



“...Blessed be His glorious name forever!
And let the whole earth be filled with His
glory. Amen and Amen.”

Psalm 72:19

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu, Melech Ha'Olam
Blessed are You, O Lord Our God,
King of the Universe!

COMMENTARY: *Olam* occurs 439 times in the OT, and only 4 of those times does it refer to the physical world. All the other occurrences have to do with time — everlasting, forever, always, ancient, perpetual...**Adonai Elohim isn't just Lord over everything, He's Lord over every when, every where – Lord of ALL.** He's King of the Universe – He created it. He's King of Forever – He created forever. He's Lord over every aspect of creation, transcendent. He exists apart from and is not subject to His creation, and yet He chose to humble Himself and enter creation as a man. Why? To redeem us, certainly, but also to make Himself known.

(C.E. Jacobs)


As we read **Revelation chapter 9**, we must first remember and praise the God of the Universe who planned and provided the redemption of all mankind through the Blood of the Lamb, His Son.



Elohim has revealed to us, through His printed Word, and through His only begotten Word, His nature, character and plans. **He loved the world so much that He crafted this amazing and perfect plan to save it.** He does not want anyone to perish and be apart from Him.

It is with this thought that we revisit
the throne room in praise and
worship BEFORE we open further
Revelation Chapters 9-18.

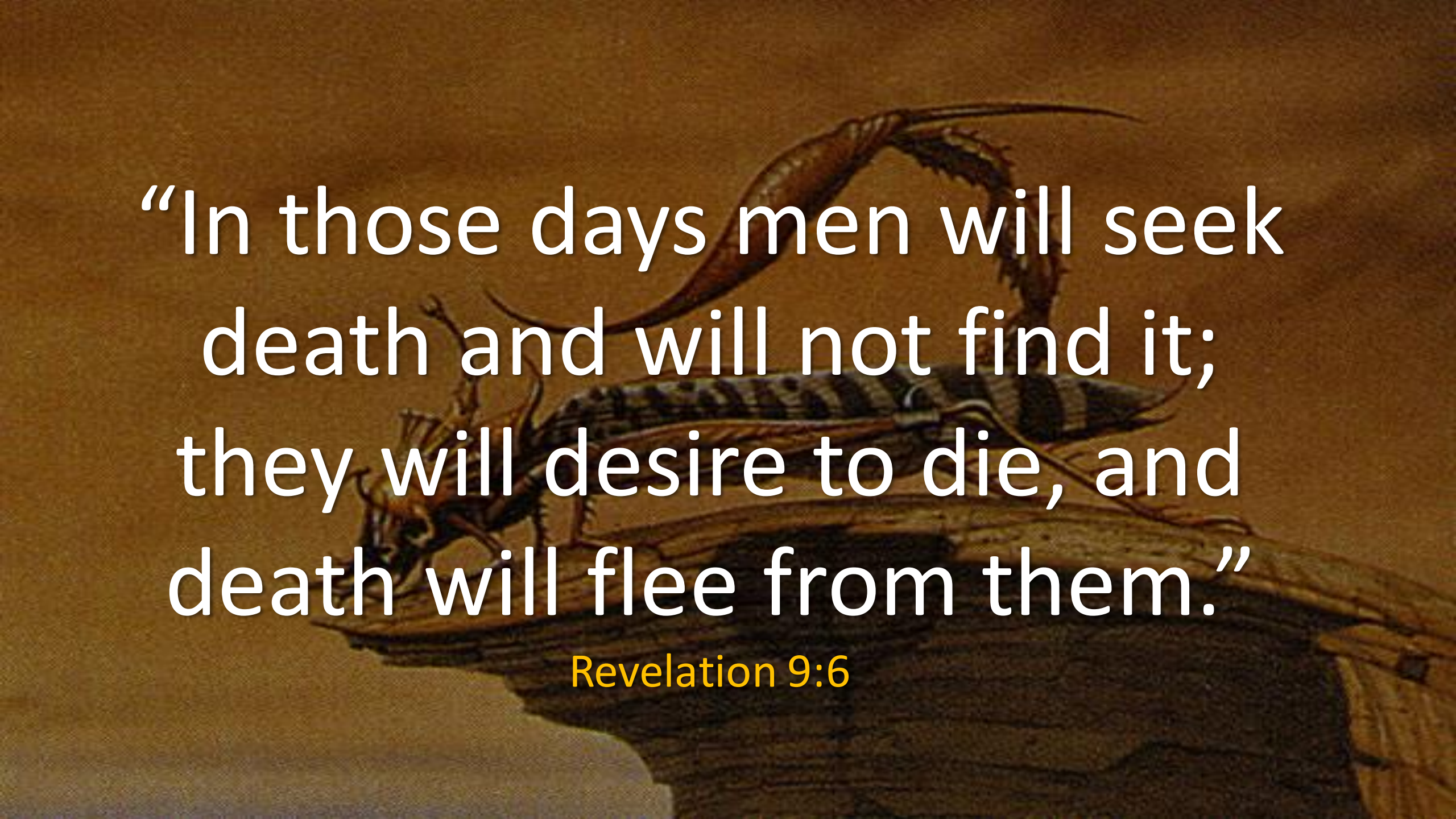
Our God is indeed Melech Ha'Olam,
King of the Universe, who loves His
people beyond our understanding.



**Sh'ma Yisrael, Adonai Eloheinu
Adonai Echad
Baruch Shem k'vod malchutto,
l'olam va'ed**

**Hear, O Israel: the LORD is our God.
The LORD is One.
Blessed be the name of His glorious kingdom
for ever and ever.**



A scorpion is shown in profile, facing left, on a dark, textured surface. The scorpion's pincers are raised, and its long, segmented tail (metasoma) curves upwards and then downwards. The background is a dark, mottled brown color.

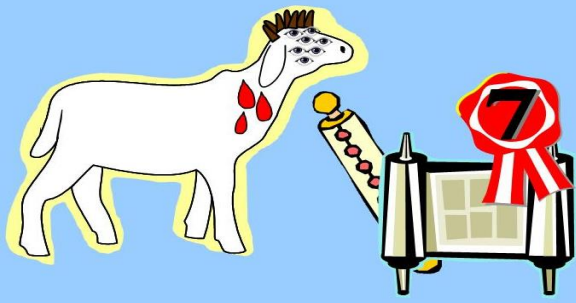
“In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them.”

Revelation 9:6

A landscape with a large crater filled with lava, with the text "Revelation 9" overlaid in white cursive.

Revelation 9

Hell belches...



SILENCE
"1/2 Hour" Interlude



noises!
thunderings!
lightning!
earthquake!



