

REVELATION 9:7 - 10:6

John describes what he was seeing as God reveals to him the future Tribulation's trumpet judgments. In this fifth judgment, God has given the key to unlock the abyss, where the fallen angels of Genesis 6 had been held. Out of this bottomless pit comes a horde of demonic beings who are terrifying! John calls them the locust creatures and describes them the best way he could comprehend.

- A. Revelation 9:7-10 - And the shapes of the locusts *were* like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads *were* as it were crowns like gold, and their faces *were* as the faces of men. Rev. 9:8 And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as *the teeth* of lions. Rev. 9:9 And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings *was* as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle. Rev. 9:10 And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power *was* to hurt men five months.

1. They have the appearance like horses prepared for battle (quite large).

Les Feldick - "Have you ever looked at a grasshopper closely? They look like a horse's head. In Germany, they have a special species they call the horsehead locust." Here, these locusts will be terrifying.

*With the form of a horse, they will be huge, muscular, having long legs.

2. These locusts will have a crown on their head. This will make them appear regal or authoritative.
 - a. They will have faces as men, no doubt looking as pure evil. As a locust, their eyes will be large-bulging with a short snout.
 - b. They have long hair as women. They will be grotesque as Dr. Rachel Levine (Department of Health and Human Services).
 - c. They have the teeth of lions. This shows their fearsomeness. As a lion, they show their teeth as they stalk their prey.
 - d. They have breast plates as iron, making them look dark - impenetrable; and indestructible.
 - e. They will have wings that, when they fly or move, give a thundering-deafening roar. It says they will be like a marching army of horse drawn chariots in full gallop into battle. The sound and vibration will have inhabitants of earth terrified as this demonic force approaches!
 - f. If this was not enough, John reveals they have tails like scorpions, curled up over their back, with stingers at the end.

*They will have power to afflict man (not kill man) for five months. This judgment is so painful that men will beg to die.

3. Some conclusions:

- a. No doubt these flying demonic locusts will be used by God to judge the unbelieving-unrepentful on earth. And this judgment will be specifically upon those who have hurt-tortured-killed the servants of the Lord the first few years of the Tribulation. This judgment will be the answer to the prayers of the saints under God's altar (Revelation 6:9).
- b. God, in His way, gives these demonic spirits their desire to possess bodies of their own. He also gives them bodies appropriate to demonic appearance that reflect their evil character.

B. 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. Rev. 9:12 One woe is past; *and*, behold, there come two woes more hereafter.

1. These demonic spirits will have a leader - king over them, the angel of the bottomless pit. Evidently, he is a very **high** ranking general in the army of the devil.

***Satan** may have opened the bottomless pit by the authority given to him by God; however, it will be the angel of darkness, Abaddon, the **destroyer**.
2. After the five months of terrorizing earth's people, these spirits are herded **back** into the abyss. This has been their residence ever since their **second** fall in Genesis 6. After this, they await the Great White Throne.

*There are two "woes" left of the trumpet judgments, and it even gets **worse**!

C. Revelation 9:13-14 - And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, Rev. 9:14 Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.

1. The "golden altar" here is the altar of **incense** in the Heavenly sanctuary having the **prayers** of the saints.

Revelation 8:4 - And the smoke of the incense, *which came* with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.

*The voice heard is perhaps the Lamb, but most **likely**, the priestly angel who had offered the incense and who had cast the censer of fire to the earth, initiating the trumpet judgments. He instructs the sixth angel to pour out the second woe.
2. Now we are introduced to four other **bound** angels who have been held in the river Euphrates.

*Since they were bound, these are four more of Satan's **fallen** angels (powerful **partners** of Satan's rebellion).
 - a. The Euphrates area is close to the Garden of Eden, where **sin** entered, where Cain slew Abel (sin), where the flood began (sin), where Nimrod built **Babel** in rebellion to God (sin), and where the Tower of Babel was built to worship a **false** religion (sin).

