Angels of Doom Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Revelation.
- B. Subject: the unveiling of the scroll.

C. The title of the scroll is the mystery of God, which is how God will bring about peace and joy to a sinful angry and murderous world.

D. God is doing this already by grace, but to a world that rejects grace, He can only do it by judgment.

E. What happens when man is allowed to have his way?

II. The seventh seal.

- A. There is a half hour rest at the opening of the last seal.
- B. Seven angels were handed seven trumpets at the opening.
- C. Another angel appears who is likely Jesus.
 - 1. Jesus is a high priest who makes intercession for us.

2. This points out the purpose of prayer—the fragrance of Jesus before the Father that delights Him.

- 3. The prayers of incense also moves the Father.
- D. The prayers of the saints are answered for the vengeance of God on behalf of those martyred.
- E. The sounds mark the close of man's age and the beginning of God's age.
 - 1. This is the prayer of the Old Testament saints.
 - 2. This is Lord's Prayer that has not been answered yet—thy kingdom come.
- F. Judgments from the trumpets.
 - 1. These are both literal and symbolic judgments.

2. Scripture has predicted both a judgment upon the nation of Israel and the world around it.

3. There will be a judgment upon the sea.

4. There is still a mercy of God being manifest under these judgments.

5. A great comet will fall upon the earth, there will be mass movement, and there will be a change in authority in the government characterized by cruelty but limited by God's mercy again.

- 6. There is the greatest woe upon those who live for the now alone. (Isaiah 6)
- 7. Judgment will increase.
- G. Judgment is good although we do not like it.
 - 1. Judgment scares us.
 - 2. Judgment sobers us.
 - 3. Judgment restores us.
 - 4. Judgment humbles us.
 - 5. Judgment reassures us.

Application questions:

1. What does it mean that Jesus is an intercessor?

2. What kind of judgment should one expect in the end times?

3. Which reason for judgment being good do you find most convincing? Explain.