

Lesson: Revelation 9: 1-12 *“Hell Visits Earth”*

Revelation 9: 1 [JK]

“And the fifth angle sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit”

We are in the midst of the *seven trumpet judgments*

- * The *first four trumpets* have been sounded and they brought forth horrible scenes of death and destruction.
- * The earth’s environment has been shattered and mankind is under the awful judgments of a holy God.

Chapter 8 closes with an angel flying through Heaven pronouncing three “woes” upon the “inhabiters of the earth”.

This angel knows that the plagues unleashed by the sounding of the last three trumpets will be far more horrible than anything we have witnessed yet.

Why does the Lord give us these graphic descriptions of what the world will face during the Tribulation?

Why write about such tragedy, death and suffering?

I think there are three very good reasons why these things are dealt with in the book of Revelation.

- 1.** These things are mentioned so the church will know what we have been saved from. It is exciting to know that God will deliver His people from this kind of judgment.
- 2.** He extends this glimpse of the future as a warning to those who have not trusted Jesus as their Savior. He wants them to know what they will face if they continue on in their sin and in their rejection.
- 3.** They are given so that those of us who know the truth might be **motivated to share** the Gospel with the lost.

2.

My friends we are living in a day when the subject of Hell is viewed with much skepticism

- * People just don't believe in a literal place of torment.
- * In fact, many preachers and church members reject the notion of Hell, as it is presented in the Bible.
- * People joke about Hell and use the word as a byword in everyday language.

But, the Gods Word Fact is, Hell is a real place!

- * Real people are going to endure real torments for a real eternity in a real place called Hell.
- * They can attempt to deny it is they wish, but Hell is still real.
- * In these verses, Hell visits earth.
- * The verses we are about to study will point out the terrible realities that will be visited upon the earth in the last days.

Revelation 9: 1 [JK]

“And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit”

- * We are introduced to a Horrible Personality
- * When the fifth angel sounds his trumpet, we are introduced to a horrible personality.
- * It is my opinion that we are given a description of the Devil himself in this verse. Look at how he is described.

He Is A Famous Personality

- * He is called a “*star*”
- * Some Bible commentators attempt to spiritualize this passage and link this being with the star of **Revelation 8: 10-11** [Describes a star that is a meteoric mass – Wormwood is its name – contaminates the water systems of the earth]
- * I believe that “*star*” in **Revelation 8: 10-11** is a comet while the star here in **Revelation 9: 1** is a literal person.

3.

When we think of famous persons we call them stars, we often think of celebrities; those who are famous in this world.

- * There is a sense in which this person is famous.
- * In fact, he is known in *three worlds*.
- * He is known *in Heaven*; he is *known on earth* and he is *known under the earth*.
- * He is a famous personality.

Of course, the Devil has a name.

His name is “*Lucifer*” - [Isaiah 14:12](#) “12How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

- * The name “*Lucifer*” means “*Brilliant star; Light-bearer or Shining one*”
- * So, we are introduced to Lucifer, a famous personality

[Revelation 9: 1](#) [JK]

“And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit”

[Revelation 9: 1-2](#) [Message]

“ 1-2The fifth Angel trumpeted. I saw a Star plummet [Fall] from Heaven to earth.

The Star was handed a key to the Well of the Abyss. He unlocked the Well of the Abyss—smoke poured out of the Well, billows and billows of smoke, sun and air in blackout from smoke pouring out of the Well”

He “*Lucifer*” Is A *Fallen Personality*

- * The word “*fall*” is a perfect tense verb.
- * That means it refers to something that took place in the past that still has present results.
- * In other words, the sense of that word is “*fallen*”
- * We are dealing with a fallen personality.

Satan’s fall took place sometime in the past: [Luke 10:18](#) “And he [The Lord] said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

4.

As you know, Satan or Lucifer was a highly exalted archangel, but he was not content to be what the Lord created him to be.

