

REVELATION: Lesson 96

Chapter 9:1-11 The Fifth Trumpet, The First Woe, Judgment from the Bottomless Pit

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I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.



And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.

General Facts From this Passage:

- The fifth trumpet sends a “star,” to the earth with the key to the bottomless pit.
- This star is an angel (notice he is referred to as “him” in verse 1).
- The angel opens the bottomless pit and releases so much smoke that the sun is darkened.
- Locusts exit the bottomless pit and begin to torment men for five months, but not kill them.

THE BOTTOMLESS PIT

Job 38:17 Here the bottomless pit is called “**death**” and “**the shadow of death**.” There are **gates** and **doors** that prevent the living from entering and prevent the dead from ever escaping. In Revelation 20:14 death and hell are cast into the lake of fire.

Matt 16:18 The gates of hell shall not prevail against Christ’s Church. This judgment from the pit will not affect the Church because the Church will be in Heaven.

Jonah 2:1-6 When Jonah died in the whale’s belly. His body was entombed in the whale, but His soul went to hell where he cried out to the Lord.

The Lord used this to illustrate His own death (Matthew 12:40). His body was placed in a tomb, but His soul went to hell (Psalm 16:10, Acts 2:27, Rev 1:18) with our sins upon Him (2 Cor 5:21, 1 Pet 3:18, 1 Cor 15:3).

When Jonah’s soul “went down to the bottoms of the mountains” he said the place had “**bars**” (vs 6). Hell has doors, gates, and bars.

Acts 2:29-31 Christ’s soul was not left in hell, neither did his flesh see corruption. His body was dead for only three days because corruption begins at four days (John 11:39). Jonah perfectly illustrates the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Rev 1:17-18 Jesus had the keys of hell and of death. He gave them to the angel in Revelation 9:1.

Num 16:1-35 The case of Korah.

- His sin dishonored his father and his grandfather (vs 1) and ruined the family name. He didn't "honour thy father and thy mother" (Exod 20:12, Deut 5:16, Mt 19:19).
- They rose up (vs 2). They didn't humble themselves so that God could exalt them (James 4:10, 1 Pet 5:6).
- They were "famous" "men of renown" (vs 2). You may be successful in the world, but that doesn't automatically make you fit for the ministry.
- They falsely accused the Pastor (Moses) of lifting himself into his position of leadership (vs 3). This is far from the truth (Exod 4:10-12). Additionally, Moses "fell on his face" as he spoke to them, showing humility (vs 4).
- Korah and his family were not content with the ministry God gave them. They coveted Moses' position (vss 8-10).
- They accused Moses of making himself a prince over them, leading them to their death, and deceiving the people (13-14). It was their own fault they didn't enter the Promised Land, not Moses' (Num 13:32-33).
- There were 250 men who were wrong (vs 35) and one man who was right (vs 17), proving that democracy has no place in the church house. God must rule. His word must be our final authority, not a popular vote.
- God allowed Moses to give warning to the congregation to separate themselves from the wicked men so they wouldn't be consumed with them (vs 24). We have a responsibility to mark wicked men and warn others to avoid them (Rom 16:17, 1 Cor 5:9, 2 Thes 3:6, 2 Tim 3:5).
- The Lord opened the earth and Korah and his family went down alive into the pit (vs 32).

You have received the warning! Hell is real. Jesus Christ died on the cross so that you don't have to go there. Separate yourself from wicked men, look to Jesus Christ, and receive Him as your Savior, and you'll never have to worry about hellfire again. Hell is reserved for those who reject the gift of a loving God.

Isa 14:12-15 Lucifer...shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. The bottomless pit (Rev 9:2) has "sides" (vs 15). It's bottomless because it's in the center of the earth where there is no top, bottom, left, right, up, or down.

Isa 24:22 This pit is a prison.

Rev 9:2 The smoke of a furnace indicates God's wrath and judgment (Exod 19:18) upon the lawless.

In hell, you live in death! You are imprisoned forever in fire! You'll be full of regrets forever if you end up there after rejecting the Savior, Jesus Christ.

You don't have to go there. Receive Christ and live (John 5:24, 6:37).
