

Revelation Chapter 8

The Trumpet Judgments Begin
Review first...

The 7 Seal Judgments

1	2	3	4	5	6	INTERLUDE	7
1 st Seal Conqueror on white horse	2 nd Seal Red Horse of War	3 rd Seal Black Horse of Famine, economic collapse	4 th Seal Pale Horse of Hades, Death, pestilence, ¼ of mankind dies	5 th Seal Martyrdom of Tribulation Saints under the Altar	6 th Seal Great earthquake Heavenly and earthly signs, degenerate mankind	144,000 Jews sealed, countless saints	Silence in Heaven Seven Trumpet Judgments Seven Bowl Judgments
6:1-2	6:3-4	6:5-6	6:7-8	6:9-11	6:12-17	Chapter 7	8:1-6



Revelation Chapter 8

The first 6 seal judgments were opened in chapter 6. An "interlude" occurred in chapter 7 where 144,000 Jewish servants were sealed before any damage to the earth was allowed from the coming Trumpet/Bowl judgments. We also saw myriads of "Tribulation Saints." Now in this chapter, the 7th seal is opened, and Trumpet Judgments begin.

Revelation 8 intro

- Chapter 7 was an **interlude**, a time out of sorts, following the opening of the first 6 seals. Chapter 8 opens with the unsealing of the final (7th) seal.
- 3 sets of 7 judgments each.** Some "nested" – 7th seal contains the Trumpet judgments, 7th Trumpet contains the Bowl/Vial judgments.
- Now into TRUMPET judgments.

Revelation 8 intro

- Trumpets 1-4: cataclysmic changes, **physical and environmental devastation**
- Of "natural" world, in **natural** ways, *(although all of this is supernatural!)* unlike coming supernatural, demonic judgments next chapter.
- Judgment in "thirds"** – not ALL is destroyed, 1/3 of trees, seas, etc.
- Will cause **extreme devastation** to planet

Revelation 8:1

When He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.



Revelation 8:1

- Now the sealed scroll is completely open, all judgments can proceed.
- Solemn moment, all heaven silent. "Heaven" understands seriousness here. **Dramatic pause**. Calm before storm.
- Don't know actual duration of "about a half an hour"
- Reminds of Habakkuk 2:20 – "**But the LORD [YHWH] is in His holy Temple, let all the earth be silent before Him.**" Remember, no one can stand, or even speak, before His glory.
- Huge contrast to thundering praise in previous chapter.

Revelation 8:2

And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets.



Revelation 8:2

- This group ("*7 angels who stand before God*") not mentioned in canon.
- There is reference in **Apocrypha**, called "Angels of the Presence." "*I am Raphael, one of the seven hold angels, which present the prayers of the saints, and which go in and out before the glory of the Holy One.*" (Tobit 12:15)
- Names in books of Tobit, Esdras, also book of Enoch and other extra-Biblical writings.

Revelation 8:2 – **DANGER!!!!**

Uriel = "Fire of God"
 Raphael = "God heals"
 Raguel = "Friend of God"
 Michael = "Who is like God?"
 Sariel = "Command of God"
 Gabriel = "Might of God" or "God Conquers"
 Remiel = "Mercy of God"
 Jehudiel = "Praise of God"
 Sealtiel = "Praise of God"
 Barachiel = "Blessings of God"

All apparently contain name of God, El.

Left: *Mary amidst the Seven Archangels, in St Maria Degli Angeli in Rome, Michelangelo*

Too much extra-biblical LORE, including heavy use in New Age and occult. Book of Enoch lists many of these as fallen. Can't even agree on their names. Be VERY careful here, don't put too much stock in naming or exactly who they are or what they do. WE DON'T KNOW! We just know they are always in God's presence.

Revelation 8:2

- Who are they? They are angels in God's presence. We don't need to know anything else.
- What do they do? We don't know, other than here they will dispense the 2nd round of judgments, the **Trumpet Judgments**.
- Trumpets always announce, proclaim, warn and lead. We don't know if these trumpets will be audible or serve as a warning. Most likely they are merely used to delineate this set of judgments in John's vision.

Revelation 8:3-4

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. ⁴ And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand. 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.

