

Sister Shelbia opened our session with a prayer, asking that God would give each person something he wanted them to have in Jesus name. Amen.

While Studying PROVERBS, Pastor Eddie Bone, who used to be the pastor at Libertyville Methodist Church found this 'life application topic' about PRIDE and humility. He shared it with us and I would like to share it with you. *"Pride is arrogance and conceit and manifests itself when we delude ourselves into thinking we operate under our own power. We assume and live as if the world revolves around us instead of our will and way revolving around God. Pride was the downfall of the first man and woman in the Genesis account. Pride always comes before a fall!! On the other hand, humility looks to God, admitting we don't have all the answers or solutions, but we submit to God's will and way knowing God knows best. "This is wisdom and the wise always find joy and lasting fulfillment with God and others." Humility is a wonderful virtue that we can strive for, nurture and enhance as we seek the most excellent way and follow Jesus. Come join us as we seek to follow the Master!!!*

WHEN GABRIEL BLOWS HIS HORN!

Robert Jeffress, Pastor

9-15-21

Conservatives in the media get many things right, but not everything. In fact here is one truth you will never hear from right-wing pendants or conservative news outlets.

And that truth is this: Environmental problems like ozone depletion, rising and falling temperatures, floods; environmental problems in the world are real and they are really the result of human activity. I know what some of you are thinking, Pastor, what have you been smoking? Have you really been watching MSNBC?

How could you make such an outlandish statement that there are environmental problems and they can be traced to human activity?

Because I read my Bible, that's how!

The Bible says in **Genesis 1:2 that God created this world and everything he created was good.**

The animals, the atmosphere, everything, the seas, the rivers, was good.

But then Adam and Eve rebelled against God. And thru that human activity of rebelling against God, sin entered the world and it infected every part of this world including the environment.

Romans 8 says right now nature is groaning in birth pains that waits for the final redemption of the world.

And these wild fires, the changing temperature, everything we are seeing is a result of nature waiting for the return of Jesus Christ.

Yes, environmental problems are the result of human activity, sin; but the greatest threat on the human environment, the greatest result of the world will not come from the hands of mankind.

The greatest assault on the environment is yet to come, and it will come from the hand of Almighty God. And its the event we are going to look at today.

If you have your Bible, turn to Revelation 8 as we discovered whats going to happen to the earth when Gabriel blows his horn.

If you've just joined us in this study, we are in the great tribulation. The rapture of the church has already occurred and believers are in heaven; and we've begun the final 7 years of earths history that will culminate in the literal, visible return of Jesus Christ.

Remember what the tribulation is? Its that 7 year period of time that will begin when the antichrist signs a peace treaty with Israel and 7 years later it will end with the return of Jesus Christ at the climactic battle of Armageddon.

What is the purpose of the tribulation? It is God's judgment on the earth. Specifically, it is for the condemnation of the unbelievers but it is also for the salvation of the elect.

Interestingly, there will be a number of people who will be saved during these 7 years of tribulation. God's purpose is always redemptive in nature and so the 7 years of God's judgments actually come in the form of 3 series of judgments.

First of all there are the seal judgments: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7. (Revelation 6)

Then there are the Trumpet judgments. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7. (Revelation 8:2-11:19)

Then there are the Bowl judgments. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7. (Revelation 16)

What is interesting is that you need to understand these judgments is, the 7 seals judgments actually include all of the trumpet judgments; and the 7 trumpet judgments is actually all of the bowl judgments.

We've already gone thru the first series of judgments in Revelation 6. The seal judgments. We've already looked at 6 of those and they're found in Revelation 6. Remember the first one is the appearance of the antichrist, the world leader, who assumes power (not with any war - but the world turns to him voluntarily because of the chaos on the earth). And we've looked at the other ones - famine, destruction, and the martyrdom of the saints.

Revelation 6:1-17 NLT

[1] As I watched, the Lamb broke the first of the seven seals on the scroll. Then I heard one of the four living beings say with a voice like thunder, "Come!" [2] I looked up and saw a white horse standing there. Its rider carried a bow, and a crown was placed on his head. He rode out to win many battles and gain the victory.

