

This is the future – what Jesus says “will take place later.”

Ch. 8

Rev. 8:2-5 – “And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, ...” – Seven angels blow their trumpets to signal the arrival of judgement. What was the trumpet used for in ancient times?

Luke 1:19 – Zechariah was answered by the angel about the pregnancy of his wife Elizabeth and the birth of John the Baptist - “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you...”
One of the angels is possibly Gabriel. Gabriel is used as a messenger of God. ie. (to Daniel, Zechariah, & Mary)

The priestly angel holding the censer burning with incense hurls it to earth initiating the judgement of earth.

Rev. 8:5 – “...and there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake.

What does this sound like to you?

The Seven Trumpets: The seven angels prepared to blow their trumpets.

1. Hail and fire mixed with blood – 1/3 of the earth was burned up, 1/3 of the trees were burned up, and all of the green grass was burned up. Like the fire and hail that rained down on Egypt recorded in Exodus 9. This is an ecological disaster on a global scale. Could this be the same plague?
2. A huge mountain all ablaze thrown into the sea – 1/3 of the sea turned into blood, 1/3 of the sea creatures died, and 1/3 of the ships were destroyed. Could this be a meteorite or volcanic eruption?
3. A blazing star named Wormwood falls from the sky onto 1/3 of the rivers and the springs of water – 1/3 of the waters turn bitter and people die from these waters. Could this be a meteorite or a type of chemical or nuclear warfare?
4. The sun, the moon, and the stars are struck so that 1/3 of them turned dark – The days are cut short. What does that mean?

Mathew 24:21-22 – Jesus says: “For then there will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now – and never to be equaled again. If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened.”

Mark 13:24-25 – Jesus says: “But in those days, following that distress, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.”

Is this a cosmic event that will alter the number of hours in a day?

Ch. 9

5. A star (angel) with a key falls from Heaven to Earth – He unlocks the shaft of the bottomless pit.

Mathew 8:29 – Jesus confronts 2 demon-possessed men - “When he arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. They were so violent that no one could pass that way. “What do you want with us, Son of God?” they shouted. “Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?”

Those without the seal of God are tormented by evil creatures for 5 months but are not killed. What does this time of demonic torture tell you of the last days?

6. 4 death angels bound at the Euphrates are released onto earth – 1/3 of mankind is killed. 200 million troops killing people by the fire and smoke and sulfur coming out of their mouths. Could this be an ancient description of fighter jets and missiles?

In history: The Army of Xerxes of Greece – 1.5 mill. soldiers/The U.S. Army in World War II – 16 mill. soldiers
We do not know who could amass an army of this size in the world. (Possibly China or Muslims?)

The Reaction of the Survivors – Rev. 9:20-21 – “The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshipping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk, nor did they repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.”

What is the key word in this scripture? What does this tell us about our God?

And what does this tell us about your life?