

REVELATION Chapter 9

We have read about the 1st four trumpet judgments in chapter 8, now we'll see the last three:

Rev 9:1 And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.

A 'star' is sometimes used in scripture to denote an 'angel.'

Remember in Rev 1:20, the 7 stars are the 7 angels (of the 7 churches).

In Rev 12:4, one-third of the stars of heaven are understood to be the angels that followed the Devil in his rebellion.

For example:

Job 38:6,7 Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof;

7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

The name 'Lucifer' means 'brilliant star.'

Isa 14:12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

Luke 10:18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

In Rev 22:16, Jesus is the Bright and Morning Star. He's the One who had the keys:

Rev 1:18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

The bottomless pit evidently is locked since it takes a key to open it.

The angel in Rev 9:1 evidently held on to the key because he will use it again in:

Rev 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

continue with Rev 9:2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.

Two other instances of smoke rising up like a furnace were

- when the Lord rained fire from heaven upon Sodom and Gomorrah
- and • when the Lord came down upon Mt. Sinai when He gave Moses the 10 commandments:

Gen 19:27,28 And Abraham gat up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the LORD:

28 And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace.

Exo 19:17,21 And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount.

18 And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.

19 And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice.

20 And the LORD came down upon mount Sinai, on the top of the mount: and the LORD called Moses up to the top of the mount; and Moses went up.

21 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go down, charge the people, lest they break through unto the LORD to gaze, and many of them perish.

Locusts typically eat up all the green vegetation.

Scorpions have deadly stingers in their tails.

These locusts will have tails like scorpions:

continue with Rev 9:3-5 And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

4 And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.

5 And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.

The 8th plague in Egypt was locusts:

Exo 10:13-15 And Moses stretched forth his rod over the land of Egypt, and the LORD brought an east wind upon the land all that day, and all that night; and when it was morning, the east wind brought the locusts.

14 And the locusts went up over all the land of Egypt, and rested in all the coasts of Egypt: very grievous were they; before them there were no such locusts as they, neither after them shall be such.

15 For they covered the face of the whole earth, so that the land was darkened; and they did eat every herb of the land, and all the fruit of the trees which the hail had left: and there remained not any green thing in the trees, or in the herbs of the field, through all the land of Egypt.

What an awful time that will be. The locusts-scorpions will be so terrible that men will try to die thinking to relieve their pain.

Evidently they won't even be able to commit suicide:

Rev 9:6 And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.

The next few verses describe the appearance of the locusts.

Rev 9:7-11 And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men.

They will look like war-horses, yet with faces like men. Their gold crowns indicate authority.

8 And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions. Their hair will be 'long' hair because that's the way the scripture describes women's hair. In 1 Cor 11:15, a woman's long hair is her glory. In 1 Tim 2:9 speaks of women's hair being 'broided' which means it would have to be long enough to be braided.

9 And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle. They are suited up with armor for protection and fighting.

10 And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months. They have a limited time frame to inflict pain.

11 And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon. These names mean 'destroyer' or 'destruction' for The Locust King.

Ordinary locusts don't have a ruler, but the 'supernatural' ones will have one:

Prov 30:27 The locusts have no king, yet go they forth all of them by bands;

continue with Rev 9:12,13 One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter.

13 And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God,

Remember that God commanded Moses to put a golden altar in the tabernacle:

Exo 40:26 And he put the golden altar in the tent of the congregation before the vail:
27 And he burnt sweet incense thereon; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Remember that in Rev 8:3, there was an angel who offered incense upon the golden altar which was before God's throne with the prayers of all saints.

continue with Rev 9:14 Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.

4 angels will be unleashed that were tied up in the Euphrates River.

That river was one of the 4 founts that watered the Garden of Eden:

Gen 2:8-15 And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. (Adam)

9 And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

10 And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads.

11 The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold;

12 And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone.

13 And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia.

14 And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates.

15 And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

The 4 angels had a limited amount of time to carry out their mission:

Rev 9:15 And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men.

They had charge of a large company of troops:

Rev 9:16 And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: (That would be 200,000,000 = 200 million) and I heard the number of them.

God has a vast amount of warriors:

Psa 68:17 The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of angels: the Lord is among them, as in Sinai, in the holy place.

When Jesus was betrayed on the Mount of Olives, in the Garden of Gethsemane,

He responded to the capture by saying:

Matt 26:53 Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? (A legion was a regiment in the Roman army that numbered about 6,200 foot soldiers and 300 horsement x 12 = 78,000.)

In the New Jerusalem that will come down from heaven to the earth (Rev 21:2,3),

the number of angels cannot even be counted:

Heb 12:22 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,

The horses of this military were armored for fighting and equipped for killing:

Rev 9:17 And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them,
 • having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth (properly a flower of a reddish blue or deep purple color, like a hyacinth, thus that was the color of a precious stone), and brimstone (that is, burning-stone, sulphur. It is a yellow color that burns with a blue flame. It has no smell, until it is heated, and then it has a peculiar suffocating odor.):

- and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions;
- and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone.

Imagine the locusts

- with faces like men,
- with hair like women,
- with teeth like lions,
- with stinger-tails like scorpions.

Here God presents some quite amazing horses:

- with heads like fire-breathing lions
- with tails like snakes-heads.

The 4 angels employed the great army to carry out their fury:

Rev 9:18 By these three was the third part of men killed,

- by the fire,
- and by the smoke,
- and by the brimstone,

which issued out of their mouths.

19 For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails:
for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads,
and with them they do hurt.

So they killed 1/3 of the men on earth.

You would think the 'earth-lings' would cry out to God for mercy but instead

like Pharoah of old they had hard hearts:

20 And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:

21 Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

4 times in the book of the Revelation, God tells about people who 'repented not.'

In Jesus' day on earth, the chief priests and elders of Israel didn't believe either:

Matt 21:32 For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.

I suppose people will think the aliens from outer space are attacking earth.

The Apostle Paul preached on Mars' Hill to the men of Athens

that God will hold men accountable on judgment day:

Acts 17:29-31 Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.

30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

Paul wrote to the saints at Rome about

another group of people who would not repent

they had the truth, but chose not to believe it:

Rom 1:18-23 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

That's all for Revelation chapter 9.

This is David Dowell, saying, "Think about it!"