

REVELATION CHAPTER NINE

After four trumpets sound in chapter 8, the angel flies through and says, *“Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth.”* That brings us to the ninth chapter, which records two trumpets, the fifth and sixth. The fifth trumpet sounds at the middle of the week. That’s when the pope breaks the covenant and the two prophets are killed.

Don’t miss the time. This is at the middle of the week. All of God’s warnings have been ignored and so He opens the bottomless pit and lets the demons come out upon the earth which is the first woe.

Verse 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.”*

Verse 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.”*

No one will see a star fall from heaven. The bottomless pit represents the presence of satan, where demons are kept in check till God gets ready to turn them loose. If you were in a pit in the heart of the earth, either way you’d go, there would be no bottom to it. For when you got to the surface of the earth, it would be open space. That’s the pit with no bottom.

That will be a dark time at the middle of that week. When the bottomless pit is opened, and it’s said to satan, the devil, *“They’ve rejected me. They’ve rejected the Word. Go on out there.”* In the spiritual realm John saw it as someone who came and opened the pit. There is no certain place on earth where there is a pit with a lid on it that has all the demons shut up in it. John had to see it this way in order to get it written down so we could glean from it God’s interpretation. This is all a spiritual thing. Actually, in many ways the devil is beginning to have more and more authority in the earth today. John saw this as an angel that came and opened a pit and a big black smoke just boiled up. The smoke was so black that it covered the sun. Then, out of the smoke began to come locusts. Don’t forget, that this is a vision; it’s spiritual.

Verse 3: *“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.”*

These same demons that are under the fifth trumpet are the same ones that are under the sixth trumpet. But under the fifth trumpet they are given power like a scorpion. A scorpion’s sting hurts, but usually they don’t cause any serious damage. They just make you feel miserable. It’s something to aggravate and to torment humanity.

Under the fifth trumpet they are not to kill anybody, but they are just to torment and make mankind just as miserable as God allows them. That’s the purpose of these demons; because the world has rejected God’s warning. So God allows the bottomless pit to be opened and says, *“There they are, devils; go*

ahead. Don't kill them, but just torment them. They've rejected me. They've rejected the Word. They've rejected mercy. So just torment them." That's what God says to these demons. John saw it as opening a pit and letting smoke out of it.

Verse 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."*

Verse 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."*

In the Middle East there are times when they have plagues of locusts and they completely strip plants, bushes, etc. That's the way these demons will do people in that hour. **They will strip them of all their mental reasoning.** They'll strip them of anything reasonable and Godly, and they will be just miserable creatures.

We talk about all the dope and nonsense that's going on today, but we haven't seen anything yet. That's just those demons flexing their muscles a little bit, but one of these days God is going to say, "Devils, there they are," and humanity is going to be like those plants are in the Middle East when they have a plague of locusts. The demons are going to crawl all over them and strip them of everything they've got. It's going to be a miserable time. **You talk about hell on earth, and that's what it's going to be when these demons are loosed on mankind.**

Notice, they won't hurt green things. What does that tell us? It tells us that they are not natural locusts, because natural locusts eat the leaves off trees, etc. This shows the spiritual demons that are sent to torment those that have rejected God's Word. They can't even hurt those that have the seal of God.

The word *"torment(ed)"* is in verse five, three times. Do you see what these demons are for, now? They are to torment mankind. There is a certain specific time that God says to torment them *for a period of time*, but don't kill them. These spiritual scorpions are just stinging them in the spirit. People can't feel it with their natural flesh, but sometimes they will scream and pull their hair out. It's demons tormenting them. We've only seen a little bit of it, for God is holding them back, but they are still flexing their muscles.

There are demons today. Many people are demon possessed. Many people are actually tormented to death today. You can ask them, "What's wrong?" And they'll say, "I don't know," but that is only a little thing to what it will be when the cap is pulled off the bottomless pit.

Verse 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."*

I heard a Pentecostal preacher say one time that there was coming a day when you couldn't die. He said that if you cut a man's head off, he would keep on living; or that you could shoot him full of holes and he'll just keep on living. He

said that the Bible said they would seek death and death would flee, that death would take a vacation, and they can't even die. He should have been plowing instead of preaching. This doesn't mean *that* at all. It shows that these demons are not given to kill. Many people will be tormented in that hour, and they'll say that it would be better to be dead, and will want the Lord to just let them die. There will be rape, murder, and anarchy all over the world. **It will be absolutely hell on earth and people will say that it would have been better not to have been born than to have to live in this mess.** These demons are not given to kill men.

Yes, there will be murders in that hour, but the primary job of these demons won't be to kill anybody; it's going to be to torment them and make them miserable.

Verse 7: *"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."*

This says that the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle. This comes forth later on as they become military demons, as we'll get to later in this chapter under the sixth trumpet.

Verse 8: *"And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions."*

This eighth verse literally shows the picture you see when you look out on the street today and see these long-haired boys. Young girls are selling themselves out to the devil, too, but the long hair on boys shows rebellion.

What we see today is only a preview. The real thing doesn't come until the two prophets are killed at the middle of the week. Can you see why the Bible says there will be a time of trouble and it will spread until it covers the whole earth.

