Revelation 59 Fifth Trumpet: Familiar Spirits (15a 28:7-14)

Dr. Leon L. Sanders Revelation 9:1-6



Star Personified: Non-Empirical and Empirical

- Non-empirical Star: Indicated via <u>Anthropo</u>morphism {Humanizing} and tasks {Context}
 - Stars previously referenced as angels over the churches {Non-empirical} (Re 1:20)
 - Lucifer (Lat.) disguises himself as an *angel of light*, a *promise* of being the *morning star*; a lie designed to conflate himself with Christ who is the Morning Star (Is 14:12; 2Co 11:14; 2Pe 1:17-21; Re 22:16)
- Five: Central theme of the <u>First Woe</u>
 - Five can mean grace {Saved} but it can also mean empowered for good or evil task(s) {By God} (Is 45:6-7)
 - Satan, and by implication Demons, are restrained in what they can do by God's will (Job 1:12; 2:4-8; 2Th 2:3-12)
- Satan allowed to open abyss, Tartaros, wherein out-of-control demons were *chained* (Mt 8:28-32; 2Pe 2:4)
 - Demons who possess people left their First Estate; intended purpose of helping Christians (He 1:14; Jude 1:6)
 - People possessed by Demons exhibited some form of Uncontrolableness; not suited (Lk 9:37-39; He 1:14)
 - Christ frequently cast demons into the abyss wherein they were *chained* awaiting their time (Lk 8:26-39)

Empirical Darkness Mirrors Non-Empirical Spiritual Darkness

- Sheol-Gehenna-Hell, center of the Earth, indicated by heat, smoke and darkness (Nu 16:20-34; Lk 16:22-31)
 - Identified with Sodom's fiery fate: Smoke, heat, and sulfuric stench (Ge 19:23-25; De 29:21-28)
 - Jews of Diaspora left their Rock for *false rock*, Satan; they wanted to be like the World, they became like the World: Both will suffer same fate (De 32:15-38; 1Sa 8:10-20; 1Co 10:1-5; Re 11:8)
 - Satan's gospel results in Smoke and Darkness, opposite of Christ's gospel of Light and Peace; thus, empirical darkness from Sun's Micronova effects mirrored the spiritual non-empirical darkness
- Sinful Man looks to Satan directly, or indirectly, to *Control* World and usher in *Utopia* {No Place} (Ge 3:5; Ro 1:18-28; 1Co 10:19-21; 1Ti 4:1-3)
 - Idols an empirical stand-in for non-empirical covetousness which is path Controlled by Demons (Col 3:5)
 - Man, like his father Satan {Demons}, lies and murders even himself (Ez 28:15-18; Jn 8:44)
 - Man, like Satan, cannot Control himself; it is a *fruit of the Spirit* (Ga 5:17-23)
- Satan does not help but preys on Man, oft via lusts {addictions}, for his own purposes (Is 33:1; 1Jo 2:15-17)

Man Looks to Satan: Satan Preys Upon Man

- Characteristics of the Demons is presented in timeless visual imagery
- Locusts Swarming grasshoppers stripping lands of edible greenery: Day of the Lord (Joel 1:1-2:2)
 - These have no king but act with a type of cunning denuding the land, disrupting food chain (Pr 30:24, 27)
 - Used of God to chasten His people; sin disrupts balance of one's life and land's ecology (Ex 10:1-6; Is 33:2-4)
 - God sends people like locusts to chasten people for their sin {Ex. Midians; Babylonians} (Judg 6:1-10; Hab 1:1-11)
- Scorpions Tormenting arachnids striking from Darkness and concealment (De 8:11-20; Amos 5:18-24)
 - Rehoboam promised to chasten Jews with scorpions, increase their tormenting burden (1Ki 12:12-15)
 - Christ identified scorpions as Demons; He protected His people in the Wilderness (De 8:11-20; Lk 10:17-20)
- These beings do not harm greenery, not real locusts; they are sent to torment people
 - Uncontrolled Demons controlled and sent to torment Lost, probably via unrequited lusts {Indwelling?}

Which Seal? What Fruit?

- These demons allowed to torment only Lost, no seal of God but mark of Satan (Ez 9:1-6; Re 7:1-3; 13:16-17)
 - Saved souls marked separating them from the Lost; i.e., Wheat from Tares or Chaff (Mt 3:12; 13:24-30; Col 1:21-23)
 - Not just 144,000 but all Saved spared from these Demons, protected by Angels (He 1:14)
- Law of Excluded Middle: Rejecting Christ is worshiping demons regardless of intent
 - Christ gave them up to pursue their antichrist philosophies religions (Ro 1:18-28; Col 2:8; 1Jo 2:18-23; 4:1-3; 2Jo 1:7-11)
 - Reality of what Lost pursue; sowing of their life-long reaping: Given over to their lusts (Ro 1:24-32; Ga 6:7-8)
- Utopia: No Place
 - Lost pursue an illusion of their making; unmerciful God would not warn them, just judge (Is 1:18; 1Co 15:42-50)
 - They receive the *fruit* of their antichrist pursuits; fury of *unrequited* lust paling into insignificance today's addictions so oft embraced by Lost as excuses to *enjoy* lusts {Sins}
 - Satan has **no love**, he cannot as it is a fruit of the Spirit; he has only fear-hatred, as all sinners (Ga 5:22; 1Jo 4:18)

Five Months: Allowed by God

- Demons seek only to torment; but Christ has a different goal in mind: Mercy
 - Revelation pulls back reality's veil so sinners can see truth of their beliefs
 - Christ <u>limits</u> length and type of torment so sinners may understand true fruit of sins: Not die in sin
- This occurs today as people experience results of lies they believe: Control (Addiction)
 - Sexual Addiction: Uncontrolled use of one's body; even using it for *unnatural* purposes
 - Food Addiction: Slavery to Flesh resulting in Inflammation, Insulin Resistance, Obesity, Chronic Diseases
 - Substance Addiction: Substances opening one's mind to Demonic Control; Flesh Uncontrollable Desire
- Signs of Demonic Influence abound today stinging, tormenting, people but oft bringing death
 - Man's propaganda seeks to portray these as medical issues {uncurable}; but punishable by law
 - Critical Theory attacks Gospel promoting Lies trapping people in their Lusts; promises Transhumanism
 - Democracy {Rule of Majority}: If Man agrees it is not sin, it must be OK fallacy Only Bible reveals Truth