

"Released"
Revelation 9

John sees the 5th angel with his trumpet. Question: What is connected to it? V. 1

Answer:

Question: What is the star?

Answer:

1.

Cf. Luke 10:17-18

2.

Questions: What was he given and to where?

Answer:

1.

2.

Cf. Luke 8:27-31

Question: What happened when this angel opened the shaft? V. 2

Answer:

Question: What emerged from the smoke that came out of the pit? V. 3

Answer:

Questions: What was their mission and limitations? Vv. 4-5

Answer:

1. "4 They were told not to harm the _____ of the earth or any plant or tree,
2. but only those people who did not have the _____ of God on their foreheads.
3. ⁵ They were not allowed to _____ them but only to _____ them for five months.
4. And the agony they suffered was like that of the sting of a _____ when it strikes." (Rev. 9:4-5 NIV) [Painful but rarely lethal]

Question: What is the result of such stings upon humanity? V. 6

Answer:

Look at verses 7-11. How does John describe these creatures/demons?

Answer:

- v. 7 "7 The locusts looked like _____ prepared for battle. On their heads they wore something like crowns of gold, and their faces resembled human faces." (Rev. 9:7 NIV)
- v. 8 "8 Their hair was like _____ hair, and their teeth were like _____ teeth." (Rev. 9:8 NIV)
- v. 9 "9 They had breastplates like breastplates of _____, and the sound of their wings was like the thundering of many horses and chariots rushing into battle." (Rev. 9:9 NIV)
- v. 10 "10 They had tails with _____, like scorpions, and in their tails they had power to torment people for five months." (Rev. 9:10 NIV)
- v. 11 "11 They had as _____ over them the angel of the Abyss, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon and in Greek is Apollyon (that is, Destroyer). (Rev. 9:11 NIV) [Note: This is probably another angel rather than Satan]

Note: There are three Historicist positions that should be noted at this time that are very interesting. [Not on the ppt]

1. The locusts are the Saracens (Arabic Muslims) and their king is Mohammad.
2. The fallen star is Boniface, the third bishop of Rome, who enacted all kinds of anti-biblical doctrines and the locusts are those who follow him.
3. The fallen star is Martin Luther and the locusts are the protesters (Protestants).

Question: John hears the sixth trumpet sound. What else did he hear? (v. 13)

Answer:

Question: What is significant about the four horns on the golden altar?

Answer:

Cf. Ex. 27:2 –

Cf. 1 Kings 1:50-53

Cp. Amos 3:14

Question: What did the voice say? V. 14.

Answer:

Note: The Euphrates river was the main topographical obstacle between Babylon, Assyria and Persia. It was also the topographical boundary between the Roman Empire and the Persians.

Question: How are the angels described and what is their mission? V. 15

Answer:

Note the explicit timing, i.e. "very hour, day, month, year."

Question: What does this communicate about God?

Answer:

Note the description of forces associated with these angels in verse 16-17.

1. "16 The number of the mounted troops was twice ten thousand times ten thousand. I heard their number." (Rev. 9:16 NIV) [200 million]

Note: China has 2.1 million military members. It is the largest fighting force in the world at present. India is second with 1.5 million. The US is third with 1.4 million.

<https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/29-largest-armies-in-the-world.html>; cited 10-17-19

Note: This is a difficult transition from verse 15. We are not told where these troops come from. We are not told if they are human or demonic (most likely demonic given their description and number). We don't know how they appear on the earthly scene.

2. 17 The horses and riders I saw in my vision looked like this: Their breastplates were fiery red, dark blue, and yellow as sulfur. The heads of the horses resembled the heads of lions, and out of their mouths came fire, smoke and sulfur. (Rev. 9:17 NIV)

Question: How are the one-third killed? Vv. 18-19

Answer:

Question: What was the common reaction of those that survived? Vv. 20-21.

Answer:

Compare this with Genesis 6:5.

Question: What does this tell you about the entrenched sinfulness of a person's heart?

Question: What does it tell you about the heart of God?