

Revelation Lesson 100
The Fifth Trumpet & 1st Woe – Part IV: The Locust & Their Form

Revelation 9:11-12 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. 12 One woe is past; *and*, behold, there come two woes more hereafter.

Last time we covered the hideous forms of the Locust were overviewed on the night of the Super Bowl. Tonight we wrap up our view of the 5th Trumpet and I am happy to say that it is a special evening in that Lord willing it marks our 100th Lesson in Revelation and our Halfway point. Some of you have endured many lessons and I thank you for coming along with me and I look forward to our journeys in the future.

And they had a king over them, - They refers to the Locust. Again we note: Proverbs 30:27 The locusts have no king, yet go they forth all of them by bands;” which shows us again that these locusts are demonic and that they are not natural.

***which* is the angel of the bottomless pit**, - Some have over the years attempted to identify this king in another way that what the Bible clearly teaches. For instance in the Pulpit Commentary the writer states that this king was none other than Napoleon....why? Because that names SOUNDS similar to Abaddon or Apollyon. Others seeing this as an angelic figure go off the deep end and proclaim that it is none other that Satan himself. But a careful reading of Job 1:6, 2:1; Zechariah 3:1-2 and clearly Revelation 12:10 which states: “And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.” These show that Satan is NOT bound in the bottomless pit. If this king, this angel isn't a man or Satan who is he?

whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath *his* name Apollyon. - To answer this question, I must turn back to our notes from Revelation 6:7-8. Recall in our studies concerning the 4th Seal we met the rider whose name was DEATH. We turn back to Exodus 12:13 and we find him – we find the Grim Reaper, the angel of death: “And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and **when I see the blood, I will pass over you**, and the plague shall not be upon you to **destroy you**, when I smite the land of Egypt.”

Some say it looks like the Lord is the One doing this. Now note: Exodus 12:23 “For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the **destroyer** to come in unto your houses to smite you.”

Now the one who is doing the killing here, is named the Destroyer. So is not this Destroyer none other than the Lord Himself? (Ex. 12:23)

No! Notice - Luke 9:56 For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village.” and then see Hebrews 2:14 “Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;” Again notice: he (JESUS) might destroy him (SATAN) that had (PAST TENSE) the power of death, that is, the devil (AGAIN DEFINED FOR US SO WE WILL NOT GUESS);

Again Scripture interprets Scripture. Now God DID pass through the Land of Egypt and when He is said to “smite” it rather is His designated agent “The Destroyer.” So who is the Destroyer? Well, Scripture cannot contradict Scripture – and before we go calling that the Devil, we look at our text

tonight in Revelation 9:11 “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.”

Here we are told the name of the “king” of the demons of the Bottomless Pit – his name is Abaddon or Apollyon. Now how did he get there? I think he was incarcerated there by Jesus – note Colossians 2:15 “And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.” When Jesus Christ rose from the dead He Spoiled Principalities and Powers (higher ups) in the the Devil's kingdom and scheme of things. In other words Jesus demoted many of Satan's Lieutenants and Chiefs. Some of them must have been put in ward until the time Christ would permit them to be loosed.

It is my understanding here, that Christ in the Old Testament seen as the Angel of the Lord (in 52 verses some 56 times) went down to implement judgment upon the Egyptians. He did so, by loosing Abaddon or Apollyon upon the Egyptians. When God states He will “smite” the people, He is allowing Satan to use the power of death which is bound within the hand – from what I see – Abaddon, for Abaddon AND Apollyon mean DESTROYER. So we were told in Ex. 12:23 that the DESTROYER was only permitted to go as far as Christ would allow him to do so – hence that is why Christ was there. So that when HE SAW the Blood – He would forbid Abaddon – the Destroyer to enter that house! So it is that we observe that God personally oversaw the demon and took charge in Protection – the Giving and Preserving of Life – while Satan's Lieutenant roamed through the nation bringing death upon all the first born in Egypt.

