

Guide & Record of your thoughts

4/11/2010 Week 17 - Revelation 9:1-12

Following the Message:

1. (9:1) The star which falls to the earth is:
 - Given the key to the bottomless pit, and
 - Seen performing action. He opens the abyss.
2. (9:1) The demons in the abyss are the most wicked/vile/perverved of all the fallen angels.
3. (9:1) The Abyss is:
 - The temporary abode and prison of a portion of the demons where they wait their final judgment to the Lake of Fire.
 - Also described as the abode of the judged, the pit of darkness, the place of unfathomable death.
 - A place of judgment for fallen angels where not even Satan can release them.
 - A place where demons are bound because they left their normal habitation and abode.
4. (9:2) Such a massive volume of smoke is issued from the abyss that the sun and the air are darkened by it.
5. (9:2) The darkness that will block the sun and fill the air is a literal darkness, but it is also a spiritual darkness falling on earth during the time of these intense activities of Satan.
6. (9:3, 4) These locusts/scorpions are not ordinary insects because a special task is given them. They are not to hurt the earth but only to inflict nonfatal injuries on those who worship the beast and do not have the seal of God.
7. (9:3, 4) The purpose of this judgment (5th trumpet) is to cause men to repent, to turn toward God.
8. (9:5,6) God will allow the torment to last for 5 months. A time of spiritual and physical suffering which for most would be the last opportunity to believe before they die or before they are permanently hardened in their unbelief.
9. (9:5, 6) So intense will be the judgment that men will pursue death but will not be able to find it.
10. John can only give an approximation as to the appearance of the demons/locusts. They are like horses (warlike/powerful/defiant and

straining at the bit; they have faces like men (like intelligent beings); they are crowned (demonstrating their authority and invincibility); have long hair like women (emphasizes seductiveness); they have teeth like those of a lion (indicating their fierce, powerful and deadly ability); they have skin like iron (indicating their inability to be destroyed); and they fly sounding like many horses and chariots rushing to battle.

11. (9:11,12) This “angel of the abyss” (Abaddon or Apollyon) is best viewed as being a high-ranking demon in Satan’s rule.

Greek words used today:

Revelation 9:1, Greek for abyss, **abussos**, ab’-us-sos; depthless, i.e. (special) (infernal) “abyss”: - deep, (bottomless) pit. Literally- shaft of the abyss.

Revelation 9:7, Greek for appearance, **homoios**, hom’-oy-os; similar (in appearance or character)

Revelation 9:11, Greek for king, **basileus**, bas-il-yooce’; (through the notion of a foundation of power); a sovereign.

Reflecting on the Text

Recall the first four trumpet judgments:

- 1st – one third of the earth, trees and all the green grass is burned up by hail and fire,
- 2nd – one third of the sea becomes blood and one third of the sea creatures die and one third of the ships are destroyed by something like a great mountain that is thrown into the sea,
- 3rd – one third of the rivers and springs are ruined (made bitter) by a great “star” (Wormwood) that fell to the earth,
- 4th – one third of the sun, moon and stars are smitten so there will be one third of the day and one third of the night without light.

If you have trouble believing God could even make a place of torment, remember it was prepared for the Devil and his angels (Matt. 25:41)

God’s people can be thankful that Jesus holds the keys of hell and death (Revelation 1:18) and holds authority over Satan.

Those who go to hell are in essence choosing to spend eternity with Satan rather than with Christ.