

2023-2024 BSP#8 Group Time Discussion

(A) 為查考和認識的題目 Questions for Studying and Understanding (10 minutes)

1. 比較申命記 20:19-20 和默示錄 9:4。您發現什麼相似點和不同點（如果有的話）？為什麼它們相似或不同？
Compare Deuteronomy 20:19-20 and Revelation 9:4. What similarities and differences, if any, do you find? Why are they similar or different?
2. 從默 9:7-9 有關蝗蟲非常奇怪和可怕的描述，我們可以得到甚麼結論？
 - a. 襲擊耶路撒冷的羅馬軍隊像蝗蟲般可怕。
 - b. 他們「頭上好似有像黃金的榮冠」(9:7)，因為軍官和士兵們都是羅馬宮廷皇親國戚。
 - c. 雖然他們「面貌有如人的面貌」而且頭髮長長「好似女人的頭髮」(vv. 7-8)，但卻凶殘和不憐惜，像蝗蟲般沒半點人性。
 - d. 他們行軍「奔馳上陣的響聲」，有如蝗蟲「翅膀的響聲」(v.9)。
 - e. 若望是個喜愛幻想的作者，他極奇怪和誇張。

What can we conclude from the very strange and terrifying description of locusts in Revelation 9:7-9?

- a. The Roman army that attacked Jerusalem was as terrifying as locusts.
- b. They “wore what looked like crowns of gold” (9:7), because the officers and soldiers were all relatives of the Roman court emperor.
- c. Although their “faces were like human faces” and their hair was long “like women’s hair” (vv. 7-8), they were cruel and merciless, as inhuman as locusts.
- d. The sound of their soldiers marching into battle was like the “sound of the wings” of locusts (v.9).
- e. John is an author who loves fantasy, is extremely weird and exaggerated.

(B) 為反思和應用的題目。Reflection and application question (15 minutes)

「我們現在正面臨一場涉及教會與反教會、福音與反福音的最大的歷史對抗。這場對抗是在天主神聖的計劃之內的。」（後來成為教宗若望保祿二世的紅衣主教卡羅爾·沃伊蒂拉(Karol Wojtyla)，摘自 1976 年對美國主教的演講，《華爾街日報》，1978 年 11 月 9 日。）因此歷史對抗，您認為世界經歷著一些什麼特殊的邪惡？如果我們確實生活在一個屬靈上邪惡的世代，這是否意味著世界末日即將來臨？讀伯多祿前書 5:8-9。伯多祿的教導如何幫助你思考這問題？你會因此而採取什麼行動？

“We are now standing in the face of the greatest historical confrontation between the Church and the anti-Church, of the Gospel versus the anti-Gospel. This confrontation lies within the plans of divine providence.” (Cardinal Karol Wojtyla who later became Pope JPII, from a 1976 speech to the bishops of the United States, *Wall Street Journal*, November 9, 1978.) What do you think are some of the exceptional evils that the world is experiencing due to this historical confrontation? If it is true that we live in a time of exceptional spiritual evil, does that mean that the end of the world is near? Read 1 Peter 5:8-9. How does Peter’s teaching help your discernment and what will you do as a result?