The Lion and The Lamb

Revelation 9:1-12

- We left off with the seals being opened, a hush of quietness in heaven for about half an hour, and afterward the trumpet judgments have begun upon the earth, with a third of the vegetation and trees burned up, a third of the Sea turning to blood, and killing a third of the Sea creatures along with a third of the ships being destroyed.

- Finally a third of the drinking water becomes polluted from a falling star out of the heavens, followed by a third of the sun, moon, and stars, are struck causing only a third of day to have light, and likewise a third of the night to have darkness.

- Then an Angel flies through the midst of heaven declaring with a loud voice "**woe woe**, **woe**, **to the inhabitants of the earth**, **because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound**" wow! Translation: if you think that is bad wait until you see what is next to happen, it will be much worse.

V1-12

- **V1-2** we've seen four trumpets sound and now we hear a fifth, and with a star falling to the earth, now remember the first seals and trumpets presented judgments directed against the earth. Remember the four horseman bringing oppression, war, famine, and death on the earth, and now the first four trumpets causing ecological destruction of the vegetation, seas, fresh waters, and the sky.

- Now we are going to see the last three judgments unleash the demonic, which up until now has been severely held up by God, because of not wanting His people the church to be at its mercy, but that is all about to change here. This star that has fallen is different than all the rest of the stars we've read that fell to the earth, this star is a living being, with a human personality, as it is referred to as him and he.

- With this unnamed personality there is debate as to who this star refers to but I don't see the problem as "a star that has fallen from heaven to the earth, and now its been given authority to open the bottomless pit. **Is 14:12-15** Lucifer which means "son of the morning" is described as a fallen star, also in **Lk 10:18** Jesus comments how He saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven, and in **Rev 12:7-9** when describing how Satan is thrown out of Heaven, this is an extension of what transpired there.

- When he opens the pit so much smoke comes out of it that the sun and the air is darkened because of it, this reminds us of **Lk 8:31** when Jesus cast out legion from the man and they begged Him not to send them to the abyss or the pit.

- Jude 6 speaks of it as well, saying that it was a place of chains and judgment. If this place is so bad that Demons dread going there, you can imagine the horror of that place. But despite its horror its also the place where our Lord went after the cross in **1Pet 3:18-20** telling them not of the gospel, but that He was victorious over death, and that He our Redeemer of mankind has set us free from the bondage of sin-death

- **V3-6** in **Rev 1:18** were told that Jesus has the keys to Hades and death, so any keys are His to give as He wills, and now Jesus is allowing Satan and the Demonic to have its way on earth. The demonic are pictured as Locusts coming out of its pit, and doing damage to all who have not the seal of God upon them.

- The pain of their torment was only for five months, but it was so bad that people will seek death attempting to take their own lives, only to find out that they can't die being preserved for judgment, as death will offer no escape from this prolonged torture.

- **V7-12** John describes these things, and in reading this you can clearly see these are not any locusts that we've ever seen or encountered. With bodies like horses and faces like men, they are prepared for battle, unable to be hurt themselves but able to put a hurting on everything and everyone, these beings are man's worse nightmare. Notice in their description John says "like" meaning it was something similar but other than, a horse, gold, face of a man, woman's hair, lion's teeth.

- Just to show that it wasn't really a locust, **V11** says they had a king over them > Prov 30:27 tell us locusts have no king. His name is given Abaddon or Apollyon which means destruction or torment, this is the devil the ruler of all fallen angels. **V12** then leaves off with a warning that one "woe" is past but there are still two more coming.

- When I read these things its amazing how people don't believe that hell or the bottomless pit is a real place, even though we see some terrible horrific things on earth somehow we tell ourselves this has got to be the worse of it.

- Folks clearly it's not, God tells us of these things to warn us to not go there, and how do we avoid such a fate? Embrace The One Who announced to Hell that He has defeated sin and death. Surrender to Him now so that you won't suffer such a fate later, when for many it will be too late, all you'll have to look forward to is torment.