

# **THE BOOK OF REVELATION**

## **CHAPTER 8:6-9:21**

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Welcome back to our study of the Book of Revelation. We recommend you begin by reading Revelation Chapters 8:6-9:21. (*Note: All Scriptures are KJV unless otherwise noted.*)

## TRUMPET JUDGMENTS 1-6

In today's notes, we will begin by discussing the trumpet judgments in Revelation 8 and 9.

### First Trumpet

*7 "The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up."*

**Revelation 8:7**

Here, we are seeing judgment coming on the ecology. Great massive fires! One-third of Earth's trees are burned up. All the green grass is burned up.

### Second Trumpet

*8 "And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood; 9 And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed."*

**Revelation 8:8-9**

One-third of the sea becomes blood. One-third of the sea creatures die. One-third of the ships are destroyed.

### Oxygen, Smoke, and Stench

We get most of our oxygen from plankton in the ocean, not the rainforest. Imagine life on Earth after two trumpet judgments: All green grass is burned—oxygen depletion. One-third of the trees are gone—oxygen depletion. One-third of the sea is blood—oxygen depletion.

On Earth, it is miserable! Breathing is hard; up to 20% of all oxygen has been dramatically affected. No green grass remains, and one-third of the trees are burned—imagine the smoke. Think of the stench from all the dead grazing animals.

One-third of saltwater oceans become as blood—imagine the great stench from this. One-third of sea creatures have been killed—more planetary stench.

One-third of ocean-going vessels have been destroyed. Today, at any given moment, over 50,000 merchants are on the sea carrying millions of containers of goods. With the second trumpet judgment, one-third of sea commerce from ships, barges, and oil tankers will be destroyed, and commerce will be significantly curtailed.

The sounding of the first two trumpets will dramatically change the world and the lives of Earth's inhabitants!

## Third Trumpet

*10 “And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; 11 And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.”*

### **Revelation 8:10-11**

The third trumpet causes one-third of all freshwater (drinking water) to become bitter, and many men die. Remember, the second trumpet caused one-third of the salt water (ocean water) to become blood.

With the third trumpet, something falls from heaven as “*a great star burning like a lamp.*” Its name is Wormwood. Since it uses the term “*a great star from heaven,*” it could be a comet.

### Apophis

Some people believe Wormwood could be an asteroid, not a comet. Tom Horn, whom I respect, believed and espoused the theory that Wormwood could be the asteroid Apophis.

On April 13, 2029, Apophis will pass within 20,000 miles of Earth’s surface, the closest approach to Earth of an asteroid this size in recorded history. It will be visible to observers in the Eastern Hemisphere without telescopes or binoculars. It is named after the demon serpent, “The God of Chaos,” who personified evil and chaos in Egyptian mythology.

Apophis is approximately the size of the Empire State Building and travels 30 times faster than the average airliner. If Apophis impacted Earth, the energy released would be equal to more than 1,000 megatons of TNT or tens to hundreds of nuclear weapons. Tom Horn found it interesting that the final day of the Feast of Tabernacles, occurring on October 13, 2025, will be 3½ years before Apophis makes its close approach to Earth on April 13, 2029.

NASA has ruled out the risk of an impact in 2029. Scientists say Apophis is on course to miss Earth by a safe margin. Each of us must consider whether Wormwood is an asteroid, such as Apophis, or something else.

One thing is sure: God, not NASA, has control of the heavens. He will give authority to a mighty angel to summon a celestial body called Wormwood to hit planet Earth, causing devastation.

### Chernobyl

Ironically, the New York Times published an article on July 26, 1986, about the nuclear accident at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in Ukraine. The reporter wrote that he was shown in a dictionary that the Ukrainian word for wormwood is chernobyl.

After the nuclear accident, eight tons of nuclear material escaped into the atmosphere. Suddenly, 8,000 people died, and over 200,000 were affected. The area will not be habitable for 20,000 years when all the nuclear waste is no longer threatening. This is not a fulfillment of Revelation 8:10-11 but a picture and a preview of further events.