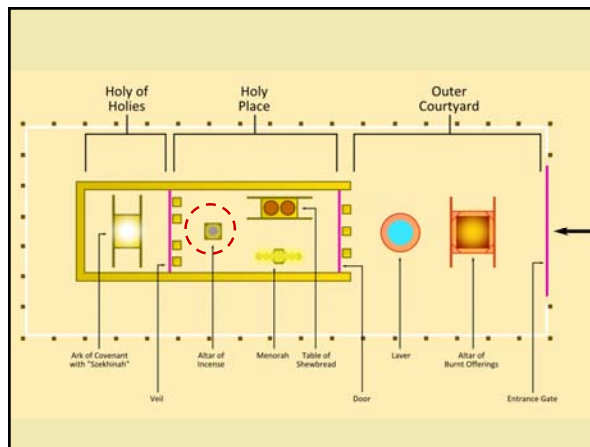
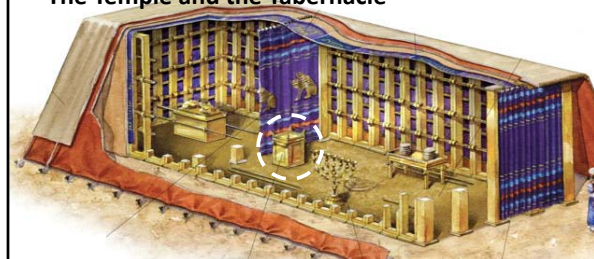


Revelation 8:3-4

- “another angel...” – NOT Jesus! Never any doubt about when HE appears!
- **What altar?** Altar of incense, near Holy of Holies in the Temple.
- This altar **always represents prayers of saints**. Smoke would keep High Priest from being killed when he entered once a year. Smoke obscured his vision, so he would not “see” glory of God.
- Represents our **communication**, prayers/Elohim
- “Before the throne...” Where God dwelled, Ark of the Covenant, formerly separated by veil – veil torn at Yeshua’s death, nothing separating now.



The Temple and the Tabernacle



Revelation 8:3-4

- Angel is holding our prayers, they become “**sweet aroma**” to the Father.
- Psalm 104:34 – “*May my meditation be sweet to Him; I will be glad in the Lord.*” (Heb *siyach*, communication, prayer, talk [with YHWH])
- Psalm 141:2 – “*Let my prayer be set before you as incense.*”
- Our prayers **important, always in His presence**
- “*Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven...*”
Our prayers are in this censer!



Revelation 8:3-4

Revelation 8:5-6

⁵Then 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.
⁶So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.



Revelation 8:5-6

- Thy will be done! God's will is **about to be done on the earth, as it is in heaven.**
- Initiated in heaven, played out on earth.
- Silence is short-lived ("about half an hour")
- Angel's action apparently begins the Trumpet judgment sequence.
- **Another earthquake** (3 in Revelation)
- Earthquakes do get the attention of earth dwellers!
- "Noises, thunders,..." etc. always accompany a view of the throne room of God. Awesome.
- Silence over, judgment begins.

Revelation 8:7, The 1st Trumpet

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.



Revelation 8:7, The 1st Trumpet

- Many judgments **resemble plagues in Egypt.** Hardened heart of Pharaoh, hardened hearts of mankind. Also happened in other places (*Genesis 19, Sodom and Gomorrah, Joel 2*)
- **Egypt symbol of world.** What used in Egypt used here.
- In Egypt, Israelites in Goshen not affected. What does this mean this time? Don't know!
- Egypt plagues real, no reason to believe these won't also be literal. Don't allegorize!

EXODUS	Reference	REVELATION	Reference	Judgment	
1	Water turned to blood	7:14-24	1/3 of seas turned to blood 2 witnesses have power to turn water into blood Seas, rivers, springs turn to blood	8:8 11:6 16:3-4	2 nd Trumpet 2 Witnesses 2 nd Bowl 3 rd Bowl
2	Frogs	7:25-8:11	3 unclean spirits like frogs	16:13	6 th Bowl
3	Gnats	8:12-15	No mention of gnats		
4	Flies	8:15-28	No mention of flies		
5	Pestilence (Livestock)	9:1-7	No specific mention of pestilence, but 2 nd -4 th horsemen may include pestilence, and livestock may die (ch. 6)		2 nd Seal 3 rd Seal 4 th Seal
6	Boils	9:8-12	Festering sores	16:2, 11	1 st Bowl
7	Hail (and Lightning)	9:13-35	Lightning hurled to earth Hail and fire mixed with blood Huge hailstones	8:5 8:7 16:21	PRE-1 st Trumpet 1 st Trumpet 7 th Bowl
8	Locusts	10:1-20	Locusts (demonic)	9:3-11	5 th Trumpet
9	Darkness	10:21-29	1/3 "night lights" darkened Beast's kingdom in darkness	8:12 16:10	4 th Trumpet 5 th Bowl
10	Death of Firstborn	11:1-10; 12:29-30	1/3 earth population dies (4 angels of death, army of horsemen)	9:13-19	6 th Trumpet

Revelation 8:7, The 1st Trumpet

- Hail is always a sign of judgment: *"Have you entered the treasury of snow, Or have you seen the treasury of hail, Which I have reserved for the time of trouble, For the day of battle and war?"* (Job 38:22-23, God speaking to Job)
- **Plants first living things** created, now first to be destroyed.
- "Trees" = Heb *dendron*, "fruit trees" (perhaps ref to trees that bear food)
- **Limited, "controlled"** judgment (1/3), but ALL grass. Earth is already a mess, but only just started.



