

# THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST – THE SEVENTH SEAL! – TRUMPETS 1-4! – Rev. 8:1-13

## OBSERVATION

## INTERPRETATION

## APPLICATION

Monday 7:30pm, H 106 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell # 714 425 9221; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column. References include commentaries by Pastor Chuck Smith, Vernon McGee, David Hocking, Warren Wiersby and others.

**Rev 8:1** *When He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.*

**Rev 8:2** *And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given*

*seven trumpets.*

**Rev 8:3** *Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it*

*with the prayers of all the saints*

*upon the golden altar which was before the throne.*

**Rev 8:4** *And the smoke of the incense, with the*

*prayers of the saints,*

*ascended before God from the angel's hand.*

**Rev 8:5** *Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it to the earth.*

*And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake.*

**Rev 8:6** *So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.*

### vs.1-6 - PREPARATION FOR THESE JUDGMENTS

vs. 1-2 Introduction to these judgments - silence in heaven – like a dramatic lull before the storm

“the seven angels who stand before God” - the ones previously referred to (1:4, 20; 2:1; 3:1; 5:6) – standing ready at attention!

“seven trumpets”. - Trumpet Sounds - Cf. 1 Cor. 15: 52 (mid-trib.)  
Ex. 19:19 (Mt. Sinai); Lev. 23:23-25; 25:9 (Feasts of Jehovah); Num. 10:1-8; Joel 2:1, 12-15-

v. 3. “another angel” - The IDENTITY of the “another (*allos* - equivalent or of the same kind) angel”- cf. John 14:16

“much incense” with the prayers of all the saints – a sweet smell ascending to God

“with the prayers of all the saints” cf. – Rev. 6:9 – God is answering the prayers of the saints over the years!

“golden altar” – the place the incense was offered - cf. Exodus 30:6 (where the LORD will meet us); 7 times in Revelation - 6:9; 8:3, 5; 9:13; 14:18; 16:7 - The Picture - cf. 6:9-11

vs. 4-5 – “prayers of the saints” - the impact of these prayers -

“ascended before God from the angel's hand” - do your prayers only go “up to the ceiling” or do they go to the throne of God?

“filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it to the earth” – the answer to the angel's action - The impact of these prayers - They are “ascended before God”; They are answered by the angel's action; They are acknowledged by “voices,

“And thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake”

v. 6 “the seven angels” - The ½ hour silence is over. The involvement/participation of the seven angels - 1:4 – “seven spirits who are before his throne” -- “seven spirits of God sent forth into all the earth” - “seven angels who stood before God”

**Rev. 8:1-13 - “FOUR TERRIBLE JUDGMENTS”**  
“silence in heaven” – The Lord Jesus ordering a halt on all fronts – heaven, hell and earth!

**Seven Trumpets -- serious warning** to get ready—  
**TURN TO THE LORD BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!**

The mention of the seven angels in v. 2 governs the mention of the “another angel” in v. 3. The word “another” means “another of the same kind” and connects with the seven angels.

Because of what Jesus has done, the veil was torn and now we can come directly to our High Priest.  
We thank Him for our access!

Vs. 5 “Thunders” denotes the approach of the coming storm of God's judgment.

“Voices” reveals that this is the intelligent direction of God and not the purposeless working of natural forces. God is in charge.

“Lightnings” follow the thunder. This is not a reversal of the natural order. We see the lightning before we hear the thunder due to the fact that light waves move faster than sound waves. Actually, the thunder comes first, but we do not hear it until after we have already seen the lightning.

The “earthquake” is the earth's response to the severe pressure which will be placed upon it during the judgment of the Great Tribulation period.

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**Rev 8:7 The first angel sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.**

**Rev 8:8 Then the second angel sounded: And something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood.**

**Rev 8:9 And a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.**

**Rev 8:10 Then the third angel sounded: And a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water.**

**Rev 8:11 The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the water, because it was made bitter.**

**“hail and fire mingled with blood”** - indicates people will be killed when this judgment hits.

**“a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.”** - Cf. Exodus 9:18-26 (seventh plague); Joel 2:30-32 Trees not only produce food, but are essential protection from storms and flooding. Animal life will be affected by the loss of green grass - the globe will become a virtual wasteland or desert.

**“a great mountain burning with fire”** - The power that causes this disaster

**“thrown into the sea”** - the Mediterranean? - The place where the disaster occurs

**“a third of the sea became blood”** - Marine life DESTROYED - The pollution that results from it - Cf. Exodus 7:14-25 (First plague)

**“a third of the living creatures in the sea died,”** - the third part of the sea became blood (death of fish), and the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died” - cf. Hosea 4:3; Zephaniah 1:2-3

**- and a third of the ships were destroyed.** - The Price which the world’s shipping industry will suffer because of this disaster **“and a third part of the ships were destroyed”**

**“a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch”**

**“it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters”**

**“Wormwood”** - Lam. 3:15; Amos 5:7; Jeremiah 9:13-16 and 23:15 God’s judgment that will bring poisonous water! Definitely not a blessing!

