation*, that is what this podcast is for, but on accurately representing the book of *Revelation* in the manner in which the Spirit originally spoke it to John. It is available in all formats: hardback, paperback, e-book format, and as an *audible*.

EP133 Revelation 16 verse 12-14

In our last podcast, we covered the fourth and fifth vials of wrath. In the fourth vial, humanity was scorched with fire and in the fifth, those who belong to the kingdom of the Beast were thrust into darkness and pain. They gnawed their tongues because of the pain. Instead of relenting and repenting, they doubled down and blasphemed God because of their pain and sores.

With that said, let’s pick up now with the sixth bowl or vial of wrath.

Bowl 6: The Euphrates & the Kings from the East

Revelation 16:12-16

The sixth angel poured out his vial on the great river, the Euphrates; and its water was caused to be dried up, so that the way may be caused to be prepared for the kings from the east.

And I saw out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the Beast and out of the mouth of the False Prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs; for they **now** are spirits of demons, **now** performing signs, which **now** choose to go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty.

Behold, I **now** choose to-come like a thief. Blessed is the one who is **now** staying awake and is **now** keeping his clothes, so that he may not **now** walk about naked, and they may see his shame.

And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew is **now** being called Har-Magedon {which we transliterate as, “Armageddon”}.

Fiction Alert

FICTION ALERT

The traditional convention has it that with the pouring out of the sixth vial, the Euphrates River dries up so that the kings of the East, (the supposed enemies of Israel, which some say might also be a veiled reference to China), can cross over to initiate a land assault on the nation of Israel with their multi-nation army. This is based on the passage which follows which addresses the gathering of the kings of the whole world for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty, which we call Armageddon.

The **Codex** and a simple practical analysis, however, does **NOT** support the traditional convention. The issues we will address will be with the **river**, the **east**, the **kings**, and the **water**. **And we must not forget that God is communicating things to us from His view of the spiritual reality and how that reality ultimately impacts our physical reality, not the other way around.** With that said, it will be apparent that this is not an image addressing the physical, mortal kings and kingdoms, but a metaphysical statement explaining what will happen in the spiritual realm that will then impact our physical realm.

The River

“The sixth angel poured out his vial on the great river, the Euphrates; and its water was caused to be dried up, so that the way may be caused to be prepared for the kings from the east.”

The word “Euphrates” generally means to break forth or to gush forth, but in ancient Greek it meant, “I announce or declare.” They are similar in nature in that an announcement is something that breaks or gushes forth. Thus, we have the great river that breaks forth.

The Euphrates River extends from Turkey to the Persian Gulf, and historically it provided a significant natural barrier between the East and the Middle East, specifically Israel. Historically, anyone desiring to invade Israel had to either find a way to deal with this obstacle or go north and west around it.



Keep in mind, it was not just the Euphrates that created a barrier, but its sister river to the East, the Tigris, also created a significant obstacle. The Tigris is known as a treacherous river having wild and dangerous currents that are quite unlike the smooth flowing Euphrates.

It is significant that this angel does not pour out his vial on both rivers to dry them up to make way for the Kings of the East, but just on the Euphrates. If the physical river was the point of this passage, the angel would need to address the Tigris as well.

The Tigris runs parallel to the Euphrates from its joint origin in Turkey to the Persian Gulf. The Tigris is a shorter river (1,150 vs 1,740 miles) but it is bigger, with faster flowing waters which are estimated to be twice that of the Euphrates. The Tigris River is extremely unpredictable and much more difficult to cross

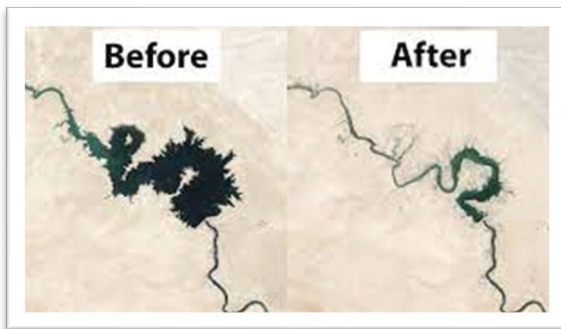
than the Euphrates. Historically, the rapids in certain gorges impeded navigation.¹ In Persian, the name “*Tigris*” means arrow, and the river owes its name to its current running as fast as an arrow.

