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February 22 & 25, 2024  
Week 16 - The Woes of the World (Rev. 9)

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### Introduction:

Revelation 1:1-21 Notes...

### Understanding the Human Condition

1. \_\_\_\_\_ are not the “good guys” in the story of planet earth.

Psalm 51:5

Romans 3:10-12

2. The unredeemed human \_\_\_\_\_ is worse than you think.

John 12:37

3. \_\_\_\_\_ has already sent us the solution.

1 John 2:15-17

2 Corinthians 5:17, 21

### The Big Idea:

Every system of this world is ultimately connected to the system of Babylon and in the last days will increasingly trend toward sin and selfishness and away from Christ. Jesus is the hope of the world, the Savior of sinners and the Lord of His people.

## **QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:**

### **Personal Life:**

1. Even though humanity is capable of doing some good things and making progress as image-bearers of God, the curse and corruption of sin can only be overcome by Jesus Christ. What are some ways you have seen the world make some good advancements, only to continually trend toward depravity? Discuss...

### **Ponderings:**

2. In Revelation 9, we see the judgments intensify from things that could be explained away as natural disasters into things that are full-blown demonic as the locust-like creatures are unleashed from the Abyss. How does the presence of Christ's church in the world "hold back" or temporarily "keep at bay" the full and temporary reign of Satanic forces?
3. How does the imagery of judgment in Revelation 9 correspond with your understanding of God's character? Discuss...
4. In light of the severity of Tribulation judgment described in Revelation 9, how should we understand God's patience and the opportunity for repentance and faith today?

### **Promptings:**

5. How can the insights from Revelation 9 encourage us to be more zealous in sharing the hope and salvation found in Christ with our unbelieving neighbors and a deeper passion for mission?
6. How can we as a Life Group support one another in living out the truths we've reflected on in our study of Tribulation judgments so far? Discuss...