

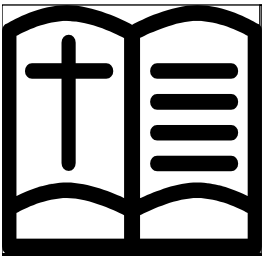
**“THE FIFTH TRUMPET OF THE SEVENTH SEAL”
REVELATION 9:1-12; SUPPORT SCRIPTURE**

I. THE FIFTH ANGEL SOUNDS HIS TRUMPET

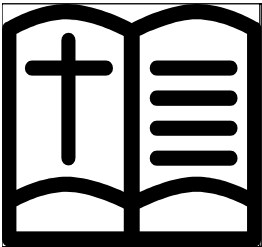
- A. *This one of the seven angels that stand before the throne of God; they are the seven spirits who are the “eyes” of the LORD*
- B. *The earth is desolate from the previous judgments; the people are exhausted, hungry, dehydrated, wary and weary, and on edge but recalcitrant. Yet thousands have trusted Christ only to be martyred by the beast who is pursuing them*
- C. *This trumpet is the signal for the next judgment to begin*
- D. *A star (angel) has already begun his descent from heaven to earth when John sees him near earth. He has been given a key to the bottomless pit, the Abyss, Tartarus*
- E. *He opens the pit as a part of God’s judging wrath!*

II. THE PIT IS OPENED AND ITS CONTENTS RELEASED

- A. *A huge volume of smoke is released that darkens the air above and around as well as eclipsing the already dimmed sun; darkness prevails near it*
- B. *Out of the smoke and darkness of the pit, comes what John describes as locusts. His description does not speak as much to their appearance as it does to the quantity of them and their swarming*
- C. *These horrid creatures are identified for us elsewhere in Scripture: Jude 1:6; 2 Pet 2:4; Gen 6*



- D. *Specific instructions are given to them: Do not hurt the grass or any green thing or any of the remaining trees; they may only hurt the men who have not received God’s seal; they are not permitted to kill humans but they must hurt designated humans with deep pain for 5 months; humans will seek to die from the pain and that permission is not given! vv. 3-6*
- E. *John gives a detailed description of creatures never before seen! vv. 7-10*
- 1. They are empowered to sting humans with their tails; they have tails like scorpions*
 - 2. They are like horses prepared for battle; they have some sort of exoskeleton like iron*
 - 3. They have faces like men and they are wearing victory crowns like gold*
 - 4. They have hair like women and teeth like lions*
 - 5. They have loud, powerful wings*
 - 6. Their tails have stingers in them; with these they hurt humans—this is their power*
- F. *They are led by a “king” who was ruler over them even in the Abyss: he is a fallen angel whose name is Abaddon, the Destroying Angel, and Apollyon, Destruction. His goal is destruction, chaos, disorder, confusion, suffering and death where he is permitted to use it*
- G. *Pandemonium and death wishes follow for millions who have survived at this point. But they are not permitted to die...AND IT IS NOT OVER YET!*



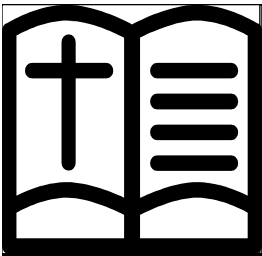
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