Though very difficult and dangerous, in ancient times crossing these rivers was not an insurmountable task. Alexander the Great and his armies crossed these rivers in his conquests. The point is that their being dry was not a requirement for success.

Unlike ancient times where crossing the river was a treacherous feat, today there are plenty of bridges and crossings, with highways even, over both rivers such that if an invading army needed to go from East to West, these rivers would not be the problem. With 10 bridges crossing the Euphrates and 5 over the Tigris, the water would not need to be dried up to make egress through Iraq or Syria.

Dried and Drying

Drying up the Euphrates and the Tigris is not a supernatural feat that needs angelic intervention. Today, there have been many articles written, images published, and newscasts explaining that these two rivers are not just drying up, but in many parts, they have dried up. Almost all these reports have ascribed responsibility to global warming, and over the years changed it to climate change. The photography and video accompanying these articles are of the dried or drying up rivers as they flow through the deserts of Syria and Iraq. The images are shocking to say the least. I have included some pictures in the transcript. I encourage you to go to threshermediagroup.com and download the transcript. The pictures are powerful.



¹ Al-Fathah (according to Britannica)

But what these articles, videos, and newscasts do not show and do not mention is *the rest of the story*. These rivers originate in Turkey, and the Turkish government has built 19 out of a planned 22 dams on both the Euphrates and Tigris rivers and Turkey is flush with water. The Ataturk Dam, which sits on the Euphrates, is the third largest dam in the world.



The Iraqi and Syrian governments have accused Turkey of weaponizing water and shutting off flow to keep its Kurdish and other enemies at bay. The result is that the once abundant water supply in Iraq and Syria is even now drying up, and the fall out to those downstream who depend upon these rivers is cataclysmic.

The angel's vial? I think not.

Global Warming? I think not.

Climate Change? I think not.

The politics of man?

That's the "*rest of the story*"!

Besides, in the modern reality of missiles, jets, nuclear weapons, submarines, naval ships, and such, will these "kings from the east" need the Euphrates to be dried up to cross on their way to invade Israel? No, obviously not, especially if Turkey continues to align with a more radical form of Islam. If the river was an issue, they could support or permit an attack from the north avoiding the Euphrates altogether.

It should be obvious that the physical Euphrates River is not the focus of this passage, for such a conclusion would be nonsensical on far too many fronts. Hence, the **fiction alert**.

A Spiritual Boundary

Unbeknownst to many, the Euphrates River marks the eastern boundaries of the territory which **Yahweh** allotted to Israel and which He promised to Abraham.² This boundary is extensive and extends to Egypt, Syria, Iraq (ancient Babylon), Lebanon, the Arab lands of Saudi Arabia, and so on. The Israelites never physically occupied the territory promised to them.



Regardless, this is the area that **Yahweh** carved out for Israel. (Again, I included two illustrations in the transcript that show this territory.) Rather than a physical boundary, it is more likely that this grant of territory is a spiritual territory protected by the angelic to prevent a demonic incursion from certain ruling spirits (“kings from the east”) that are opposed to Israel and to the people of God? We will address this question when we get to our analysis of the “Kings of the East.”

Here is a little factoid from the **Codex** regarding the drying up of the physical river. At Jesus’ Second Coming, when He returns and sets up His kingdom on earth, *“in that day”* He is going to wave His hand over **“the River”** (which is how the Euphrates was referred to back in Isaiah’s day) sending a mighty or scorching wind to divide it into 7-streams so it can easily be crossed on foot. In so doing, He will make a highway for the remnant of His people, the remnant coming from Assyria, just as He did for Israel long ago when they returned from Egypt.³

Given that **“the River”** will be dried up upon Jesus return (which is a very soon event in this **Revelation** narrative given that there is only one plague, the seventh, remaining), it is more than likely that this reference to the great river, the Euphrates, is not so much a physical boundary but to a **spiritual boundary**, that protects Israel from certain ruling spirits (“kings from the east”) that are opposed to Israel and to the people of God.

