

Chapter 8

Introduction:

The pattern has been set a parenthetical explanation between 6th in a series of 7. Then when the 7th seal is opened it starts the new series of 7.

Four Series of Sevens

7 Seals – Judgment for Man’s Willful Activity

7 trumpets – Judgment via Direct activity of God

7 Personalities - direct result of Satan’s fight against God. Satan will be drawn out in the open.

7 Bowls of Wrath – Final Judgment direct response to both Satan’s and Man’s Rebellion.

The 7 trumpets represent the announcements of increasing intensity of Judgments building to the bowls. The first four trumpets are targeted at Earth’s ecology and the woe trumpets (remaining 3) involve demonic destruction to come upon man.

Understand at this time when the Restrainer has been removed – the days will be like Ephesus and Rome, orgies & idols will be everywhere.

This section greatly parallels the plagues in Egypt. If you believe the plagues in Egypt were literal plagues, then I don’t think you can explain this away as all symbolic imagery or that it already happened. Remember, if it is symbolic. Symbols represent a fact or reality that is usually greater than the symbol being used.

Rev. 8:1-2 When He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. 2 And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets.

Only certain angels standing before God. This is likely Seraphim [Isaiah 6 six-winged angels depicted as flying around the throne saying Holy, Holy, Holy”] and Gabriel (One of only three Angels mentioned by name he is said to be the Angel of the Lord [Luke 1:11] and visited Mary at Christ birth).

Why is there this strange silence?

1.	The 6 th Seal was the great earthquake where men cried out, and possible God wanted a pause for them to repent.
2.	The Judgment of the Trumpets is so severe a direct Judgment by God that silence is the only response.
3.	The prayers of the saints (Rev 8:4) that enter the throne room stop down Heaven for 30 minutes.

Application: Do you treat prayer as serious as God does? How can this change your prayer life?

What is the difference between a Trumpet reference in the New Testament and the Old Testament?

How do I not assume that the last trump (1 Cor 15:51-52) is not the seventh trumpet in Revelation?

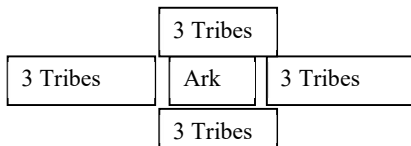
Are there seven trumpets referenced in the bible outside of Revelation?

Let’s study trumpet references in the Old Testament and the New Testament...

New Testament (20)	Meaning	Old Testament (92)	Meaning
Matthew 6:2	Don't sound a trumpet before you give your offering!	Exodus 19:13	Long Blast of Trumpet and God's people could come to the Mountain
Matthew 24:31	With a loud trumpet call the elect will be gathered.	Numbers 10:2	Two silver trumpets for summoning the congregation and breaking camp.
1 Cor 15:52	At the last Trumpet, the dead will rise and we will be changed.	Numbers 10:9	Sound an alarm with a trumpet and remember your God and He will save you from your enemies.
1 Thes 4:16	The Lord Himself, will command with the trump of God, and we will be caught up in the clouds	Joshua 6	Seven trumpets Seven priest and the walls of Jericho fall in Seven days.
Hebrews 12:18-19	You have rejected Grace (Christ) the trumpet of God.	Judges 7	Gideon uses the Trumpet in War and God delivers.
Rev 1:10	Christ voice like a Trumpet	Nehemiah 4:20	When the trumpet sounds rally there.
		Psalms 47:5	God has gone up with shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.
		Ezekiel 33:4-5	If you hear the sound of the Trumpet and do not take heed, your blood will be upon your own head.
		Zech 9:14	The Lord will appear over them, and God will sound the trumpet.

Note: Many of the other Old Testament reference of the Trumpet were with the announcement or entrance of a King which also naturally fits in this context.

7 trumpets have a special meaning. It took 7 trumpets to move the 12 tribes in the Wilderness. 1 for each of the four camps and 3 for the separate tribe of Levi that carried the ark.



Just as it took seven trumpets to move Israel into the promise land, once again it will take 7 trumpets to move them into the Millennium.

After studying the trumpets, can you see that there is a clear difference in the use of the trumpet in the Old and New Testament? This clearly confirms the seven trumpets are not intended for the church.

Rev. 8:3-6 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. And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand. 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. So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

Christ is not walking among the lamb stands, and notice an Angel is now holding the prayers of the saints. After seven trumpets, like Jericho the walls of opposition to Christ will fall.

