

"The Trumpet Judgments"

Part 1

Revelation 8:6-9:21

Introduction: Our God is a God of love and He is a God who desires all men to be saved. Two thousand years ago God sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we could have a Savior and when Jesus went to the cross He took upon Him our sin.

Isaiah 53:4-6

⁴ *Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.*

⁵ *But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.*

⁶ *All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

Now not only did Jesus take upon Him the sin of us who are believers but He took upon Him the sins of the entire world. When He died on the cross Jesus paid the sin debt for everyone.

1 John 2:1-2

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

² *And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.*

1 John 4:14

¹⁴ *And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.*

John 4:39-42

³⁹ *And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did.*

⁴⁰ *So when the Samaritans were come unto him, they besought him that he would tarry with them: and he abode there two days.*

⁴¹ *And many more believed because of his own word;*

⁴² *And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.*

Hebrews 2:9

⁹ *But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.*

Jesus died for every person in this world and so now salvation is available to all.

John 3:16-17

¹⁶ *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

¹⁷ *For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.*

Now I point all of this out because of what we are about to look at in the verses before us. God loves all of mankind and that includes those who will walk the face of the earth during the Tribulation. This thought needs to be kept at the front of our minds during our study of the Trumpet Judgments because these judgments will be far more severe than what we have looked at so far. Therefore, there may be the tendency to question the love of God in the midst of these judgments. Let me just remind you God's love is still at work and it is still His desire to see all men saved.

Last week in our study we looked at Revelation 8:1-5 and it was in these verses where we were able to see the 7th Seal Judgment which contained within it the 7 Trumpet Judgments. When the 7th Seal was broken there was silence in heaven for the space of about half an hour. This was no doubt the reaction of heaven when the inhabitants were permitted to see the Judgments which were about to be poured out.

I. Trumpet Judgment #1

Notice Revelation 8:6

Here we see there are 7 angels with 7 trumpets. There is something here which we need to understand.

In the Old and the New Testaments the sounding of the TRUMPET often marks God's intervention in history. There was the blast of the TRUMPET at the giving of the Law.

Exodus 19:16, 19

¹⁶ *And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and **the voice of the trumpet** exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled.*

¹⁹ *And when **the voice of the trumpet** sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice.*

Joel 2:1-2

*Blow ye **the trumpet** in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for **the day of the LORD cometh**, for it is nigh at hand;*

² *A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations.*

1 Corinthians 15:51-53

⁵¹ *Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,*

⁵² *In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trump**: for **the trumpet shall sound**, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.*

⁵³ *For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.*

1 Thessalonians 4:16

¹⁶ *For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with **the trump of God**: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:*

Over and over we can see the TRUMPET is connected with God's intervention in history which is also the case here.

Notice Revelation 8:7

There is much for us to consider in this first TRUMPET Judgment.

A. **This is a literal judgment.**

I point this out because there are many who do not believe this is to be taken literally. There are some who will tell you that this judgment is far too severe to come from God. But if we go back to the Old Testament we can see this is not the first time such a judgment was sent from God. The 7th judgment on Egypt is very similar.

Exodus 9:22-23

²² *And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch forth thine hand toward heaven, that there may be **hail in all the land of Egypt**, upon man, and upon beast, and upon **every herb of the field**, throughout the land of Egypt.*

²³ *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.*

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.*

²⁵ *And the hail smote throughout all the land of Egypt all that was in the field, both man and beast; and the hail smote every herb of the field, and brake every tree of the field.*

So if this judgment here in Revelation 8 is not a literal judgment then was the 7th judgment/plague on Egypt literal? The answer is YES. The 7th plague was literal and so will this judgment be literal.

B. **The Details of the Judgment.**

1. **The Hail is very significant here.**

In the Old Testament there was a specific judgment which was given for idolatry.

Deuteronomy 13:6-10

⁶ *If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend, which is as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which thou hast not known, thou, nor thy fathers;*

⁷ *Namely, of the gods of the people which are round about you, nigh unto thee, or far off from thee, from the one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth;*

⁸ *Thou shalt not consent unto him, nor hearken unto him; neither shall thine eye pity him, neither shalt thou spare, neither shalt thou conceal him:*

⁹ But thou shalt surely kill him; thine hand shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people.

¹⁰ And **thou shalt stone him with stones**, that he die; because he hath sought to thrust thee away from the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

The person involved in idolatry was to be stoned to death. Perhaps this is why we see the hail stones being CAST to the earth not only here but also in Revelation 16.

Revelation 16:21

²¹ And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.

During the Tribulation the earth dwellers will submerge themselves into idolatry.

In the book of Job we see some interesting information concerning the hail stones of the Tribulation.

Job 38:22-23

²² Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the **treasures of the hail**.

²³ Which I have reserved against the time of trouble, against the day of battle and war?

2. The Fire of this Judgment.

Notice Revelation 8:7 again.

Fire generally speaks of judgment in the Bible. John the Baptist said something which we need to see for it connects to what is happening here.

Luke 3:16-17

¹⁶ John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:

¹⁷ Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable.

Those who repented and turned to Jesus Christ for salvation would be baptized into the body of Christ. Those who chose to reject Jesus Christ would eventually be baptized with fire.

Matthew 13:38-41

³⁸ *The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;*

³⁹ *The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.*

⁴⁰ *As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.*

⁴¹ *The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;*

⁴² *And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.*

When the first Trumpet sounds those who dwell upon the earth will get their first taste of the fires of God's judgment.

3. The BLOOD mixed with the judgment.

Notice Revelation 8:7 again.

We are not told what this blood is from but see that Joel prophesied about this.

Joel 2:30-31

³⁰ *And I will shew 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 great and terrible day of the LORD come.*

C. The Result of this Judgment.

Notice Revelation 8:7

- 1. One third of the trees are destroyed.**
- 2. All green grass is burned up.**

The GREEN GRASS here would also include all crops which exist within the fields.

Joel 1:15-20

¹⁵ Alas for the day! for the day of the LORD is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.

¹⁶ Is not the meat cut off before our eyes, yea, joy and gladness from the house of our God?

¹⁷ The seed is rotten under their clods, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down; for the corn is withered.

¹⁸ How do the beasts groan! the herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate.

¹⁹ O LORD, to thee will I cry: for the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness, and the flame hath burned all the trees of the field.

²⁰ The beasts of the field cry also unto thee: for the rivers of waters are dried up, and the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

Conclusion:

When we consider all of this combined with the famine of the Seal Judgments we can only imagine how difficult life will be. Then there will be the air quality because of all the smoke from the fires. Now I want to give you something to think about here. Listen to the words of Tony Garland:

"People today are very concerned about saving the environment. Fears about the depletion of the ozone layer, pollution, the destruction of the rain forests, and global warming are constantly in the news. There is a passionate concern to save endangered species, everything from whales to spotted owls to California condors, and a host of lesser-known species. For many, protecting the environment has become far more than a concern for health and safety; it has become an issue of idolatry, as they worship "Mother Nature" by trying to protect and perpetuate the earth. . . . Fallen mankind has failed to recognize and honor God as Creator, choosing instead to make a god out of the earth. But the environmental, evolutionary pantheism that devalues man, elevates animals and plants, and ignores the Creator will be severely judged. "Earth Day" that year will be a gloomy and dismal affair; in a scorched and ravaged world there will be little of the environment left to celebrate."