The East

“... so that the way may be caused to be prepared for the kings from the east.” The word translated as “east” is the Greek word *“anatole,”* which literally means a rising light, as in the dawn, which when the context fits, it is translated as the direction “east.”

² **Genesis 15:18-21, 17:18**

³ **Isaiah 11:15-16**

With that said, in this verse the Spirit intentionally utilized a compound word “*anatole helios*.” Strangely, this was ignored by the translators for obvious reasons; it would challenge their **fiction** that this passage is dealing with the literal physical river.

The word “*helios*” literally means “ray” as in a “ray of light.” In the **Codex** it is used 32 times. Except for our verse where it was omitted by the translators, the other 31 times it is translated as “sun.” A literal translation of the passage would be: “... so that the way may be caused to be prepared for the kings from the rising light of the ray {or the sun}.” More on this compound phrase in a moment.

Not surprising, beyond a reference to direction, “*anatole*” is used in reference to Jesus. There was an old man, a prophet, named Zacharias, the Father of John the Baptist, who prophesied about the coming Messiah. Partly quoting **Isaiah 9:2**, Zacharias said, “Through tender mercy of our God whereby **the rising light** from on high will in the **future** visit us to give light to them that are now choosing to be sitting in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet to the way of peace.”⁴

Including our passage, the compound phrase “*anatole helios*” is used two times in **Revelation** and once “*anatole*” is used as a stand-alone word to speak of the direction of the rising sun, referring to gates on the east side of the New Jerusalem.⁵

The other time when the compound phrase “*anatole helios*” is used was connected to “another angel ascending from the **rising light of the sun**.”⁶ This was the angel who had the seal of God and marked the 144,000 as set apart unto **Yahweh**. Given the rest of the text regarding those who worshiped God, there is a good chance that this reference “*rising light of the sun*” was a reference to the Angel of the Lord, Jesus Himself who is the **Sunrise**.

Given this background, it is more than odd that the translators completely ignored the compound phrase “*anatole helios*” and translated our passage as if “*anatole*” was a stand-alone word, contextually indicating the direction east. Is there something they do not want us to understand?

The drying up of the great river Euphrates will make a passage for the “*kings*” of **the rising light of the sun**. Now things are getting interesting.

Kings

First, if “*kings*” were a reference to the literal physical enemies of Israel that lie to the east of the Euphrates River, referring to them as “*kings of the rising light of the sun*” or even “*kings of the east of the sun*” would be very odd indeed. To describe Russia, Iran, Iraq, other former members of the Soviet Republic, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, and even China (all countries to the east of the Euphrates) in this manner would make no historical, much less modern, sense.

Second, Japan is the only country that is deemed to be of the rising sun. And the drying up of the Euphrates River would hardly be the predominate issue for a land invasion of Israel by Japan. They would first have to cross through either China or Russia, and if that is successful, I doubt a river would be their obstacle.

Third, this reference to “*kings*” associated with this mystical phrase, the “*the rising light of the sun*,”

⁴ **Luke 1:78-79**

⁵ **Revelation 21:13**

⁶ **Revelation 7:2**

likely signifies that we are dealing with spiritual beings, those “*Kings of the Earth*,” spirit Princes (of the rank of Gabriel and Michael) who rule over territories of the earth.

Michael is referred to as a prince or a king who stands guard over the true Israel, the people of God. Michael and Gabriel fight other spiritual princes or kings. Even the Beast is referred to as a spiritual prince. The book of **Daniel** tells us that when Michael “*rises up*” or steps aside from the territory that he protects, then will come the time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time, which is a clear reference to the events associated with the “*great tribulation*.”⁷ As Michael “*rises up*,” there is room for these spiritual princes from the rising light of the sun to cross over the protected territory.

Fourth, we **cannot** and **must not** assume that these kings from the rising light of the sun are evil and poised to do evil. All we are told is that the drying up of the water will be necessary such that a road or a route might be caused to be prepared for these kings or rulers.⁸ They may be pure and righteous, or they may be evil, but the only clue we have is their association with *the rising light of the sun*, which just might mean they are on the side of **Yahweh**, the Angel of the Lord, **Sunrise** Himself.

