

"The Trumpet Judgments"

Part 2

Revelation 8:6-9:21

Introduction: We are currently studying the book of Revelation and we are in the prophetic section of this letter which gives to us some of the details of the coming Tribulation period. Last week we started into the trumpet Judgments which are recorded in Revelation 8. In a moment we shall get back to those judgments but before we do there is something which I want to give you to think about.

The Tribulation is referred to in the Bible as The Wrath of God.

Revelation 6:16

¹⁶ And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

¹⁷ For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

The Tribulation is real and the judgments will be literal and it will be a time when the wrath of God will be poured out upon the earth. It is certainly a time of trouble which will far exceed anything which this world has ever seen before.

Zephaniah 1:14-18

¹⁴ The great day of the LORD is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the LORD: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly.

¹⁵ That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness,

¹⁶ A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers.

¹⁷ And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD: and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung.

¹⁸ Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD's wrath; but the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of his jealousy: for he shall make even a speedy riddance of all them that dwell in the land.

Today God is reaching out to you and offering the forgiveness which only comes through Jesus Christ BUT if you reject Jesus Christ and the Rapture happens you will enter this time of Tribulation. Let me show you what the writer of Hebrews says concerning the rejection of Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 10:26-31

²⁶ For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,

²⁷ But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

²⁸ He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:

²⁹ Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

³⁰ For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.

³¹ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Let us now get back to our study of the Trumpet Judgments. Last week we looked at the first Trumpet.

I. Trumpet Judgment #1

Notice Revelation 8:7

This first Trumpet Judgment contained hail and fire mingled with blood and this mixture was cast to the earth. Now last week I shared with you that in the Old Testament the penalty for idolatry was stoning.

Here in this text before us it is God who is stoning those who are involved in idolatry.

Revelation 9:20-21

²⁰ And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:

²¹ Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

The results of the hail and the fire will be devastating. We are told that 1/3 of the trees and ALL GREEN GRASS will be burnt up.

II. Trumpet Judgment #2

Notice Revelation 8:8

When this judgment is poured out there will be something AS A GREAT MOUNTAIN. This is not a mountain but John tells us it is AS A GREAT MOUNTAIN. There are 2 options as to what this might be.

1. It could be a giant meteor.
2. It could be something supernatural.

Whatever it is it will have devastating effects upon the world.

Notice Revelation 8:8-9

There are 3 devastations from this judgment:

1. **One third of the sea is turned into blood.**

There are people who refuse to believe that this will actually happen but it has happened before.

Exodus 7:19

¹⁹ And the LORD spake unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and stretch out thine hand upon the waters of Egypt, upon their streams, upon their rivers, and upon their ponds, and upon all their pools of water, that they may become blood; and that there may be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in vessels of wood, and in vessels of stone.

2. **One third of the aquatic life will die.**

This also happened during the plagues which God brought upon Egypt.

Psalm 105:28-30

²⁸ *He sent darkness, and made it dark; and they rebelled not against his word.*

²⁹ *He turned their waters into blood, **and slew their fish.***

³⁰ *Their land brought forth frogs in abundance, in the chambers of their kings.*

3. One third of the ships will be destroyed.

There are currently about 52,000 ships on the seas today. One third of these would be 17,300 ships.

This judgment will be devastating to the world's economy and food supply. When this large stone like a mountain is cast into the sea the tidal waves will completely destroy the sea ports close to the point of impact and even beyond. The blood and the dead sea creatures will cause a terrible stench to fill the air and the loss of the sea creatures will take away much of the world's food supplies.

This judgment combined with the first Trumpet Judgment will remove much of the world's food. This is God's way of removing those things which man has confidence in which cause man to believe he can live independent of God.

Listen to the words of Mills:

"The price of sin will include the pangs of hunger, for not only will God ensure that the world's food supply is depleted, but He will also ensure that its meager reserves will not be bolstered, and then ensure that man's alternate food source, the sea, will be drastically depleted.

