

REVELATION 8:1 - 9:6

The Trumpet Judgments

The sixth seal (6:12) had been completed when God gave John some extra **added** information. Chapter 7 was an insert that showed who will be able to stand during the Tribulation. It will be the two witnesses, the 144,000, their converts and martyrs.

**The seventh seal is not a judgment itself, but it opens - triggers the 7 trumpets of judgment.

A. Revelation 8:1 - And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.

*Some say (not me) this proves there are no women in Heaven because of this dead **silence**.

1. Remember, there had been praising and shouting in Heaven, but now **complete** silence. There was not a note of music, not a voice, but only absolute silence-quietness.

Think of the drama here! There is a hush-pause throughout Heaven. Silence can be sobering-telling, just like a court room waiting for the foreman to read the **verdict. There is fear and yet anticipation!

2. All in Heaven know there are more judgments on the way to the inhabitants of earth. All the thousands of years where man mostly rejected God, but now, God is about to send **Hell** upon earth to bring an end to Satan's and man's rebellion.

*There is **30** minutes for those on earth to repent and believe in Christ-Messiah. Remember, all these judgments are the **steps** that eventually conclude with Christ taking back, by force, the title deeds to earth and the Heavens.

Colossians 1:20 - And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, *I say*, whether *they be* things in earth, or things in heaven.

B. Revelation 8:2-3 - And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets. Rev. 8:3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

1. The seven angels are the angels referred to as "the seven spirits which are before the throne" (1:4, 3:1, 4:5, 5:6).

Hebrews 1:7, 13-14 - And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. Heb. 1:13 But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool? Heb. 1:14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

2. The scene is the **Heavenly Temple**, or the Heaven's holy place, and Holy of Holies. In the Holy place there is the table of shewbread on one side, the candlestick on the other side, and in the middle the golden censer. It burned incense which gave a **sweet** aroma and here it represents the saints' prayers that are about to be **answered**. Evidently they are stored up by administrative angels and, when answered, are **reverenced** in the Heavenly Temple.

C. Revelation 8:4-5- And the smoke of the incense, *which came* with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand. Rev. 8:5 And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast *it* into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.

1. These prayers are the **cries** from martyred saints, living saints, the 144,000 and their converts, before some are taken out of the Tribulation.

Luke 18:7 - [And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?]

2. This angel sets on fire these prayers, casting the golden censor into the earth, accompanied by lightning, thunder, and an earthquake.

Silence is **broken as God is forewarning the inhabitants on earth that His wrath in answer to the saints' prayers is about to be leashed out. Payday someday has **arrived**!

D. Revelation 8:6- And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

The seven angels get ready by placing themselves into position, so that when it is their individual time-trumpet, they will be in place to blow their trumpet judgments.

*The six seals introduced the Antichrist's career and some of his evil damage against earth (horses). But now God's **own** day of wrath is about to begin, and His judgments will be **severe**.

E. Revelation 8:7 - The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.

Joel 2:30 - [And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.]

1. The **first** trumpet sends a firestorm from Heaven to earth. (This is similar to Egypt's plagues, but more severe. Here, one-third of earth's **forestry** is destroyed along with it's grass.)

Exodus 9:23-24 - And Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven: and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along upon the ground; and the LORD rained hail upon the land of Egypt.

Exo. 9:24 So there was hail, and fire mingled with the hail, very grievous, such as there was none like it in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation.

2. Earth, already under a drought from the two witnesses, now experience Gods' **scorched**-earth policy. There is also supernatural hail with blood pelting hailstones (blood is **90%** water anyway).
3. This might be hard to comprehend, but we just have **faith** in what God says. No doubt the people on earth will know that a supernatural sign from Heaven is happening!

*With this first trumpet, the entire balance of nature will be shaken. There will be a massive loss of vegetation, erosion, heat and global **warming**. Losing one-third of earth's greenery will cause a loss of **oxygen**!

F. Revelation 8:8-9 - And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood; Rev. 8:9 And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed

1. The second trumpet is an aquatic judgment. It does not say it was a mountain, but like one or as it was one. *This possibly is a flaming meteorite coming through our **atmo**sphere and John sees it plunge into the sea (like when they hit Jupiter).
2. From this massive impact, one-third of the sea becomes **blood**. Then one-third of the sea becomes poisonous and stinks. Then one-third of sea **creatures** die, and also one-third of the world's ships are seemingly destroyed. It could be that the impact of the meteorite causes a gigantic tsunami or tidal wave sinking many of these ships.

Exodus 7:20-21 - And Moses and Aaron did so, as the LORD commanded; and he lifted up the rod, and smote the waters that *were* in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants; and all the waters that *were* in the river were turned to blood. Exo. 7:21 And the fish that *was* in the river died; and the river stank, and the Egyptians could not drink of the water of the river; and there was blood throughout all the land of Egypt.

G. Revelation 8:10-11 - And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; Rev. 8:11 And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.

1. The third trumpet sounds. God has a special star. Some say it is smaller than the recent meteorite. With this star, God attacks the **fresh** water supply on earth. *It makes more sense that this star is an **angel** going to fresh water places and poisoning those waters!

Revelation 9:1 - And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.