Fifth, we cannot assume that this passage is to be construed negatively based on the subsequent passage regarding the nations gathering for the war of the great day of God Almighty. There is no direct language connecting the two passages, though they are clearly related.

In the next scene, we are told that there are demonic spirits who do the bidding of the dragon and the Beast, however, the Spirit made no direct connection between those demonic spirits and the kings or rulers of the rising light of the sun.

Sixth, given that this area west of the Euphrates River was spiritually given to Israel, and one day will likely be physically given to them during the millennial kingdom, to complete the prophetic narrative, this spiritual boundary of protection must first be removed, hence, the drying up of the “*water*,” the drying up of the spiritual boundary. Once this boundary is removed, the kings of the whole world can come against Jerusalem in the battle of Armageddon.

In that regard, it is likely that the spiritual Princes, these *kings of the rising light of the sun*, may have been enforcing this boundary, and now they need to retreat to Israel, to Jerusalem, to prepare for the coming war.

Tying this event to what we addressed in **Daniel** regarding the time when Michael “*rises up*,” perhaps Michael, Gabriel and other princes have been enforcing this boundary and preventing certain types of spirits that oppose God from invading this territory. But now they arise and make their way to Jerusalem to reinforce that territory.

Water

“*The sixth angel poured out his vial on the great river, the Euphrates; and its **water** was caused to be dried up ...*” Do you find it odd that the **water** of this great river dries up and not blood? Previously, when the third angel poured out his vial on the rivers and springs of water, they became blood, not “*like blood*” but blood. Perhaps this is the clue, straight from the **Code**, that leads us to dive deeper into our exploration.

⁷ See **Daniel 10, 11:22, 12:1**

⁸ “the way” is the Greek word “*hodos*” literally meaning a road or a route

According to the **Code**, water is one of the idioms for the Spirit of God. He is referred to as the living water, even rivers of living water.⁹ That is why apostate religious leaders are referred to as clouds without water and springs without water. They are without the Spirit of God, though everyone expects them to be bearers of life, bearers of living water.¹⁰

Perhaps the water drying up depicts the removal of the protection from the territory that has for thousands of years been bounded by the Spirit of God, enforced through the angelic spirit Princes (those of the rising light of the Sun), a boundary which has been in place to prevent a demonic invasion of the territory that was granted to Israel.

You might be thinking that there has been plenty of demonic activity in Israel, for instance, Baal, Ashtoreth, Molech, Milcom, Chemosh, etc. True, but those demons were in essence invited into the land, they did not invade. They were given a free pass by the Israelites who joined themselves to foreign women, etc., and began to worship foreign gods.

There have also been plenty of military incursions into the territory by Israel's enemies to the East; however, there has been no incursion on the level that will happen once this spiritual protection is removed. Spiritually and physically, there will be an unprecedented incursion into the land.

In addition, we previously encountered 4 angels (with massive armies) bound at, or assigned to, the great river Euphrates. These were those angels who were released at the sounding of the **sixth** trumpet to kill one-third of humanity.¹¹

Their being bound at the Euphrates is quite odd. Perhaps their assignment has been in part to guard the passage to restrict certain spirits from crossing over into the land of Israel, and this task required a huge army to accomplish. We really do not know, but it is probably no coincidence that they were released from their post at the sounding of the **sixth** trumpet and now we are addressing the **sixth** vial.

With this storyline, it simply makes no sense that this passage is dealing with armies and kingdoms of men, as the Euphrates River is not their only, or their most significant, problem in accessing Israel with a land invasion. This passage deals with spiritual beings, which ties us to the next passage.

The Demonic Gathering

Revelation 16:13-14

And I saw out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the Beast and out of the mouth of the False Prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs; for they **now** are spirits of demons, **now** performing signs, which **now** choose to go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty.

⁹ ***John 4:10-15, 7:38,***

¹⁰ ***Jude12; 2 Peter 2:17***

¹¹ ***Revelation 9:15-18***

The False Prophet

This is the first instance where the Spirit identifies the second beast as the **False Prophet**. This phrase is used a total of three times. The other two times are in passages about the final judgment of the Beast and the False Prophet.¹² So far, the Spirit has always referred to him as “the second beast,” as another in kind and nature to the Beast (a high-ranking angelic demon), but never has he been addressed by his own name or title.

