

# THE BOOK OF REVELATION, REVISITED

Wednesday, December 9, 2020 / First Assembly of God / Ft. Myers, FL  
with Pastor Dan Betzer

## Trumpets and Vials of Death

When last we met, our study involved the dramatic chapter 6 of Revelation, in which Jesus removes the scroll (book) of judgment from God's hand and begins to open the seals. With each opening we saw God's wrath poured out on earth as the Tribulation occurred.

1. Seal One – the release of Antichrist on earth  
(the rider on the white horse)
2. Seal Two – war that kills one fourth of earth's remaining population
3. Seal Three – famine, global
4. Seal Four – world-wide death
5. Seal Five – death of tribulation martyrs
6. Seal Six – death-causing calamities globally that kill
7. Seal Seven – brings about the second series of God's wrath - the trumpet judgments.

Revelation 8:1-6

*And when (Jesus) he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. [2] And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets. [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. [4] And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand. [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. [6] And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.*

There will be three sets of God's wrath during the seven-year Tribulation period (the Church will have been raptured and is gone from earth):

1  
2  
3  
4

1. The SEAL judgments
2. The TRUMPET judgments
3. The VIAL judgments



5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23

## TRUMPET NUMBER ONE

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.***

The past several years have provided scenes of massive fires sweeping landscapes in this country. It's sad to witness thousands of acres being consumed by flames; quite another to see a third of this planet's vegetation being destroyed by fire. At the blowing of the first trumpet, every form of botanical life is affected. God long ago destroyed the planet by "Noah's" flood; at the end time, He will destroy it all again only this time by fire. That is yet to come when this first trumpet blows; however, the ultimate fire will be yet to come.

## TRUMPET NUMBER TWO

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; [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.*

This is not the first time such a cataclysm occurs during God judgment on earth:

Jeremiah 51:25

*Behold, I am against thee, O destroying mountain, saith the Lord, which destroyest all the earth: and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and will make thee a burnt mountain. What terror will grip remaining humanity when God begins to use His own creation to destroy itself. In the Jeremiah passage it brings the end to the whole false religious system and those who worship false gods.*

In this case, the burning mass falls into the ocean causing one-third of it to be blood and one third of creatures in the sea perish. We often see “red tide” here in Florida and know what a dreadful mess and odor it cause. Think on this Revelation calamity and what a disaster it will cause!

There is nothing we can do to keep this from happening. But what we CAN DO is to rescue as many of the potential disaster victims from perishing. How? By presenting Christ to them in all His salvation before it happens. This is one of the reasons First Assembly is a powerful missions church!

## TRUMPET NUMBER THREE

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; [11] And the name of the star is called*

1 ***Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and***  
2 ***many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.***

3  
4 "Wormwood" is a name used metaphorically in the Old Testament in the  
5 following ways: 1) Idolatry of Israel; 2) calamity and sorrow and 3) false  
6 judgment." So John uses the word indicates that this is a judgment upon  
7 man for idolatry and injustice.

8  
9 This judgment is an ultimate pollution of the planet. While you and I as  
10 human being think of pollution as air and water, God sees it as the  
11 shattering of His moral commandments. And - you talk about water  
12 pollution - wait until mankind sees this one!

#### 13 14 **JUDGMENT NUMBER FOUR**

15  
16 Revelation 8:12-13

17 ***And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten,***  
18 ***and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the***  
19 ***third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part***  
20 ***of it, and the night likewise.***

21 ***[13] And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of***  
22 ***heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the***  
23 ***earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels,***  
24 ***which are yet to sound!***

25  
26 Can you imagine life on this planet without the sun? I was once asked to  
27 candidate for a great church in Anchorage, Alaska. I love that state and  
28 have been there quite a few times. It's quite an experience to tee off on a  
29 beautiful golf course at midnight because it's still broad daylight there.  
30 But in the winter time, the sun is only out for a few scant hours. I did not  
31 feel led to pastor in Anchorage. Many up there tell me it takes a number  
32 of years get acquainted with not much sun. Well, try to conceive of what  
33 it will be like on Earth during the Tribulation when one-third of all  
34 heavenly light is gone.

