

# The Fifth Trumpet Judgment

## Chapter Eight - Verse Eight

“And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions.”

(Revelation 9:8)

As we move through chapter nine we envision these locusts as they might appear, given these added spiritual traits. First, we see that the locusts are ascending from the bottomless pit as we saw in verse three. Next we discovered that their power was given to them “...as the scorpions of the earth have power,” (Revelation 9:3). Their purpose was not in killing men, but rather to torment men five months. The torment appears to be an eternal torment as opposed to being a temporary torment of five months. The Greek word for torment, as it is used here, is the same word that Christ used in the Gospels.

**Revelation 14:11** - And the smoke of their torment [same Greek word as used for torment in Revelation 9:5] ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

**Matthew 8:29** - And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment [same Greek word as used for torment in Revelation 9:5] us before the time?

**Matthew 24:51** - And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

God uses the likeness of a scorpion by declaring that their torment was as the torment of a scorpion when he strikes a man. In verse seven God begins to describe in detail the appearance of these locusts. Their shapes were like horses prepared unto battle. Now we visualize locusts ascending from the bottomless pit and somehow resembling horses in battle array or horses prepared for battle. Not only do they appear like unto horses, but each of them wore upon his head a crown of gold. These locusts must prove to be a very perplexing mystery to all who insist upon embracing a literal method of interpretation. If one would look closely beneath the crown upon these locusts we would discover that they all have faces like the faces of men. As we begin to examine verse eight, we find that the locusts are said to have long hair: “...as the hair of women.” The second half of verse eight tells us that their teeth were as the teeth of lions. In verse nine of our study we’ll see that they wear breastplates of iron

and the sound of their wings was as the sound of many chariots and horses running to battle. They are even said to have tails like scorpions, containing stingers. What a bewildering swarm of locusts that we have in view here. What country could produce locusts such as these? Imagine spotting a swarm of locusts with these features. Impossible you say? Of course it is! It defies all the basic laws of God and His Creation. Again, imagine seeing a swarm of locusts that resembles scorpions and yet they appeared like horses in battle array; wearing crowns of gold and breastplates of iron; having wings that produce the sound of many chariots, and long teeth like lions teeth. Their hair was long, resembling the hair of women. Sadly we conclude that much of today's church holds these descriptions as literal in nature. They don't seem to be too concerned over it, declaring that these events will not occur until the Great Tribulation begins. By that time, as they teach, the Christians of the world will have already been taken off the earth and whisked into heaven at the "rapture" of the believers, seven years prior to the second coming of Christ. After that time Satan will be able to change the laws of God and do as he desires, for the most part. In other words, anything can happen during this time, or so they teach their congregations. God is still sovereign in all matters and will not drift out of the boundaries He has established in His Word. God is the same yesterday, today, and forever the Bible tells us. Scripture is emphatically clear as to the timing of when those true believers, living at the time of Christ's return, will be taken "in the twinkling of an eye" (I Thessalonians 4:16-17) to be with the Lord. It is all to occur at the very last day as John chapter six affirms several times.

We see then the erroneous conclusions that can be made with ease when we go aside from Scripture for man's interpretation. There were those during the latter sixties who thought that they had stumbled upon the real and literal identity of these locusts of Revelation chapter nine. For them, it was all too obvious that these verses found their fulfillment in the English rock group - The Beatles. Who knows how many other worldly and outrageous interpretations have been wildly slapped upon these divinely inspired verses.

## **HAIR AS THE HAIR OF WOMEN**

As we continue we should realize the importance of comparing Scripture with Scripture only and not looking to the world for spiritual help. The Bible is the only place where we will find our answers. In being consistent with our study, we know that these locusts are false teachers, ministers, etc, working within the church of Christ, yet being themselves ministers of Satan. They are spiritual wolves in sheep's clothing. We can accurately conclude that they are, of course, in rebellion to God. Therefore, it is only reasonable in assessing that their having "hair as the hair of women" has everything to do with their being ungodly and in rebellion to God.