#### Fourth Trumpet

*12 “And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise.”*

#### Revelation 8:12

Now, you are looking at the celestial light sources being affected. One-third of the sun struck, one-third of the moon struck, and one-third of the stars struck. All the sky's light sources are darkened by one-third.

Look what Jesus said:

**25** “And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity,”

#### Luke 21:25 NKJV

#### What Is Happening on Earth?

When the sun is darkened by one-third, the temperature of Earth drops. It is going to get colder. So now, you have Earth colder, with less oxygen, a lot of death, and a tremendous stench. One-third of all sea animals were eliminated, and one-third of the freshwater is polluted (bitter). Things are getting serious!

#### Three Woes

After the 4th trumpet, we will see a shift in the intensity and severity of events on Earth. Look at this interesting verse at the end of Chapter 8.

*13 “And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, ‘Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!’”*

#### Revelation 8:13

An angel is warning the inhabitants of Earth that three woes are being pronounced, and they are extremely severe! The *first woe* is revealed after the fifth trumpet is sounded. *The second woe* is revealed after the sixth trumpet is sounded, and its end is pronounced in Revelation 11:14. *The third woe* will be revealed after the seventh trumpet is sounded.

## Chapter Nine

In my opinion, Chapter 9 of Revelation is one of the most disturbing chapters. This next chapter lets us know more about what is coming upon Earth during the Tribulation. It makes me feel an urgency to warn people to be ready for the Rapture because if you should miss it, life on Earth will be a living hell! Trumpets five and six will introduce us to some key terms: A star, locusts, scorpions, Abaddon/Apollyon, angels who are bound, and an army of horsemen, which are evil creatures. These terms have to do with two separate and literal demonic attacks upon those left on Earth during the Tribulation. I will also show you in Chapter 9 that God is not willing that any should perish.

### Fifth Trumpet - First Woe

*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. 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. 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. 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. 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."*

*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. 8 And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions. 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. 10 And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months. 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."*

#### Revelation 9:1-11

After the 5th trumpet sounds, all humanity, except the 144,000 male Jewish evangelists who have been sealed, will be tortured for five months by demonic creatures. People will long to die, but death will take a vacation. They will not be able to die.

### John Sees a Star

This is not a star like an asteroid or comet. Here, John uses a masculine pronoun.

*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. 2 And HE opened the bottomless pit..."*

#### Revelation 9:1-2

This “star” is a being. Evidently, this star is in reference to Satan. Look at **Luke 10:18**:

**18** *“And he (Jesus) said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.”*

**Isaiah 14:12** adds to this:

**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!”*

The term “*Lucifer*” originates from Latin and means “*Light-bringer*” or “*Light-bearer*.” This is one who carries light, a brilliant being, like a star. John sees the star, Satan, fall from heaven. He is given a key to the bottomless pit, which is the same as the abyss.

I want to show you a very interesting passage that will help us to understand the evil and depravity of this pit and its inhabitants.

**30** *“Jesus asked him, saying, ‘What is your name?’ And he said, ‘Legion,’ because many demons had entered him. **31** And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss.”*

**Luke 8:30-31 NKJV**

Here, Jesus is about to cast out the many demons who have possessed a man. These demonic spirits are begging Jesus not to send them to the abyss. This abyss is a bottomless pit in the heart of Earth where the worst of evil creatures are imprisoned.

**4** *“For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell (Tartarus) and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;”*

**II Peter 2:4 NKJV**

**6** *“And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;”*

**Jude 6 NKJV**

These demons, known as Legion, as evil as they were to possess this man, are different from the evil creatures in the abyss. The demons were terrified to be sent there.