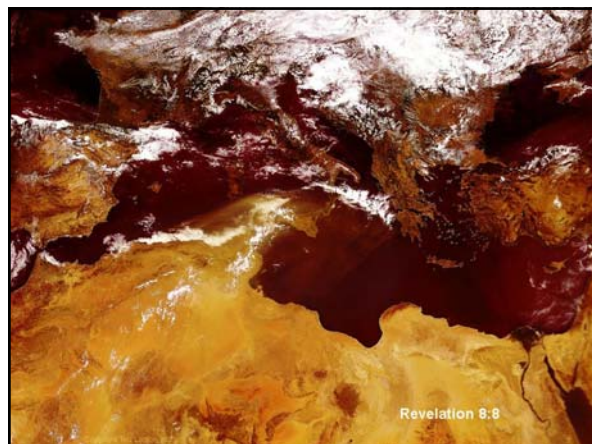
Revelation 8:8-9, The 2nd Trumpet

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



Revelation 8:8-9, The 2nd Trumpet

- Notice the word "like" – John struggling to describe, perhaps things he has never seen. (Avoid wild speculation!...meteor, volcano, nuclear bomb?) However, he said the seas will turn to blood, not LIKE blood!
- We don't know exactly what it is, but **will cause massive environmental damage** (commerce, agriculture, commercial trade, just about everything else!)
- Doesn't seem to come from heaven.
- Seas cover ¾ of earth, feed vast numbers of people. Will result in many deaths.



Revelation 8:8-9, The 2nd Trumpet

- Jeremiah 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."* Any relevance? We don't know!
- Separation of land and sea happened on same day as plants created. Seems God is "unmaking" His creation a little at a time.



Revelation 8:10-11, The 3rd Trumpet

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. 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.



Revelation 8:10-11, The 3rd Trumpet

- Again, **"great star"** subject of much speculation. Literal star (meteor?), or figurative, for someone or something else. Take literal when possible. (*"stars" can also be figurative for powerful men/women*)
- **Literal devastation** of 1/3 of drinking water sources on planet. Water very scarce. (In 3rd Bowl judgment ALL drinking water turned to blood, undrinkable.) Massive water shortages.
- 2nd Trumpet affected SEAS, now 3rd Trumpet **affects rivers and springs** (drinking water).
- Not said to be turned to blood here, but "bitter" and undrinkable.



Revelation 8:10-11, The 3rd Trumpet

- “Wormwood” is name of “star.” Gr. *absinthe* = “undrinkable.”

IS “WORMWOOD” “CHERNOBYL” IN RUSSIAN? (ONLINE.....) literally means “Black Grass” name for a very bitter and very poisonous plant...both in Ukrainian and Russian languages. Chornobyl in Ukrainian means wormwood. Chernobyl didn't mean anything like that in Russian, it was only the name of the Ukrainian town. However, after Chornobyl nuclear disaster Russia adopted ukrainizm and in modern spoken Russian the word “chernobyl” can be used in that meaning. (I.E., WORMWOOD)

Absinthe is a distilled, highly alcoholic beverage. It is an anise-flavored spirit derived from botanicals, including the flowers and leaves of *Artemisia absinthium* (a.k.a. “grand wormwood”) INTERESTING..... *Absinthe has often been portrayed as a dangerously addictive psychoactive drug*

Revelation 8:10-11, The 3rd Trumpet

- “Wormwood”... (CONT.)
- Origins in Russian come from mugwort plant, which grew profusely in area of the massive nuclear accident. Over time, mixed up with word for wormwood, now Russians identify it's **meaning (Chernobyl) as wormwood**. May or may not be coincidence.
- **Nuclear reaction process** identified at times as “burning like a torch.” Is this a nuclear exchange? We don't know. (*Note: the drinking waters of Europe are still polluted in places from the Chernobyl accident.*)



Revelation 8:10-11, The 3rd Trumpet

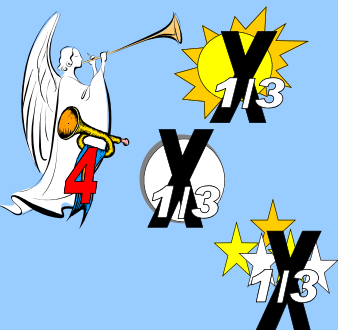
- “Wormwood”... (CONT.)
- Pure oil of wormwood very **poisonous**.
- Not sure if people die due to lack of drinkable water, or from actually drinking this poisonous water.
- Word “wormwood” found 9X in scripture.
- **Associated with sorrow**, calamity, hemlock (poison), bitterness, both physical and spiritual.
- We simply **do not know** exactly what this trumpet judgment entails. It will be known when it happens.

