

Hebrew Scripture echoes in Revelation 9.1-11

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| 9.1-2 | Smoke/fire from the abyss | <p>1 En 21.7-10 and I saw a horrible thing: a great fire there which burnt and blazed, and the place was cleft as far as the abyss, being full of great descending columns of ⁸ fire: neither its extent or magnitude could I see, nor could I conjecture. Then I said: 'How ⁹ fearful is the place and how terrible to look upon!' Then Uriel answered me, one of the holy angels who was with me, and said unto me: 'Enoch, why hast thou such fear and affright?' And ¹⁰ I answered: 'Because of this fearful place, and because of the spectacle of the pain.' And he said unto me: 'This place is the prison of the angels, and here they will be imprisoned for ever.'</p> |
| | Smoke from a furnace | <p>Exodus 9.8 Then YHWH said to Moses and Aaron, "Take handfuls of soot from the kiln, and let Moses throw it in the air in the sight of Pharaoh.</p> |
| | Sun and air darkened | <p>Joel 2.10 The sun and the moon are darkened</p> <p>Isaiah 13.10 ...the sun will be dark at its rising, and the moon will not shed its light.</p> |
| 9.3 | Locusts as metaphor for divine punishment | <p>Exodus 10.4-5 For if you refuse to let my people go, tomorrow I will bring locusts into your country. They shall cover the surface of the land, so that no one will be able to see the land.</p> |
| 9.3 | Authority of scorpions | <p>Ezekiel 2.6 And you, O mortal, do not be afraid of them, and do not be afraid of their words, though briars and thorns surround you and you live among scorpions; do not be afraid of their words, and do not be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house.</p> |
| 9.4 | Seal of God on their foreheads (as Rev 7.3) | <p>Ezekiel 9.4 Go through the city, through Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of those who sigh and groan over all the abominations that are committed in it.</p> |
| 9.7 | Locusts like horses | <p>Jeremiah 51.27 Raise a standard in the land, blow the trumpet among the nations; prepare the nations for war... appoint a marshal against her, bring up horses like bristling locusts.</p> |
| | Scorpion sting | <p>Deuteronomy 32.33 wine [of enemy nations] is the poison of serpents, the cruel venom of asps.</p> |
| 9.8 | Army with "women's hair" | <p>Deuteronomy 32.42 I will make my arrows drunk with blood, and my sword shall devour flesh-- with the blood of the slain and the captives, from the long-haired enemy.</p> |
| | Army with teeth like lions | <p>Joel 1.6 For a nation has invaded my land, powerful and innumerable; its teeth are lions' teeth,</p> |
| 9.9 | Noise of wings like an army rushing into battle | <p>Ezekiel 1.24 When they moved, I heard the sound of their wings like the sound of mighty waters, like the thunder of the Almighty, a sound of tumult like the sound of an army</p> |
| 9.10 | Power in the tails (as symbol of false leadership) | <p>Isaiah 9.14-16 So YHWH cut off from Israel head and tail, palm branch and reed in one day--elders and dignitaries are the head, and prophets who teach lies are the tail; for those who led this people led them astray, and those who were led by them were left in confusion.</p> |
| 9.11 | Abaddon | <p>Job 28.22 Abaddon and Death say, 'We have heard a rumor of it with our ears.'</p> |