

A 'Biblical Plague' Is Overtaking Communities—and Some People Are Quoting Revelation

Swarms of Mormon crickets are overrunning parts of Idaho, Nevada and Oregon, covering roads, yards and homes in scenes that many observers say look like something out of Scripture.

The flightless insects, known for their destructive feeding habits and cannibalistic behavior, have appeared in unusually large numbers this year, prompting some on social media to compare the infestation to the locust judgments described in the book of Revelation.

In a Daily Mail report, meteorologist Matt Johnson said the outbreak is being driven by favorable environmental conditions.

"The massive Mormon cricket infestation taking over Ashton is primarily driven by the region's dry winter and warm spring, which created ideal conditions for prolific, early egg hatching," Johnson wrote on Facebook. "Additionally, these insects operate in multi-year population cycles and tend to peak during prolonged stretches of drought."

Residents in Ashton, Idaho, near Yellowstone National Park, have described the situation as overwhelming, with videos showing lawns and driveways blanketed by the insects. One local reportedly described it as the worst infestation the area has seen in a century.

The insects pose more than a nuisance. They can devastate crops, damage gardens and create dangerous driving conditions when crushed in large numbers on highways.

“The crickets are causing nuisance conditions where they are creating road hazards due to large densities over the road and associated odor from crickets that have been run over [by motor vehicles],” Bureau of Land Management spokesman Joey Nikirk said.

A Revelation Parallel?

As images of the infestation spread online, some users began pointing to Revelation 9, where John describes a terrifying locust plague released during the sounding of the fifth trumpet.

One social media user shared the verse: “And there came out of the smoke Locusts upon the earth, and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.”

Is the comparison warranted?

Not directly.



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The creatures described in Revelation are supernatural agents of judgment released during a specific prophetic event. Mormon crickets are natural insects whose population cycles are well documented by biologists and wildlife officials.

Yet the comparison reveals something deeper. When people see massive swarms of insects overrunning communities, their minds naturally turn to biblical imagery because Scripture repeatedly uses plagues, pestilence and disturbances in creation as signs of divine judgment and warnings to humanity.

Not the First Animal Event to Raise

Questions

The Mormon cricket invasion is only the latest in a series of unusual animal-related events that have captured public attention in recent years.

Chronic Wasting Disease, often called “zombie deer disease,” continues spreading through deer populations across North America. Infected animals become emaciated, disoriented and lose their fear of humans.

Wildlife officials have also battled outbreaks of Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease, which has killed large numbers of deer in several states.

Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus has spread through wild rabbit populations in parts of the United States, while recurring avian influenza outbreaks have led to the destruction of millions of poultry birds.

None of these events proves biblical prophecy is being fulfilled. Disease outbreaks, insect swarms and animal die-offs have occurred throughout history.

But together they serve as reminders that creation itself is not functioning as it once did.

Creation Is Groaning

The apostle Paul wrote in Romans 8:22, “For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.”

Jesus also warned that the last days would be marked by “famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places” (Matt. 24:7).

Those passages do not specifically predict Mormon crickets, diseased deer or dying rabbits. Yet they do paint a picture of

a world under the weight of the Fall, awaiting redemption.

As swarms of insects blanket communities in the American West and unusual animal diseases continue appearing across the globe, Christians may rightly ask whether these events are simply natural cycles—or whether they are reminders that all creation is groaning for the return of its Creator.

And if the earth itself is groaning, could the animal kingdom be among the many witnesses pointing us toward the day when Christ returns, and all things are made new?

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