



SAVED TO SERVE
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THE SEVEN TRUMPETS:
THE FIFTH TRUMPET, FIRST WOE

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will study the fifth of the Seven Trumpets. The seven trumpets are divided into two groups: the first four are grouped together and the last three are grouped together. See Revelation 8:2, 12-13. We will discover that this fifth trumpet, the first woe, deals specifically with the rise of Muhammed, the false teachings of Muhammed under the religion of Islam, and their attempt for world domination.
2. **Current Events:** Iran Says Supreme Leader Killed in U.S.-Israeli Strikes
<https://www.nytimes.com/live/2026/02/28/world/iran-strikes-trump>

What is the predominant religion in Iran?

https://www.google.com/search?q=what+is+the+predominating+religion+of+iran&og=what+is+the+predominating+religion+of+iran&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIJCAEQABgNGIAEMgglAhAAGBYHjllCAMQABgWGB4yCAgEEAAYFhgeMggIBRAAGBYHjllCAYQABgWGB4yCAgHEAAYFhgeMggICBAAGBYHjllCAkQABgWGB7SAQkxNjU1MWowajeoAgCwAgA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

3. In Revelation 9:1, when the fifth angel sounds, what is seen?
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4. What is one meaning of a star in prophecy? Genesis 22:17-18; Genesis 37:9-11 **Answer:** A human messenger. As you compare Daniel 12:3 with Jude 1:11-13, you will notice that these stars (people) can be faithful or false messengers.
5. **Note:** Just as Lucifer fell from heaven, this star is described as falling from heaven. This means that the messenger was sent from Satan, not from God, and that the religion or messages which came from him are not truth but error. Furthermore, the term "bottomless pit" refers to the earth in a state of desolation, confusion, and darkness (See Revelation 20:1; Jeremiah 4:23-27; Genesis 1:2).

"That the expression "bottomless pit" represents the earth in a state of confusion and darkness is evident from other scriptures. Concerning the condition of the earth "in the beginning," the Bible record says that it "was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep." [The Hebrew word here translated "deep" is rendered in the Septuagint (Greek) translation of the Hebrew Old Testament by the same word rendered "bottomless pit" In Revelation 20:1-3.] Genesis 1:2." {GC 658.3}

6. Read Revelation 9:2. Smoke is seen coming out of the pit. What can we learn about smoke from scripture? Psalm 68:2; Proverbs 10:26
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7. When smoke hits the eyes, it causes pain and forces a person to shut their eyes, resulting in darkness. According to Revelation 9:2, what was darkened because of the smoke, and what do these symbols represent? Malachi 4:2 w/ Psalm 84:11; John 3:7, 8
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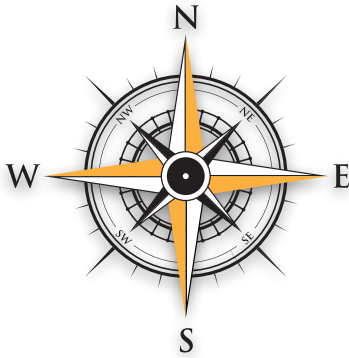
"Wherever the followers of Mohammed met the foreigner, there was a single rule of action. "Confess," said the Mussulman, "that there is but one God, and that Mohammed is His prophet; pay tribute, or choose death." The atoning blood of Christ was spurned. Jesus was a prophet, they thought; but He, like Moses, was inferior to Mohammed. The Bible of the Christians was replaced by the Koran. True, the simple faith and austere practices of the Mohammedans were, to all outward appearances, a reform over the apostasy of the Greek Catholics; but in the rejection of Christ, the Mohammedan had nothing in which to place his faith, save in his own ability to obtain righteousness by works. So while the papacy was exalting man in the West, and perfecting its system of self-righteousness, the new religion of the East was propagating, under another name, the same device of the devil to destroy the souls of men." {1905 SNH, SSP 163.2}

8. Read Revelation 9:3. What was seen coming up out of the smoke?
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9. Notice this recent plague of locusts which reminded reporters of the biblical plague.
Tourist hotspot beset by biblical plague of locusts in dramatic video
<https://nypost.com/2026/02/25/science/spanish-islands-beset-by-biblical-locust-plague/>
10. **Note:** In order to identify who these locusts represent, we must study the first place locusts are used in the Bible. We must

study the geographical location where the literal locusts came from, and we will see that it represents an army of men who brought woes upon the land and will continue to bring woes upon the land.

