

## Revelation 9:1-21 (HCSB)

### The Fifth Trumpet

*9 The fifth angel blew his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen from heaven to earth. The key to the shaft of the abyss was given to him. <sup>2</sup> He opened the shaft of the abyss, and smoke came up out of the shaft like smoke from a great furnace so that the sun and the air were darkened by the smoke from the shaft. <sup>3</sup> Then locusts came out of the smoke on to the earth, and power was given to them like the power that scorpions have on the earth. <sup>4</sup> They were told not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green plant, or any tree, but only people who do not have God's seal on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> They were not permitted to kill them but were to torment them for five months; their torment is like the torment caused by a scorpion when it strikes a man. <sup>6</sup> In those days people will seek death and will not find it; they will long to die, but death will flee from them.*

*<sup>7</sup> The appearance of the locusts was like horses equipped for battle. Something like gold crowns was on their heads; their faces were like men's faces; <sup>8</sup> they had hair like women's hair; their teeth were like lions' teeth; <sup>9</sup> they had chests like iron breastplates; the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots with many horses rushing into battle; <sup>10</sup> and they had tails with stingers like scorpions, so that with their tails they had the power to harm people for five months. <sup>11</sup> They had as their king the angel of the abyss; his name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in Greek he has the name Apollyon. <sup>12</sup> The first woe has passed. There are still two more woes to come after this.*

### The Sixth Trumpet

*<sup>13</sup> The sixth angel blew his trumpet. From the four horns of the gold altar that is before God, I heard a voice <sup>14</sup> say to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels bound at the great river Euphrates." <sup>15</sup> So the four angels who were prepared for the hour, day, month, and year were released to kill a third of the human race. <sup>16</sup> The number of mounted troops was 200 million; I heard their number. <sup>17</sup> This is how I saw the horses in my vision: The horsemen had breastplates that were fiery red, hyacinth blue, and sulfur yellow. The heads of the horses were like lions' heads, and from their mouths came fire, smoke, and sulfur. <sup>18</sup> A third of the human race was killed by these three plagues—by the fire, the smoke, and the sulfur that came from their mouths. <sup>19</sup> For the power of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails, for their tails, which resemble snakes, have heads, and they inflict injury with them.*

*<sup>20</sup> The rest of the people, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands to stop worshiping demons and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood, which are not able to see, hear, or walk. <sup>21</sup> And they did not repent of their murders, their sorceries, their sexual immorality, or their thefts.*

**TWO DEMONIC PLAGUES****Revelation 9:1-21****Introductory Point #1: Purposes for the Tribulation:**

(1) To demonstrate \_\_\_\_\_ righteous wrath as He \_\_\_\_\_ a wicked world.

(2) To convince many \_\_\_\_\_ people, scattered throughout the world, that \_\_\_\_\_ is indeed the Messiah.

**Introductory Pt. #2: Purpose for the Tribulation in Revelation 9:**

-- To unmask \_\_\_\_\_ true character. During the present church age, Satan often \_\_\_\_\_ himself as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14-15). But during the tribulation, his true character will be \_\_\_\_\_.

**I. Fifth Trumpet Judgment: Plague of \_\_\_\_\_ Demons, vv. 1-12****A. The leader of the locusts is the \_\_\_\_\_ himself (1, 2, 11).**

1. His position
  - a. He's an \_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Rev. 1:20).
  - b. He's a \_\_\_\_\_ angel (Isa. 14:12-15; Jude 6).
  - c. He's lost his access to \_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Rev. 12:9-10).
2. His power – seen in two facts:
  - a. A “\_\_\_\_\_” was given to him; his power is \_\_\_\_\_ (cf. 1:18).
  - b. He's the “\_\_\_\_\_” of the locusts; the angel of the abyss. \_\_\_\_\_ is where he rightfully belongs.
3. His purpose – revealed in his name *Abaddon* (Hebrew); *Apollyon* (Greek), meaning “\_\_\_\_\_”

**B. The locusts are \_\_\_\_\_ out of hell (3-10).**

1. Their authority – “*power was given to them*”
  - a. The \_\_\_\_\_ of their authority
    - In terms of time, limited to \_\_\_\_\_
    - In terms of targets, limited to “*only people who do not have \_\_\_\_\_ on their foreheads*”
    - In terms of torment, limited extent: they could not \_\_\_\_\_, but only \_\_\_\_\_ for five months
  - b. The \_\_\_\_\_ of their authority
    - In regard to torment, like the sting of a \_\_\_\_\_

-- In regard to human response, people will long to \_\_\_\_\_, but death will \_\_\_\_\_ them.