1 But the worst is yet to come as an angel flies overhead, crying, *“Woe,*  
2 *woe, woe to the inhabitants of earth.”*

3



4

5

6

## JUDGMENT NUMBER FIVE

7

8 Revelation 9:1-21

9 *And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the*  
10 *earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. [2] And he*  
11 *opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the*  
12 *smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by*  
13 *reason of the smoke of the pit. [3] And there came out of the smoke*  
14 *locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions*  
15 *of the earth have power. [4] And it was commanded them that they*  
16 *should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither*  
17 *any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their*  
18 *foreheads. [5] And to them it was given that they should not kill them,*  
19 *but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as*  
20 *the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man. [6] And in those days*  
21 *shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and*  
22 *death shall flee from them. [7] And the shapes of the locusts were like*  
23 *unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were*

1 *crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men. [8] And they*  
2 *had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions.*  
3 *[9] And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the*  
4 *sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses*  
5 *running to battle. [10] And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there*  
6 *were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months.*  
7 *[11] And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless*  
8 *pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek*  
9 *tongue hath his name Apollyon. [12] One woe is past; and, behold, there*  
10 *come two woes more hereafter.*

11  
12 Who is the “star who falls from Heaven?” Most scholars believe it was  
13 Satan himself.

14  
15 Isaiah 14:12  
16 *How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How*  
17 *art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!*

18  
19 The words of Jesus Himself substantiate this:

20  
21 Luke 10:18  
22 *And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.*

23  
24 Revelation 12:7-9  
25 *And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against*  
26 *the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, [8] And prevailed*  
27 *not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. [9] And the great*  
28 *dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which*  
29 *deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels*  
30 *were cast out with him.*

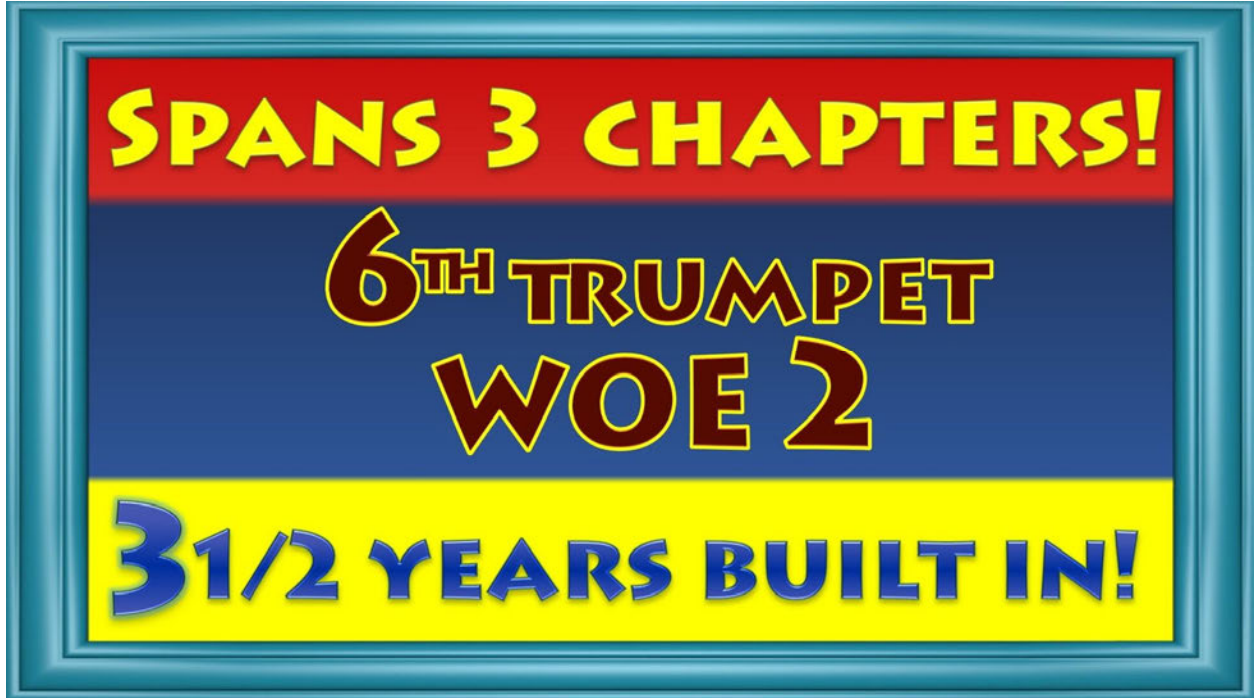
31  
32 Satan comes to earth and Hell is opened for a time, out of which come  
33 hordes of “locusts.” I believe this is the release of the fallen angels, who  
34 long ago joined Satan in his aborted effort to unseat God. God threw them  
35 out of Heaven but will give them a short season to return to earth to harm