*Pagan religion, their mystery religion, can be traced back to Babel on the Euphrates River.
 - b. "It is the **Eastern** boundary line of the promised land, promised to Abraham. The western boundary line is the Mediterranean Sea." Jordan

Genesis 15:18 - In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:

*Somewhere, there are four fallen angels who were chained and bound by God. It is also possible they had a **role** in Genesis 6, in trying to corrupt-**pollute** the human race (II Peter 2:4-5).

Jude 6 - And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

D. Revelation 9:15 - And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men.

1. God has kept these fallen angels for this particular hour, moment, day, and month. They will be judged, but until then, they will be used by God as His **executioners**! God **controls** the timing of events. They will have **thirteen months** to carry out the mission.
2. Their awful mission will be to **kill** a third of mankind. Remember, a fourth had already been slain during the fourth seal (6:8). *Together that means about **half** of the earth's population will be killed by mid-Tribulation (**four** billion?). The carnage will be mind-boggling!

E. **Revelation 9:16** - And the number of the army of the horsemen *were* two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.

1. These four angels gather a 200 **million** men army. Most think this must be **China**, because at this time, they are the only nation that have the people, money, and ability to accomplish this.
2. However, these are **not** mere human beings. They are wicked **spirits** and **in**numerable. We will see in the following verses the description of them as supernatural beings and proven to be from **below**. They will be myriads of demonic forces that will be led by the four angels loosed from the Euphrates.

*A general (Harrison) said, "the actual raising and transporting of an army of this size transcends **human** capability."

F. **Revelation 9:17-19** - And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses *were* as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. **Rev. 9:18** By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. **Rev. 9:19** For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails *were* like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt.

1. Here we have demonic spirits, **riding** upon horses with lion's heads. These creatures are a tremendous cavalry, shooting fire out of their **mouths**, cremating those they strike. They have a **tail** of **serpent** heads with fangs that "do hurt."

*They kill one and a half **billion** to two billion people on earth. It will be no problem for them.

2. Unlike the locusts who were not allowed to kill, this army **does**. God describes these as such, and we are just to **believe** what **He** says, not man's attempts to explain them away.
3. "God will allow these creatures of hell from the spirit realm to take on a physical **in**carnation that is so **grotesque** that it defies human imagination." Paul Sadler
4. They will also have colorful breastplates, glittering **reddish orange** (jacinth), brimstone that is **yellow** and all these colors are in **fire**.

G. **Revelation 9:20-21** - And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: **Rev. 9:21** Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

1. Man, even after witnessing this most amazing army **genocide** of **one third** of humanity, willingly, stubbornly stand up to God in **rebellion** and anger! They do not want God, **period**!

*The world's depravity continues to spiral **downward** in spiritual anarchy and even angry at God!

2. Mankind still wants to remain with their own self-made idols of religion. They do not want anyone, even the true God, who has **demonstrated** His righteous anger in these judgments, to take away their fornication, worship of **demons**, drugs, witchcraft, spiritism, and **immoral** ways.

*They do not want anyone to **judge** them for their crimes of thefts and murders. They will be hooked on the mystery Babylon religion of the Antichrist. Similar to Pharaoh, their hearts only get harder and harder toward God.

Psalm 96:5 - For all the gods of the nations *are* idols: but the LORD made the heavens.

3. Note: We have had **six** trumpets sound. The first four, and then the fifth and sixth are the first and second woes of the three woes. We are **still** in the sixth trumpet and second woe. The seventh trumpet does not sound until Chapter **11**:14-15. At this point, we are still under the effects and consequences of the sixth trumpet.

4. As Chapter 7 was an insert, **added** information to the sixth seal, likewise Chapter 10:1-11:13, are also added information to the sixth trumpet by showing **new** details connected to it with new truth inserted.

