

Revelation 10 – 11.2: An Interlude

8.2-11.19: Seven Trumpets

8.7-12: The First Four Trumpets

1. Hail and fire mixed with blood (Seventh plague, Exodus 9.13-35)
2. ‘Something like’ a huge mountain of fire was cast into the sea (First plague, Exodus 7.14-21)
3. Huge star – ‘Wormwood’ - blazing like a torch, fell from heaven (a symbolic, bitter shrub [Prov. 5.4])
4. 1/3 of Sun, Moon, and Stars are darkened (Ninth plague, Exodus 10.21-23)

9.1-11: The Fifth Trumpet

‘a star fallen from the sky’ – a symbol for an angel (Judges 5.20; Job 38.7; 1 Enoch 88.1)

‘abyss’ – originally meant the fathomless depths of the ocean (Genesis 7.11; 8.2). It became an idiom for the place of the dead (Psalm 63.9; 71.20; Romans 10.7; Luke 8.31) Revelation 11.7; 17.7; 20.1-3

9.2-11: Locust Plague

‘smoke’ - Joel 2.30: ‘blood and fire and billows of smoke’ will designate the Day of YHWH

Exodus 10.1-20 – the Eighth Plague; also Joel 1.2-2.11

‘These are demons in the guise of locusts, for the king is Abaddon, the angel of the abyss’ (Aune 527)

Basanismos: ‘Torment’ – 11.10; 14.9-11; 18.7-15; also Ezekiel 32.24, 30

Abaddon, from the Hebrew word *abad*, ‘to destroy’ – Destroyer

9.12-21: The Sixth Trumpet: ‘Myriads of myriads’

‘release the four angels’ – remember 7.1 ‘Bound’ – as Satan is bound by Christ (Mark 3.27)

Euphrates – the eastern boundary of the Roman Empire in the 1C; the source of 3 invasions of Israel

200,000,000: 1C Roman army - of 25 legions + auxiliary = 200,000 – this is 1,000X that number

What comes from the mouths of these lion-like creatures? Job 41.19-20; Genesis 19.28; Ps. 11.6

9.20-21: How do the survivors respond?

Deuteronomy 32.16-17: ‘They made Him jealous with their foreign gods and angered him with their detestable idols. They sacrificed to demons, which are not God’

Vice lists – Romans 1.29-31; 13.13; 1 Cor. 5.9-11; Galatians 5.19-21; Ephesians 4.25-32, 5.3-5

10.1-11: The Little Scroll and the Angel

‘Mighty angel’ – also in 5.2 and 18.21

Describe the angel (glory - Ex. 16.10; mercy - Rev. 4.3; exaltation – Matt. 17.2; protection – Ex. 14.24)

‘small scroll’? – a small portion of the plan of God for ending evil and ushering in the new

Seven thunders – Psalm 29

10.5-7: An Angels’ Oath

Daniel 12.5-10 answered

Looks ahead to 7th trumpet of 11.15-19; described in detail in Revelation 19-21

‘time will be no longer’

10.8-11: John Commissioned by God

Ezekiel 2.8-3.3: The Commissioning of Ezekiel echoed here

‘eat the scroll’? – see Psalm 19.10; Proverbs 24.13-14: ‘How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey’; also Jeremiah 15.16

Sweet and bitter?

11.1-2: The Altar Measured

Ezekiel 40.3-5 (Ezekiel 40-42); Literal (Temple) or figurative (Church) [1 Corinthians 3.16-17; 2 Corinthians 6.16;] ?

‘42 months’ – Daniel 7.25; 9.27; 12.7-12; Antichrist’s period of triumph, Rev. 13.5-8; Matthew 24.22