God created the sea to be a blessing to mankind, to provide food, oxygen (much of Earth's oxygen comes from the phytoplankton and algae in the world's oceans), and water from the rainstorms on the land that is originally gathered up by evaporation from the oceans. But people have repaid God's gracious provision with ingratitude and idolatry, revering the sea as the supposed source of their remotest evolutionary ancestors. As He had devastated the land environment, the true God judges the sea."

Let me show you what Isaiah recorded about this day.

Isaiah 2:12-18

¹² *For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low:*

¹³ And upon all the cedars of Lebanon, that are high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan,

¹⁴ And upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills that are lifted up,

¹⁵ And upon every high tower, and upon every fenced wall,

¹⁶ And upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasant pictures [beautiful craft].

¹⁷ And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.

¹⁸ And the idols he shall utterly abolish.

III. Trumpet Judgment #3

Notice Revelation 8:10

The word "STAR" here is the word which we get asteroid from. This GREAT STAR is probably an asteroid and as it comes through the earth's atmosphere it will be ablaze. This STAR will probably be seen by the entire world because these judgments are also for the purpose of turning man to God. This star falls upon the FRESH WATER SUPPLY. It affects one third of the rivers of the world and one third of the fountains or springs of the world.

Notice Revelation 8:11

This star is called WORMWOOD and wormwood was a very bitter substance extracted from roots. This bitterness will pollute one third of the FRESH WATER supply and the results will be that many men will die.

Now let us understand that this is not death from poison but it is death from dehydration. These people will die of thirst. **Man can survive 4-6 weeks without food but the most you can go without water is 10 days.**

In the Bible WORMWOOD is likened to 2 things:

1. Idolatry
2. Fruit of unrighteousness

Both of these will sins will fill the hearts of men in the Tribulation.

Don't miss the fact that men will have opportunities to repent and turn to Christ but many will not do so. They will harden their hearts as they refuse to repent and choose to hold tightly to their sins. They will hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ as preached by the 144,000 Jewish men as well as others but even in the midst of the devastation they will NOT turn to Christ.

Application:

I want to bring some of these thoughts into your life today. As you sit here you may be holding tightly to your sin and you may have never accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior. You know you need to but the time does not seem to be right. You are holding to your sin because you enjoy it and the thought of letting go feels like you will be losing something.

You believe that someday you will repent of your sin and then you will come to God. The problem is that the longer you go the harder your heart becomes and the easier it is to walk away from God's offer of salvation.

Revelation 8 is evidence that many will hear and witness the JUDGMENTS but due to the hardness of their hearts they will die in their sins. Some will die of hunger and some will die of thirst. This seen in Revelation could include you if you miss the rapture.

God has something far better that He offers to you.

Revelation 7:15-17

¹⁵ Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.

¹⁶ They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

¹⁷ For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

This is in contrast to what happens in chapter 8.

Let me show you something that Israel experienced shortly after they came out of Egypt.

Exodus 15:22-25

²² So Moses brought Israel from the Red sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water.

²³ And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah.

²⁴ And the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink?

²⁵ And he cried unto the LORD; and the LORD shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet:

Israel came out of Egypt expecting the journey to be smooth but there were times of barrenness. God led them to this place where the water was bitter to teach them to depend upon Him.

In the same way, as you go through life holding to your sin God often allows you to come to places that are barren. There is no satisfaction and there is a thirst within you. Here in Exodus 15 we are told that God showed the tree to Moses. The tree had been there but Moses was not aware of the tree. He took the tree and cast it into the waters and they became sweet.

Here is a TREE that will sweeten the waters of life for you and that TREE is the CROSS. When you turn to Jesus Christ the CROSS is then applied to your life and everything changes. You are given power over sin and you gain an entirely new perspective on life.

2 Corinthians 5:17

¹⁷ Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

John 4:13-14

¹³ Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again:

¹⁴ But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.