

## **PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH**

### *LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE*

**Sermon Date: 20/12/2020**

**Text(s): Matthew 2:2–6; Revelation 8:6–13 & Revelation 9**

**Sermon Title: Ready?**

**Preacher: Rev Dr Jonathan Seet**

(The sermon recording is available in the PMC website and MyPMC App)

### **READ (5 mins)**

#### **Matthew 2:2–6 (ESV)**

**2** saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

**3** When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him;

**4** and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

**5** They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

**6** “ ‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’ ”

#### **Revelation 8:6–13 (ESV)**

**6** Now the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to blow them.

**7** The first angel blew his trumpet, and there followed hail and fire, mixed with blood, and these were thrown upon the earth. And a third of the earth was burned up, and a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.

**8** The second angel blew his trumpet, and something like a great mountain, burning with fire, was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood.

**9** A third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

**10** The third angel blew his trumpet, and a great star fell from heaven, blazing like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water.

**11** The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many people died from the water, because it had been made bitter.

**12** The fourth angel blew his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, and a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of their light might be darkened, and a third of the day might be kept from shining, and likewise a third of the night.

**13** Then I looked, and I heard an eagle crying with a loud voice as it flew directly overhead, “Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, at the blasts of the other trumpets that the three angels are about to blow!”

**Read also Revelation 9 in your own bible.**

### **RELATE (30 mins)**

(Relate to what was shared and on key themes in the sermon)

- 1. The Magi did not know the exact location where the King of kings would be born but they travelled over hundreds or maybe thousands of miles following a star. The Chief Priests and the Pharisees knew the exact location but did not bother to go a short distance to look for their Messiah. What caused the difference? What would be some indications whether we ourselves are truly seeking Jesus on a daily basis?**
- 2. The Lord Jesus is coming back soon and many signs have been pointing towards this. One of the signs is pestilences. One key sign is the formation of the nation of Israel on 14 May 1948. What were your thoughts when you heard these two signs mentioned in the sermon?**
- 3. The preacher shared that the first time bombs were released from the sky was in World War I, destroying trees and grass. The two atomic bombs dropped in World War II looked like mountains of fire. Chernobyl means Wormwood, the place where a huge nuclear leak happened on 26 April 1986 which led to the death of many. Then on 15 June 1991, the eruption of Mt Pinatubo spewed out so much ash that a third of the atmosphere had its light blocked out. These 4 events are possible fulfilment of the 4 trumpets in Revelation 8. Have you heard of other possible fulfilments of these 4 trumpets? What do you think is God's purpose in giving these revelations to Apostle John?**

### **REFLECT (30 mins)**

(Reflect and apply God's word to our daily lives)

- 1. What did John actually see in his vision when he described the smoke coming from the abyss (under the earth) like smoke from a great furnace and the locusts that looked like horses? What did he actually hear when he heard the sound of the wings of these locusts which sounded like the chariots and horses rushing to battle? What do you remember shared by the preacher and about the name Apollyon?**
- 2. Jesus Christ is coming soon! What does this mean to you? How does that affect our lives? Focus on what has eternal value. The Word of God and the souls of people have eternal value. The material things and the pleasures of this world have no eternal value. The preacher pointed out the need to build up people and bring them into the Kingdom of God. How can we contribute to these two goals?**

**REST (15 mins)**

(Take time to share and pray for one another)

(Pray for our church, our nation, and our world. See MyPMC > PRAY for weekly guide)

- Pray for one another to love only that which has eternal value and to live for the Kingdom of God.
- Pray for our church to be a community that cares about those around us who do not yet know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.
- Pray for the MCS to continue to be strong and stable, able to meet needs in Singapore, and stand out as a true witness of Christ Jesus.