1/3
ALL



1/3 blood
1/3 died
1/3 destroyed



Wormwood
1/3 bitter



X **1/3** **X** **1/3**
X **1/3**



Revelation 8

"Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!"

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

¹ 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. ³ Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

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. 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 Chapter 9 Part 1

⁷ The shape of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle. On their heads were crowns of something like gold, and their faces were like the faces of men. ⁸ They had hair like women's hair, and their teeth were like lions' teeth.

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. ¹⁰ They had tails like scorpions, and there were stings in their tails. Their power was to hurt men five months.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

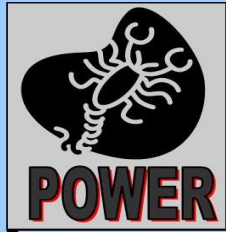
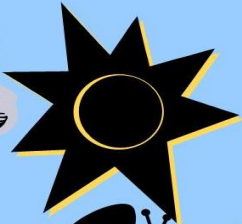
¹¹ And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon.

¹² One woe is past. Behold, still two more woes are coming after these things.



1st Woe

5



Do NOT harm
GRASS, TREES
Any green thing

ONLY NO SEAL
TORMENT
do NOT KILL
5 Months

Death will flee



6

2nd Woe



"Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates."

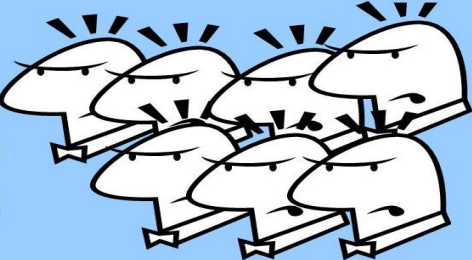


3 Plagues

200 Million



Did NOT Repent



Revelation 9

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

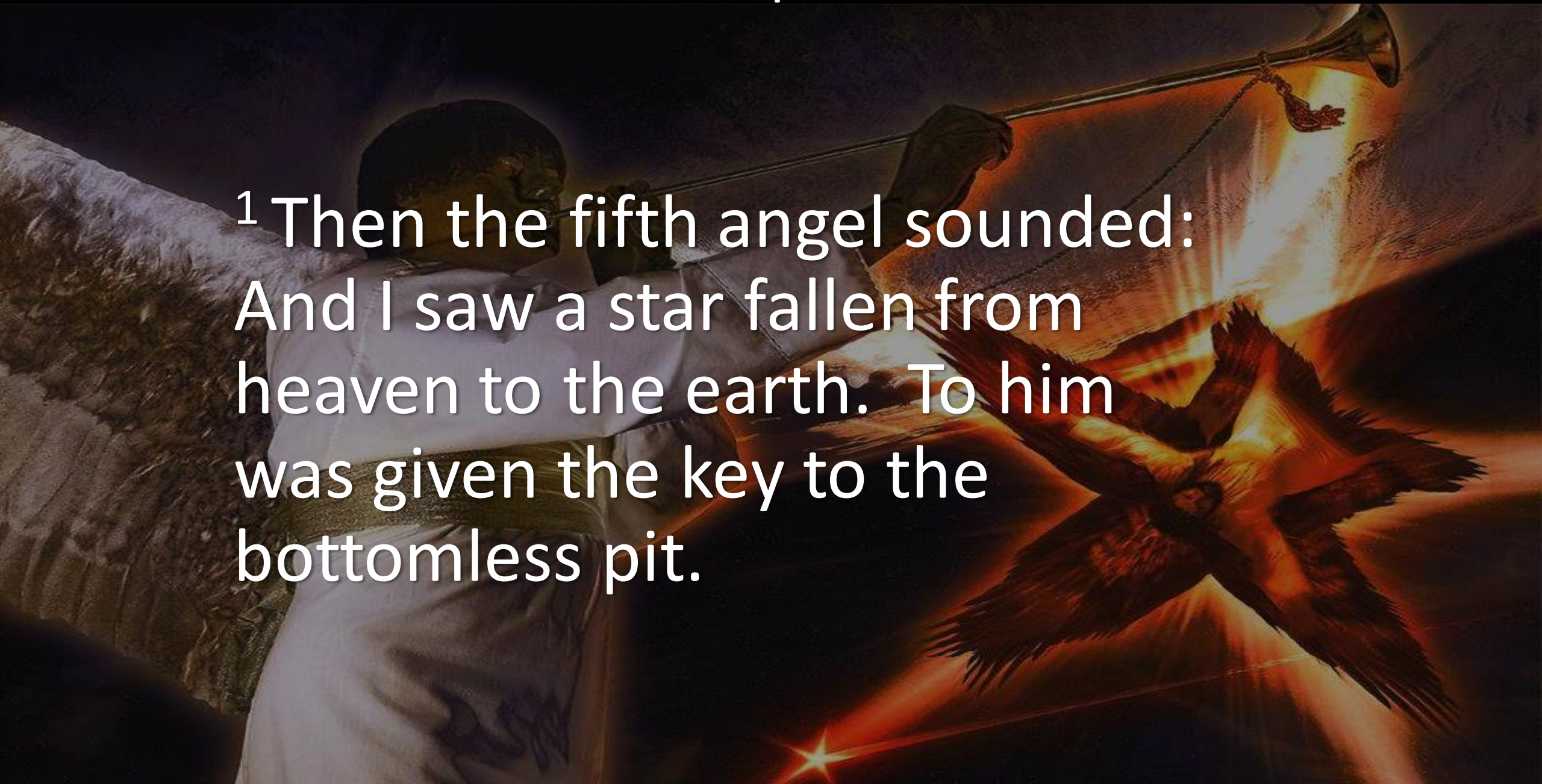


Trumpet Judgments Continue

- First 4 Trumpets fell on **nature** (*in a supernatural way!*)
- Last 3 on **humankind** (*5-6 demonic origin/source*)
- Continuation of chapter 8, Trumpet Judgments (*last three*), more “woes” and unrepentant mankind.
- **3 woes generally thought to be LAST half** ($3\frac{1}{2}$ yrs) of Tribulation. (Jesus called “Great Tribulation.”)

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

¹ 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.



REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1



1st Woe

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- Don't have to speculate long about star. Told star = "him" –personage, "star" *is supernatural*.
- Star has "fallen from heaven"
- First guess? Satan himself; others?

Keep in mind as we look at goals of final world ruler later.

