



# Revelation 9:1-11

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## 1 of 2 More Trumpets

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Class notes, info & Directory posted to [www.SJCalvaryBerean.com](http://www.SJCalvaryBerean.com) or scan the QR code



- i. **Help Take Back Our School Boards from Liberal, Anti-Family Trustees**
  - a. [marc.cooperwghs@gmail.com](mailto:marc.cooperwghs@gmail.com) or call him at 510-759-8502.
- ii. **Family Research Council Pray for America campaign:**
  - a. <https://www.frc.org/get.cfm?c=CHECKOUT>
- iii. **Regent University's '40 Days of Prayer & Fasting'**
  - a. <https://www.regent.edu/news/40-days-of-prayer/>
- iv. **Please pray for Thomas Winder as he tries to return home from Israel**
  - a. [www.HolyLandResearchInstitute.org](http://www.HolyLandResearchInstitute.org)
- v. **View "The Ark and the Darkness" with a skeptic ... FOR FREE!** <https://tinyurl.com/mr2a4vjx>
- vi. **Pastor Jay McCarl, Calvary Wednesday Night 'Prophecy Updates':** 7:00-8:30, also available online, on YouTube & the app
- vii. **Joe & Jill Novelo: YWAM Ships (Kona) -** [jnovelo@mac.com](mailto:jnovelo@mac.com) or (954) 937-0270
- viii. **Understanding The Times:** Jan Markell interviews Tom Hughes, Jeff Kinley, and Todd Hampson discuss global events. They conclude we're not going back to normal and ask if there is time to make America great again? The rapture is being called dangerous even though it is our blessed hope. Also discussed:
  - a. How turmoil benefits the Globalist agenda; How would a Trump presidency impact a Globalist Agenda? How a Trump presidency would be viewed by NAR proponents 'ushering in the Millenium'; As America loses its global status, how does that impact the Church & our religious freedoms
  - b. **OliveTreeViews:** <https://bit.ly/31WMM0s> **YouTube:** <https://tinyurl.com/4sbaue2w>
- ix. **Curtis Bowers Agenda Weely:** "Karl Marx, Satan, & The Paris Olympics" <https://tinyurl.com/mv8h46fb>
- x. **Iran vows retaliation on Israel:** <https://tinyurl.com/bdzkxsmj>
- xi. **Are we another step closer to Ezekiel 38?** <https://tinyurl.com/38rvjnyv>

## II. **A Question from last week: "Stars are really big. How can one fall on the earth?"**

- a. [Mark 13:25](#) [Matt 24:29](#) [Rev 6:13](#) [Rev 9:1](#) [Rev 12:4](#) [Rev 8:10](#)
- b. The wording is what is known as apocalyptic. This style is often used in Jewish writing, both in the Bible and in extra-biblical writing. In apocalyptic writing, the author uses very dramatic pictures symbolically to represent something that is happening. Most often it is about a time when God comes to either save or to judge his (or other) people. ([www.EvidenceForChristianity.com](http://www.EvidenceForChristianity.com))
- c. ([Matthew 24:29](#)). This verse focuses on another sign Jesus predicted in his Olivet Discourse. John tells us "the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale." Jesus said, "The stars will fall from heaven" This prediction likely points to meteorite showers. ([www.BibleRef.com](http://www.BibleRef.com))
- d. "Stars" can be symbolic of people, spiritual beings (angels), heavenly bodies, a meteor, or descriptive representations of futuristic events seen by Prophets (i.e. how would John describe a missile or rocket?)
- e. Greek: ἀστήρ, (Noun, Masculine), aster, Phonetic Spelling: (as-tare')  
Definition: a star ... a star (11 occurrences), stars (13 occurrences)

## III. **Revelation 9: The Fifth & Sixth Trumpets**

- a. **Verse 1: ... The Fifth Trumpet "a star fallen"**
  - i. ***"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."***
  - ii. The first 4 seals & trumpets brought judgments directed against the earth. In the first 4 **seals**, these were the "four horsemen" bringing tyranny, war, famine, & death to the earth. In the first 4 **trumpets**, these were the ecological destruction of the vegetation, seas, fresh waters, & sky.
  - iii. The last three seals focused upon heaven: the cry of the martyrs, cosmic disturbances, and the heavenly prelude to the seven trumpets. The last three trumpets will speak of hell, in terms of the demonic.