What is the Old Testament context of the censer? The smoke of incense went before God. The High Priest would go into the Holy of Holy's carrying a censor to ask for atonement once a year. Now, the Censor with the fire will come from God and will be hurled at an unrepentant world that rejects Christ.

What was the significance in incense in worship in the tabernacle? How do you apply that today?

Why would this instrument of worship be used for judgment? Has God given you anything that He intended to be used in for His glory that you misused?

What do the thunder, rumblings, lightings represent?

The wrath and Judgment is not as much for sin as rejecting Christ.

Thunders – coming storm of Judgment

Voices – God's directives not simply nature

Lightning – is mentioned after thunder – violating a law of nature - man may know this is direct Judgment.

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.

The first trumpet clearly follows creation in Genesis 1:11 where the plant life and seas both created on third day. The earth itself is now judged by hail, fire and blood covering a 1/3 of the earth. **Is there a parallel with Exodus 9 the plagues on Egypt?** Read Exodus 9:25.

Why just a 1/3 of the earth? Why use fire for Judgment? Why not Flood? Do you believe in the literal plagues of Egypt? If so, should you not believe in the literal trumpets in Revelation?

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

The second trumpet mentions like a Great Mountain (Greek – Great Mass or force as if it were a Great Mountain burning with fire) Thrown into the sea. 1/3 of the sea turns to blood, 1/3 of the creatures died, 1/3 of the ships destroyed. This follows in order Genesis 1:9-10 (3rd day of Creation Seas). The mountain must represent something very real – Meteor? **Does this fulfill the prophecy in Jeremiah 51:25 Babylon behold against thee a destroying mountain?**

Jer 51:25 "Behold, I am against you, O destroying mountain, Who destroys all the earth," says the LORD. "And I will stretch out My hand against you, Roll you down from the rocks, And make you a burnt mountain.

Rev. 8:10-11 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. 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.

The 3rd trumpet depicts a Great Star falling upon Waters Named "Wormwood" contaminating drinking water. A meteor or a comet that maybe disintegrates as it enters the atmosphere and scatters globally. The effect is a poison that strikes at 1/3 of the water supply paralleling the 3rd day of Creation.

Wormwood – Word Study: What does it mean? How is it used in scripture?

Dut 29:18 – Idolatry	Jer 9:15 - Calamity	Lam 3:15 – Sorrow	Amos 5:17 – False Judgment
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Wormwood suggests this is judgment on man is for Idolatry and false judgment and it will cause certain calamity and sorrows. Wormwood is also defined by John MacArthur as a bitter poisonous substance, derived from a root that causes drunkenness and eventually death. Bitter waters are also mentioned with Israel and Moses coming to Mara. God instructed Moses to throw a tree into the waters and turn them sweet (Exodus 15:22-25). The tree of course speaks of the cross.

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.

The 4th trumpet strikes 1/3 of the Sun, Moon and Stars. 1/3 less day and 1/3 night and likely 1/3 intensity or heat from the Sun. Jesus spoke of this in Matt 24:29 – Parallels Genesis 4th Day of Creation where the light from the sun is set to rule day, and the Moon and stars are set to govern the night (the calendar basis).

What would be the impact on earth of a 1/3 less day and night and intensity or heat from the Sun?

The 1/3 reduction in heat from the Sun alone will cause radical changes to meteorological, botanical and biologic cycles in the earth, but it is only temporary. Global warning crowd has not apparently looked into this one.

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!”

What bible translation are you reading? NKJV says Angel and NIV says Eagle. The Greek in the early manuscripts differ slightly on this word. In the last 30 years, we more transcripts being restored it appears that “eagle” is mentioned about 20 to 1. Can an Eagle speak? Can a parrot? Who are we to limit God? Lord said where Carcasses gather so shall be the eagle (Matthew 24:28).

WOE, WOE, WOE - Three remaining trumpets are called the Woe trumpets – Weird and Wild some of the most difficult to interpret.

Some believe all trumpet judgments are in the last 3.5 years of tribulation, but most all agree the woe trumpets are clearly in this timeframe. The duration of each trump judgment is undefined except for the fifth trump which is limited to 5 months. Per what we have covered, if you are in the Church of God, you will not be here. However, this is strong motivation to make sure our non-believers join us and escape the coming period.

What are you going to do with your knowledge of Revelation?

What are the consequences of not speaking up about Revelation and letting the world define it?

Are you going to let Christ work through you and let this book be reason, hope and light to the lost?

1 John 4:18 (New International Version) – “There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.”