

When the 5th angel blew his trumpet, evil demonic locusts emerged from the opened bottomless pit; these have the power to hurt, for 5 months, all those without the Seal of God on their foreheads. Their terror is so great that men will want to and seek to die but death will be miraculously denied them; they will be forced to endure the entire 5 months or horror without relief; I would guess they'd be unable to even sleep.

Chapter 9:11 *'And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.'*

These evil locusts' king is Abaddon/Apollyon; his name means: Destroyer; he is an angel of destruction. You'll notice that John doesn't tell us whether or not this Abaddon/Apollyon comes out of the previously sealed bottomless pit or if he is, at present, free to move about the Earth wreaking destruction. My guess is that he is moving about the Earth ever destroying all that he is given permission, by God, to destroy. Never forget: God is always in complete control of all things, in all places, at all time. God said, *'Behold, all souls are mine'* Ezk18:4 All souls belong to God and no one and no thing does anything to what belongs to God apart from His plan and direction. God is the One Who sends forth these demonic locusts to terrorize those upon whom He is pouring out His holy and righteous wrath.

Verse 12: *'One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter.'*

Remember, in the previous chapter, John wrote: *'And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!'*

Five months of terror from the demonic locusts: that was only the first of three 'woes.' Next up:

Verse 13: *'And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, ¹⁴ Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.'*

This 6th angel sounds his trumpet but then, unlike any of the other angels announcing the 7 Trumpet Judgments, he is told to do the 'releasing' of this, then, the 2nd Woe.

He is told to, and, he obviously has the power to do so, release these 4 angels bound IN the river Euphrates. We are never told how or when these four fallen angels were bound; we can only assume it was God's response to their having committed some great sin. Peter and Jude tell us that the angels who sinned with human women in Gen 6, before the Flood, were sentenced to be in chains and darkness, in Tartarus, until the Great Day of God's Judgment: *'For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell (Tartarus), and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;'* 2Pet 2:4

We can only guess what the sin of these 4 angels was but what we do know is, that they were confined until they will be released to fulfill God's Wrath poured out on the World who rejected His Son.

Verse 15: *'And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.'*

Men will have finally been delivered from the terror of the 'locusts,' only to suddenly be faced with such widespread death. All around the World there will be huge piles, or spread out, dead, rotting bodies lying everywhere... everywhere!

All of the 'elite' of the World, who now work so feverishly to enslave us all, will not find any protection anywhere; their money, power and position mean nothing to God.

They will die, mercilessly, just as readily as those they consider to be their lessers and their slaves.

These 4 angels will have been kept, even now, until the exact moment of God's choosing.

They've been kept for their exact, destined, planned by God, moment. Just as God's purpose for these fallen angels begins with an exact moment, so, too, does everything else in all time and eternity. Our God is the Sovereign, All-mighty, All-knowing, All-seeing Master of all that is, ever has been or ever shall be; God is always in complete control.

Recently, I was at a Saturday morning men's Bible study/prayer/breakfast; we always go through the Proverb chapter corresponding to the day of the month. As regards Proverbs 21:1: *'The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.'* I spoke of God's power and plan. Someone else decided the gainsay that 'No, sinful, evil leaders aren't really under God's control.' I didn't argue... there'd be no point.

As the heart of 'the king' is in God's hand, so too, are the hearts of Joe Biden, Nancy Pelosi (if she has one) and, also, the hearts of every leader around the World. God is in control over all the World; He is moving every 'piece' on His Universal chess board. Satan thinks he is able to move pieces at his will but the truth is, everything he does is contained within the perimeter of God's will.

'For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰ For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: ¹¹ So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.' Isa 55:8

'There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand.' Prov 19:21

'A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.' Prov 16:9

'But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased.' Psa 115:3

'The LORD of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand.' Isa 14:24

'I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: ⁶ That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else. ⁷ I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things.' Isa 45:5

'For the kingdom is the LORD's: and he is the governor among the nations.' Psa 22:28

'The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD. Prov 16:1

² All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits. ³ Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established. ⁴ The LORD hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil.' Prov 16:1

'Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the LORD hath wrought this? ¹⁰ In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind.' Job 12:9

'O LORD God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and rulest not thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?' 2Chron 20:6

'Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;' 1 Tim 6:15

God is in control of all things, in all places and throughout all time; God is Sovereign over all.

Verse 16: *'And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.'*

200,000 x 1000 = 200 million. This is an army of 200 million horsemen... but what kind of army is it... really? Over the years, many have tried to force this into meaning the army of Red China adding up to 200,000,000.

What has John seen up to this point? John has described death and destruction from the hand of God; until now, we've seen God pouring out His righteous wrath on rebellious humanity.

Were the evil army of demonic locusts meant as allegory, representing modern helicopters and missiles? No! They will be exactly what they are described as being: a demonic hoard bringing terror and misery.

Look closely at this huge army. Does it really sound like an army of Chinese soldiers? No! These are also demonic manifestations but this time, instead of just bringing terror and excruciating scorpion-like stings, these will, in fact, bring death; they will kill 1/3 of the World's population.

Verse 17: *'And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. ¹⁸ By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. ¹⁹ For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt.'*

These are not natural, mortal horses and riders any more than the locusts were normal, mortal locusts.

Horses with heads like lions: fire, smoke and brimstone coming from their mouths; tails like serpents' heads.

Verse 20: *'And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: ²¹ Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.'*

All who are left alive to this point: they've seen and been terrorized by the demonic locusts; they've seen demonic horses and riders kill fully 1/3 of the Earth's population. After all of that... they will refuse to repent or to seek God's forgiveness. they will continue to worship demons; they will continue to murder each other; they will continue their lives of fornication and debauchery which we see all around us even now; they will refuse to give up their sorcery, that is, the use of drugs, communing with evil spirits through the gateways of different drugs.

The Greek word John uses, here, for sorcery, is: pharmakeia which is the same Greek word from which we have derived our English word: pharmacy/pharmaceuticals... drugs, the use of drugs. We've watched in disbelief how rapidly society has gone from punishing the use of drugs to the open-arms/welcoming of the use of drugs. Anyone with half a brain can see the dangers associated with drug use and yet, here we are! Sorcery is all around us; marijuana shops planted in almost every block.