

The Locusts (4/27/25)

Discussion Questions

Summary: The fifth and sixth trumpet blasts activate the first and second woe: terrible judgments from the Lord. The scorpion-demon-locusts of Revelation 9 recall the plague in Joel 1-2. Both of these prophecies serve as dramatic calls to repentance. God uses plagues, natural disasters, wars and other difficult circumstances to get our attention and help people see that this world is passing away. Pray that the Lord would work in our hearts and our country to turn from this world to the Lord Jesus Christ!

"Then I looked, and I heard an eagle crying with a loud voice as it flew directly overhead, 'Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, at the blasts of the other trumpets that the three angels are about to blow!'" Revelation 8:13

God's Judgment is **Directed** (v. 1-4) Diminished (v. 4-5; 14-15; Rom. 6:23) and **Delegated** (v. 7-11; 16-19; Is. 10:15; Joel 1-2)

- One day it will be Perfect and **Personal** (Rev. 20:11-12)
- Catastrophes and suffering are God's **Wake up call**: this world is passing away! (v. 11)
- God chose to direct His Judgment onto His **Only Son** (v. 18)

"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus... For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh." Romans 8:1,3

God's Discipline is a call to **Repentance** (v. 20-21)

- **Now** is the time of God's favor (2 Cor. 6:1-2; Is. 61:1-2)
- No one is guaranteed **Another** chance to repent (Joel 1:5, 13-15; 2:1, 12-13)

"And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." Joel 2:30-32

Get Started:

1. What was the scariest natural disaster you've ever experienced? How did it affect you?
2. What was the worst natural disaster or other event the world has seen in your lifetime? How did it affect the culture / people in general?

Dig Deeper:

3. Read Revelation 9:1-21. What stands out to you in this passage?
4. Where do the locusts come from (v. 1-3)? Why is that meaningful?
5. How are God's people protected from these judgments (v. 4)?
6. Compare v. 7-10 with Joel 2:4-9 and Joel 1:6-7. How are these passages similar? Different?
7. How do the locust judgment and warhorse judgment (v. 13-19) make you feel? Why?
8. How do people respond to these dramatic divine judgments (v. 20-21)?

Move Forward:

9. Read Joel 2:12-14. What was God's purpose for the locust plague and military attack against Israel?
10. Read Joel 2:28-32. How does this reference to the Day of the Lord encourage you?
11. Read 2 Corinthians 6:1-2. How is our current time in history like Noah before the flood?
12. Who is on your heart to pray for that they would come to repentance while there is still time? Take some time to pray for them and for each other