

Revelation 9 questions for life groups 2024

1. Jesus' return to earth to restore God's kingdom is preceded by a series of increasingly severe global judgments. First the seal judgments in chapter 6 and then the trumpet judgments in chapters 8 & 9. What is God desiring man to do through these judgments according to 9:20?
2. What does 2 Peter 3:9 tell us about God's heart towards rebellious mankind? Why do you think it's important for us to remember this?
3. God's judgment shifts from afflicting nature in Revelation 8 to afflicting man in Revelation 9. Read 9:1-11. This judgment describes God's power over man's body to inflict pain. This describes demonic empowered, locust-like creatures. This is indicated because they come from the 'bottomless pit, or abyss' a place where other scriptures indicate demons are incarcerated and where Satan will eventually be cast. What were they commanded (by God) to do in 9:4-5? NOTE: to be "sealed" meant protected from harm, kept safe.
4. According to Revelation 7:2-4 who is sealed from judgment? NOTE: The similar judgments came upon the Egyptians and God protected His people from them. What did Jesus promise His people in Revelation 3:10? NOTE: this may indicate God protects His people from these judgments. If so, how would that compel non-believers to repent?
5. As non-believers see us go through sorrow and suffering with God's protection of His joy and peace, what effect could this have on them? Why?
6. In Rev. 9:5-6, what effect does this painful judgment have on people? What do you think the pain should compel them to do? What do they do instead? Why do you think they did this? What could have they done in their pain? (see Rev. 9:20)
7. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. What did Jesus NOT do in response to Paul's prayer for relief from suffering? What does this tell us about God's promises regarding our healing? What did Jesus want Paul to know about his pain? How did Paul choose to respond to his pain? Share how you have experienced what Paul did in his battle with pain.
8. How do you respond to pain? Share how God has used pain to reveal and change your heart.
9. Read 9:12-19. This judgment reveals God's power over man's death. Describe what this judgment is. NOTE: this could be demonic empowered armies of creatures; or it could be demonic led human armies. In either case, what is the results of this army in 9:15 and 9:18? NOTE: the location from the East (Euphrates river) indicates the armies source may be Asia. The power of the weapons of these

armies for mass destruction is beyond anything in ancient history until the last century.

10. Read 9:20-21. What response does man have to God's judgments? What does this imply they were told was the reason for these judgments?
11. What does this reveal about how God feels about man's sins?
12. In 9:21 what four sins did man refuse to repent of? To refuse to repent means militant in rejecting any notion that these sins are wrong. It implies global cultural and governmental approval. NOTE: 'Sorceries' is the Greek word 'pharmacia' and refers to their drug use.
13. Do you think each of the sins mentioned is increasing in culture today? How?
14. What is Jesus impressing on your heart through Revelation 9? What is He wanting to do in your heart? Who is He burdening you to pray for their salvation? Pray together.