



Demonic powers are active



The bleak picture in verses 1-12 describes the influence satanic powers will have at that time over the unbelievers (probably especially over those from Israel (v4)). The armies of “locust-scorpions” are a symbolic description of this demonic torment. They will neither destroy the circumstances of life (v4) nor kill people (v5). It is rather a mental torment. The strength in their mouths and tails (see Isaiah 9:13-14) seems to point to false, satanic, doctrine.

The judgments of verses 13-19 are also of satanic origin. Evil forces will, if God allows them, be released for their destroying work. Great armies come from the east (from the river Euphrates) via the revived Roman Empire and bring destruction. It is frightening that all these things don’t lead people to repentance (vv20-21).



26. Wherein lies the strength or power of the “armies of locusts” and wherein the strength or power of the “armies of horses”?



How good that Satan does not yet have “free rein” and that you as a Christian are under the protection of a stronger One.



26. The strength of the locusts is in their tails (v10); the strength of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails (v19).