

Revelation 60
Fifth Trumpet:
{Ἀπολλύων
Apollyōn}
Destroyer of Self

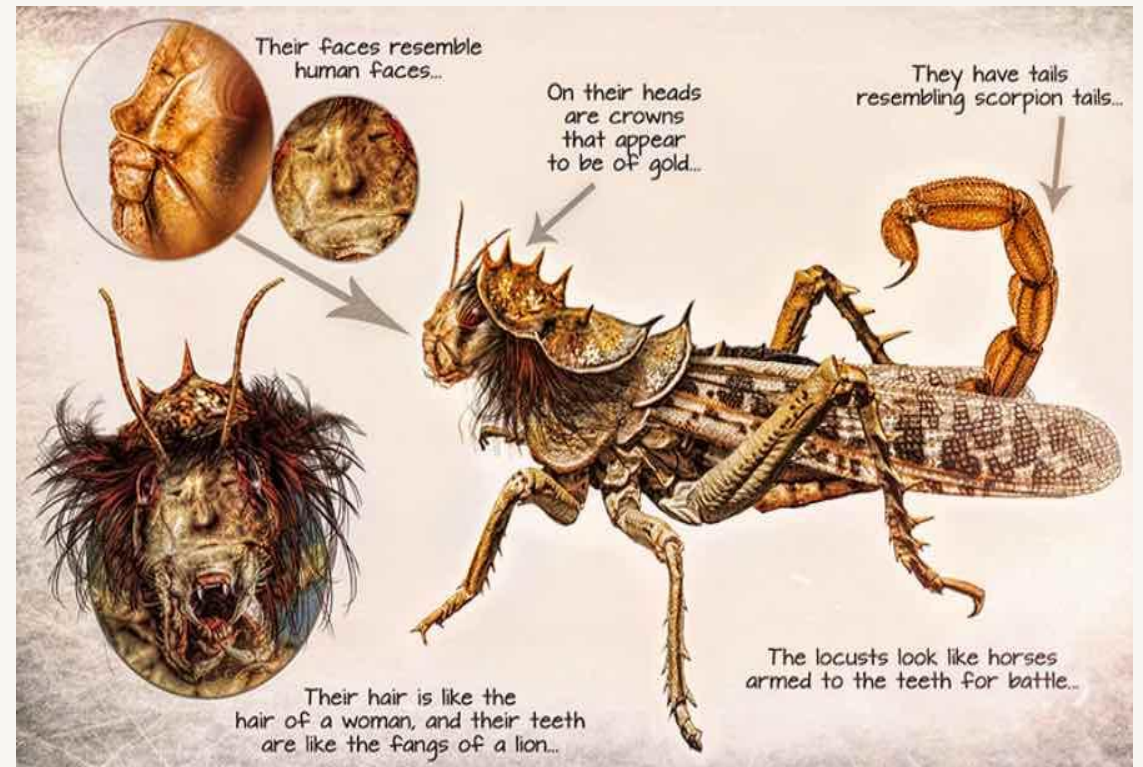
Dr. Leon L. Sanders
Revelation 9:7-12



Medievalism

Prophetic Language: Metaphor of Purpose

- Viewed empirically, imagery makes no sense; hence, view as metaphors denoting functions
 - Each part of imagery preceded by {ὅμοιος} *homoios*, meaning *like* or similar...
 - Locusts are demons, fallen angels, spirits without form; preying on all Lost people
 - These *beings* will not be visible; hence, stings are metaphoric, not actual (2Ki 6:15-17)
- Let Scripture define, exegete, the metaphors lest passage loses coherence
 - Do not conflate with empirical weapons (2Co 10:3-5)