- iv. **"I saw a star fallen from heaven ..."**: The Greek ('autos') indicates this star is a *person* ("**to him**"), not a literal star. But who is this '**star**'? Commentaries suggest Nero, a fallen angel, Satan himself, the Word of God, a good angel, & even Jesus.
  - v. **"To him was given the key to the bottomless pit"**: That this star is fallen makes us associate him with Satan, or another high-ranking evil being. But the fact that he's **given the key to the bottomless pit** makes us not want to associate him with Satan. The idea that Satan is the master of hell is foreign to the rest of Scripture. He will be hell's prisoner/captive, not hell's ruler.
  - vi. At the same time, we notice that the **key** is **given** to this being, & it's given at a specific time for a specific purpose that furthers God's plan. This angel – evil or good – **serves God's purpose, even if he does not intend to.**
  - vii. **"The bottomless pit"**: Some wonder where this is. If related to the earth, it would be the center of the earth, because there, all is "top" & nothing is "bottom." However, God could suspend the laws of physics for a specific location, or the bottomless nature of the pit is symbolic.
  - viii. **The abyssos is a prison for Satan & demons** ([Luke 8:31](#), [2 Peter 2:4](#), and Jude 6). **bottomless pit**. More generally, this place is considered the realm of the dead, the same as Hades ([Romans 10:7](#)).
  - ix. [Revelation 9:1](#) is a good example of how the Book of Revelation is sometimes wrongly spiritualized in its interpretation. Some commentators say that the **star** is the word of God, the **pit** is human nature, and the lesson is that if the gospel is rejected, horrors are unleashed. But this is far from the plain meaning of [Revelation 9:1](#).
- b. **Verses 2-6 The 5<sup>th</sup> Trumpet brings demonic locusts from the bottomless pit**
- i. **"Out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth"**: These are obviously not natural locusts. They avoid plants and attack men like scorpions attack. They are "A visual representation of the hordes of demons loosed upon the earth." (Walvoord)
  - ii. The idea is simply that as part of the judgment of the great tribulation, God will allow demonic hordes, previously imprisoned, to descend upon the earth like a swarm of destructive **locusts**. They are not, as some have suggested, heretics, Muslims, Turks, Saracens, Jesuits, or monks.
  - iii. **"... the seal of God on their foreheads"**: Those who have the **seal of God on their foreheads** (the 144,000 and perhaps more) are protected, but **no one else**. This is an inescapable judgment of God.
  - iv. **"They were not given authority to kill them, but to torment them for five months"**: Their purpose and period is expressly governed by God, and the purpose of all this is to bring repentance ([Revelation 9:20-21](#)).
  - v. **"In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them"**: Death will offer no escape from this prolonged torture. Their **power** is described like the power of **scorpions**, and the bite of a scorpion, though extremely painful, is rarely fatal.
  - vi. **"They will desire to die"**: The tormented ones want to die as Paul did in [Philippians 1:21-23](#), but for a completely different reason & result! For Paul, death led to eternal blessing, but for these tormented ones, death is a leap from the frying pan of present torment into eternal fire.
- c. **Verses 7-10 The 5<sup>th</sup> Trumpet – description of the Locusts**
- i. **"The shape of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle"**: Some see this as an accurate (though poetic) description of natural locusts. This approach misses the obvious demonic connection.
  - ii. So, why would God call them **locusts** if they aren't actual locusts, but demonic spirits who swarm & destroy like locusts? Locusts are 'agents' of God's judgment. This is a consistent Old Testament figure in passages like Ex 10:4-14, Deut 28:38, 1 Kings 8:37, 2 Chron 7:13, Joel 1:4, & Amos 4:9
  - iii. **"Like horses... like gold... like the faces of men... like women's hair... like lion's teeth"**: The repetition of **like** indicates something other than a literal description is intended. The total impact of this picture is one of unnatural and awesome cruelty.
  - iv. Suggestions that these locusts actually describe something such as the helicopter gunships of the Antichrist or a one-world government are interesting, **but purely speculative**, and don't fit all the details.
  - v. "There seems to be no alternative to concluding that God, satisfying the age-long desire of those wicked spirits to possess bodies of their own, has created bodies for them, bodies appropriate in demonic appearance to the character of the demonic inhabitants." (H. Morris)
  - vi. **"There can be no specific answer to the question of exactly who or what is symbolized by the plague of locusts. All we can know for sure is that in the period immediately before the end the wicked will be subjected to a time of unprecedented demonic torment. Exactly how this will take place will remain unknown until disclosed by history itself."**  
(The New American Commentary, by Robert H. Mounce)
- d. **Verse 11 - The Leader of the Locusts**
- i. **"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."**
  - ii. **"... king over them"**: This is another indication that these are not literal locusts. Locusts have no king. Even [Proverbs 30:27](#) tells us **"The locusts have no king, yet they all advance in ranks"**
  - iii. **"Whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon"**: Their king is given a name. **Abaddon** and **Apollyon** both have the same thought of **destruction** or **torment** (perdition: a state of eternal punishment and damnation into which a sinful and unrepentant person passes after death.).
  - iv. **The angel of the bottomless pit**: Since this is the king of these locusts, and since he has the name **Abaddon** or **Apollyon**, this is obviously Satan himself or another high-ranking leader of demons.