Revelation 8:10-11, The 3rd Trumpet

- We should note that **water shortages are already an issue** around the planet.
- Watch for water to become a very sought-after commodity.
- People will most likely buy up large water sources to control them, and profit (*already started*)
- Drinking water will likely be a huge problem throughout the time of judgment.

Revelation 8:12, The 4th Trumpet

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.



Revelation 8:12, The 4th Trumpet

- Darkness 9th plague of Egypt.
- Even **worse in Bowl Judgments** still to come (complete, palpable, terrifying darkness on “throne of beast”)
- **Only 1/3.** Less light during day, more darkness at night
- Havoc on agriculture, power generation, other economies
- Could mean fewer daylight hours, or less light that actually hits the earth during normal hours.
- Ongoing food shortages

Revelation 8:12, The 4th Trumpet

- Will most likely defy natural explanation.
- **Isaiah 13**, prophecies about ultimate destruction of Babylon (6 major chapters in scripture deal with this subject: Isaiah 13 and 14, Jeremiah 50 and 51, Revelation 17 and 18) [Note – “Babylon” never destroyed, kingdom overrun by Persia in 539 BC, but Babylon continuously in habited since, prophecies still to come]
- Babylon also figurative for all in opposition to God (the City, the people, the “beast”) – “Tale of Two Cities”
- **One passage sounds very familiar...**

Revelation 8:12, The 4th Trumpet

Behold, the day of the LORD comes, Cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, To lay the land desolate; And He will destroy its sinners from it. ¹⁰ For the stars of heaven and their constellations will not give their light; The sun will be darkened in its going forth, And the moon will not cause its light to shine. (Isaiah 13:9-10)

Also...

“And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke.

³¹ The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. (Joel 2:30-31)

The Day of
YHWH



- First 4 trumpets seen as “natural” events, or at least things happening to the “natural” world. These are of **supernatural origin and scope, however.** Both physical and spiritual bitterness, darkness and death will occur.
- Bottom line...the thing man has put his entire trust and hope in **(this world) is being destroyed piece by piece.**
- Air, water, vegetation, light, food, **all the things mankind needs to survive are in really bad shape...**and it only gets worse.

Revelation 8:13, The "3 Woes"

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!"



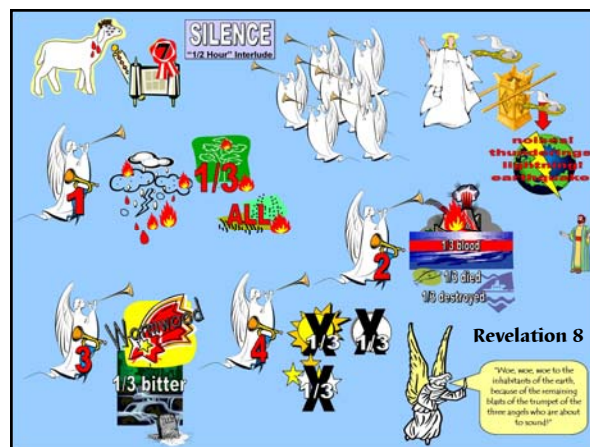
"Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, ..."

Revelation 8:13, The "3 Woes"

- **"Angel"** – some translations say "eagle" – Gr. is *aggelos*, which is word used for angel, literally meaning "messenger."
- **"midst of heaven"** – literally "zenith of the sky" about where sun is at midday.
- **Satellite** enabling teaching of gospel around the world?? Word is literally "messenger," whatever that will be.
- Known as **"The Three Woes"** – "you think this is bad...you ain't seen nothin' yet!" Will be shown the the "woes."
- Things get worse, including man's rebellion.

Revelation 8:13, The "3 Woes"

- **"Inhabitants of the earth"** – similar to "those who dwell on the earth" (ch 6). Phrase used over 20 X, implies those whose forever home is the earth, not heaven. These are unbelievers, the lost, citizens of earth. Believers are citizens of heaven.
- **POEM (describe these people above....)**
 Into this world, to eat and to sleep
 And to know no reason why he was born,
 Save to consume the corn, devour the cattle,
 flock, and fish
 And leave behind an empty dish. *(unknown)*



Revelation is a "developing story" or canvas. A strict timeline can be confusing, but we can visualize conditions worsening over time. After these 4 trumpets that affect our "natural" world (in a supernatural way!) we see a stark messenger with a harsh message of woe to come. The 5th, 6th and 7th trumpets (remember the 7th trumpet contains the 7 Bowl judgments) contain the rest of the judgments.

The earth is a mess now, so what is next? The last three trumpet judgments (Chapter 9) are demonic in nature.