MAIN THOUGHT: The first four trumpet judgments are NATURAL – desolating land, saltwater, fresh water, and the heavenly bodies. The 5th and 6th trumpets announce DEMONIC forces that torment (9:1-12) then kill (9:13-21).

TRUMPET #5 / WOE #1: THE ARMY FROM THE ABYSS (1-12).  Rev. 16:10-11

OPENING (1-2).
- The star that fell from the sky to the earth was not Satan (Isa 14:12; Lk. 10:18) but a holy angel who held the key (Rev. 20:1) to the ABYSS (GK = a [neg.] buthos [deep]) – the bottomless pit (lit.) that contained demons (Luke 8:30-31).
- Satan would soon be imprisoned there for 1000 years (20:2-3).
- When its SHAFT was opened smoke rose as from a smelting furnace (1:15) – the exact description of HELL (Matt. 13:49-50) – darkening the sky (16:2; Isa. 8:22; Joel 2:2).

OCCUPANTS (3).
- Here the demonic forces are pictured as devouring LOCUSTS and poisonous SCORPIONS set loose like the 8th plague of Egypt (Ex. 10:13).
- SCORPIONS (demons) and SNAKES (Satan – 20:2) were venomous, poisonous, and at enmity with man (Gen. 3:15; Luke 10:19; 11:12).

ORDERS (4-6).
- Their RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (ROE) were limited as with Job (Job 1:9-12).
- They were not allowed to harm the earth (8:7) or kill, but only to TORMENT people for a limited time (five months) – the life stage of locusts.
- SEALED people (144,000 – 7:3-4; Ezek. 9:4-6) were exempt and were protected like the bride of Christ – the church (2 Cor. 1:21-22; 1 Thess. 1:10)
- So painful but men will be unable to die (6:16; Isa. 2:19; Hos 10:8; Lk. 23:30).

OUTLINE (7-10). The appearance of these hybrid creatures (4:6b-7 – the living creatures) are meant to inspire FEAR:
(1) HORSES (Joel 2:4-11).
(2) CROWNS – as a conqueror.
(3) MAN’S FACE – intelligence of a man.
(4) HAIR – long antennae.
(5) lion’S TEETH (Joel 1:6).
(6) iron BREASTPLATE (GK = thorax) – armor.
(7) SOUND of war (Jer. 47:3).
(8) scorpion STINGS (1 Cor. 15:55).

ORGANIZATION (11-12). Normally no king (Prov. 30:27) but here SATAN:
(1) THE ANGEL of the Abyss.
(2) ABADDON (HEB) / APOLLYON (GK) meaning DESTROYER (John 10:10).