"Does not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?" (I Corinthians 11:14)

“But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering.” (1 Corinthians 11:15)

It is no great mystery that these locusts are in rebellion to God. The above verses should prove the fact that men should not wear their hair as though it can appear as the hair of a woman. Now, is this all we can presume from Revelation 9:8? Is there something more to be grasped in this verse?

### **What About Samson?**

When the Old Testament mentions a man with long hair, we might immediately think of the man Samson. This was a man blessed of God, as Judges 13:24-25 explains:

24 - ¶And the woman bare a son, and called his name Samson: and the child grew, and the LORD blessed him.

25 - And the Spirit of the LORD began to move him at times in the camp of Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.

Samson, whose name in the Hebrew language means strong, proved to be a man with supernatural physical strength. He killed a lion with his bare hands in Judges Chapter fourteen. At the end of his life he single-handedly brought down the house of his enemies, the Philistines, which is recorded in Judges 16:29-30. Samson’s mysterious power was said to be in his long hair, which he had trimmed only once each year. As Delilah continually pressed Samson to reveal to her the mystery of his strength, finally he gives in and tells her the secret, which is recorded in Judges 16:17 -

17 - That he told her all his heart, and said unto her, There hath not come a razor upon mine head; for I have been a Nazarite unto God from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man.

Samson’s power and authority came from his long hair, given to him from God. This is an exception to the normal in Scripture and is of special circumstances. The Old Testament Jew was under the Law of Moses and did maintain proper hair length. This is carried over to the New Testament days, as we saw in 1 Corinthians 11:14, which stipulated that if a man has long hair, it is a shame unto him. As these locusts of Revelation 9:8 come charging against the true Word of God, they are seen as having the hair of women. As Samson’s power and authority was in his long hair, these locusts likewise come with much power and authority among the churches today. They come as messengers of Satan.

### **2 Corinthians 11:13-15 -**

13 - For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

14 - And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

15 - Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

These are as the heads, which we saw were representative of the ancient and honorable, yet they come with tails (verse 10), that is... “The prophet which speaketh lies, he is the tail,” Isaiah 9:15. Yes, these locusts come with long hair, but only in a metaphorical sense of being in rebellion against God. Yet at the same time they are coming and declaring their spiritual strength and authority, as the long hair of Samson represented. In reality their strength and authority comes from Satan.

## TEETH AS THE TEETH OF LIONS

The Old Testament Book of Joel contains only three chapters, yet these chapters are saturated with specific details of man’s final days upon this earth with regard to its spiritual impact upon the church during the time of Great Tribulation. We know this with much certainly since chapter two begins with the sounding of the trumpet in Zion, and declaring that the Day of the Lord is at hand. Chapter three and verse fourteen tells of the Day of the Lord in the valley of decision. God’s vineyard is being stripped by locusts in these chapters. Joel 1:5 addresses this chapter to “all ye drinkers of wine.” To drink of the wine of Scripture is to associate oneself with the blood of Christ, but not necessarily meaning they are genuinely saved. Multitudes of unsaved people partake of the Lord’s Holy Communion weekly, unknowingly drinking damnation unto themselves, while remaining dead in their sins and trespasses. These are, nonetheless, considered to be a part of the corporate church of Christ worldwide. The earthly church is made up of believers and nonbelievers as Christ confirms in Matthew 13:30:

“Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.”

One might surely be a “drinker of wine” and yet be unsaved. Joel chapter one is addressing these people in verse five and declaring: “howl, all ye drinkers of wine, because of the new wine, for is cut off from your mouth.” Howl meaning to wail or yell in sorrow. Why are they in sorrow? Because the New Testament Covenant of Grace, the Gospel of salvation, the “New Wine” is to be no longer heard; it is cut off from their mouths. Verse six tells us why and how this new wine is cut off.

Joel 1:6 - For a nation is come up upon my land [ultimately God’s spiritual land, His church], strong, and without number, whose teeth are the teeth of a lion, and he hath the cheek teeth of a great lion.

