

Mount Up Wednesday
The Wednesday Night Bible Study Ministry of
East Mount Zion Baptist Church
Dr. Brian A. Cash, Lead Pastor
Kathy Booker, Exec. Pastor and Facilitator
The Study of Revelation

Opening the Seventh Seal: The Trumpets
Revelation Chapter 8:1-13; 9:1-21
December 10, 2025

We are moving through the first half of the Tribulation Period in our study of the Book of Revelation. As the Lamb breaks the seals in the 3rd Heaven, great devastation has been occurring on the earth. There has been deception, war, famine, death and extreme terror. Although these events have been horrific, they are only the beginnings of the judgements of this great and evil period of time. Following will be the set of Trumpet Judgements that are far worse than what has previously taken place.

The Seventh Seal

1 When the Lamb broke 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 seven trumpets were given to them.

3 Another angel came and stood at the altar, holding a golden censer; and much incense was given to him, so that he might add it to the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar which was before the throne. 4 And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand. 5 Then the angel took the censer and filled it with the fire of the altar and threw it to the earth; and there followed peals of thunder and sounds and flashes of lightning and an earthquake.

6 And the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound them.

Silence in heaven is a rare occurrence. Heaven is filled with angels and living creatures who “never cease praising God the Father.” One such is Rev. 4:8, “*And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, ‘HOLY, HOLY, HOLY is THE LORD GOD, THE ALMIGHTY, WHO WAS AND WHO IS AND WHO IS TO COME.’*”

That being said, this period of “silence for about half an hour” must have been striking! It would certainly have gotten everyone’s and everything’s attention.

Following the silence, seven angels are given seven trumpets. And then an event that resembled the Old Testament Tabernacle service was conducted. In the Old Testament, the priests would have a censer to carry coals from the brazen altar outside the tabernacle to the altar of incense inside. Incense would be poured over the hot coals as an offering to God. This symbolized the prayers for the people and their cleansing.

In Rev. 8, we see an angel receiving a golden censer and much incense which would be added to the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar. (When we pray, our prayers go up to God as a sweet aroma. Ps. 141:2; Acts 10:4)

Next the angel took the censer, filled it with fire and threw it to earth. This was an act of purification, just as when the people's prayers were offered up. Thunder, lightning and an earthquake followed, symbolizing the earth's response to the holiness from the altar.

The Trumpets

7 *The first sounded, and there came hail and fire, mixed with blood, and they were thrown to the earth; and a third of the earth was burned up, and a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.*

8 *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 creatures which were in the sea and had life, died; **9** and a third of the ships were destroyed.*

10 *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 waters. **11** The name of the star is called Wormwood; and a third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the waters, because they were made bitter.*

12 *The fourth angel sounded, and a third of the sun and a third of the moon and a third of the stars were struck, so that a third of them would be darkened and the day would not shine for a third of it, and the night in the same way.*

13 *Then I looked, and I heard an eagle flying in midheaven, saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!"*

CHAPTER 9

1 The Fifth Trumpet—the Bottomless Pit

*Then the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star from heaven which had fallen to the earth; and the key of the bottomless pit was given to him. **2** He opened the bottomless pit, and smoke went up out of the pit, like the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by the smoke of the pit. **3** Then out of the smoke came locusts upon the earth, and power was given them, as the scorpions of the earth have power. **4** They were told not to hurt the grass of the earth, nor any green thing, nor any tree, but only the men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. **5** And they were not permitted to kill anyone, but to torment for five months; and their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it stings a man. **6** And in those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will long to die, and death flees from them.*

7 *The appearance of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle; and on their heads appeared to be crowns like gold, and their faces were like the faces of men. **8** They had hair like the hair of women, and their teeth were like the teeth of lions. **9** They had breastplates like breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots, of many horses rushing to battle. **10** They have tails like scorpions, and stings; and in their tails is their power to hurt men for five months. **11** They have as king over them, the angel of the abyss; his name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in the Greek he has the name Apollyon.*

12 *The first woe is past; behold, two woes are still coming after these things.*

The Sixth Trumpet—Army from the East

13 *Then the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, **14** one saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four*

angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.” **15** And the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released, so that they would kill a third of mankind. **16** The number of the armies of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them. **17** And this is how I saw in the vision the horses and those who sat on them: the riders had breastplates the color of fire and of hyacinth and of brimstone; and the heads of the horses are like the heads of lions; and out of their mouths proceed fire and smoke and brimstone. **18** A third of mankind was killed by these three plagues, by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which proceeded out of their mouths. **19** For the power of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails are like serpents and have heads, and with them they do harm.

20 The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, so as not to worship demons, and the idols of gold and of silver and of brass and of stone and of wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk; **21** and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.

Trumpet 1	Trumpet 2	Trumpet 3	Trumpet 4	Trumpet 5	Trumpet 6
1	2	3	4	5	6
Hail and fire, mixed with blood, was thrown upon the earth. 1/3 of the earth burned 1/3 of the trees burned All the grass was burned up.	A great mountain burning with fire, was thrown into the sea. 1/3 of the sea became blood 1/5 of the sea creatures died 1/4 of the ships were destroyed.	- A great star named Wormwood, fell from heaven, blazing like a torch. It fell on 1/3 of the rivers and springs of waters. 1/3 of the waters became wormwood. Many died from the bitter waters.	1/3 of the sun was struck, / 1/4 of the moon, and 1/3 of the stars. 1/3 of their light was darkened. 1/3 of the day and 1/3 of the night was kept from shining.	The shaft of the bottomless pit was opened and smoke darkened the sun and the air. Locusts came to torment, those without the seal of God on their foreheads, for 5 months. They have a king over them named Abaddon in Hebrew, and Apollyon in Greek.	Four angels were released at the great river Euphrates. There were 200M mounted troops. Three plagues came from the horses' mouths that killed 1/3 of mankind. 1. fire, 2. smoke, and 3. sulfur. The rest of mankind did not repent.

Notes: Be prepared to take notes during the lesson.