

JUDGMENTS HAVE BEGUN



- Revelation chapter 6; God's wrath begins with the opening of the 6th Seal
- Revelation chapter 7; an interlude
- Revelation chapter 8; final Seal judgments resume and the series of Trumpet judgments begin
- Trumpet 1: attack on the land
- Trumpet 2: attack on the oceans
- Trumpet 3: attack on the fresh water

4TH TRUMPET



$1/3$



- Result is darker days and darker nights
- Probably does NOT mean that $1/3^{\text{rd}}$ of the sun and moon stopped emitting light, or that $1/3^{\text{rd}}$ of stars stopped shining
- Effects would be colder weather and shorter growing seasons
- **Choshek** = a spiritual darkness; lack of illumination of truth
- Allusion is to Joel chapter 2



GOD'S HOPE

- Hope is that judgments will bring some to trust in God and Christ
- New Believers will suffer right along with non-Believers during this time
- Rapture has already occurred
- Earth will be decimated at the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom, but will heal

THE WOE JUDGMENTS

- Americans see Eagles as noble birds
- Eagles are seen as powerful and formidable in the Bible
- But...Eagles are also an unclean bird
- Lev.11:13 – 19
- **Nesher** = Eagle or Vulture
- Scavenger birds are about to eat their fill on human carnage
- Deut. 28:49





- Revelation Chapter 9
- In the first 4 Trumpet judgments nature was used by God in super-natural ways
- With the 5th Trumpet the natural turns to the spiritual and the macabre
- Familiar words for commonly known things used to describe that which is not common or physical

THE ANGEL AND THE ABYSS

- Fallen angel given the key to the shaft (or pit)
- This action happened at an earlier time (before the 5th Trumpet)
- Shaft is the entry into the Abyss
- **Abussuo** = unfathomably deep
- Romans 10:7
- The Abyss is NOT Sheol
- Demons reside in the Abyss





- Immediately after opening the Abyss smoke billows out
- Reminds us of Genesis 19 and Sodom
- Locusts emerge that sting people like scorpions
- These locusts do not harm plants; only people
- Judgment aimed at non-Believers since Believers have already been raptured away

SEALED AND SAFE



- Only those sealed by God are safe from the stings
- The 144,000 are NOT dead Believers, they are alive and on earth!
- Some End Times doctrines say this judgment targets Israel and the Jewish people
- 144,000 are from the 12 tribes of Israel



TORMENT, BUT NOT DEATH

- Locusts will operate for 5 months
- Last 5 months of the Jewish calendar are the locust season
- Scorpion bites are very painful and it lasts for several days
- The Revelation locusts are demonic, and they will fly in swarms



WRATH OF GOD AND THE LAMB

- People wish they could die, but can't
- Was death on hiatus?
- Was sting not lethal enough for death?
- God is love AND He is wrath
- Rev. 6:15 – 17
- God and the Lamb share a mutual fury
- God intends to torment non-Believers



BIZARRE AND DEMONIC

- The term “locusts” is figurative
- These were also not flying miniature horses
- **Stephanos** = laurel wreath, NOT a kingly crown
- Faces like humans, long hair (like women wear)
- Teeth like a lion meant to tear apart their prey
- Joel 2:4 - 6



ABADDON



- Locust tails were the dangerous part, not the ferocious teeth
- Locusts had a leader, a king
- The leader had been locked away along with his minions
- Abaddon = destroyer, perdition
- The military chief of the forces of darkness
- God would allow him to carry out his evil nature, like God allowed King Nebuchadnezzar to punish His people for their sin