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Wormwood - What or who do you think the "star called Wormwood" represents? (Revelation 8:10–11)



By Dan Maines

What or who do you think the "star called Wormwood" represents? (Revelation 8:10–11)

From the Fulfilled Perspective, the "star called Wormwood" in Revelation 8:10–11 is symbolic, not literal. Here's how we can understand it:

Stars often represent leaders or prominent figures in biblical imagery. For example, in Isaiah 14:12, the fall of Babylon's king is described as the fall of a star from heaven. Similarly, in Daniel

8:10 and Revelation 1:20, stars represent rulers or messengers.

The star "burning like a torch" falling from heaven likely speaks of a falling leader, someone once seen as great or influential, now bringing destruction.

Wormwood in the Old Testament (like Jeremiah 9:15 and Lamentations 3:19) refers to bitterness, sorrow, or judgment. It's often linked to God's punishment, especially for idolatry or apostasy.

Putting this together:

The "star" could symbolize a Jewish leader or teacher who fell into apostasy,

The "burning like a torch" suggests fiery judgment or zeal turned destructive,

The "wormwood" represents the spiritual bitterness or corruption spread by this fall,

The "waters" often represent people, nations, or teachings (see Revelation 17:15).

So this could represent a corrupted leader or movement in Israel before AD 70 whose influence poisoned the people, leading to their downfall and judgment.

Some believe this refers to figures like Ananus the high priest, or possibly false prophets who led many astray during the Jewish-Roman war.

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