**“A third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the water, because it was made bitter. - The Scope of its consequences**

## vs 7-12. THE PUNISHMENTS OF THESE JUDGMENTS

**The devastation of plant life! - This is a literal judgment upon plant life in the same way that the seventh plague of Egypt was literal (see Exo 9:18-26).**

**v.8 John does not say that a burning mountain was cast into the sea but rather he indicates that a great mass or force “something like a great mountain burning with fire was [thrown] cast into the sea”.**

**This literal mass falls into the literal sea, one-third becomes literal blood, and one-third of all the literal living creatures in the literal sea die a literal death. Nothing could be plainer than this. Also, one-third of the literal ships of all literal nations are literally destroyed. If we just let John say what he wants to, he makes it very clear.**

## The destruction of marine life!

The U.S. Seventh Fleet is usually in the Mediterranean Sea and the majority of Russian fleet in the Black Sea.

**Vs. 10-11 - Drinking water DEFILED - 10-11 - The Source of this disaster - “from heaven” - The Size of this disaster**

**When the children of Israel crossed over the Red Sea, they came to Marah where the waters were bitter. Moses was directed to take a tree and cast it into the waters to make them sweet. Here in Revelation, the sweet waters are made bitter by a meteor, a star out of heaven. The tree that Moses put into the water speaks of the Cross of Christ.**

**The defiling or polluting of water.**

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**Rev 8:12 Then the fourth angel sounded:  
And a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them were darkened. A third of the day did not shine, and likewise the night.**

**Rev 8:13 And I looked, and I heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe**

**to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!"**

**"a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them were darkened. A third of the day did not shine, and likewise the night. - Natural light DIMINISHED by 1/3 - Cf. Exodus 10:21-23(ninth plague); Luke 21:25-26 - "day of darkness, (describes the Great Trib.)" – Is. 13:10; Jer. 4:23; Ez. 32:7-8; Joel 2:31; 3:15; Amos 5:20**

**"an angel flying" - THE PROCLAMATION OF A FLYING ANGEL - MSS difficulty - some say "eagle". Angels are used throughout to proclaimed God's coming judgments - why different here?**

**"to the inhabitants of the earth" - The TARGET of these judgments - unbelievers - cf. 9:4 - The TRIALS will be more severe than ever!**

**v. 12 – The diminishing of natural light.**

Lights out at Carlsbad Caverns –

Darkness, a taste of God's wrath (Outer darkness) to come in the final judgment. *Mat 25:30 "And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."*

**vs.13 PROCLAMATION OF A FLYING ANGEL**

Woe, woe, woe (*oo-ah'e* – great greif, alas! Woe!) ...Repeated 3 times - TERRIBLE WARNING-- REPENT!!!! ...the most awful things you've ever heard!!! God's warning to nations that He is going to judge—also used by Jesus ---"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida..."

When the fourth trumpet is blown, the announcement **is made of a peculiar intensity of woe and judgment that is coming on the earth.** The last three trumpets are separated from the other four; they are "woe" trumpets.

**Inhabitants of the earth – unbelievers!**

**WHAT A WARNING HERE TO ALL UNBELIEVERS!!!!**

These coming judgments are something that certainly makes the believer sorrowful in his heart—but **it ought to do more than that. It not only ought to affect our hearts; it ought also to affect our wills and our feet to get/keep us moving to get the Word of God out to the world.** That is our responsibility-- a very solemn responsibility. We cannot keep this judgment from coming to earth, but **we can get the Word of God out and reduce the population that will be left on the earth so that fewer people will go through that terrible time.**

**We are to:**

1. **To preach the gospel to every creature!**
2. **Make disciples of all nations!**
3. **Pray for the lost!**

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		<p><b><u>Questions:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Re Mid-Trib position - What are three differences between the trumpets in Rev. chaps. 8, 9 and 11 from “<i>the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with the voice of the archangel, and the trump of God</i>” (1 Thess. 4:16?)- and “<i>in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet</i>” (1 Cor. 15:52, 45); <u>Who</u> is being called? “<u>last</u>”? and “<u>trumpet of</u>”?</li> <li>2. Some believe the “another angel” in verse 3 is Jesus Christ. Do you agree or disagree? Why? – <i>allos</i> - equivalent</li> <li>3. Also in verse 3, are “<i>prayers of all the saints</i>”. Who is included here? Are yours included? Does the Bible teach that believers in heaven pray for people on earth?</li> <li>4. v. 4 “<u><i>prayers of the saints, ascended before God</i></u>” Do your prayers only go “up just to the ceiling” or do they go to the throne of God?</li> <li>5. v. 5 Why did the angel take the censer, fill it with fire from the altar, and throw it to the earth?</li> <li>6. v. 7 –“<i>And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth</i>”. What does “mingled with blood” mean? (cf. First Plague – Ex. 7:17)</li> <li>7. v. 7 –“<u><i>a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up</i></u>. How long do you think it would take for 1/3 of the vegetation to be burned?</li> <li>8. v. 8 ... <u><i>And a great star fell from heaven....</i></u> Do you think this falling great star is already on its way to strike the Earth?</li> <li>9. <u>How often will you remember these promised events (including the fifth and sixth trumpets) whenever you see a potential unbeliever?</u></li> </ol>
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