

# Apollyon The Destroyer

Long Beach Alliance Church • April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013 • Pastor Chris Lankford

***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.***

***~Revelation 9:11 (NASB)***

## **1) Afraid Of The Dark? You Should Be...**

- A) Blanketing darkness falls on the earth after the fourth trumpet judgment sounds (Revelation 8:12). An “eagle” (common OT image of fierce power) “flying in mid-heaven” (in the sky) announces impending judgment of intensifying and brutal severity (8:13). The next three judgments are known as the “three woe’s” of Revelation.
- B) As the fifth angel sounds his trumpet, another angel shoots from heaven (like a star) with the key to open the “bottomless pit” (9:1-2).
- C) As the pit is unlocked, thick smoke belches from the abyss (9:2), and out of the darkness proceed powerful demonic forces (9:7), flying across the earth like devouring locusts with painful (but not deadly) scorpion stings (9:3).
- D) These supernatural creatures are described with extensive OT imagery, both terrifying and fearsome (9:7-10).
- E) This first woe (fifth trumpet) is specific judgment against rebellious mankind (9:4), producing extended torment, delirious suicidal wishes, and excruciating pain (9:4-6).

- F) The “king” of the demonic swarm is named Apollyon/ Abaddon (9:11). The name simply means “destroyer.” The term is used synonymously in the OT as the “location of the dead.” This is the king of the dead, possibly Death.

## **2) Unleashing The Armies Of Destruction & Death**

- A) In the same style as the first woe (cf. 8:13), the second woe is introduced, which is the sixth trumpet judgment (9:12).
- B) As the sixth angel sounds his trumpet, a divine voice unleashes four destroying angels which have been prepared for this precise moment in history for deadly judgment against one-third of mankind (9:13-15).
- C) The four angels immediately assemble an unimaginable demonic military force of 200 million (lit. 2 x 10,000 x 10,000). The angels seem to be the commanders of the gigantic army of supernatural soldiers (9:16).
- D) The demonic army is then described in greater detail, much like the description of the other-worldly locust swarm (cf. 9:7-10). The vivid and grotesque descriptions (9:17-19) heighten the terrifying nature of the overwhelming army.
- E) This singular judgment, the second of the woe’s, kills one-third of unprotected mankind (cf. 9:4). Mankind is judged by the three powerful weapons of the demonic hoard, “fire and smoke and sulfur” (9:18, ESV).

## **3) Resistent & Rebellious To The End**

- A) Despite these judgments, and the progressive nature of destruction and death which afflicts mankind, there is no repentance (9:20-21). Set against God, mankind rebelliously ignores God, choosing slavery over submission.
- B) The demonic hoard of Apollyon is very organized, bringing war and destruction. The demonic forces attack the very people who foolishly reject Christ, and are ignorantly loyal to the king of the dead. Apollyon brings deadly worldwide chaos, revealing mankind’s stubborn wickedness.