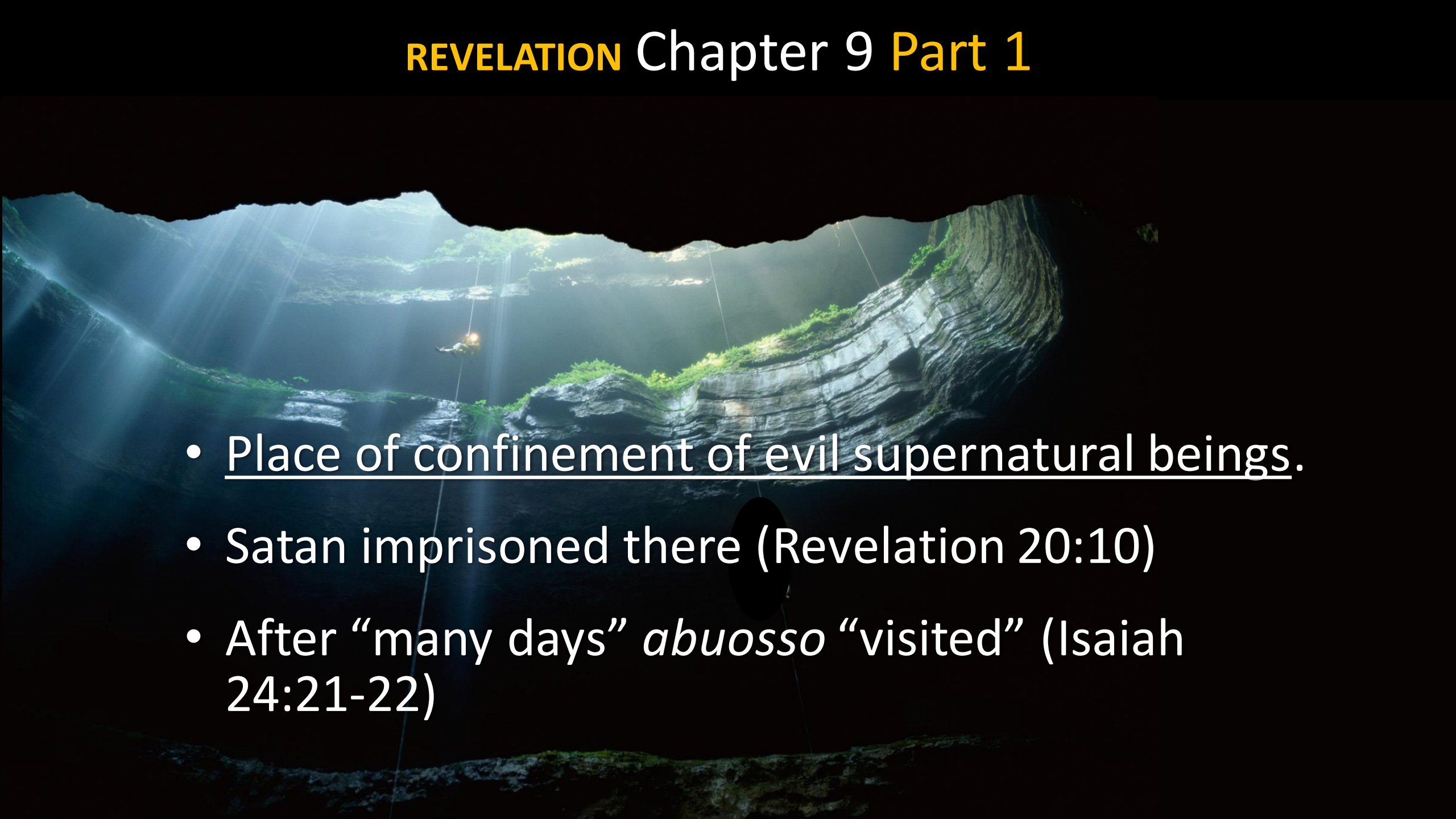


¹²“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! ¹³ For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; ¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’ ¹⁵ Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit. (Isaiah 14:12-15)

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- “Star” most likely **Enemy** (*but could be other fallen*). Here given key to “bottomless pit.”
- **What is this pit?** Probably not Sheol, word = *abuosso*, meaning (abyss), “bottomless pit.” *Not same word used for Hell, Hades, Sheol.*
- 9X in NT (7 in Revelation), 30 X in OT. Angels fallen (sinned) sent here (see Genesis 6:2, 4; 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6)
- **Demons beg to avoid this pit** (Luke 8:31). *“And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss.”*

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- 
- Place of confinement of evil supernatural beings.
 - Satan imprisoned there (Revelation 20:10)
 - After “many days” *abuosso* “visited” (Isaiah 24:21-22)

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1



ISAIAH 24:21-22

It will come about in that day, ADONAI will punish the host of heaven on high, and the kings of the earth on the earth.

They will be gathered together, like prisoners in the Pit, and will be shut up in the prison, and after many days be punished.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

REVELATION 20:1-3a:

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the abyss and a great chain. He seized the dragon—the ancient serpent, who is the devil and satan—and bound him for a thousand years. He also threw him into the abyss and locked and sealed it over him...



REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- Later key in hands of “good” angel (ch. 20)
- Fallen angels = “wandering stars” in Jude:
“...wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.”
- Together with other fallen angels **unleash first two**
“woes.” (*5th and 6th trumpets*)