[3] When the Lamb broke the second seal, I heard the second living being say, "Come!" [4] Then another horse appeared, a red one. Its rider was given a mighty sword and the authority to take peace from the earth. And there was war and slaughter everywhere. [5] When the Lamb broke the third seal, I heard the third living being say, "Come!" I looked up and saw a black horse, and its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. [6] And I heard a voice from among the four living beings say, "A loaf of wheat bread or three loaves of barley will cost a day's pay. And don't waste the olive oil and wine." [7] When the Lamb broke the fourth seal, I heard the fourth living being say, "Come!" [8] I looked up and saw a horse whose color was pale green. Its rider was named Death, and his companion was the Grave. These two were given authority over one-fourth of the earth, to kill with the sword and famine and disease and wild animals. [9] When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of all who had been martyred for the word of God and for being faithful in their testimony. [10] They shouted to the Lord and said, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you judge the people who belong to this world and avenge our blood for what they have done to us?" [11] Then a white robe was given to each of them. And they were told to rest a little longer until the full number of their brothers and sisters-their fellow servants of Jesus who were to be martyred-had joined them.

And the sixth seal judgment. Cosmic disturbances - that's Revelation 6.

[12] I watched as the Lamb broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake. The sun became as dark as black cloth, and the moon became as red as blood. [13] Then the stars of the sky fell to the earth like green figs falling from a tree shaken by a strong wind. [14] The sky was rolled up like a scroll, and all of the mountains and islands were moved from their places. [15] Then everyone-the kings of the earth, the rulers, the generals, the wealthy, the powerful, and every slave and free person-all hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains. [16] And they cried to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of the one who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb. [17] For the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to survive?"

Then when we get to chapter 7, John says wait a minute. Before we go forward, I want to share another aspect of the tribulation you need to understand. And that is the 144,000 Jews whom Christ saves and he seals them supernaturally to be Jewish evangelists to go around the world sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. And the result we see in Revelation 7 is that a multitude of Jews and Gentiles will be saved.

Now when we get to Revelation 8 we are ready to remove the 7th seal from the book that will unleash all of the trumpet judgments and all of the bowl judgments that are to come.

Remember the scroll that has all of the judgments written in it. Remember the 7 sealed scroll that we talked about in Revelation 5. In heaven, God the Father gives Jesus the Lamb, that 7 sealed scroll. The book of redemption that contains a description of how this world was lost to satan and it also identifies the terms by which this world will be redeemed and returned to its rightful owner.

And the 7 sealed scroll - and you break 1 seal and a little bit of its revealed. The 2nd seal and a little more is revealed. When we have finished the 6th seal, almost all of the scroll has been revealed. And then notice what happens.

A. Silence in Heaven for half an hour.

Chapter 8:1 When the Lamb (Jesus) broke the 7th seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

1. The breaking of the seventh seal means the scroll is completely opened and everyone in heaven can see all the final judgments on earth. They can see all the trumpet and bowl judgments. And when the heavenly residents see what awaits this earth there is a collective gasp that you will hear in heaven. Its as if everyone in heaven takes their hand and puts it over their mouth. They can't believe what the Lord is about to do to the earth.

Zephaniah 1:7 Hold thy peace at the presence of the Lord GOD: for the day of the LORD is at hand: for the LORD hath prepared a sacrifice, he hath bid his guests.

One writer describes the silence in heaven as 'silence in a courtroom'. When the jury comes back after their deliberation, and the foreman of the jury stands up to announce their verdict and people are silent as they await the verdict.

Someone else has described this as the silence that precedes a thunderstorm or tornado. You know, right before the storm comes the birds quit singing, the insects quit chirping. There's a Erie silence before the storm hits. That's what you have here. There's an Erie silence as everyone waits these judgments.

B. Seven Angels and Seven Trumpets

Chapter 8:2 And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.

Who are these 7 angels that stand before God? We don't know. Its projection. Many people think its the archangels. People like Michael and Gabriel. Special angels who will each be given one of the trumpets to sound.

Trumpets are very important in the Bible.

THE PRIMARY USES OF TRUMPETS IN THE BIBLE

I've listed 5 primary uses of trumpets in the Bible:

-to announce ceremonial processions

-to assemble Israel for war, journeys and special feats (***Numbers 10:9-10 9 And if ye go to war in your land against the enemy that oppresseth you, then ye shall blow an alarm with the trumpets; and ye shall be remembered before the LORD your God, and ye shall be saved from your enemies.***

10 Also in the day of your gladness, and in your solemn days, and in the beginnings of your months, ye shall blow with the trumpets over your burnt offerings, and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; that they may be to you for a memorial before your God: I am the LORD your God.)