2. Their appearance: like \_\_\_\_\_ equipped for \_\_\_\_\_ (Joel 2)

**C. The announcement of two more \_\_\_\_\_ (12).****II. Sixth Trumpet Judgment: Plague of \_\_\_\_\_ Demons, vv. 13-21**

-- **It's a Demonic \_\_\_\_\_.**

**A. The \_\_\_\_\_ of this Cavalry, vss. 13-15**

1. The pronouncement that is made indicates this demonic cavalry is under the control of \_\_\_\_\_ (13).
2. The place where they were bound (14)
  - at the great river \_\_\_\_\_; reference to \_\_\_\_\_; the fountain of paganism (cf. Rev. 17:5; 18:2)
3. The preparation made (15a) – Four \_\_\_\_\_ angels were prepared ahead of time as part of \_\_\_\_\_ plan.
4. The purpose they had (15b)
  - “*to \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ of the human race*”

**B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of this Cavalry, vss. 16-17**

1. Its size – \_\_\_\_\_
2. Its identity – \_\_\_\_\_ that attack \_\_\_\_\_ the tribulation; near the end of its \_\_\_\_\_.

**C. The \_\_\_\_\_ of this Cavalry, vss. 18-21**

1. Their \_\_\_\_\_ (fire, smoke, and sulfur) bring death to one-third of the world's population (18).
2. Their \_\_\_\_\_ cause great harm to people (18-19).
3. Their \_\_\_\_\_ do not change the hearts of people (20-21).

**Concluding Application:**

-- Who is the ultimate source of authority for Satan and his angels (whether they acknowledge it or not)? If Christ so controls the evil forces of this age, how much control should He have over me, my thoughts, my career, my behavior?

-- God's judgments will not change the hearts of unbelievers during the tribulation; what can change the hearts of people today? What have I done last week, and/or will I do this week to see this come about?

## **TWO DEMONIC PLAGUES**

### **Revelation 9:1-21**

#### **Introductory Point #1: Purposes for the Tribulation:**

(1) To demonstrate God's righteous wrath as He judges a wicked world.

(2) To convince many Jewish people, scattered throughout the world, that Jesus is indeed the Messiah.

#### **Introductory Pt. #2: Purpose for the Tribulation in Revelation 9:**

-- To unmask Satan's true character. During the present church age, Satan often disguises himself as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14-15). But during the tribulation, his true character will be exposed.

#### **I. Fifth Trumpet Judgment: Plague of Locust Demons, vv. 1-12**

##### **A. The leader of the locusts is the Devil himself (1, 2, 11).**

1. His position
  - a. He's an angel (cf. Rev. 1:20).
  - b. He's a morally fallen angel (Isa. 14:12-15; Jude 6).
  - c. He's lost his access to heaven (cf. Rev. 12:9-10).
2. His power – seen in two facts:
  - a. A "key" was given to him; his power is limited (cf. 1:18).
  - b. He's the "king" of the locusts; the angel of the abyss. Hell is where he rightfully belongs.
3. His purpose – revealed in his name *Abaddon* (Hebrew); *Apollyon* (Greek), meaning "destroyer"

##### **B. The locusts are demons out of hell (3-10).**

1. Their authority – "*power was given to them*"
  - a. The extent of their authority
    - In terms of time, limited to five months
    - In terms of targets, limited to "*only people who do not have God's seal on their foreheads*"
    - In terms of torment, limited extent: they could not kill, but only torment for five months
  - b. The effects of their authority
    - In regard to torment, like the sting of a scorpion

-- In regard to human response, people will long to die, but death will elude them.

2. Their appearance: like horses equipped for battle (cf. Joel 2)

##### **C. The announcement of two more woes (12).**

#### **II. Sixth Trumpet Judgment: Plague of Horse Demons, vv. 13-21 -- It's a Demonic Cavalry.**

##### **A. The Control of this Cavalry, vss. 13-15**

1. The pronouncement that is made indicates this demonic cavalry is under the control of God (13).
2. The place where they were bound (14)
  - at the great river Euphrates; a reference to Babylon; the fountain of paganism (cf. Rev. 17:5; 18:2)
3. The preparation made (15a) – Four demonic angels were prepared ahead of time as part of God's plan.
4. The purpose they had (15b)
  - "*to kill a third of the human race*"

##### **B. The Characteristics of this Cavalry, vss. 16-17**

1. Its size – 200 million
2. Its identity – demons that attack during the tribulation; near the end of its second quarter.

##### **C. The Consequences of this Cavalry, vss. 18-21**

1. Their plagues (fire, smoke, and sulfur) bring death to one-third of the world's population (18).
2. Their powers cause great harm to people (18-19).
3. Their purposes do not change the hearts of people (20-21).

#### **Concluding Application:**

-- Who is the ultimate source of authority for Satan and his angels (whether they acknowledge it or not)? If Christ so controls the evil forces of this age, how much control should He have over me, my thoughts, my career, my behavior?

-- God's judgments will not change the hearts of unbelievers during the tribulation; what can change the hearts of people today? What have I done last week, and/or will I do this week to see this come about?