Now another scene occurred during the reign of King David, let's look at 1 Chronicles 21:1 “And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.” Why did the Devil do this? Because David was trusting in his military instead of His Lord (Prov. 16:18-19 and 2 Sam. 24:3) and hence became proud. Now in 2 Sam. 24:1 we are told: “And again the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and he moved David against them to say, Go, number Israel and Judah.” Then people shout – but that means God tempted David! No recall James 1:13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:” So how is 2 Samuel remedied? To see that look back at 1 Chronicles 21:1 “And Satan stood up against Israel and provoked David to number Israel.” So NOW we see: that Satan embodies everything that makes God angry. Indeed God is allowed to show His wrath (Romans 9:22) through the vessels of wrath... among which vessels there is found Satan. So we note that God is the creator of all. God created Lucifer, and when Lucifer revolted and led a rebellion he became Satan – God's enemy and a vessel of wrath. So it follows then that the expression of everything that makes God angry has taken on a life of its own and that expression comes in the form of Satan. Thus, according to the equality expressed in these verses, Satan and the anger of the Lord are thus ONE AND THE SAME. That relationship explains why Satan is treated with respect in Zechariah 3:2 and Jude 1:9 also it tells us where God's anger goes when he finally put it away see Psalm 103:9 and Job 16:4 and Job 2:1.

Now having cleared that up, we find that the Prophet Gad was moved by God to speak to David. Notice: 1 Chronicles 21:9-12 And the LORD spake unto Gad, David's seer, saying, 10 Go and tell David, saying, Thus saith the LORD, I offer thee three things: choose thee one of them, that I may do it unto thee. 11 So Gad came to David, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Choose thee 12 Either three years' famine; or three months to be destroyed before thy foes, while that the sword of thine enemies overtaketh thee; or else three days the sword of the LORD, even the pestilence, in the land, and the angel of the LORD destroying throughout all the coasts of Israel. Now therefore advise thyself what word I shall bring again to him that sent me.” Now notice: the sword of the LORD, even **the pestilence**, in the land, **and the angel of the LORD destroying throughout all the coasts of Israel.**

Again on the surface it looks like God is being implicated. But note 1 Chronicles 21:14-16 So the LORD sent **pestilence** upon Israel: and there fell of Israel seventy thousand men. 15 And God sent **an angel** unto Jerusalem to destroy it: and as he was destroying, the LORD beheld, and he repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed, It is enough, stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD stood by the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite. 16 And David lifted up his eyes, and saw the angel of the LORD stand between the earth and the heaven, having a drawn sword in his hand stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders of Israel, who were clothed in sackcloth, fell upon their faces.”

God sent PESTILENCE this was sent by way of AN ANGEL and the text says as HE WAS DESTROYING. Again, I perceive that this was none other than Abaddon or Apollyon. But, there again the Angel of the Lord (Christ) was seen by David with a drawn sword....but HE didn't do the destroying, He was protecting note: Psalms 34:7 The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.”

So it seems that Abaddon or Apollyon was the Destroyer of Old Testament times. Christ thus we were told came to take away the power of death from the Devil. So now the power of Death is in the Hand of Christ and can only happen if allowed – but it has been that way ever since death entered the world.

Indeed my favourite Old Time Radio Drama - The Shadow - once had an episode called The Destroyer on March 25, 1945. In this program Foster Merrill – there's a kindly little man out for a morning walk, he has gray hair, deep blue eyes, and a gentle expression upon his face. As he walks and breathes the fresh clean air he's thinking: Hmmm. It's a lovely day. A beautiful day. You begin to think about ways to stop it. You begin to think about life and you begin to think about death, and you begin to think about the meaning of existence. That book I read last night it made me think too. I can't get it out of my head. Especially that passage about Herostratus... in ancient Greece, in 356BC Herostratus deliberately set fire to the Temple of Diana – the greatest of the Seven Wonders of the World. He destroyed that wonder to make sure that his name would go down in history. Although the mention of his name was forbidden for centuries by the ancient Greeks it is remembered to this day. While the name of the man who built the Temple has long been forgotten. It is the destroyer who is remembered throughout history NOT the Creator. Who were the famous men of the ages? The destroyers: Alexander, Caesar, Ghensis Khan, Adolf Hitler, these are the names that no man will ever forget.....the names of the destroyers! I could do the same thing, I could make the name Foster Merrill blaze to the world for all time simply by destroying.....and so he sets off to destroy the town by blowing up the Dam only to be foiled by The Shadow! So it is beloved that we have remembered the name The Destroyer – Abaddon or Apollyon has been remembered by us for over 4,000 years.

One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter. - Here we may breathe a sigh of relief in that the Locusts are on their way out, but that just means that there are TWO more woes left. It isn't going to get any easier, because in the next attack, death will be unleashed upon 1/3 of the remaining human population!!