* He wanted to be God

Isaiah 14:12-17 [KJ]

“12 How art thou fallen from heaven, *O Lucifer, son of the morning!* how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

15 *Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.*

16 They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;

17 *That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners?”*

Ezekeil 28:11-19 [KJ]

“11-19 God's Message came to me: "Son of man, raise a funeral song over the king of Tyre. Tell him, A Message from God, the Master:"You had everything going for you.You were in Eden, God's garden. You were dressed in splendor, your robe studded with jewels: Carnelian, peridot, and moonstone, beryl, onyx, and jasper, Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald, all in settings of engraved gold.

A robe was prepared for you the same day you were created.

You were the anointed cherub. I placed you on the mountain of God. You strolled in magnificence among the stones of fire.

From the day of your creation you were sheer perfection...and then imperfection—evil!—was detected in you. In much buying and selling you turned violent, you sinned!

I threw you, disgraced, off the mountain of God.

I threw you out—you, the anointed angel-cherub.

No more strolling among the gems of fire for you!

Your beauty went to your head.

You corrupted wisdom by using it to get worldly fame.



I threw you to the ground, sent you sprawling before an audience of kings and let them gloat over your demise.

By sin after sin after sin, by your corrupt ways of doing business, you defiled your holy places of worship.

So I set a fire around and within you.

It burned you up. I reduced you to ashes.

All anyone sees now when they look for you is ashes, a pitiful mound of ashes.

All who once knew you now throw up their hands:

'This can't have happened! This has happened!'"

Pride was found in Lucifer and he was cast out of Heaven

* **He still has access to the presence of God** where he accuses the brethren.

Job 1:6-12

“6-7 One day when the angels came to report to God, Satan, who was the Designated Accuser, came along with them. God singled out Satan and said, "What have you been up to?"

Satan answered God, "Going here and there, checking things out on earth."

8 God said to Satan, "Have you noticed my friend Job? There's no one quite like him—honest and true to his word, totally devoted to God and hating evil."

9-10 Satan retorted, "So do you think Job does all that out of the sheer goodness of his heart? Why, no one ever had it so good! You pamper him like a pet, make sure nothing bad ever happens to him or his family or his possessions, bless everything he does—he can't lose!

11 "But what do you think would happen if you reached down and took away everything that is his? He'd curse you right to your face, that's what."

12 God replied, "We'll see. Go ahead—do what you want with all that is his. Just don't hurt him." Then Satan left the presence of God”

Job 2:1-7

“ 1-3 One day when the angels came to report to God, Satan also showed up. God singled out Satan, saying, "And what have you been up to?" Satan answered God, "Oh, going here and there, checking things out."

Then God said to Satan, "Have you noticed my friend Job? There's no one quite like him, is there—honest and true to his word, totally devoted to God and hating evil? He still has a firm grip on his integrity! You tried to trick me into destroying him, but it didn't work."

4-5 Satan answered, "A human would do anything to save his life. But what do you think would happen if you reached down and took away his health? He'd curse you to your face, that's what."

6 God said, "All right. Go ahead—you can do what you like with him. But mind you, don't kill him."

7-8 Satan left God and struck Job with terrible sores. Job was ulcers and scabs from head to foot. They itched and oozed so badly that he took a piece of broken pottery to scrape himself, then went and sat on a trash heap, among the ashes”

The Bible tells us that Satan is the “*prince of the power of the air*”
Ephesians 2:2

But, there will come a day when Satan will be eternally cast down to the earth

Revelation 12:10

“10 Then I heard a loud voice shouting across the heavens, “It has come at last — salvation and power and the Kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ.

For the accuser of our brothers and sisters has been thrown down to earth—the one who accuses them before our God day and night”

* Here we see Satan, cast out of Heaven and forced to confine his activities to the earth.

7.

