

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

Revelation 8:13-9:12

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

Read Revelation 8:13-9:12.

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

¹³Then I looked,
and I heard an eagle
 flying in midheaven,
 saying with a loud voice,
“Woe, woe, woe
 to those who dwell
 on the earth,
because of the remaining blasts
 of the trumpet
 of the three angels who are about to sound!”

¹Then the fifth angel sounded,
and I saw a star
 from heaven
 which had fallen
 to the earth;
and the key of the bottomless pit was given to him.

²He opened the bottomless pit,
and smoke went up
 out of the pit,
 like the smoke of a great furnace;
and the sun and the air were darkened
 by the smoke
 of the pit.

³Then out of the smoke came locusts
 upon the earth,
and power was given them,
 as the scorpions of the earth have power.

⁴They were told not to hurt the grass
 of the earth,
 nor any green thing,
 nor any tree,
 but only the men who do not have the seal
 of God
 on their foreheads.

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⁵ And they were not permitted
to kill anyone,
but to torment for five months;
and their torment was like the torment
of a scorpion when it stings a man.

⁶ And in those days men will seek death
and will not find it;
they will long to die,
and death flees from them.

⁷ The appearance
of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle;
and on their heads appeared to be crowns like gold,
and their faces were like the faces of men.

⁸ They had hair like the hair of women,
and their teeth were like *the teeth* of lions.

⁹ They had breastplates like breastplates of iron;
and the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots,
of many horses rushing to battle.

¹⁰ They have tails like scorpions, and stings;
and in their tails is their power to hurt men for five months.

¹¹ They have as king over them,
the angel of the abyss;
his name in Hebrew is Abaddon,
and in the Greek he has the name Apollyon.

¹² The first woe is past;
behold, two woes are still coming
after these things.

1. What did John see and hear according to the end of chapter 8?

2. What was the creature doing?

3. What is the significance to the repetition of Woes? Why 3?

4. Who are these woes directed toward?

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5. Why are the woes given according to the text?
6. What does the fifth angel's sounding of the trumpet initiate?

❖ Day 2

Read Revelation 8:13-9:12 again.

7. How is the star in verse 1 of chapter 9 different from the stars in Revelation 6:13, 8:10-11?
8. Who or what is the star in Revelation 9? Support your answer from scripture. Consider Isaiah 14:12-15 and Luke 10:17-20.
9. What is given to this star? What does it mean? Consider Revelation 1:18.
10. What is the bottomless pit? What is its function? Consider Revelation 11:7; 17:8; 20:1-3; Luke 8:31, 1 Peter 3:18-20, 2 Peter 2:12, and Jude 6-7.

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11. How is God's sovereignty displayed in this passage?

12. What came out of the pit? And what impact do they have?

13. List the descriptions of the locusts. What do we learn about them? Compare with the descriptions in Joel 2:4-13.

14. There are other passages that speak of locusts in the bible. Consider Exodus 10:4-5,13-14 and Joel 1-2. How do these chapters inform this passage in the book of Revelation?

15. From whom is the power given to these creatures?

16. How was this power restricted?

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❖ Day 3

Read Revelation 8:13-9:12 again.

17. Who are the men who do not have the seal?

18. What could these creatures do to those without the seal?

19. What do those being tormented by these creatures desire because of the torment?

20. Who rules over the locusts according to verse 11?

21. What is the significance of the titles given to this ruler? (Consider investigating some of the following to support your answer: Job 26:6, 28:22, 31:12, Psalm 88:11, Proverbs 15:11, 27:20, Revelation 17:8).

22. Verse 12 makes clear that this is only the beginning. How does it relate to the end of chapter 8? What does this passage anticipate is still yet to come?

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23. How has the intensity of the judgment progressed? Are things getting better, worse, or staying neutral? What evidence do you have for this?

24. What are some of the implications and applications of this text for your daily life?

In preparation for Sunday, pray thanking God for his sovereign power over evil.