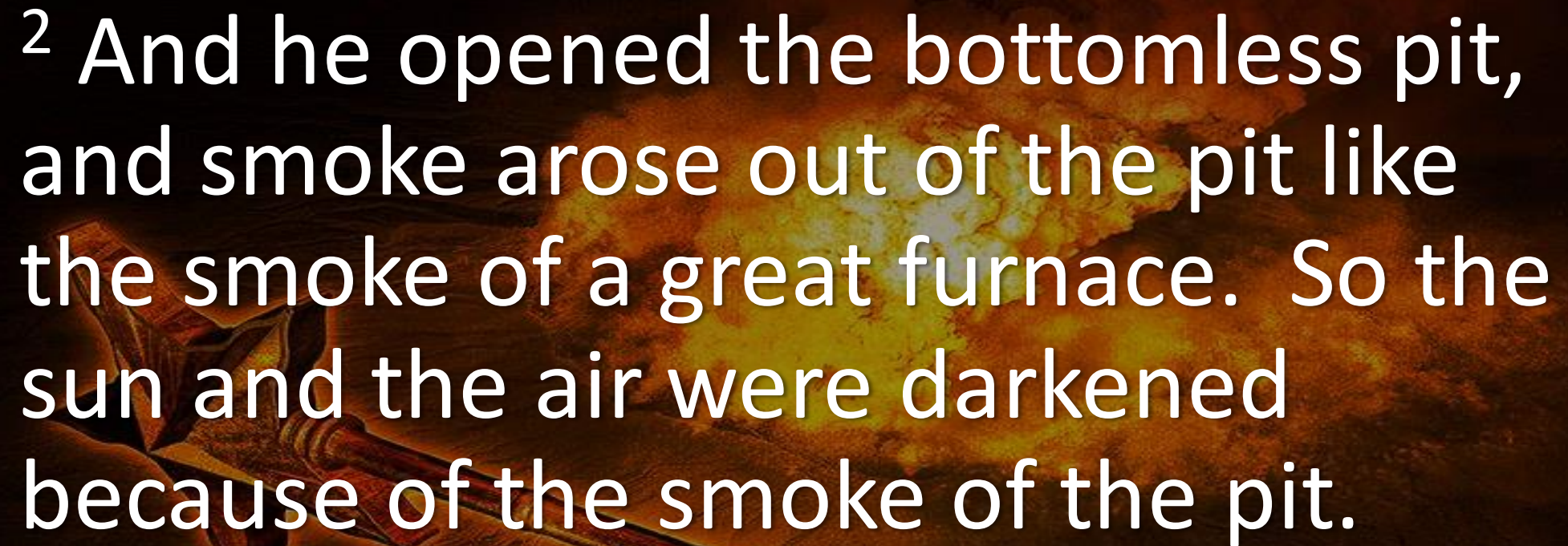
REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- **Other possibilities** – “good” angel doing God’s will, or another fallen angel. **Not a meteorite** or other inanimate object. Definite personage.
- Don’t know exact identity, focus on results, not identity.

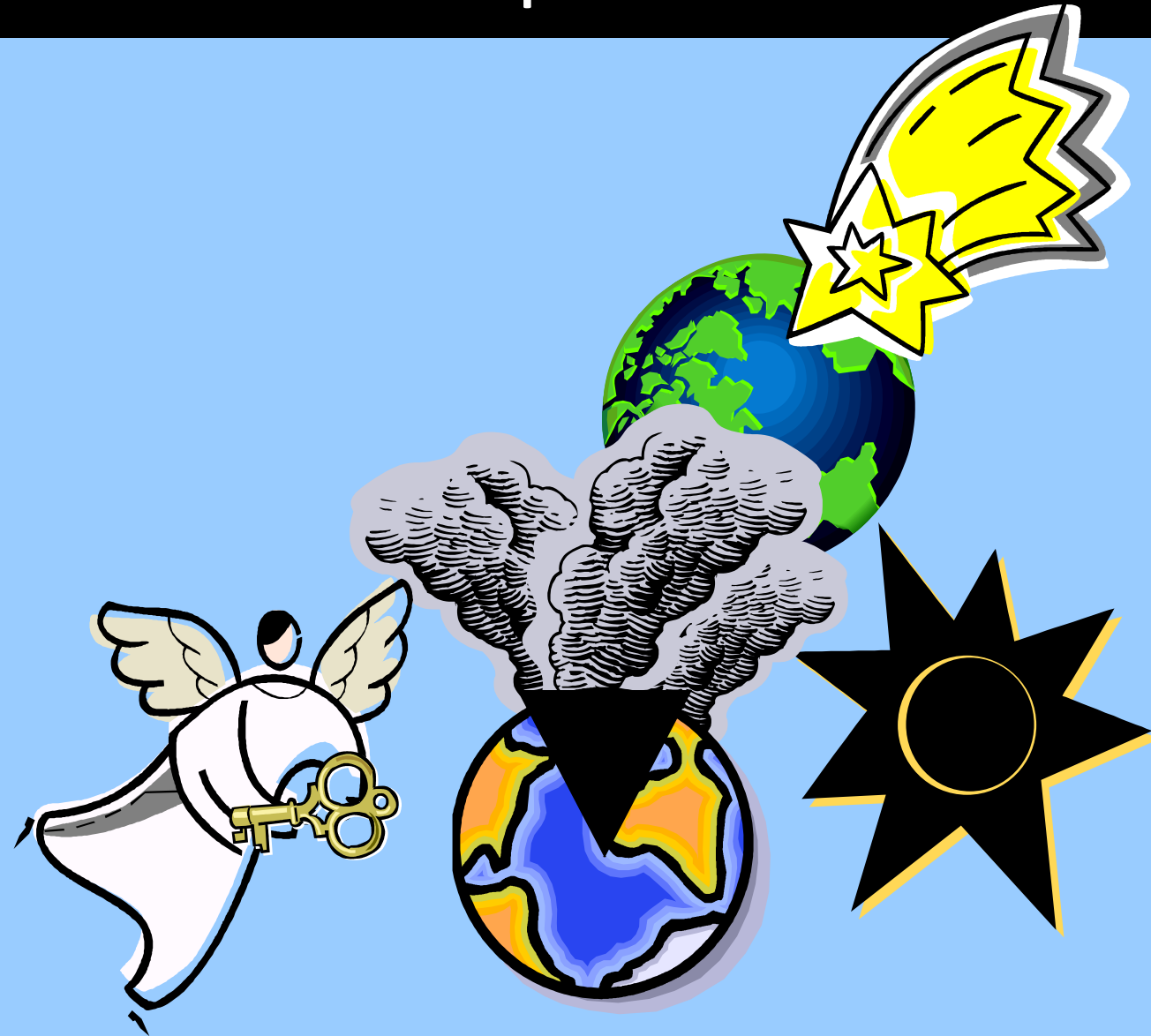


REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

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 Chapter 9 Part 1



REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- “Bottomless pit” – “*abussos*” First time used, Jesus/demon possessed man (Luke 8:26-39), demons begged Yeshua not to send them to abyss (*abussos*, same word)
- Matthew’s account (8:29) *“What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?”*
- **Aware of future assignment to abyss** (“bottomless pit”) – during Millennial Kingdom (*along with Enemy*)

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- Revelation 11:7 and 17:8 – beast (final world ruler?) that kills God’s two witnesses and persecutes His people also "ascends from the bottomless pit."
- Smoke may be literal, darken skies, but likely also **symbolizes spiritual darkness**, and demonic pollution *unlike anything we can imagine.*
- “Shaft” (*more precise interpretation*) to abyss, place that confines evil beings now open. ***It has not been open before.*** Marks major change in what transpires on earth.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

