

## Bible Prophecy and the book of Revelation, Lesson 14

### **Revelation 9:1-21**

- ❖ Again, this horrible demonic locust invasion is nothing new – Joel 1:6, 2:1-13.
  - 1. **First off let's just take on squarely the whole argument of "there really isn't a devil or demons".**
    - ✓ And I am well aware of those who feel that they can still hold the Bible in their hands and yet explain away the devil and demon and demonic control.
    - ✓ The problem with that position is that none of the cases of the demonic fit any clinical description.
    - ✓ Some would also say, "Well Jesus was just accommodating Himself to the common thought of the day pandering to their lack of understanding".
    - ✓ You'll have a hard time proving that since He was constantly correcting misconceptions of the people of that day and constantly holding them to a literal interpretation of the biblical text.
    - ✓ In other words, to hold a position of no entity called Satan or demons is to set yourself in direct opposition to what the Bible clearly teaches and to what the likes of Jesus, Paul, John, Peter, James, and others firmly believed.
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### 2. **Spend some time dealing with some common misconceptions about Satan and his demons.**

1. Satan is an angel (or was) – Ezekiel 28:12-16 – Satan is a cherub according to Ezekiel these are super class of angels described here: Ezekiel 1:4-10.
    - ✓ Demons are fallen angels in the same class as Michael or Gabriel and were swept up in Satan's deception: Revelation 12:3-4.
  2. Erroneous fact is that Satan and his demons are in charge of Hell and have their dwelling place there.
    - ✓ Nowhere does the Bible say this, in fact it says just the opposite that he isn't there and doesn't want to go there at all, but that he will ultimately be judged there along with his demons.
    - ✓ In fact, the Bible clearly teaches that their realm is not Hell but Earth: Jesus' temptation in 3 times in Gospel of John as "prince of This world" John 14:30, Revelation 2:13 (talk about not a place to live!), I John 5:19
  3. That he is the source of all temptation= not true.
    - ✓ While certainly Satan and demons are tempters they have an incredible ally – namely your sinful nature: James 1:14
  4. That Satan can possess a believer = not true.
    - ✓ By definition – I Corinthians 6:19-20 – Satan cannot and will not possess what God possesses.
- ❖ The very fact that there are many misconceptions about Satan actually betrays the most basic understanding him there is: that he is a liar and deceiver and the father of lies John 8:44.
  - ❖ His greatest lie is to make people think he doesn't exist.
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### 3. **One of the best ways to understand what's happening on the planet during the tribulation:**

- ✓ Is simply to understand that during this time Satan and his demons will be allowed to do whatever they want.

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- ✓ This is the picture that we have in front of us here: Demons who have been incarcerated for thousands of years are released to cause harm during this time.
  - ✓ Again, this horrible demonic locust invasion is foreshadowed in the plague of locust in the Exodus and predicted in the book of Joel.
  - ✓ Likewise, the locust here in Rev. 9 are a global swarm that harm only people: **Verses 3-6**
  - ✓ Look similar to a locust with exceptions.
  - ✓ **Verse 7** – Crowns” = stephanos or victor’s crowns because they are going to champion over the human race
  - ✓ “Faces of Men” – intelligence?, may just be the way they look since angels look like men and these are fallen angels.
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- ❖ **Verse 8** – “hair of women” – brings up another issue that is pertinent to these demons and demons in general in the Bible. Angels are presented as nothing other than male in the Bible. But a corrupted angel can take any form.
  - ❖ **Verses 10-11**
  - ❖ **Verses 12-13** – this is the same altar from which the prayers of the saints were lifted up and then the trumpet judgments broke forth in response to the prayers of “Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,”
    - ✓ **Verse 14** – You don’t have to bind good angels, so what are these? Bad angels.
    - ✓ “River Euphrates” why there? Because it holds great significance as the beginning of many things.
    - ✓ Not only all this but this river is the eastern and northern boundary of Israel: **Genesis 15:18.**
    - ✓ **Verse 15** – Something they have always wanted to do and now can.
    - ✓ 1/4 of population killed in seals and now 1/3 of the remainder which brings us 1/2 of the original pop. Is now dead.
    - ✓ **Verses 16-19** – Yet another demonic army but unlike the first in the form of locust these don’t just inflict pain, they kill.
    - ✓ Similar in appearance to another supernatural army in **II Kings 6:16-17**
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- ❖ **Verses 20-21** – This is very instructive!
    1. This is codependency on a very high level – the demons are killing them, but they still won’t stop worshipping them.
      - ✓ Demons are the abusers and yet people still stick with them, won’t even cry for help!!
    2. The vices of the day: idolatry (worship of demons), murders (human life is cheap), sorceries (farmakia = pharmacy or contact and control of a person through drugs) immorality (living like animals), thefts.
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