11. Read Exodus 10:12-14, 19 and discover the geographical location of origin of the literal locusts; also view the map below.



12. **Note:** The primary country that is east of Egypt is Arabia. The east wind brought the locusts to Egypt. This means that the locusts came from Arabia. After the locusts brought woe and destruction upon the unrepentant Egyptians, they were removed. The west wind removed the locusts from Egypt into the Red Sea. The Red Sea runs between Egypt and Arabia. Therefore, the locusts represent an army of men from the deserts of Arabia. See also the reference to locusts in Joel 2:25.
13. Write down the identifying markers of the locusts from Revelation 9:7-9. We will discover that these symbols fitly represent the followers of Mohammad - Muslims from Arabia. Also, see the following historical account from the book Daniel and the Revelation by Uriah Smith.

“The Arabian horse takes the lead throughout the world; and skill in horsemanship is the art and science of Arabia. And the barbed Arabs, swift as locusts and armed like scorpions, ready to dart away in a moment, were ever prepared unto battle.”

“And on their heads were as it were crowns like gold.’ When Mohammed entered Medina (A.D. 622), and was first received as its prince, ‘a turban was unfurled before him to supply the deficiency of a standard.’ The turbans of the Saracens, like unto a coronet, were their ornament and their boast.. The rich booty abundantly supplied and frequently renewed them. To assume the turbans is proverbially to turn Mussulman. And the Arabs were anciently distinguished by the miters which they wore.”

“And their faces were as the faces of men.’ ‘The gravity and firmness of the mind of the Arab is conspicuous in his outward demeanor; his only gesture is that of stroking his beard, the venerable symbol of manhood.’ ‘The honor of their beards is most easily wounded.”

“VERSE 8. And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions.”

“‘Long hair’ is esteemed an ornament by women. The Arabs, unlike other men, had their hair as the hair of women, or uncut, as their practice is recorded by Pliny and others. But there was nothing effeminate in their character; for, as denoting their ferocity and strength to devour, their teeth were as the teeth of the lions.”

“VERSE 9. And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle.”

“The Breastplate. - ‘The cuirass (or breastplate) was in use among the Arabs in the days of Mohammed. In the battle of Ohud (the second which Mohammed fought) with the Koreish of Mecca (A.D. 624), ‘seven hundred of them were armed with cuirasses.’”
{UrS, DAR 500-501}

14. What body part of the scorpion is emphasized which the Arab Muslims are compared to? Revelation 9:5, 10

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15. What does a tail represent in the Bible? Isaiah 9:15
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16. **Note:** The Bible here is revealing that the teachings of Muhammed and of Islam are false doctrines that blind men from the truth and that lead to the bottomless pit, hell's fire.
17. **Note:** Bear in mind that the first four trumpets represent various barbaric tribes that attacked and gradually destroyed the Roman Empire. Under the fifth trumpet, the first woe, the attack and the gradual destruction of the Papacy begins. The Papacy assumed world dominance in 538 A.D.
18. Read Revelation 9:1. What significant event is represented as the key which opened the bottomless pit and made way for the Mahometans to gain victories over Rome? **Answer:** The battle of Ninevah which severely crippled the modern Persian empire ruled by Chosroes II.

"In the battle of Nineveh, which was fiercely fought from daybreak to the eleventh hour, twenty-eight standards, besides those which might be broken or torn, were taken from the Persians; the greatest part of their army was cut in pieces, and the victors, concealing their own loss, passed the night on the field. **The cities and palaces of Assyria were opened for the first time to the Romans."** {UrS, DAR 495}

"The Roman emperor (Heraclius) was not strengthened by the conquests which he achieved; and a way was prepared at the same time, and by the same means, for the multitudes of Saracens from Arabia, like locusts from the same region, who, propagating in their course the dark and delusive Mohammedan creed, speedily overspread both the Persian and the Roman empire. {UrS, DAR 495}

"The bottomless pit needed but a key to open it, and that key was the fall of Chosroes (Ruler of Persia). He had contemptuously torn the letter of an obscure citizen of Mecca. But when from his 'blaze of glory' he sunk into the 'tower of darkness' which no eye could penetrate, the name of Chosroes was suddenly to pass into oblivion before that of Mohammed; and the crescent seemed but to wait its rising till the falling of the star. **Chosroes, after his entire discomfiture and loss of empire (to Heraclius), was murdered in the year 628; and the year 629 is marked by 'the conquest of Arabia,' and 'the first war of the Mohammedans against the Roman empire.'**" {UrS, DAR 496}