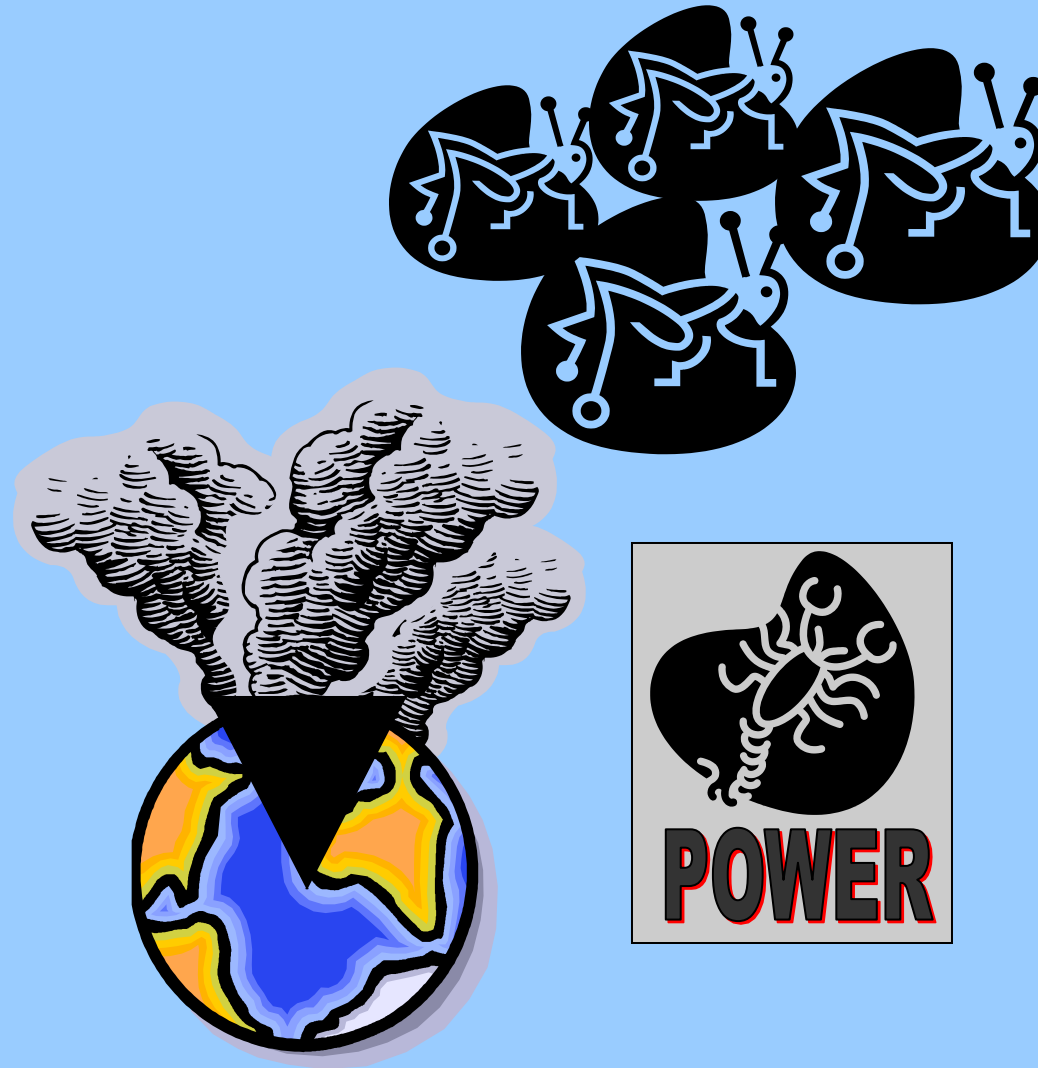
Here comes **first “woe.”**

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

³ Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.



REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1



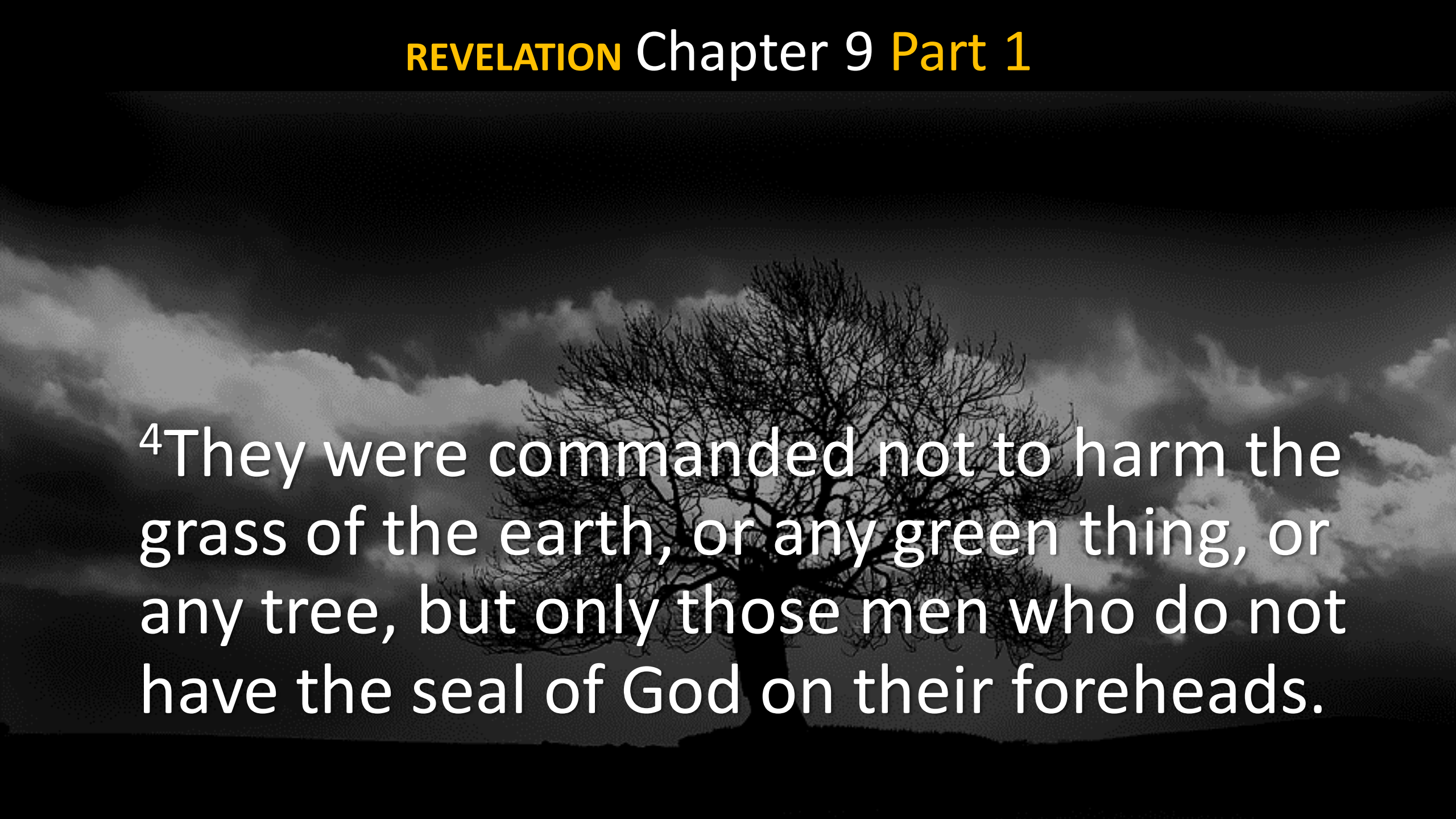
REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- John used word for “locusts” here. Keep in mind, John describing *what he sees, not what he knows*.
- **Uses “like”** a great deal, but not here. These appear to be actual, physical (*yet demonic*) locusts.
- Natural **locusts do amazing damage**. 1866 locust plague in Algiers resulted in 200,000 deaths from starvation, resulting famine.
- **Imagine what demonic, supernatural locusts do to ravage a person’s body and soul, like they normally ravage vegetation?**