Locusts as Horses? Fear Goes Before Them

- Metaphor of horses implies regimentation from above and Fear (Pr 21:31; Joel 2:4)
 - Horses must be controlled; hence, Apollyon, but locusts march without a king (Ps 32:9; Pr 30:27; Joel 2:6-9)
 - Horse on ancient battlefield elicited fear which locusts does not directly convey (Job 39:19-25; Joel 2:4)
- Gold crowns depict authority from God to fulfill His will which is not their intent (Ps 21:3; Is 45:7; Amos 3:6)
- Men's faces implies sentient intelligence; created beings acting as animals {Sinners} (Col 1:15-20; He 1:14)
- Angels always masculine; long woman's hair denotes rebellion {Sinners} (1Co 11:14)
- Lion's teeth not the primary weapon; reinforces Fear (Joel 1:6)
 - *Roaring* lions strike fear into hearts (1Pe 5:8)
 - False prophets depicted as roaring lions devouring those who follow them (Ez 22:25)
 - Intense Fear driving the Lost as cattle; this intensifies their torment even greater (Ps 22:12-13; 73:22; Joel 2:6)

Sting of the Tail: Sin and Demonic Influence

- Breastplates or thoraxes of Iron depicts their invulnerability during their mission
- Wings signal their ability to overcome obstacles; they strike everywhere
 - Their presence like horses pulling chariots reinforces fear; today's world full of Fear of everything
- Power to torment is in their stinging scorpion tail's; O Death, sin is your sting (1Co 15:55-56)
 - Demonic influence intensified during Christ's First Advent; this intensifies again before Second Advent
 - Demonic influence: People will be *stung* by their besetting sin(s); those things they fear most (Job 31:9-12)
 - This period is intense but limited, five months, giving them a small *taste* of Hell
 - Imagine demonic possession thousand times more present than during Gospel period but worldwide without anyone freeing the afflicted; this is what it truly means to live in sin
- Imagine receiving what you wish only to realize it drives you for more; imagine everyone fighting to obtain for themselves at the expense of everyone: *Survival of the Fittest*; driven by Fear!

Satan's True Nature Revealed: Destroyer and Destroyed

- Names are usually titles in the Old Testament and carried over into the New Testament such as Abaddon (He.) or Apollyon (Gk.)
 - One who destroys but is also destroyed; placed in Sheol
 - Ezekiel described Satan as violent and consumed by fire {Lake of Fire} (Ez 28:14-18)
- Characteristics of Abaddon: Satan, Sheol-Hades and Sinners {Children of Satan} (Jn 8:44)
 - All are devoid of wisdom though they have heard of it {Bible} (Job 28:20-22; Pr 1:20-32)
 - Satan, Sheol-Hades and Men are open to eyes of the Lord; no hiding place (Job 26:6; Pr 15:11)
 - Sin is never satisfied {Addiction}; there is never enough (Pr 27:20; 30:15-16)
 - Sheol-Hades-Lake of Fire not about repentance; sinners never repent, not even Satan (Ps 88:11; Re 20:10)
- Yet, these Tormentors, driven by Apollyon and sin, are *allowed* so sinners can *feel* sin's reality and consider repentance before Christ comes: Mercy {This Day hear His voice and Live} (Ep 2:4-10; He 3:7-12)

First Woe: *Enjoying* Fruit of Sin

- All sinners pursue the illusion that a world without Christ will *usher* in Utopia {*No Place*}
 - They walk in the delusion they have Control when in fact, sin controls them; even Satan (Is 14:15-17)
 - All they touch turns from an Eden into a wasteland because of sin (Joel 2:3; Ro 8:20-22)
 - Their bodies do not die, but they are already dead in sin; true meaning of zombie (Ep 2:1-3)
- Demons not allowed to torment Saved, a clear distinction of between them: Exodus (Ex 10:21-23)
 - This bypasses the equality plans of the Elite; everyone aware of the difference
 - Thus, while Lost persecute the Saved, Demons persecute the Lost; difference? Lost do not die! Mercy
- The First Woe; realization of sin's pain {Sin's brief pleasure unmasked} (He 11:24-25)
 - The unrepentant face the Second Woe which does bring physical death; devoured by one's sin
- Christian's *troubles* should remind us of our sins, waking us to our need to mature in Christ (Ga 2:20)