- a. *This new information is going on **while** the six trumpets are sounding. We are about three and a half years into the Tribulation.
- b. God stops His proceedings of revealing judgments to John, to insert **other** things taking place during the **first** half of the Tribulation. While the seals-trumpets are happening, God gives other information leading up to the middle of Daniel's **70th** week.

H. Revelation 10:1 - And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow *was* upon his head, and his face *was* as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:

1. Some believe this mighty angel is Christ as it has a **similar** description as Christ did in Chapter 1. I believe what it says, "And I saw another mighty angel." The term [and] here looks back to the sixth angel who sounded the sixth trumpet (9:18). Then John says [another angel], meaning of the **same** kind-sort. Christ is higher, mightier than angels. He is Deity.

2. This angel's descent is with great **majesty**. The cloud is showing his dignity. Michael?

Daniel 10:21 - But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and *there is* none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince.

Daniel 12:1 - And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even* to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

3. This mighty angel's appearance is perfect timing in order to defy the Antichrist, and to keep **balance** since the angel of the bottomless pit is on the scene.

4. [a rainbow was upon his head] A hat-like rainbow speaks of God's promise not to **destroy** the world by water again. *Satan has used the rainbow for the **gay** movement of today. **But here, it is a **reminder** that even in His wrath, God is faithful to His **promises**. He will not allow the world to be destroyed by all His judgments, the world's sin, nor the Antichrist's program. ***Jesus Christ will come **again**!

5. [and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire] This angel's brilliance shows he has been in God's **preserve**. Moses? Feet as fire speaks of impending judgment. God is about to take **back** final possession of earth by force through the **vial** judgments. We will see the seventh trumpet will introduce the seven vial judgments.

I. Revelation 10:2 - And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and *his* left *foot* on the earth,

1. This awesome angel, by putting his one foot on the sea (Mediterranean) and the other foot on earth (Palestine-Canaan), is claiming **possession** for Christ. Of course this claim is for the **entire** earth.
*Often in Revelation the sea is a symbol of the nations. Because of Christ's work and sacrifice, God holds the title deed to earth, **not** Satan.
2. The [little book] is the final part of the prophecy that is left to fulfill God's purpose. It is a continuation of the judgments that weren't covered, but it is **added** information **beyond** what has been said, in the judgments prior.

J. Revelation 10:3 - And cried with a loud voice, as *when* a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.

The angels' cry is as the roar of a lion and for sure breaks the silence. The thunderings spoke giving evidence that they are **angelic** beings indicating a major turning point in the affairs of men.

*The seven thunders are like a "**seven gun salute**" of God's final **coming** judgments (vials).

K. Revelation 10:4 - And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.

John hears and understands the thunders' terrible message. But as John writes, he is **interrupted**. A voice from Heaven (Christ's) tells him not to mention it **yet**. There are a few things that are left that God wants to do and say. It will be revealed what has been said (Revelation 22:10). We are at **mid**-Tribulation at this point.

L. Revelation 10:5-6 - And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, Rev. 10:6 And swore by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer:

1. This magnificent angel takes an **oath** in telling the truth in the court of the universe as to what God is about to do. This is an official **notification** of God's intention to take possession of Heaven, earth, and the sea.

Similar:

Deuteronomy 10:11 - And the LORD said unto me, Arise, take *thy* journey before the people, that they may go in and possess the land, which I swore unto their fathers to give unto them.

Joshua 1:1-3 - Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying, Jos. 1:2 Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, *even* to the children of Israel. Jos. 1:3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

2. *This also shows that this angel is **not** Christ, or he would have sworn by himself (Hebrews 6:13).
*This mighty angel swears by the One who created it all...**Christ** (John 1:1, 3; Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 1:2, 10).

3. [be time no longer] This doesn't mean that time, as we know it, will **cease**, like years, months, weeks, and days. One of our hymns says "When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound and time shall be no more."

*But what it is actually saying is that there are no longer any **delays** before the **final** judgments. The last three and one-half years are **here**!