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- Locusts in scripture = **tools of destruction and judgment.**
- A literal plague in Egypt. Referenced as both literal and symbolic in Joel: *“What the chewing locust left, the swarming locust has eaten; what the swarming locust left, the crawling locust has eaten; And what the crawling locust left, the consuming locust has eaten.”* (Joel 1:4)
- Joel lamenting devastating *actual locust plague*. Later associates locust destruction with punishment, discipline, judgment.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

A dark, moody landscape with a large, bare tree in the center, set against a cloudy sky. The tree is silhouetted against a lighter, cloudy sky, and the ground is dark and indistinct. The overall atmosphere is somber and dramatic.

⁴They 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 Chapter 9 Part 1

- Obviously **supernatural**. No natural locusts like these.
- Given power (*lit. "authority"*), but **not power of natural locusts**, to strip earth of all "green things."
- Commanded NOT to harm "green things." Could only torment humans –*without seal of God*.
- God, *in His mercy*, **does not allow demonic horde to further harm greenery, already severely damaged.** Without those few "green things" left, human life could not continue.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

First 4 trumpets
focused on “nature”
(natural world).

Last 3 on humanity.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

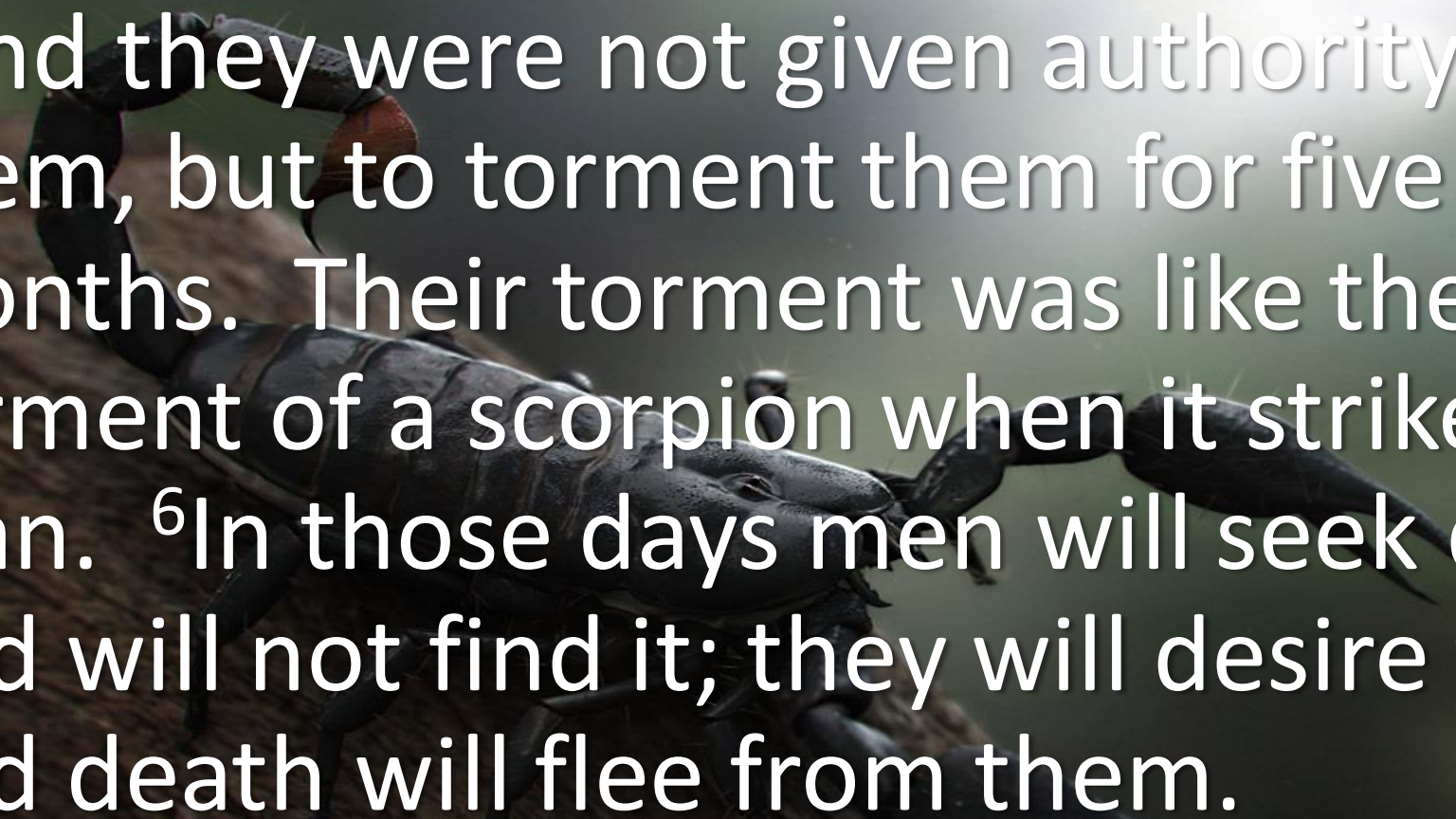
BIG QUESTIONS:

- Do ALL believers have the seal?
- **Will some be subjected to this torment?**
- Are just the 144,000 exempt?
- This passage leads some to *suggest* all believers are sealed. (?) We just don't know.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