The thing that brought Satan down is the same thing that causes mankind his worst problems: *Pride!*

- * **Pride will cause you to think you are good enough without God.**
- * **It will cause you to refuse to bow.**
- * **It will cause you to walk in your own self-righteousness.**
- * **Price will take you to Hell**

As the writer of Proverbs puts it

Proverbs 16:18

“Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty [arrogant] spirit before a fall”

[Message]

“18 First pride, then the crash— the bigger the ego, the harder the fall”

Pride was found in Lucifer and he was cast out of Heaven

- * **Pride destructs**
- * **Haughtiness births a fall**

Revelation 9: 1 [JK]

“And the fifth angle sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit”

Is A *Fearsome Personality*

- * **This famous star, this fallen figure is given a key to the bottomless pit.**
- * **He is given the authority to unlock a terrible prison and unleash a horrific plague upon the world.**

We were told in Revelation 1:18 that Jesus has the keys of “death and of Hell”

- * **For a short time, the power over a host of demonic spirits imprisoned in Hell is given to Satan.**

8.

While we are on the subject of the devil, allow me to make a few statements about him.

First, Satan is a *real personality*

- * He exists in this universe and his power is very real.
- * He is not a myth; there is a very real Devil.

Second, Satan has never been in Hell

- * He is not there today and he never wants to go there.
- * He will be sent there one day - [Revelation 20:10](#) “10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever”

When he goes, he will go as a victim and not as a ruler. He hates the thought of Hell, but he will be punished there throughout eternity!

Third, Satan is one of the great mysteries of the Bible

- * Why would God allow a being like him to have the power that he does?
- * Satan does have power!
- * That is why we are told to be aware of him and of what he is doing,

1 Peter 5:8

“8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour”

- * But I have Good News for you
- * We have authority over Satan and his wiles because of Jesus Christ
- * By His authority we overcome the enemy of our soul!

Revelation 9: 1- 2 [KJ]

“ And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. 2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit”

9.

- * First we find that Satan has a horrible personality
- * Now we see a very horrible place

In this verse, Satan takes the key he has been given and he uses it to open the door to Hell.

- * This verse tells us just how close men are to Hell.
- * One turn of the key and Hell is unleashed upon the earth.
- * This verse has some things to say about that place called Hell

Hell Is A Deep Place

- * Hell is called a “*bottomless pit*”
- * The word “*bottomless*” gives us our word “*abyss*”
- * It refers to a very deep chasm.
- * The word literally means “*well*”
- * When Satan turns his key and opens the pit, *he is literally opening the shaft that leads into Hell itself.*

Science denies it; lost men deny it; human reason denies it; but there is a place under this earth called Hell.

- * The souls of lost people suffer in the fires of Hell.
- * It is clear from the verses that follow in this chapter that certain demons [Fallen Angels] are being held in Hell awaiting their liberty.

2 Peter 2:4 [KJ]

“4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but *cast them down to hell*, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment”

Jude 6 [KJ]

“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”

Hell is a very deep place

10.

Hell Is A Dark Place

- * We are told that smoke ascends out of this pit and the smoke is so great that it obliterates the light of the sun.
- * There is an old saying that goes - *“Where there is smoke, there is fire”*
- * The same is true in this case.

Hell is a place of fire

Luke 16:19-24 [KJ]

“ 19 There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:
20 And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores,
21 And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.
22 And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;
23 And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.
24 And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.”

Revelation 14:10-11 [KJ]

“ 10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:
11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name”

2 Thessalonians 1:8-9

“ 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; 10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day”

Hell is a place that no one should ever want to go.
It is a place no one has to go!

Many joke about Hell and try to pass it off as silly superstition, but Hell is real and wise people make their preparations to avoid its flames. You may not believe it, but a good, gracious God will allow you to go to Hell. My advice to you is that you should flee the wrath to come. Run to Jesus and be saved!

Hell Is A Disturbing Place

- * Hell is disturbing to me simply because it even exists.
- * I have to think about it, but it is a real place where people will go unless they are saved.
- * So, as disturbing as it is, we must take the time to consider it.
- * Allow me to share a few features of Hell that make it truly disturbing.

Hell Is A Demonic Place

- * Throughout the New Testament, Hell is associated with demonic activity.