Revelation 1:20 - The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

2. The star's name is (Wormwood). Wormwood is a poisonous wood that is used in **medicine**. Wormwood goes exactly to the right spots to destroy one-third of earth's **drinking** water. He uses deadly chemicals that contaminate many of earth's rivers and wells (fountains of the deep).
*Jeremiah 9:15 - Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will feed them, *even* this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink.
3. An adult can do without water for about 3 to 5 days. The number is fewer for a child and animals. This no doubt will cause anarchy, theft, many will just **die** of thirst.

H. Revelation 8:12 - And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise.

1. The fourth angel sounds. Amazing Heaven phenomena shall take place. Interesting is the fourth trumpet affects the Heavens and it was on the fourth day God **created** the sun, moon, and stars.
2. The sun, moon, and stars give one-third **less** light having **16** hours of darkness with only **8** hours of light.
 - a. *This also means one-third loss of solar **heat**. Winter storms in certain areas could be wicked!
 - b. Also remember that the moon and stars **reflect** from the sun. If the sun loses one-third of its light, so do the luminaries . Again, there will be a great social upheaval **physically** and economically.

I. Revelation 8:13 - And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!

1. We have had four angels sound four judgments and men's hearts are failing them for fear. The four trumpet judgments were aimed at the earth's **eco**logical system: agriculture, ocean, sea-creatures, fresh water, and the Heavens.
2. Chapter 8 starts out with silence, but ends with woe, woe, and woe! Each woe will represent a trumpet judgment. The next three judgments will **sur**pass in misery more than the first four because they are on the **in**habitants of each.

*Imagine the trumpet judgments getting **pro**gressively worse! This angel, who is flying in Heaven, forewarns of impending judgment. More **verses** are used to describe these three judgments.

J. Revelation 9:1 - And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.

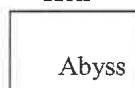
1. Remember, the star is an angel entrusted with grave responsibility. He is powerful and it is possible he is a **fallen** angel. The (bottomless pit) is in Hell in the **abyss**. This angel (if fallen) would enjoy having the key to the bottomless pit to let out some of his previous fallen angelic **bre**thren!
2. Note the **abode** of demons:

Luke 8:28, 31 - When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, *thou* Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not. Luke 8:31 And they besought him that he would not command them to go out into the deep.

Revelation 20:1-3 - And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. Rev. 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, Rev. 20:3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

- a. The bottomless pit is not just Hell nor the lake of fire. It is a unique place that God has preserved-**re**served in a **diff**erent compartment in Hell.

Hell



- b. There are **two** types of fallen spirits:

- (1) Those who rebelled with Lucifer in Heaven against God (one-third). *They are not chained and **help** Satan.
- (2) Those who fell trying to **corrupt** humankind in Genesis 6:2-7. They have been chained in the gloomy darkness in Hell's abyss.

Jude 1:6-7 - And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

Jude 1:7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

2 Peter 2:4 - For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

- c. These angels are **used** by God here in Revelation 9. They have been chained up angels, storing up hatred for God and man. Can you image when they are **released**?

K. Revelation 9:2-3 - And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.
Rev. 9:3 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.

1. Where there is smoke, there is **fire**. The abyss is a place of **heat** (burning punishment).
*Archeologists tell us the Dead Sea is the result of God's judgment upon Sodom and Gomorrah. Some grace teachers believe the shaft to the bottomless pit is located at the bottom of the Dead Sea.
*Here, the earth belches out big plumes of smoke that cover the sun's light and out come **hordes** of locusts!
2. These are **not normal** locusts. The best way to get rid of locusts is to blow smoke on them. But here, their environment has been smoke and heat.

Note: Proverbs 30:27 - The locusts have no king, yet go they forth all of them by bands;

But: Revelation 9:11 - And they had a king over them, *which is* the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue *is* Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath *his* name Apollyon.

*These locusts here are not natural insects, but they are **supernatural** creatures. You will see they have stinging power like scorpions.

L. Revelation 9:4 - And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.

It is important to remember these creatures, even though loosed, are still under **God's** control. They are **limited** to God's commands. They are **not** permitted to hurt the earth's left vegetation (greenery), and only **lost** people who do not have the seal of God on them (144,000 - 7:3).

M. Revelation 9:5 - And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment *was* as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.

1. Do not forget the big picture. For several thousand years, man has thumbed his nose at God in arrogance and **pride**. In spite of God's mercy, love, and His Son's sacrifice for mankind, man still does not want God. Man continues to **blaspheme** even at the mention of God's name.
2. So God has every **right** to punish man anyway He sees fit! Here, God's patience has run its course and now it is time to **repay** man in sorrow.
*Again remember, God will have had His 144,000 believing Jewish evangelists who had preached salvation for the first three and one-half years.
3. These creatures (demonic) will sting for **five** months. Interesting, as that is the length of ordinary locusts, from May to September.

N. Revelation 9:6 - And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.

Man will not even be able to commit **suicide**. Having been stung, or even for fear of being stung, they will **beg** for death, but will find no relief. Their pain will be beyond human comprehension for five months (150 days), yet there will be **no** escape **nor** relief! *These demonic creatures, who have been tormented in the abyss, will enjoy making someone **else** suffer.

Next week, their description!