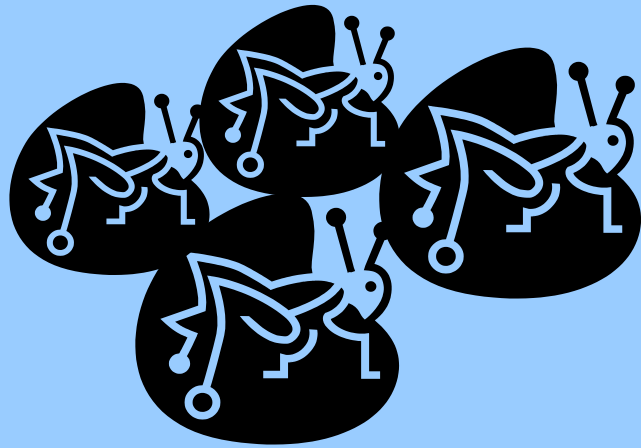
- “Torment” literally = *to punish by physical torment*.
- Implies divine judgment, something believers are **not** subject to.
- Therefore, many conclude this judgment upon **unbelievers only**.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

A close-up photograph of a scorpion resting on a dark, textured wooden surface. The scorpion's body is dark brown and segmented, with its two large pincers (pedipalps) raised and curved. The background is a soft, out-of-focus greenish-grey, suggesting an outdoor setting. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the scorpion and the wood.

⁵And 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. ⁶In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1



ONLY
NO
SEAL
TORMENT
do NOT KILL
5 Months



REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- Locusts here may be real, but **don't resemble anything ever seen**. Description reveals NOT normal locusts!
- Locusts don't normally bite like scorpions.
- Scorpion bite very painful, often leaves victim very ill, in pain, hallucinating, *or dead*.
- While perhaps in physical form, *are demonic*, allowed by God to drive mankind closer to a firm decision – **either with Him or against/apart from Him.**

Although torment, this also is God's grace! Better 5 months of physical torment than an eternity apart from God, in everlasting torment.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- Were “commanded” – **given limited powers**. God granted, *and limited*, their power, as He does with everything....yes, everyone.
- Allowed to cause pain, great suffering, but not death.
- Only **allowed to torment 5 months**. No one seems to know significance of time period. Most likely literal. *Significance may be known when it happens*.
- Time = “**hope**” to tormented – *limited time only*.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

Revelation will act as guide book for those who go through this time.



REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- Remember, although very painful time, God allows, to drive people to Him.
- Entire time of “Jacob’s Trouble” = period of grace. **YES, grace.** People will come to Him in larger numbers than ever in all history. God desires that NONE perish. He will push mankind to crushing point, where the spirit either submits, willingly, or continues to rebel against Him to ultimate permanent separation from Him.
- *Next, bizarre description of these unnatural locusts...*

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

⁷ The shape of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle. On their heads were crowns of something like gold, and their faces were like the faces of men. ⁸ They had hair like women's hair, and their teeth were like lions' teeth. 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.

¹⁰ They had tails like scorpions, and there were stings in their tails. Their power was to hurt men five months.



Artists have had a field day trying to capture what these things look like...



REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1



REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- **Pretty weird locusts!**
- NOTICE *“likes”* in this passage. John never seen anything *like* this before.
- Nothing comes close, except describing various parts compared to something else he knows: **crowns, faces like men, hair like women** (*implies long hair*), **teeth like a lion, breastplates of iron, wings that sound like chariots with many horses, tails like scorpions...**
- **Imagine John's fright at these creatures!**

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- **Natural locusts** have heads that look like horses (*sort of !*) Bodies appear armored.
- German = *heupferd*
meaning “hay-horse,” Italian
term *cavaletta* means “little horse.”
- Hebrew, called the “*lopper, shearer, swarmer, finisher, annihilator, galloper, and creaker.*”



REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- OT prophet Joel's description of devastating locust swarm, four different words for "locust" given:

That which the palmerworm hath left hath the locust eaten; and that which the locust hath left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the caterpillar eaten.” (Joel 1:4)



REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- **Palmerworm** = *gazam* = a type of locust that devours (“chewing” locust NKJV)
- **Locust** = *arbeh* = swarming, rapid increase, also word for grasshopper (“swarming” locust, NKJV)
- **Cankerworm** = *yeleq* = young locust, root “to lick up” (“crawling” locust, NKJV)
- **Caterpillar** = *hasil* = ravaging locust (“consuming” locust, NKJV)

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- Some think describes various **stages** of locust. Other say no, describes various **TYPES** of locusts, with different functions.
- First comes in, chews everything. Next, countless swarms, then young ones, then caterpillars that scour the ground for all that might be left. **NOTHING left.**
- Did God design various types of these creatures to make sure His tools of judgment are fully effective?
- **Chilling to think of what these do to human body, mind, and spirit *when of demonic origin.***

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1



Easy to see how some think **these locusts could be military hardware** – bombers, helicopters, tanks or other military monstrosities.

B29's sting from their tails, too. Face may be pilot viewed through cockpit? Rotors as hair?

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

??



REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- Others believe **appear literally**, as John describes. (*“Left Behind Series” – LaHaye...*)
- **8th plague of Egypt**, ate herbs/plants, would not be repeated (*at least to this level*) again: *“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)

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

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.

