

Morning Sermon September 19, 2021

“Trumpet Five: Demonic Locusts, Letting Evil Loose”

Revelation 9:1-12

I. Remember the sun was already darkened, here it is darkened more, by the opening of the bottomless pit – see Revelation 8:12

9 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. ² And he opened the bottomless pit, and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace. So the sun and the air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit. Revelation 9:1-2

1. The star fallen from Heaven to earth is a fallen angel or demonic being, note the star is called “him”
- A. This is partly why I interpreted “Wormwood” a star mentioned in chapter 8 to be demonic, the star had a name –

¹¹ The name of the star is Wormwood. Revelation 8:11 (NKJV)

- B. While “Wormwood” destroys “good” poisoning waters; this “star” releases evil, having a “key” - 9:1 To him was given the key to the bottomless pit. Revelation 9:1 B

II. Out of the smoke of ignorance / darkness came spiritual locusts, what are these locusts?

1. They come out of the bottomless pit, they are demonic, they are invisible, the description is not of any insect (or animal) you will see with physical eyes, but they are described according to spiritual characteristics –
2. They are first called “locusts” so they are spiritual, demonic beings that primarily have characteristics in common with locusts –
 - A. Even ordinary physical locusts were agents of God’s judgment, punishment of sin –

¹⁴ And the locusts went up over all the land of Egypt and rested on all the territory of Egypt. They were very severe; previously there had been no such locusts as they, nor shall there be such after them. ¹⁵ For they

covered the face of the whole earth, so that the land was darkened; and they ate every herb of the land and all the fruit of the trees which the hail had left. So there remained nothing green on the trees or on the plants of the field throughout all the land of Egypt. Exodus 10:14–15 (NKJV) Like ordinary locusts -

- B. Their power is in their NUMBERS –
- C. Their power is to eat, destroy, these eat souls –

III. The first power these locusts use is their power to tempt. The first power we are told about is the power to torment -

1. These demonic locusts have a power like scorpions –
And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. Revelation 9:3 (NKJV)

- A. Stings that poison
- B. Stings that cause great pain (torment)
- C. Like scorpions their sting is in their tail – Revelation 9:10 (NKJV) (torment comes after temptation) Not gay!

2. These locust / scorpions are on a mission, with specific targets -
⁴ They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. Revelation 9:4 (NKJV)

- A. Unlike regular locusts they have no interest in vegetation!
- B. They are not allowed to hurt God’s people – here we see at least part of the reason for the sealing of God’s people mentioned in Revelation 7
- C. Their power even with the ungodly is limited, to torment, not to kill -

⁵ And they were not given authority to kill them, but to torment them for five months. Their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it strikes a man. ⁶ In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them. Revelation 9:5-6 (NKJV) Five months was the entire lifespan of a locust

3. Their shape is described, but these are not physical beings, so this is symbolic – They are powerful, like horses, built for battle -

⁷ The shape of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle. Revelation 9:7 A (NKJV)

IV. *Their power to tempt is connected to their fronts, their heads and faces -*

1. *The appearance of royalty, majesty, rule –*

On their heads were crowns of something like gold ... Revelation 9:7 B (NKJV)

2. *The appearance of intelligence -*

and their faces were like the faces of men. Revelation 9:7 C (NKJV)

A. *Ungodly men count atheism, evolution, ungodly philosophies intelligent, while God's Word counts such beliefs foolishness –*

¹ **The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, They have done abominable works, There is none who does good. Psalm 14:1 (NKJV)**

B. *Now-a-days even multiple genders, and men supposedly having babies is considered – SCIENCE!*

3. *They have an appearance of beauty -*

⁸ **They had hair like women's hair ... Revelation 9:8 A (NKJV)**

Sin has a tempting allure about it, like a beautiful woman with a wicked heart –

²⁶ **And I find more bitter than death The woman whose heart is snares and nets, Whose hands are fetters. He who pleases God shall escape from her, But the sinner shall be trapped by her. Ecclesiastes 7:26**

4. *Yet also they are like predators, admired animals Lions and*

Bears are names of football teams -not little lambs ...

and their teeth were like lions' teeth. Revelation 9:8 B (NKJV)

5. *They are well-armed, and equipped for battle -*

⁹ **And they had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots with many horses running into battle. Revelation 9:9 (NKJV) Note the SOUND! Today this could be music, loud powerful MUSIC!**

What are these things? They are the temptations ungodly people love, lust after, they are obsessed with these things ... on their faces, their front sides, their beginning these sins seem pleasurable, beautiful, intelligent ... this is how Satan wants to make sin appear –

⁴ Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. Genesis 3:4–6 (NKJV)

¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever. 1 John 2:15–17 (NKJV)

6. *On their face these things seem beautiful and good, but their sting is in their tail -*

¹⁰ They had tails like scorpions, and there were stings in their tails. Their power was to hurt men five months. ¹¹ And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew *is* Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon. Revelation 9:10-11 (NKJV)

⁵⁶ The sting of death *is* sin, ... 1 Corinthians 15:56

Sin does not bring the happiness it promises, its pleasures are short lived –

²⁴ By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, ²⁶ esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. Hebrews 11:24–26 (NKJV)

7. *Godly people recognize the deceitfulness, the lying nature of sin, we should encourage each other to resist –*

¹² Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; ¹³ but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴ For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, ¹⁵ while it is said: "Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." Hebrews 3:12–15 (NKJV)

V. *This woe is just the first of three -*

¹² One woe is past. Behold, still two more woes are coming after these things. Revelation 9:12 (NKJV)

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