

# The Fifth Trumpet Judgment Revelation 8:13-9:12

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## The First Trumpet- v.7

- ▶ Hail and fire mixed with blood
- ▶ 1/3 of the earth, trees, and all the green grass is burned up
- ▶ Imagery of the 7<sup>th</sup> plague of Egypt
  - ▶ See Ex 9:13-35

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## The Second Trumpet- vs 8,9

- ▶ A huge mountain thrown into the sea
- ▶ 1/3 of the sea turned to blood
- ▶ 1/3 of the living sea creatures died
- ▶ 1/3 of the ships were destroyed

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### The Third Trumpet- vs 10-11

- ▶Blazing star falling from the sky
- ▶1/3 of rivers and the springs of water
- ▶Wormwood - bitter
  - ▶1/3 of the waters turned bitter and people died from drinking the water

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### The Fourth Trumpet - v.12

- ▶1/3 of the sun, moon, and stars are struck so that 1/3 of the day and night are without light
- ▶The imagery could be from the 9<sup>th</sup> plague of Egypt - Ex 10:21-23
  - ▶Darkness for 3 days

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### The Eagle and the Woes v.13

- ▶An interlude before the last three trumpets are sounded.
- ▶Three “woes” are pronounced by the Eagle

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### The Eagle and the Woes v.13

- ▶The judgments are now against mankind rather than creation in general
- ▶The judgments now turn demonic

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### The Fifth Trumpet- 9:1-12 The First Woe

- ▶Star- In Jewish thought stars were symbolic of created beings of some sort
- ▶This star had personality because he receives a key to the abyss.

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### The Fifth Trumpet- 9:1-12 The First Woe

- ▶Question: Who is this being?
- ▶Likely an angel or divine agent carrying out the will of God.
- ▶Could this be the angel spoken of in Rev 20:1?

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## The Fifth Trumpet- 9:1-12 The First Woe

### ▶The Abyss:

- ▶9 references to abyss in N.T.
- ▶7 references in Revelation
- ▶Rev 9:1,2,11; 11:7; 17:8; 20:1-3
- ▶Lk 8:31; Rom 10:7

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## The Fifth Trumpet- 9:1-12 The First Woe

### ▶The Abyss:

- ▶An intermediate place of punishment for fallen angels, demons, the beast, false prophet, and satan.

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## The Fifth Trumpet- 9:1-12 The First Woe

### ▶Locusts:

- ▶Symbol of destruction and devastation.
  - ▶Ex 10:1-20; Joel 1:1-2:11

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## Locusts

- ▶ Breed in the desert
- ▶ About 2 inches long with a wingspan of 5 inches
- ▶ Family of grasshopper and crickets
- ▶ Travel in columns of 100ft deep and up to 4 miles long

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## Locusts

- ▶ They eclipse the sun when they pass in front and obscure the sky.
- ▶ After they pass it looks as if the fire has come through because everything is dead

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## Locusts

- ▶ Plague of 1866 in Algiers that resulted in 200,000 deaths as a result of famine

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## Locusts

- ▶ The noise of their wings sounds like a water fall
- ▶ The sound of their eating is like the crackling of a prairie fire

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## Locusts

- ▶ The head of a locust looks like a miniature horse.
- ▶ Hebrew has at least 6 names for the locust
  - ▶ Shearer, swarmer, finisher, annihilator, galloper, creaker

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## Locusts

- ▶ These locusts are given the power of scorpions to inflict pain
- ▶ They are NOT to touch the grass or vegetation, only mankind
- ▶ NOT to touch those with the seal of God. See 7:1-8

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## Locusts

- ▶ Torture for 5 months
  - ▶ The life cycle of a locust is 5 months
  - ▶ The span of the dry season is 5 months
- ▶ People will want to die but death will not come. See Job 3:20-26; Jer. 8:3

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## Locusts

- ▶ Wore something like crowns on their heads
- ▶ Faces resembled human faces
- ▶ These are clearly demonic forces
- ▶ Joel 2:4-5

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## Locusts

- ▶ The king over them is the angel of the abyss
  - ▶ Abbadon- place of destruction (Job 31:12; 28:22)
  - ▶ Apollyon- destroyer

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## Locusts

- ▶ Notes!
- ▶ Greek god Apollo - destroyer
- ▶ Locust was one symbol for Apollo
- ▶ Caligula & Nero associated themselves with Apollo
- ▶ Cryptic message about the emperors?

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## Summary/conclusions

- ▶ God is clearly at work in the earth.
- ▶ Even the demonic forces are under the control of God's sovereignty
- ▶ Satan and his demons are used by God for His purposes
- ▶ The first woe has passed

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