Satan will be given a key to the abyss and be allowed to release these most evil creatures on Earth to torment mankind. Look at their description again:

**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.”*

**Revelation 9:3**

These are not mere locusts. They are demonic locusts. They have been given the power to attack only those who do not have the seal of God in their foreheads. This will be a five-month

attack. No one will be able to die. They will torment, not kill. God is giving His permission for these demonic creatures to come out of hell and torment mankind.

God Brings Hell to Earth! Why? To cause men to turn and repent! When a person dies and goes to Hell, it is too late for them to repent. You can only repent while you are alive and in your body. After a person dies and goes to Hell, there is no more hope. God will not permit people to die or commit suicide during these five months. There is no death option whatsoever. He wants them to repent, not die and go to Hell. God is bringing Hell to Earth to hopefully cause men and women to turn to Him in repentance. It is a last chance.

I know it sounds almost unbelievable, but the Bible does say the following:

*9 “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”*

**II Peter 3:9 NKJV**

Let’s again read further about the description of these evil creatures. Notice some keywords (“like” and “as”):

*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. **8** And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions. **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. **10** And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months.”*

**Revelation 9:7-10**

You will find the words “like” and “as” in more places in Chapter 9 than in any other chapter in Revelation. John is just at a loss for words. These are not Apache helicopters, pilots, or man-made war machines. These come up out of the abyss. They are evil creatures. They are not ordinary locusts. These demonic locusts have a king over them, and real locusts have no king.

**27** “The locusts have no king...”

**Proverbs 30:27 NKJV**

These demonic locusts have a king called Abaddon or Apollyon. Both names, the Hebrew and the Greek, mean destroyer. It is Satan.

### **Sixth Trumpet - Beginning of Second Woe**

*13 “And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, **14** Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, ‘Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.’”*

**Revelation 9:13-14**

Today, four angels are bound in the Euphrates River. This is near the birthplace of Babylon, which Nimrod founded. It is an origin of evil.

**2** *“And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, “Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!””*

**Revelation 18:2 NKJV**

These fallen angels are set loose after the sixth trumpet sounds:

**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.”*

**Revelation 9:15**

These four angels were prepared for an hour, a day, a month, and a year. They were prepared to kill one-third of mankind. These demonic spirits are not like the previous ones. They don't just torture; they also kill. They take out one-third of the human beings on Earth.

#### A Look at The Horses

**16** *“And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousands: and I heard the number of them. **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. **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.”*

**Revelation 9:16-19**

This is a devastating picture. Their power is in their mouths and their tails. They have death in them. One-third of men are killed. Out of their mouths, issue fire, smoke, and brimstone. Their tails are like serpents with heads that hurt.

#### **POPULATION STATISTICS**

I want to take a moment to show you the severity of these judgments on the earth. Currently, there are about eight billion people on Earth. 2.4 billion are professing Christians. Let's say two billion are Raptured. This leaves six billion people on the planet after the Rapture.

After the fourth seal is opened, one-fourth of mankind is killed. (*Revelation 6:7-8*) One-fourth of six billion is 1.5 billion killed. This now leaves 4.5 billion people on Earth.



We can subtract 1.5 billion as an estimated number of martyred saints who were saved under the ministry of the 144,000. (*Revelation 7:9-10, 14*) The Bible says it is “a great multitude, which no man could number; of all nations.” This leaves 3 billion people on the planet.

The sixth trumpet judgment kills another third of the population. (*Revelation 9:15,18*) One-third of three billion people is one billion killed.

This leaves us with only two billion people on the planet! This does not count the many men who die with the third trumpet judgment. (*Revelation 8:10-11*)

Over half of the world’s population will be gone! Six out of eight billion (three-fourths of today’s population) are gone! What a SHOCKING DEVELOPMENT! We are not yet done with the Tribulation, and over half of the world’s population is gone.

## REPENTED NOT

God is faithfully trying His best to get people to turn and repent, but some of the most unbelievable words are recorded here in the closing verses of **Revelation 9:20-21**.

**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.”*

God is trying to humble mankind, but they are stubborn and rebellious. They refuse to turn to God.