Luke 8:31 teaches us the truth that the demons fear being sent to the abyss.

Luke 8: 31 [JK]

**“ 30 And Jesus asked him, saying, what is thy name? And he said, Legion: because many devils were entered into him.
 31 And they besought him that he would not command them to go out into the deep”**

Revelation 11:7 [KJ]

“ 7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them”

Tells us the Beast, the Antichrist, will ascend out of this place. As I have already mentioned, fallen angels are bound there and Satan himself will spend eternity in Hell.

1. A Horrible Personality

2. A Horrible Place

Revelation 9: 3-12 [KJ]

“ 3 And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

4 And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.

5 And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.

6 And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.

7 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.

8 And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions.

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.

10 And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months.

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.

12 One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter”

A HORRIBLE PLAGUE

13.

When the abyss is opened a demonic plague spews out onto the earth.

* The demons that have been “*reserved unto judgment*” are released to carry out their end-time mission.

2 Peter 2:4 [KJ]

“For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment...”

* Imagine a world in which every prison door was suddenly opened.

* Murders, rapists, serial killers, the criminally insane, are all allowed to walk free.

* Can you imagine the chaos, the pain the suffering that would occur?

* Well, the prison doors of earth will not be opened, but Hell’s prison will be opened and emptied and a lost world will be thrown into a time of terrible judgment!

They are described as locusts.

* The description probably comes from the greatness of their numbers.

* One locust swarm reported in 1889 covered over 2,000 square miles.

* The image here is of an innumerable host of demons being allowed to ascend out of Hell onto the earth.

Revelation 9: 4

“ 3 And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

4 And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads”

* They are sent to inflict unbearable punishment

* They are given scorpion like power

* They are restrained from destroying nature

* They will torment only those who do not have the seal of God in their foreheads

* They are not to kill them but to torment them

* The result is that people will become so weary they will desire to die.

Revelation 9:11 [KJ]

“ 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.

10 And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months.

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”

* Hebrew Tongue *Abaddon*: “*destruction*” - The name of the angel-prince of the infernal regions, the minister of death and the author of havoc on the earth.

* Greek Tongue *Apollyon*: “*Destroyer*” - The angel of the bottomless pit, the Destroyer

The king over the locust was named “Destruction” – “Destroyer”

* These demons *are described as locusts*, but unlike locusts they will not harm the vegetation. A literal locust swarm will leave a green landscape looking like a desert in a short time. Locusts devour the leaf, the grain and the stalk. These locusts do not come for the plant life but for human life.

* They will have the power to sting like a scorpion. Scorpion stings are known to be very painful. They cause swelling and numbness, but they are rarely fatal in humans.

* So, these demonic beings are allowed out of Hell, they have the power to cause great pain to people. But, their targets are limited. They will only sting those who unsaved. The 144,000 and other believers are protected from the attacks of this great horde of Hell.

Revelation 9: 5-6 [KJ]

“5 And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.

6 And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them”

15.

The Pain They Produce

- * The pain inflicted upon men will be unimaginable.
- * Every moment of every day that demon will be there, tormenting, stinging, causing pain and suffering. There will be no escape!

Men will seek every way they can to escape the torment of these demons, but nothing will help them.

- * No pills, no potions, no poultices will work.
- * Alcohol and drugs will not deaden the pain. For five long months they will suffer and they will find no relief from their suffering.

In our day, people flee death. They do everything they can to stave off his coming.

- * But in that day men will pursue death in an effort to be free from their pain.
- * People will leap from buildings, crushing their bodies upon the ground and still not be able to die.
- * People will drink deadly poisons and ravage their vital organs and not be able to escape.
- * Others will place guns to their temples and attempt to kill themselves, but they will only succeed in adding more misery to their torment.
- * People may try to kill their loved ones to help them escape, but to no avail.
- * For five months there will be no funerals on earth.
- * Death will take a holiday while men endure the pain and suffering inflicted on them by this demonic invasion.

Read it again!