Can you even mentally grasp a little bit of what it's going to be like when God's mercy is lifted off this earth and He turns devils loose? Spiritually you may think that you've had a hard time and been feeling miserable. You may think that you've had some mental oppression, but you're on a sunny street picnic when compared with this. Wait till these demons are turned loose. Christians and all feel the pressure of the day that we're living in, but right now the Holy Ghost is withholding this power. But God is going to say, "Open the pit; open the lid, and let the demons out." It says they also had teeth like lions; that's the military part under the sixth trumpet.

Verse 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."* (This shows that they are getting ready for another play under the sixth trumpet.)

Verse 10: *"And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails; and their power was to hurt men five months."*

What was in their tails? A scorpion sting. I want you to get that because under the sixth trumpet they have tails that are like serpents, and have heads, and with them they do hurt; they kill. Under the fifth trumpet it's not given to them to kill, but to hurt. **And that scorpion sting is a spiritual sting to the soul of**

mankind that dwells here on earth after the Rapture takes place. Remember, they are not to kill, but to hurt them. How? Spiritually. And there will be physical hurt in this hour, but the primary job of these demons is not to kill. John is making it clear that it's to torment men, to make them miserable, to hurt them, but not to kill them. There is very little restraining power on them. God says not to kill them, but just to make them miserable and to hurt them.

Verse 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."*

The name of this angel shows the working of these demons. "Apollyon" means *to destroy*. You may think you'll have a safe home, but there will be people that just roam the streets, and their one aim is to destroy, to make miserable, and to torment humanity. Satan will use fallen mankind and the youth of this day that have sold themselves out to the devil. You won't be safe in your living room watching television, because they'll be bent on destroying. That's what the name means, to destroy.

Verse 12: *"One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter."*

There are three of these woes. These three woes take place in a matter of months at the middle of the week and at the sounding of the fifth trumpet.

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

Verse 14: *"Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates."*

Verse 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."*

Under the fifth trumpet these demons are not to kill, but here these same demons are told to kill people, to slay the third part of men.

What we see when this sixth angel sounds is not four angels bound with chains, but it is four angels in charge of holding back these powers, that they don't bring the world to Armageddon till the servants of God are sealed. **Here, the 144,000 have been sealed, the two prophets are killed, and God turns loose hell on earth.**

At this time, God turns loose these four winds: religious winds, military winds, economic winds, and political winds. This sixth trumpet produces the condition that the sixth vial of Revelation 16 speaks of, where it says that three unclean spirits like frogs came out of the mouth of the dragon, the beast, and false prophet--showing how these demons went into different sections of society to bring the world to Armageddon at the end of the week.

God tells the demons that they have tormented men until He is satisfied with that, and for them to go and be military demons to bring the world to Armageddon. This time He tells them not to just torment them but to kill them, to kill at least the third part. When Armageddon takes place, it says that blood will run up to the horses' bridles. It doesn't necessarily mean that horses will be

there, but there will be that much blood shed.

Verse 16: *"And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them."*

Verse 17: *"And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone."* (These are the same demons under the fifth trumpet, but they are just doing a different work.)

Verse 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."*

Do you see the difference? Under the fifth trumpet they were not to kill, but under the sixth trumpet they *are* to kill. The fifth trumpet was to torment men, but under the sixth trumpet they are to bring the world to Armageddon, to kill. There will be a slaughter, and two hundred million men will die in the Holy Land in the Battle of Armageddon. These demons go forth to gather them in. Remember that this is a vision, but in actuality there will be great trouble in the Holy Land.

Verse 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."*

The same demons in the fifth trumpet were like unto scorpions with stings, and they were only to torment. Here, instead of having scorpion stings in their tails, they have serpent heads and with them they bite to kill and destroy. It's a change over; and God's wrath and judgment begins to be poured out in a greater measure. **He begins to bring the world into a situation to get it into the Battle of Armageddon.** You talk about killing and murders, these demons are to kill the third part of humanity on earth. The same demons that were told to torment are now told to go kill.

Would you rather be stung with a scorpion or bit with a poisonous snake? This was a vision. John saw horses with a tail like a big snake that was to bite and kill people. **That was a vision, but the interpretation is: it is demons. At first it began to be pressure like is coming upon the world today, demon pressure, powers, that just keep pressing life out until finally they say it would be better to be dead than alive,** but this sixth trumpet sounds and they begin to kill and bring men to the Battle of Armageddon.

Verse 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:"*

Verse 21: *"Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts."*

Notice that it says "murders," plural. It will begin to be a murderous time and no one will be safe in any house. You'd have to have an army to guard your house to be safe in that hour.

This last verse shows the moral breakdown, and we see it today with the

fornication, etc. That also carries over into the spiritual fornication, too.

They repented not. Why? God has to draw you before you can repent. He said no man can come to me except the Spirit draws him. **God withdraws His Spirit and there is no repentance there.** There is hardly any repentance left in the world today. What will it be when God's mercy is completely gone? No repentance. They won't repent of worshipping idols of gold and silver, or of their fornications and murders. They were glad they did it, because that is their nature. That is the nature of the devil, but we want the nature of Christ. Amen.