

Understanding Revelation's Strange Images (9/15/24)



Main Verses: Revelation 9:1-12

Key Verse: Revelation 9:1-3

'Takeaway': While the strange images in Revelation can sometimes be scary, they are meant to remind us (in a memorable way) about real, spiritual realities, & better still, real, spiritual hope available thru Jesus.

Getting Started: What is something that scares you? What do you do when you are scared?

READ Revelation 9:1-12 (or have older kids help read).

Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- Describe some of the images in this passage?
- What (or who) do you think the fallen star might represent?
- Why does "he was given the key to the shaft of the bottomless pit" give us hope?

Elementary:

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Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses:

Toddler/PreK:

- The symbolic imagery in Revelation can often be scary & confusing to us. However, they weren't to the people the book was written to.
- The rest of the Bible helps us to be able to understand & learn from Revelation.
- The fact that the key to the bottomless pit was given to this angel gives us great hope—even the forces of evil (represented here as stinging locusts) must follow God's ultimate timing & plan (v4).
- Jesus, who can open the scroll from chapter 5, makes sure God's plan is carried out, & offers hope for a happy ending to those who will trust him.

Elementary:

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An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's word:

(Toddler/PreK) Talk to God. Thank him for his Word. Thank him that we can always trust him & turn to him, even when his Word seems scary & confusing to us. Ask God to help you to learn more about him thru his Word. Thank him that Jesus, his Son, is able to open the scroll to make sure God's plan is carried out, & thank God that thru faith in Jesus, we can have a certain hope for a happy ending.

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