So why the switch?

Perhaps the name is connected to all that we have learned about the second beast.

False: “And he **now deceives** those who are **now dwelling on the earth...**” He is a “Decepticon,” one who intentionally deceives with words and deeds that are intended to lead people to embrace that which is not true.

Prophet: a prophet in effect brings forth words or messages from the “other side” – from the spiritual realms. And this second beast “*spoke as a dragon,*” with words that light the fires of conflict and contempt. Further, because of his words and the great signs he performs, he is the one that “**now causes the earth and those who are now dwelling in them to in the future worship the Beast...**”

Further, he **now** has the power to give breath to an image of the Beast that the image should **speak** as he speaks, “and may cause as many as may not **now** worship the image of the beast that they may be caused to be killed.”¹³

With his false prophetic words, this second beast leads people to worship a false Messiah.

Ok, but how do we know for sure that this refers to the second beast and not to some other demonic entity?

This response may be anecdotal, but it is not without merit. So far throughout the book of **Revelation**, when it comes to the demonic, from the locust-like demons with scorpion tails to the four angels bound by the great river Euphrates and their armies of demons (whose heads of their horses are like lions having fire, smoke, and brimstone that comes out of their mouths), to the Dragon, the Beast, and the second beast, the Spirit has given us all sorts of detail, so much so that it is a curiosity. So, it would be odd and out of sorts for the Spirit to introduce a new demonic character without providing any background information and to just drop upon us a name or a title.

Yet, with regard to the second beast the Spirit has included all manner of detail explaining how he falsely prophecies through his two horns, one being the institutions of man (signified by the fact that he arose from the earth) and the second through religion, through the image (which he gave breath) that is now standing where it ought not to be, proclaiming to those in the holy place, in the Sanctuary of God, in the very center of Christianity, that he now is God.

In addition, in his role in the false trinity, he functions as the Holy Spirit substitute; he mimics the Spirit of God. We are told in the **Codex** that the prophets of God were men moved by the Spirit who spoke

¹² **Revelation 19:20; 20:10**

¹³ **Revelation 13:11-15**

through them, and that *“the testimony of Jesus now is the Spirit of prophecy.”*¹⁴ The Holy Spirit of God is the one who gives testimony to Jesus, and He is the Spirit of Prophecy, the one who speaks through men to bring forth the word of God causing men and women to worship Jesus.

In the same way, with the breath of the second beast, the image of the Beast speaks also or along with the second beast, and his words deceives those who are now dwelling on the earth, and he deceives those in Christianity who are ok with the many so called “truths” in the marketplace of Christianity. And through his many deceptive signs, he convinces the small and the great, the rich and the poor, the freemen and the slaves to not just worship the Beast, but to even **now** bear his mark, or the number of his name.

Thus, it is not a conceptual leap, but a reasoned and factual based conclusion to state that the second beast is the False Prophet. Besides, it is likely that the Spirit made this change because He wants to drive home the point that far too many of those who have been called into God’s household and many of those who are now Chosen, will be the very ones who comprise the great apostasy, the great falling away, because they have been listening to the words of this False Prophet and ascribing those words to the Spirit of God.

These three main spiritual beings, Satan (the dragon), Apollyon, the Destroyer (known throughout as the Beast), and a heretofore nameless third demonic entity referred to as “the second beast” but is now identified as the **“False Prophet,”** are front and center in this **End Times** drama.

The dragon wants to dominate by force, the Beast wants to destroy, and the False Prophet assists them through all manner of religious and institutional deceptions. These are incredibly powerful spiritual beings, so it is a bit odd to see these three unclean spirits of demons come forth from them—literally out of their mouths.

Spirits Possessing Spirits

*“And I saw out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the Beast and out of the mouth of the False Prophet, **three unclean spirits like frogs; for they now are spirits of demons, now performing signs, which now choose to go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty.**”*

Wow, this is freaky and not something that even many Hollywood movies have picked up on. But we will have to wait until our next podcast to uncover this oddity where demons are possessed by demons.

I am glad you “tuned in” and have been “ready to listen.”

¹⁴ **2 Peter 1:20-21; Revelation 19:10**