

The Bottomless Pit

Rev 9: 1-12

The Bottomless Pit

- Last week we saw that Rev 9 is turning point
 - Prior to the 5th angel most trials are earthly
 - We also saw that these “torments” are controlled
- It is in chapters like this that speculation occurs
 - We must do everything we can not to do so.....
 - Again, we must let Scripture interpret Scripture
- Here are some things we know....
 - First, there is a bottomless pit (Vs 2)
 - Second, no human knows where it is located

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- Thirdly, this pit is located in the earth....
 - How do we know this?
 - “The sun & the air were darkened by the smoke”
 - This is a view from earth.....
- Fourth, the Tribulation period, while it is a time of judgment on an unbelieving world
 - It is also a time for Israel to recognize their Messiah
 - Zech 12: 10... “And I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him, like the bitter weeping over a first-born.

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- Jer 30: 7.... 'Alas! for that day is great, There is none like it; And it is the time of Jacob's distress, But he will be saved from it.
- Fifth.....
 - Smoke went up like a great furnace
 - Gen 19: 27-28
 - This is a reminder of Sodom and Gomorrah
- Sixth.....
 - Locusts came out of the smoke??
 - Are these actual locusts? (Vs 4)
 - Cannot hurt anything usual to locusts????

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- Seven....
 - They are under the control of God's commands
 - They cannot.....
 - Kill men.....(Vs 5)
 - They can sting men with a tormenting poison
 - Touch those who have the "seal of God" on their foreheads (Rev 7: 3-4)
 - What about saints who have come to Christ at this time? (Eph 1: 13)
 - Only torment for 5 months

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- “men will seek death and will not find it?”
 - Suicide by any means is not permitted to men
 - Why would God do this???
 - II Peter 3: 9...The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.
 - Unfortunately.....
 - II Thess 2: 8-12

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- Vs 7-11...
 - These verse have given rise to much speculation
 - Again, we must remember Israel...
 - Joel 1: 6...For a nation is come up upon my land, strong, and without number, whose teeth *are* the teeth of a lion, and he hath the cheek teeth of a great lion.
 - Joel 2: 5.... Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array.
 - Joel 2: 8..... Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and *when* they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded.

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- Vs 10...again we are reminded “for 5 months”
 - Apparently, these demonic beings will “disappear” after that time-frame
 - Joel 2: 20.... “But I will remove the northern *army* far from you, And I will drive it into a parched and desolate land, And its vanguard into the eastern sea, And its rear guard into the western sea. And its stench will arise and its foul smell will come up, For it has done great things.”

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- Isa 26: 9b-10...For when the earth experiences Thy judgments The inhabitants of the world learn righteousness. *Though* the wicked is shown favor, He does not learn righteousness; He deals unjustly in the land of uprightness, And does not perceive the majesty of the LORD.
- What are to learn from this passage?
 - There are four things we should remember

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- First.....
 - The things which take place in Rev 9 are figments of John's imagination or hallucinations.
 - They are described in great and explicit detail
 - These are real events happening in real time
- Second....
 - Phil 2: 10-11...that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE SHOULD BOW, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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- Coupled with that text is.....
 - Matt 7: 22-23.... “Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ “And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’”
- Thirdly.....
 - This is my life right now?????
 - This is a myopic view of life which is here today and gone tomorrow...

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- I Peter 1: 18-19.... knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.
- Fourth.....
 - Job 42: 1-2.... Then Job answered the LORD, and said, “I know that Thou canst do all things, And that no purpose of Thine can be thwarted.