

Revelation Lesson 97
The Fifth Trumpet & 1st Woe – Part I: The Star & The Bottomless Pit

Revelation 9:1-2 And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. 2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.

I would like to report that I got a blessing from Bro. David. He stated that he had applied my chemistry from 2 lessons ago and increased his zinc intake and said his taste has indeed improved! Now that's taking the Word of God to heart and applying it brethren! Now, last time we noted how the 4th Trumpet would be a supernatural event – a miracle in which God Himself would dim the Sun, Moon and Stars and then there would be an angel that would fly in the midst of Heaven (the atmosphere) and announce the three remaining trumpet blasts which would inaugurate the 3 woes upon the inhabitants of the earth! Tonight, we are introduced to Part 1 of 4 of our study of the FIRST WOE – The Star and the Bottomless Pit.....

By the way, if you can locate your handout from Lesson 83, it will be helpful for this study in regards to the bottomless pit. If you don't have a copy I have one here for you. (Those on Sermon Audio, please refer back to Lesson 83 and click on the link for the pdf copy.

And the fifth angel sounded, - Again beloved this is the 5th Angel standing in a line before the Throne of God. This angel sounded his trumpet.

and I saw – Again note here that John SEES this event. Please notice yet again that this is not merely some vision, but it is an experience.

a star fall from heaven unto the earth: - Now here is a source of debate for some. Most agree (based on the next three words in the text) that this is a “personified star” which is to say an intelligent entity. Now who would this “star” be?

Some like Oliver B. Greene state that this is Jesus Christ. He links this “star” having the key of the bottomless pit with the idea we noted in Revelation 1:18 which states that Jesus has the Keys of Hell and of Death. He furthermore believes that the angel in Revelation 20;1-3 will likewise be Jesus. As much as I agree with many of Greene's interpretations I disagree with him here.

Matthew Henry links this back with Revelation 1:16 & 20 where the angels of the churches are called “stars” thus in so interpreting, Henry states: ”Some think this star represents some eminent bishop in the Christian church, some angel of the church...” Again I disagree with this interpretation.

So if this star is not Christ and is not a human, then really the only other interpretation left is a supernatural angelic being. We have noted before that “star/stars” is a symbolic term for angels as found for example in Job 38:7.

I agree with McGee on this: We believe that this star is Satan. Some have identified this star as Antichrist; if this is so, it lends support to the view that Antichrist is Satan incarnate, but I do not accept that. My point is that Antichrist is exactly that: he is everything Christ is not, and he is motivated by Satan. The reasons for interpreting this star as Satan are abundant. The prophet Isaiah writes: "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!" ([Isa 14:12](#)). In Luke's Gospel we read: "And he [Jesus] said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven" ([Luk 10:18](#)).

That would be like a fallen star, you see. Also, Paul writes: "And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light" ([2Co 11:14](#)). These Scriptures confirm the position that Satan is in view here. John will state later that Satan was put out of heaven and cast to the earth (see [Rev 12:7-9](#)). If we have established the fact that the "star" is Satan being cast out of heaven, then what does he do? He goes down and takes the key to the abyss, which apparently means that God is permitting him to do so. A key denotes authority and power, and this is given to him of God; it is the permissive will of God.

and to him – Now again we note the reasoning that this star is not a meteorite, asteroid, comet or some other explainable part of nature. This “star” has been personified – in other words it has “human-like” tendencies. Now note the next parts carefully.

was given the key of the bottomless pit. - One thing that I find here that shows further proof that this “star” is NOT Christ, is that at THAT time – the sounding of the 5th Trumpet – AT THAT MOMENT the “star” will be given the key. Now, IF and I use that word very carefully here – IF this is one of the keys that Christ has He would have ALREADY had it per Revelation 1:18. So since the devil (or anyone else for that matter) cannot thwart the plan of God overall, the Devil is loaned this actual key of the bottomless pit.

Where is the Pit? It is here upon the earth and it LITERALLY has a door then which must only be seen spiritually, and it thus has a KEY. For at the entrances of the bottomless pit these doors then are none other than the gates of hell! Look at your Lesson 83 handout. See the diagram?

I want to share with you some notes from my study on the Bermuda Triangle. Deep calleth unto deep. That's the areas there I believe. (READ NOTES).

And he opened the bottomless pit; - Here again we see the personification of the aforementioned star and this is a literal action here. I believe that it is Satan who will be given permission to open the bottomless pit. Now if my idea holds water, the gate is found in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans in the Dragon and Bermuda Triangle.

and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; - Some raise the question as to how the gate could be opened underwater, and for the smoke to arise out of it. We noted previously that 1/3 of the Ocean turned to blood. I mentioned that third portion could very well be the Pacific Ocean. Could it be that by this time the blood has coagulated? Could it be that as Satan is cast unto the Earth to prepare for the last 3 1/2 years of the Tribulation that he created a tunnel in the coagulated blood?

Granted there could be another explanation here . Turn back to Numbers 16:30-33 But if the LORD make a new thing, and the earth open her mouth, and swallow them up, with all that appertain unto them, and they go down quick into the pit; then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the LORD. 31 And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that was under them: 32 And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. 33 They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation.: We note here that Korah and the rebels were cast alive into “the pit” and hence as when Death executed people during the 4th Seal Judgment (Revelation Lesson 80, Revelation 6:7-8) Hell went with him or an entrance to Hell was with him no doubt.

and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. However and where-ever this happens we must take it to mean a literal event with a “personified” angelic – most likely Satanic angel who will have a real spiritual key & such will lead to an invasion!