1 those humans in the Tribulation who try to follow God and His Christ.  
2 These beings will have five months to hurt people.

3  
4 Their leader is Apollyon. This is the first of those three dreadful “woes”  
5 we encountered back in Revelation 8:13. Sadly, two more remain:

6  
7 Revelation 9:12  
8 *One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter.* Oh,  
9 my friend, I repeat: YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS THE RAPTURE!

10



11

12

13

**TRUMPET JUDGMENT NUMBER SIX**

14

15 The sixth angel blows his trumpet and is also given the command from  
16 God to loose the four angels bound at the River Euphrates (powerful  
17 prophecy here as so much of the trouble that foments in today's world  
18 large through Muslim command comes from this area. THIS IS THE  
19 FULFILLMENT OF THE SEVENTH SEAL WHICH WE STUDIED  
20 BACK IN CHAPTER SIX.

21

22

23

1 Revelation 9:13-14

2 *And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns*  
3 *of the golden altar which is before God, [14] Saying to the sixth angel*  
4 *which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the*  
5 *great river Euphrates.*

6

7 What is the voice John hears? I believe it is the voice of Christ. What is  
8 the importance of the great river Euphrates? *The Garden of Eden was*  
9 *somewhere around here. Here was where the flood began and spread over*  
10 *the known world. Here is where the infamous tower of Babel stood. The*  
11 *Jews of Israel were brought here by the Babylonians. Babylon was the*  
12 *fountainhead of idolatry.* And here is the final surge of sin on earth during  
13 the Great Tribulation Period.

14

15 Revelation 9:15-16

16 *And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and*  
17 *a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. [16]*  
18 *And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred*  
19 *thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.*

20

21 Small wonder that Jesus warned no one would be left alive if God did not  
22 arbitrarily stop the Tribulation. (Matthew 24:22) Who are the soldiers in  
23 this hellish army? Probably all the demons in Hell are unleashed.

24

25 So does this cause remaining mankind to repent? Hardly.

26

27 Revelation 9:20-21

28 *And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet*  
29 *repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship*  
30 *devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood:*  
31 *which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: [21] Neither repented they*  
32 *of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of*  
33 *their thefts.*

34

35 Why would sinning mankind not repent?

36



1 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12

2 *And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should*  
3 *believe a lie: [12] That they all might be damned who believed not the*  
4 *truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.*

5

6 Pilate himself asked Jesus, “What is truth?” Today we have heard so many  
7 false statements that it's hard to know the truth when we do hear it.

8

9 Now we enter chapter 10, which is an interlude period between the sixth  
10 and seventh trumpets. Then follows the not-so-grand finale of the  
11 Tribulation and Christ Jesus returns for the glorious Millennium.

12

13 Next week...

14