Why do we see God utilizing the term “lion’s teeth” in allegorical language to depict God’s enemies, those who hate His Word? Simply because God employs many

different figurative terms in writing His Word to mankind. God's Word is described as a "fig tree" in **Joel 1:7** -

"He hath laid my vine waste, and barked my **fig tree**: he hath made it clean bare, and cast it away; the branches thereof are made white."

In Revelation 9:8 these same enemies of the Gospel are coming in hidden rebellion to God, signified by their spiritual trait of long hair, and are coming to lay God's fig tree bare. They come to strip away the branches with their **teeth**, until the bark is gone and nothing is left but the white of the tree.

**Proverbs 30:14** - There is a generation, whose **teeth** are as swords, and their jaw **teeth** as knives, to devour the **poor** from off the earth, and the **needy** from among men.

It is without question that the generation of the unsaved living at the time of the end is that generation whose desire it is to discard and destroy the Christian faith once and for all. Scripture teaches that the desirous man who truly comes to Christ on God's terms is defined as "**poor and needy**" as we see in Proverbs 30:14. We are spiritually poor and in real need of salvation. Please refer to the section "Poor and Needy" in "**Ancient Egyptian Plagues - Conclusion**" beginning at page 10.

**Psalms 57:4** - My soul is among **lions**: and I lie even among them that are set on fire, even the **sons of men**, whose **teeth** are spears and arrows, and their **tongue** a sharp sword.

If one has any questions or doubts that God uses metaphors in describing real people, the above verse should put that doubt to rest. God has just told us who these enemies are with teeth as spears and arrows and tongues as a sharp sword - they are NOT the sons of God, but rather the **sons of men**! The sons of men are the unsaved of the world.

The world's attempt at destroying the Gospel is made through many different means. The teaching of evolution in the public school system is just one small area of their attack. The television media is certainly another means in which to ridicule and humiliate the Christian faith. However, by and large the main arena for destroying the true Gospel of Christ is **within the church itself**. This is where Satan directs his attack according to Scripture. God describes Satan's end-time attackers in many different spiritual and symbolical terms. Joel describes them as an exceedingly great army with the teeth of lions. They come to strip away the branches and bark of God's one true tree of life, the spiritual fig tree of which is God's Word to a lost and dying world. God is still in control and will allow this to continue only until His appointed time in which to come and judge mankind. Until then, the true believers are to stand firm upon the foundation of Christ and His eternal promises.

## THE TEETH OF DANILE'S FOURTH BEAST

Satan's final and completed kingdom upon this earth is said in Scripture to be the fourth beast upon the earth as we read from Daniel 7:7 -

7 - After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

Again we see God giving descriptions of Satan's kingdom as it will appear at the time of the end. This is Satan's final kingdom, his final attempt at destroying the Gospel of Christ. Notice carefully that the above verse is stating that this beast will brake in pieces and stamp the residue with its feet. The residue is another term for remnant, each carrying the same meaning and is in strict reference to the true church or God's elect.

Jeremiah 31:7 - For thus saith the LORD; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations: publish ye, praise ye, and say, O LORD, save thy people, the remnant of Israel.

There are other references to remnant or residue that apply ultimately to Christ's Church. It is this residue that Satan, as the beast, attempts to finally destroy at the end of time. His messengers or "ministers of righteousness" (2 Corinthians 11:15) invade the Israel of God (Galatians 6:16) in all manner reminiscent of Old Testament Israel's attackers. God seems to be using the descriptions and characteristics of Old Testament armies that plundered or attempted to plunder the land of Judah and Israel. In doing so, it appears apparent that God is utilizing these Old Testament traits, manners, symbols or even word adjectives in describing spiritual Israel's enemies of today. As a result, today's unseen and spiritual Israel - the true Church - is under attack from the world in a non-physical way; a way that is more damning than any literal attack of the days of ancient Israel.

END OF CHAPTER EIGHT