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

- * If you are not saved today, please come to Jesus and avoid this terrible time. * It breaks my heart to have to preach these things, but they are real.
- * They are true and they will be your future if you refuse to come to Jesus for salvation!

Revelation 9: 7 [KJ]

“7 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.*

* [v-7] **Horses prepared to battle** – They resemble mighty war horses, prepared for battle, straining at the bit – Simply like war horses they are ready to attack.

* [v-7] **Golden crowns on their heads** – They come to the earth as conquerors. No medicine or act of science that conquer them. For five long, awful months, these demons reign on the earth – Gold Crowns signifies that they are successful.

* [v-7] **Faces like those of men** – This speaks of their intelligence. The human face is so expressive. It reveals the emotions buried beneath the surface. These beings are very intelligent.

Revelation 9: 8 [KJ]

8 And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions.

* [v. 8] **Hair like a woman** – They are attractive to people. It may be that they have some seductive charm by which they lure their victims to them. People have always been attracted to the occult.

Just look at the popularity of so called psychics, the current fascination with angels, etc. – Simply they will have beauty to seduce.

* [v. 8] **Teeth like a lion** – Their bite is infectious and painful. A lion’s bite never really heals. There is so much infection and bacteria in the bite of a lion that the wound will rarely heal completely – They will have the very character, a demonic character to devour – Satan roams about like a lion seeking to kill, steal and destroy.

Revelation 9: 9 [KJ]

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.

[v. 9] **Breastplates of iron** – They are invulnerable to attack and they are insensitive to the sufferings of humans.

17.

- * **Men will try to kill these demons, but that will be impossible.**
- * **Men will scream in their pain and will beg for mercy, but their pleas will not touch the hearts of their tormenters.**
- * **Simply the breastplates signify that they will be indestructible.**

“...and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle”

[v:9] Wings that sound like chariots – This implies swiftness. They will be able to surround and capture their prey with ease. Men will attempt to run, but there can be no escape – Simply the sound they make will bring fear and fright.

Revelation 9: 10 [KJ]

10 And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months.

[v. 10] Stings in their tails – We have already touched on their capability to inflict pain. It is mentioned here to emphasize the fact that the pain and torment of men is their sole objective – This is a Demonic Torture – Water Boarding is a bubble bath compared to this Torture.

Revelation 9: 11 [KJ]

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”

[11] They have a king over them – They will be organized and united in their attacks upon humanity.

Note

The fact that this king’s name is given in Hebrew and Greek shows us that all unbelievers, both Jew and Gentile, will be targeted by this demonic invasion

- * **He is the fallen angel of the bottomless pit – Hell itself**
- * **His name is Destruction and Destroyer**

Conclusion

What would it be like to awaken one morning to find this creature waiting for you?

That day will come for multiplied millions of lost people.

Don't be one of them

Illustration

* When the bubonic plague was ravaging Europe during the Middle Ages, men tried every way they could think of to cure the disease

* They came to believe that the plague was caused by clean, fresh air, so they plugged up their chimneys, burned disgusting things in their fireplaces, sat in smoke-filled houses, believing they were going to be all right

* Whole cities were clothed in foul-smelling, putrid smoke

* They would fire their cannons regularly to blow away the fresh air

* If you had walked into one of those towns and told the people that the plague was being caused by an invisible organism transmitted by tiny fleas, they would have laughed you out of town

* We now know that what they couldn't see was killing them

Modern man has adopted the same attitude regarding the spiritual realm. He can't see demons, so they must not be real.

* Well, they are! Jesus believed in them and He even had confrontations with them in the Gospels.

* Paul had a run in or two with demons in Acts.

* They are real and multitudes will be loosed upon this earth soon!

You do not have to be here for the day when Hell invades the earth.

* If you will come to Jesus, He will save you soul and that you to a wonderful place called Heaven. If you are saved, you will miss the violence and torment of the Tribulation.

* You can miss out on this terrible time, if you will come to Jesus Christ.

* There is a way out!