"Mohammedanism united the scattered tribes, and sent them forth as the conquerors of nations. **The rapid progress which attended the Saracen (Arabians) arms was due, in great measure, to the strife between the Romans and Chosroes, the head of the modern Persian Empire. This strife resulted in the fall of the latter. Modern Persia had stood as a barrier wall, keeping in check the power of Mohammed; but when that power fell, the barrier was gone, the "bottomless pit" opened, and the Saracens deluged the world. When the "bottomless pit" was opened, there arose a smoke which hid the face of the sun. The figure is a strong one, representing the darkening effect of Mohammedanism, as it spread over the face of the earth.**" {1905 SNH, SSP 164.1}

19. During the fifth trumpet, the first woe, how much time was Islam given to hurt men on the earth? Revelation 9:5, 10

20. **Note:** One Biblical month has thirty days (compare Genesis 7:11, 24 and Genesis 8:3, 4). Five Biblical months have 150 days. One day represents one year in the Bible. See Numbers 14:34 and Ezekiel 4:6. Therefore, five months represent 150 literal years.

21. **Note:** According to Revelation 9:11, the five prophetic months or 150 literal years began when the followers of Muhammed were united under one general or king. After Muhammed's death in 632 A.D., his followers were never united until July 27, 1299 under General Othman from whom we derive the name the Ottoman Empire.

"They had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name is . . . Destroyer.' This character might in truth be imputed to the Arab caliphs, who directed the armies for so many years after the death of Mohammed; but it is especially applicable to Othman, the founder of the Ottoman Empire. This, the first attempted centralization of government was the outgrowth of the doctrines of Mohammed. 'Othman,' says the historian, 'possessed, and perhaps surpassed, the ordinary virtues of a soldier; and the circumstances of time and place were propitious to his independence and success.' The close of the thirteenth century was near. The Crusades had thrust Europe against the Turks in a most reckless manner. Constantinople had numerous emperors, but the Greek government grew weaker, and the time of its destruction was stealthily approaching. **'It was on July 27 a. d., 1299,'** says Gibbon, 'that Othman first invaded the territory of Nicomedia; and the singular accuracy of the date seems to disclose some foresight of the rapid and destructive growth of the monster.' More than human foresight recorded this date with such definiteness. To the prophet on Patmos, it had been revealed that 'their power was to hurt men five months.' **...It closed July 27, 1449.**" {1905 SNH, SSP 171.2}

22. **Note:** The rise of Islam, as a dominating power, under the fifth trumpet or the first woe, began in 629 A.D. The significant time period that Islam would terrorize the nations began July 27, 1299 and lasted until July 27, 1449.

23. Since July 27, 1449, has radical Islam ceased from terrorizing the world? **Answer:** No. Radical Islam terrorizing the world is also seen under the sixth trumpet or the second woe (Revelation 9:12-21) and it will be seen under the third woe as well.

24. As we close, let us meditate on Luke 10:17-20. Another application of the scorpion points to Satan. What did Jesus Christ

give us power to do with scorpions? Luke 10:19

25. Who are the only ones that will be shielded from being overcome by the enemy? Luke 10:20; Revelation 9:4

“Beyond the cross of Calvary, with its agony and shame, Jesus looked forward to the great final day, when the prince of the power of the air will meet his destruction in the earth so long marred by his rebellion. Jesus beheld the work of evil forever ended, and the peace of God filling heaven and earth.” {DA 490.3}

“Henceforward Christ's followers were to look upon Satan as a conquered foe. Upon the cross, Jesus was to gain the victory for them; that victory He desired them to accept as their own. “Behold,” He said, “I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.” {DA 490.4}

“**The omnipotent power of the Holy Spirit is the defense of every contrite soul. Not one that in penitence and faith has claimed His protection will Christ permit to pass under the enemy's power. The Saviour is by the side of His tempted and tried ones. With Him there can be no such thing as failure, loss, impossibility, or defeat; we can do all things through Him who strengthens us. When temptations and trials come, do not wait to adjust all the difficulties, but look to Jesus, your helper.**” {DA 490.5}