

"After the Rapture"

Part 3

Revelation

Introduction: We have been looking at a series of messages in which we are considering what life will be like on this earth following the Rapture of the church.

1. The Rapture - Definition

To the church of Philadelphia Jesus made a promise.

Revelation 3:10

¹⁰ Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

2. The Unleashing of Evil

2 Thessalonians 2:7-8

⁷ For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

⁸ And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

3. The Seal Judgments

- **Seal #1 - The Anti-Christ**
- **Seal #2 - War**
- **Seal #3 - Famine**
- **Seal #4 - Death**

Notice Revelation 6:7-8

- **Seal #5 - Persecution**

Notice Revelation 6:9-11

- **Seal #6 - Earthly and Cosmic Disturbances**

Notice Revelation 6:12-14

This now brings us to our message today.

4. The Trumpet Judgments

There are three sets of Judgments that will occur in the 7-year Tribulation period. We have looked at the first set and now we have come to the second set. The second set of Judgments are the Trumpet Judgments. These seem to begin at the mid-point of the Tribulation.

Matthew 24:21

²¹ For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Notice Revelation 8:1-2

When the Trumpet Judgments are brought forward all heaven is silenced for one-half and hour. This speaks great volumes about what is about to happen. To silence heaven is to silence all praise offered to God. It is as if all of heaven stops in anticipation of what is about to unfold on the earth. This alone speaks of the severity of the judgments.

➤ **Trumpet #1 - Hail, Fire and Blood.**

As these Judgments begin to fall, we will notice that they are designed to frustrate those who worship "MOTHER NATURE". The first 4 deal directly with the earth.

Listen to the words of a Bible teacher:

"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."

Notice Revelation 8:7

Let us keep in mind these Judgments are to be seen as LITERAL JUDGMENTS. This first trumpet brings a gigantic storm that covers one-third part of the earth. There will be hail, fire and blood which fall from the sky.

The HAIL and the FIRE will destroy much of the vegetation/food that will be relied upon in the midst of the famine which we previously looked at. This will also severely hinder the air supply as one-third of the trees are burned up and ALL GREEN GRASS is burned up. It will also destroy the pasture lands for livestock.

Let us notice what Joel says.

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.

The BLOOD mentioned in this verse makes me think of the slaughter of all the unborn children. Millions have had their blood shed through abortions and now, we see God raining down blood upon the people who have performed the murders.

➤ **Trumpet #2 - Something like a Great Mountain Cast into the Sea**

Notice Revelation 8:8-9

This is "something like a great mountain" THROWN into the sea. Most likely this is a large meteor that comes from outer space. This is thrown into the sea probably by an angel. When this judgment happens, it will cause a third of the waters in the sea to be turned to blood. This then causes a third part of the aquatic life to die.

This will take most of the aquatic food supply because so much comes from the sea. This is the cost of sin. Listen to the words of Mills on this judgment.

"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."

The ships could very well be cargo ships that will be transporting food. Whatever they are one-third of the fleet will be destroyed. Before this the world is devastated by the famine in the Seal Judgments and now, this judgment will make it even more difficult for people to get food.

Let us notice something from the Seal Judgments.

Revelation 6:5-6

⁵ And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand.

⁶ And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.

➤ Trumpet #3 - A Great Star

Notice Revelation 8:10-11

When this Trumpet sounds and this meteor/asteroid falls to the earth, one-third of the fresh water supply will be poisoned, and many people will die. The star is called "Wormwood" which gives us some interesting insight.

Keep in mind these Judgments are focused upon the earth.

Deuteronomy 29:16-18

¹⁶ (For ye know how we have dwelt in the land of Egypt; and how we came through the nations which ye passed by;

¹⁷ And ye have seen their abominations, and their idols, wood and stone, silver and gold, which were among them:)

¹⁸ Lest there should be among you man, or woman, or family, or tribe, whose heart turneth away this day from the LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of these nations; lest there should be among you a root that beareth gall and wormwood;

It is interesting here that God describes idolatry "AS A ROOT BEARING WORMWOOD". These Judgments then are Judgments upon idolatry. The earth dwellers worship the earth and while they reject God, they will trust in the earth for all they need.

Let me show you more evidence of this.

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.*

Here we see that stoning was the punishment for idolatry.

Notice Revelation 8:7-8 again.

The earth dwellers are STONED with hail stones and in the second Trumpet Judgment the large "mountain like" meteor is "CAST" or "THROWN" upon the earth. Again, we see the stoning.

These Judgments then are the results of the idolatry which the earth dwellers are involved in. They will have rejected God and turned to worship idols.

- **Trumpet #4 - The Darkening of the Sun, Moon and Stars.**

Notice Revelation 8:12

When this Judgment happens there will be an increase of darkness on the earth. Let us just say that there are 12 hours of light in the day today. When this happens 4 hours of the light will become darkness. This will most likely be absolute darkness.

Let me show you what God did in Egypt under the plagues.

Exodus 10:21-23

²¹ And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even darkness which may be felt.

²² And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days:

²³ They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days: but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.

God will send an absolute darkness upon the earth dwellers. Isaiah prophesied concerning this darkness.

Isaiah 13:9-11

⁹ Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it.

¹⁰ For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.

¹¹ And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.

Joel also foretold of this darkness.

Joel 2:10-11

¹⁰ The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining:

¹¹ And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?

Now let me show you why He is doing this.

John 3:18-20

¹⁸ He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

Conclusion:

Are you saved?

If not, you need to be saved because if not you may see some of these events personally.

You are a sinner, and your sins **MUST** be paid for. God loves you and He provided a way for your sin debt to be paid.

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.

Ephesians 2:8-9

*8 For by grace are ye saved through **faith**; and that not of yourselves: it is the **gift of God**:*

*9 **Not of works**, lest any man should boast.*