

**THE SIXTH TRUMPET
AN ARMY OF TERRIBLE DESTRUCTION
REVELATION 9:13-21**

Revelation 9:13-21 continues the description of the horrible judgments that will take place on earth during the great tribulation. Reading this horrible account reminds us that these are days of tribulation that have never been experienced in the history of mankind (Matt. 24:21). At this point in the tribulation more than half the world's population has been destroyed.

I. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THIS HORRIBLE JUDGMENT. 9:13-15.

A. The Announcement from the Altar. 9:13-14.

1. The significance of the altar. 9:13.

* As in Rev. 8:3-5 the judgment is associated with the prayers of the saints. *

2. The message from the altar. 9:14.

B. The Releasing of the Angels. 9:15.

1. The identity of these angels.

* These are fallen angels or demons for the good angels have never been bound. *

2. The purpose of these angels.

a. These fallen angels have influence among the nations as in the days of Daniel. Dan. 10:13.

b. These fallen angels are released at a specific time for a specific purpose in God's sovereign plan.

II. THE DESCRIPTION OF THIS HORRIBLE JUDGMENT. 9:16-19.

A. The Various Views of this Army.

1. This is a repetitive description of 9:1-12.

* This cannot be for the demonic creatures in 9:10.

2. This is a modern military army.

a. The description could easily fit a modern army with tanks.

b. China has boasted an army of this size. (*Time*, May 21, 1965, p. 35). Dan. 11:44.

3. This is a demonic army.

* This is possibly a demonic army similar to the one in 9:1-12. *

B. The Awesome Description of this Army. 9:16-17.

1. The enormous number of this army.

2. The vivid description of this army.

a. It's awesome appearance.

b. It's awesome power. 9:16,19.

C. The Terrible Destruction of this Army. 9:15,18.

1. The current world population is 6.7 billion.

2. One-fourth of the world population was killed during the fourth seal. Rev. 6:7,8.

3. These two judgments amount to one-half the world population being destroyed plus those who have died in the other judgments. More than 3.3 billion deaths in less than seven years!! See Matt. 24:22.

III. THE REACTION TO THIS HORRIBLE JUDGMENT. 9:20-21.

A. Their Persistence in Idolatry. 9:20.

1. It is amazing to see man continue to hold false beliefs and trust false gods in the face of overwhelming evidence that there is only one true God. Isa. 45:6,7.
2. Judgment will either lead man to repentance or deepen the hardness of his heart. Ex. 8:15; Pro. 29:1; Rom.2:4.

B. Their Persistence in Immorality. 9:21.

1. Murder – disregard for human life.
2. Sorceries – Greek *pharmakon* – drugs and potions are often associated with idol and demonic worship.
3. Sexual immorality.
4. Thefts.
* These sins describe rage, escape through drugs, lust and greed. The sins of humanity are intensified during the tribulation. *

Let us be certain that we will not be on earth during this terrible time. Let us do all that we can to warn our friends and loved ones to flee the wrath to come. Let us be certain that we do not follow the hardness of those who refused to repent and only hardened their hearts.

