Angel Army Camps

This week we'd like to continue the series on the Camps/Breastplate building on the discussion last week of the "Armies in Heaven" with insight into Judges 5.

Here we focus on how the angels in heaven, around the throne form a military structure which is then shown in the earth with the Camps of Israel. Here we'll have an emphasis on the angelic horsemen and chariots along with topics:

- 12 legions of angels
- Chariots of Israel with Elijah and Elisha
- 4 spirits of the heavens (Zech 1, 6, 10)

Christ told Peter in Mat 26:52 "for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword. -- Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?" Like the great prophets Christ was backed by the angelic host without the need to exert physical might. Yet here he identifies an order of "12 Legions of Angels" in a manner similar the Camps of 12 tribes of Israel. At that time a Legion was defined as:

g3003. λεγεών legeōn; of Latin origin; a "legion", i.e. Roman regiment: — a legion, a body of soldiers whose number differed at different times, and in the time of Augustus seems to have consisted of 6826 men (i.e. 6100 foot soldiers, and 726 horsemen)

The heaven "body of soldiers" or Legion would at least be 10,000 which we get from Ps 68:17. The angelic chariots are described "encamping" around the Lord and interestingly we have some of the 12 tribes listed in the procession of song.

Chariots KJV "The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of angels:

Or ESV "The chariots of God are twice ten thousand, thousands upon thousands; the Lord is among them; Sinai is now in the sanctuary."

Psa 68:16-17 ABP "...For even the lord encamps κατασκηνόω kataskēnoō unto the end. 17. The chariot of God -- ten thousand-fold; thousands of prospering ones. The Lord among them in Sinai, in the holy place."

Psalms 68:27 There is Benjamin, the least of them, in the lead, the princes of Judah in their throng, the princes of Zebulun, the princes of Naphtali.

Chariot of Israel

Elisha sees the "Chariot of Israel" take Elijah in a whirlwind into heaven calling the angelic chariot Israel.

2 Ki 2:11 chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

...Elisha was beholding, and he yelled, O father, O father, the **chariot of Israel,** and his horseman ἱππεύς hippeús.... (2 Ki 2:12, ABP)

Same expression is used of Elisha in 2 Ki 13:14 Now Elisha was fallen sick of his sickness whereof he died. And Joash the king of Israel came down unto him, and wept over his face, and said, O my father, my father, the **chariot of Israel**, and the horsemen thereof.

Angelic Host with Elisha

So king of Syria sent there horses and chariots and a great army, and they came by night and surrounded the city. When the servant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. And the servant said, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" Elisha said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

2 Ki 6:17 So the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was **full of horses and chariots of fire** all around Elisha

More with us than with them

The expression is also used by Hezekiah "More with us" 2 Chr 32:7 when surrounded by the Assyrians, yet it only required one Angel in the slaughter of 185,000!

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or dismayed before the king of Assyria and all the horde that is with him, for **there are more with us than with him**. With him is an arm of flesh, but with us is the LORD our God, to help us and to fight our battles." And the people took confidence from the words of Hezekiah king of Judah. 21 And the LORD sent an angel, which cut off all the mighty men of valour, and the leaders and captains in the camp of the king of Assyria. 2 Ki 19:35 And that night the **angel of the LORD** went out and struck down **185,000** in the camp of the Assyrians

White, Red, Black, Pale

As we familiarize the horsemen and chariots of heaven, we also have more detail revealed to Zechariah and John of the 4 primary leaders called the 4 spirits of the heavens. In Rev 6:2-8:

- ...behold, white horse and the one sitting upon it having a bow...
- ...another horse, fiery; and to the one sitting upon it was given to him great sword...
- ...behold, black horse; and the one sitting upon it having a yoke balance scale...
- ...a pale horse, and the one sitting upon it, his name was Thanatos, and Hades followed...

HORSES Zec 1:8 ABP I saw the night, and behold, a man having mounted a **reddish** horse, and this one stood in the midst of the shady mountains; and behind him **reddish** horses, and **white**, and **spotted**... Zec 1:11 ABP And they answered to the angel of the Lord standing in the midst the mountains, and they said, We have **traveled about the earth**, and behold, all the earth is inhabited and tranquil.

CHARIOTS Zec 6:1-3 ABP ...behold, four chariots going forth from out of the midst of two mountains. 2. With the first chariot **reddish** horses; and with the second chariot **black** horses; 3. and with the third chariot **white** horses; and with the fourth chariot the spotted horses **spotted and dapple-gray**.

Zec 6:4-5 ABP ...What are these, O lord? 5. And the angel answered, the one speaking with me. And he said, These are the four winds/spirits of the heaven,...

Now, the reason we do these studies is to show that when we study the full context of the scripture, it becomes clear that horse riders of Revelation are not evil or antichrist but are the real heavenly host!

White Horse Army in Solomon Foreshadow

We've established that Christ's second coming comes as a foreshadow of Solomon when he establishes the Temple. Here we have the horsemen, chariots, fine linen

Solomon gathered together chariots and horsemen. He had 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horsemen, whom he stationed in the chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem. 1 Chr 1:14

2 Chr 1:16 And Solomon had horses brought out of Egypt, and linen yarn: the king's merchants received the linen yarn at a price.

They imported a chariot from Egypt for 600 shekels of silver, and a horse for 150. 2 Chr 1:17

...there were to Solomon four thousand female horses for chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen. And he stationed them in the cities of the chariots, and with the king in Jerusalem. (2 Ch 9:25, ABP)

- Here are other passages from the prophets the Angels horsemen and chariots

● Isaiah 43:16 Thus saith the LORD, which maketh a way in the sea, and a path in the mighty waters;

17 Which bringeth forth the **chariot and horse, the army** and the power; they shall lie down together

● Habakkuk 3:8 Was the LORD.... that thou didst ride upon thine horses and thy chariots of salvation?

9 Thy bow was made quite naked, according to the oaths of the tribes, even thy word. Selah.

● David to Goliath 1 Sam 17 I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts the God of the armies of Israel

● Ps 34:7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him and delivers them.

Heaven's Counsel

The Most High is surrounded by a host often described in military style of στρατία stratia in the heavenly counsel. Like when Nebuchadnezzar came to his senses:

● Dan 4:35 inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the **army of heaven**, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand,

●1 Kings 22:19 And he said, Hear thou therefore the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing by him on his right hand and on his left.

●1 Ki 22:19 ABP And Micaiah said, On account of this hear the word of the lord! I saw the lord God of Israel sitting upon his throne, and all the military στρατία stratia of the heaven standing about him at his right, and at his left.