

Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “**Now** salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. Revelation 12:10 NKJV

The word **now** does not mean this exact moment on the end-times calendar

It means **now**, as a result of a decisive victory that has occurred (salvation)

The **now** points to the **death**, the **resurrection**, and the **ascension** of Jesus Christ

In other words, “**Now**” equals **now that Christ has won**

This is a **courtroom declaration**

You see before the cross, satan could appear as an accuser in God’s court

After the cross, his case was decisively thrown out, and Revelation shows **his access collapsing, then ending**

Job 1–2 - satan presents himself before the Lord

Zechariah 3:1–2 - satan stands to accuse Joshua the high priest

The Cross is the legal turning point

The death and resurrection of Jesus did not merely forgive sins, they ended satan’s legal standing as accuser

This is a key theological shift. Believers in Christ are under the new covenant

Satan’s accusations depended on real guilt

Christ’s atonement removed that guilt

Romans 8:33–34 NKJV answers the courtroom question permanently

Who shall bring a charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen

That’s not poetry, that’s a legal verdict

Revelation 12 explains what changed

Revelation 12:10 NKJV says **the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down**

That verse tells us some critical truths

satan **no longer accuses** believers before God, because of Christ's victory

That role that he once had has **ended, and he never had power**

His removal is the result of Christ's victory

Revelation 12:11 NKJV explains why, **And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death**

The blood didn't silence **satan temporarily**; it disqualified him permanently

So where is satan now?

After the resurrection, satan is active on earth, satan opposes the church, satan deceives the nations, and satan still accuses us

Revelation shows a downward trajectory

Job – satan had access with limits

Zechariah - rebuked the accuser

Cross, shed blood of Jesus is his legal defeat

Revelation 12 - cast down

Revelation 20 - bound, then judged forever

His influence continues today, but his access does not

Why this matters - this is the good news

No accusation against you reaches God's throne

No charge against you stands

No condemnation survives because the cross **Romas 8:1**

Christ is not arguing your case, **He has already won it**

Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them Hebrews 7:25 NKJV

Final thoughts, Jesus does not share the courtroom with satan any longer

The Judge and the Advocate are the same (Jesus), and **He bears the scars to prove it**

Then the fifth angel sounded: And I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit Revelation 9:1 NKJV

John sees a “**star**” that has fallen from heaven to earth

“**Fallen**” – *pipto* – to descend from a higher place to a lower

It’s a perfect tense – it had fallen in the past and continues in a “**fallen**” state

God gave satan a “**key**” to allow demons in the “**bottomless pit**” to come out and torment the people of the earth

The “**bottomless pit**” is a residence of demons, which is a place of **permanent confinement** for fallen angels, demons or both Revelation 9:11; 11:7; 17:8; 20:1, 3 “

2 Peter 2:4 says, “For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment.”

English versions translate *Tartarus* as “hell” or “lowest hell.” The word *Tartarus* can be defined as “the deepest abyss of Hades”

Practically speaking, because **God holds the keys**, every hard, confusing, or painful moment in your life exists under His authority, not outside it. He is sovereign!

When he opened the Abyss, smoke rose from it like the smoke from a gigantic furnace. The sun and sky were darkened by the smoke from the Abyss Revelation 9:2 NKJV

The **Abyss** is opened, and smoke rises like a gigantic furnace, darkening the sun and the air

We get some of that effect when we have fires from Canada; our sky is darkened with the smoke

There is a place on earth, whether it’s in the **physical realm** or in the **spiritual realm**, known as the **bottomless pit** or “**abyss**”.

The Greek word for “**bottomless**” is “*abussos*” (ab-you-soos), meaning “no bottom”

The Bible teaches us that this is a place where the unrighteous dead go

or, “ ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” ... Romans 10:7 NKJV

The **Abyss** is a place of **restraint**, a realm of **imprisonment**, a holding cell for **dangerous demonic powers**, however, it is under **God’s direct authority**

It is opened only by a **key given by God**, which immediately tells us this is not satan’s domain

What the abyss is not

The **Abyss** is **not**, the lake of fire (that comes later), not satan's throne room, not a place where demons rule freely, it is not outside God's control, if it were, no key would be required

It is considered a prison for demons. When Jesus was about to cast out the demoniac's demons... **Luke 8:26-39 NKJV 31 And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss**

When the **Abyss** is opened, **smoke** rises before torment begins

That smoke, darkens the sun and air, obscures clarity, **symbolizes deception and spiritual blindness**

Most of the time, spiritual collapse in people's lives doesn't begin with rebellion

It begins with spiritual dimness - Truth gets blurry, conviction gets quiet, God feels distant

Don't mistake His patience for approval, and don't ignore the smoke when it begins to rise

The **Abyss** represents what happens when God **temporarily removes restraint**

God does not create new evil in **Revelation 9**; He releases what has already been held back

That's a sobering thought, but also clarifying

Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power Revelation 9:3 NKJV

"Locusts came upon the earth"

This tells us **where their mission is directed**

They come **out of the smoke**, their origin is the **Abyss**, **not the natural world**

They **come upon the earth**, their activity is focused on humanity, not heaven

These are **not ordinary locusts**

In Scripture, locusts often symbolize **overwhelming invasion and judgment Exodus 10; Joel 1-2**

Here, the context makes clear they are **supernatural agents**, not insects

Bottom line, something restrained has now been released, and it is invading the human realm

“To them was given power” This phrase is **crucial**

The power is **given**, not inherent, and their authority is **delegated**, not seized

This tells us two things at once, these **beings are dangerous**, and, most importantly, **they are still under God’s control**

They do not act independently. They operate within **clear limits**

“As the scorpions of the earth have power”

This explains the **nature** of their power, Scorpions are known for intense pain, nerve-related torment, stings that rarely kill adults, suffering that can linger and return in waves

Their power is not to destroy immediately, but to **torment severely without killing**

Why does this matter?

A scorpion sting attacks the **nervous system**, the **sense of peace, rest, escape the pain**

Restlessness instead of peace, agony instead of satisfaction

Revelation 9 is describing what life feels like when **divine restraint is removed**

Life without God doesn’t immediately end; in this case, it becomes unbearable

These locusts don’t come to **destroy the world**, they come to show what the world feels like when God steps back, and **restraint is lifted**

Think of the **moment just before dawn**. The night hasn’t fully lifted yet, but the darkness has already lost. The horizon begins to glow, quietly announcing that morning is inevitable

Revelation 9 speaks from that kind of moment, **not denying the darkness**, but declaring that it is **limited and temporary**

That’s why we can still sing. As the song ***O Praise the Name*** reminds us, the darkest day in history, the cross, became the doorway to the greatest victory

When Christ rose from the grave, the power of darkness was decisively broken