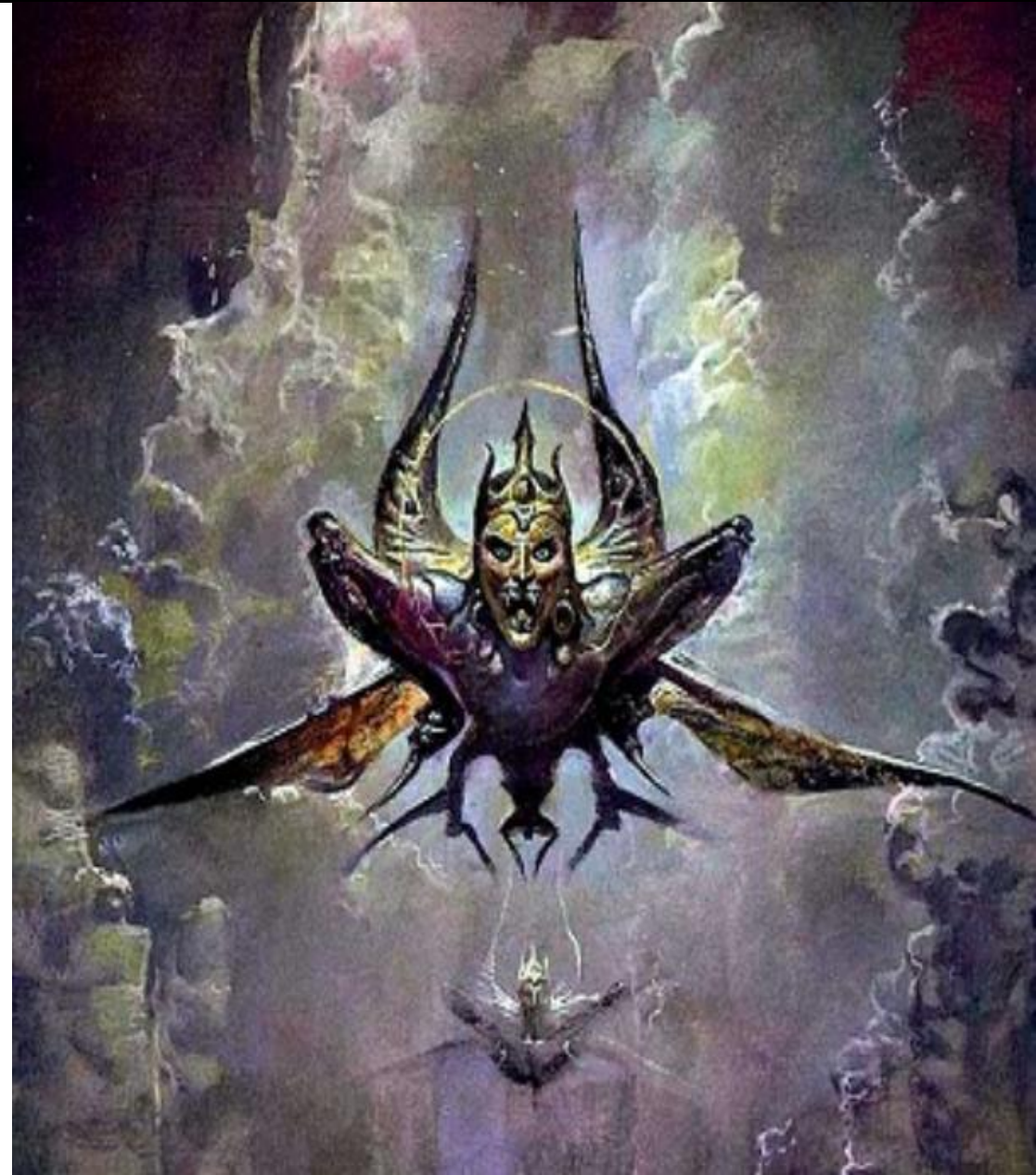
¹² One woe is past. Behold, still two more woes are coming after these things.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- Description of these locusts likely rules out any “military hardware” speculations. There is a personality behind them, over them.
- Very interesting note, Proverbs 30:27 – *“The locusts have no king, yet they all advance in ranks...”* Seems an odd thing in scripture, unless to inform us these are NOT natural locusts (*everything in scripture for a reason!*)

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- **THESE locusts have a king!**
Even told his name.
- “Abaddon” Hebrew = a destroying angel, or symbolic of Sheol/Hades
- “Apollyon” Greek = the destroyer. Some say *HaSatan* (Heb. “The Accuser”)
- Others say another powerful destroying angel.



REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

- Don't know definite identity of this "king." *May also be powerful archangel of fallen angels.* But likely the "enemy" himself.
- Literally "locusts from hell." ***"A visual representation of the hordes of demons loosed upon the earth."*** (Walvoord)
- Don't know duration of other judgments, except they are *most likely* cumulative, but this one lasts a set period of time – 5 months.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

Want to know what this
time will be like?

God put words to it...

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

Isaiah chapter 24 tells us:

Behold, the LORD makes the earth empty and makes it waste, Distorts its surface And scatters abroad its inhabitants. ² And it shall be:

As with the people, so with the priest;

As with the servant, so with his master;

As with the maid, so with her mistress;

As with the buyer, so with the seller;

As with the lender, so with the borrower;

As with the creditor, so with the debtor.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

Isaiah 24 continued...

³ The land shall be entirely emptied and utterly plundered,
For the LORD has spoken this word.

⁴ The earth mourns and fades away,
The world languishes and fades away;
The haughty people of the earth languish.

⁵ The earth is also defiled under its inhabitants,
Because they have transgressed the laws,
Changed the ordinance, Broken the everlasting covenant.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

Isaiah 24 continued...

⁶ Therefore the curse has devoured the earth,
And those who dwell in it are desolate.

Therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned,
And few men are left. ⁷ The new wine fails, the vine
languishes, All the merry-hearted sigh.

⁸ The mirth of the tambourine ceases,
The noise of the jubilant ends, The joy of the harp ceases.

⁹ They shall not drink wine with a song;
Strong drink is bitter to those who drink it.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

Isaiah 24 continued...

¹⁰ The city of confusion is broken down;
Every house is shut up, so that none may go in.

¹¹ There is a cry for wine in the streets, All joy is darkened,
The mirth of the land is gone. ¹² In the city desolation is
left, And the gate is stricken with destruction.

¹³ When it shall be thus in the midst of the land among the
people, It shall be like the shaking of an olive tree,
Like the gleaning of grapes when the vintage is done.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

Isaiah 24 continued...

.....¹⁷ Fear and the pit and the snare
Are upon you, O inhabitant of the earth.

¹⁸ And it shall be That he who flees from the noise of the
fear Shall fall into the pit,
And he who comes up from the midst of the pit
Shall be caught in the snare; For the windows from on high
are open, And the foundations of the earth are shaken.

¹⁹ The earth is violently broken, The earth is split open,
The earth is shaken exceedingly.

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

Isaiah 24 continued...

²⁰ The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard,
And shall totter like a hut; Its transgression shall be heavy
upon it, And it will fall, and not rise again.

²¹ It shall come to pass in that day *That* the LORD will
punish on high the host of exalted ones,
And on the earth the kings of the earth.

²² They will be gathered together, As prisoners are
gathered in the pit, And will be shut up in the prison;
After many days they will be punished.

[Great White Throne??]

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

Isaiah 24 continued...

²³ Then the moon will be disgraced
And the sun ashamed;
For the LORD of hosts will reign
On Mount Zion and in Jerusalem
And before His elders, gloriously.

And right into the Millennial Kingdom...

REVELATION Chapter 9 Part 1

Just the **FIRST** woe. Should be large harvest of souls as this torment will likely drive people to God. *However, many will just as readily harden their hearts against Him.*

Yevarekh-kha Adonai veyishmerekha

May the LORD bless you and keep you

***Ya'er Adonai panav elekha
vihunneka***

May the LORD make His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you

***Yissa Adonai panav elekha viyasem
lekha shalom.***

May the LORD lift up His countenance upon you
and give you peace.