-to announce the new year (***Numbers 29:1 And in the seventh month, on the first day of the month, ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work: it is a day of blowing the trumpets unto you.)***

-to regather Israel at the second coming of Christ (***Matthew 24:31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.)***

-there will be a trumpet that announces the rapture of the church

(I Thessalonians 4:16 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)

(I Corinthians 15:51-52 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.)

Believers are going to hear this one day - the blast of the trumpet that announces that rapture of the church.

The trumpet that signifies the beginning of a war. These angels are going to sound the trumpet to announce God's war on planet earth.

C. THE ANGEL WITH A GOLD CENSER

Each one has a trumpet. But before the angel blows the trumpet, another something takes place with the angel who has a golden sensor.

Revelation 8:3-4

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.

You are probably wondering what in the world is this talking about? Remember in the Old Testament temple, there were two altars. One was called the altar of sacrifice, the braisen altar; and it was busy day and night. Priests were continually offering animal sacrifices on that braisen altar.

But there is a second altar, a golden altar called the altar of incense. It was in the holy place. In fact it stood right in front of the veil that separated the holy place from the holy of holy's. That was the altar of incense and the priest would go up and to the burning coals on the altar, he would add incense that would waft its way to heaven signifying how pleasing the aroma was in the nostrils of God.

Now what John sees in heaven is an angel standing before the first altar (Altar of sacrifice) and like the priest would do, use some tongs to remove the burning coals from the altar of sacrifice and placing them in a gold receptacle. This was just a golden receptacle that was on a golden chain. And he would use the tongs and put the coals in the golden sensor and take them to the altar of incense. And he would mix with those burning coals incense. John sees the angel mixing hot coals with the prayers of God's people that are again wafting their way to the presence of God like a fragrant aroma.

The angel gathered the prayers of all the saints. That is he has collected all the prayers of God's people for all time and he is offering them as a sacrifice to God.

You know, this tells us something about the importance of prayer to God. God values the prayers of His saints. God values your prayer. There is not one prayer you offer that goes unnoticed by God. In fact the Bible describes over and over again the fact that Jesus values your prayers as incense, a fragrant aroma to God the Father. And sometimes one of our greatest sacrifices is thru our attitude of prayer. Our prayer is like offering a sacrifice that is pleasing to God.

You say, in what sense is our prayer a sacrifice to God? Christian philosopher Peter Craft puts it this way, He writes, Prayer is a kind of death. Its a rehearsal for death. In praying we die to ourselves, our wills, our ordinary consciousness, our concerns, even our ordinary world and we enter God's world, aligning our minds and will with Gods. We die to our time. We sacrifice our loaves and fishes to Him and He multiplies them.

Isn't that insightful? When we pray not my will but your will be done, we are offering a sacrifice to God.

Listen to me, you may not have 2 nickels to rub together, you may not think you can serve God in any tangible way, Some of you listening on radio or TV - maybe you are in the hospital, maybe you are home bound and you think I have nothing to offer to the Lord, but you have the best gift of all to offer to Him; and that is your prayers. God treasures your prayers and every Christian can pray. That's the picture we see here. But the particular prayers that God sees the angels gathering, are the prayers of the

tribulation saints, who have been praying for relief from the terrible calamity that's been going on for 7 years. And I want you to notice what this angel does. It's really strange. After he has taken the coals and mixed them with incense; and taken them up to the altar of incense. Look at what happens in verse 5.

Revelation 8:5 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 thunders, and lightnings, and an earthquake.

He takes hot coals, he was just at the altar of incense, uses the tongs, puts them back in his censor. He collects the incense (prayers of the saints), puts them back in the censor and he empties that censor (the hot coals) and the prayers on the earth. And what happens after that? Peals of thunder and sounds and flashes of lightning and an earthquake.

The tribulation is in full force at this point. What is the relationship of the prayers of God's saints that have been poured out on the earth? Here is the picture - the great judgment of God against the earth is the result of the prayers of God's people. What have God's people been praying for thousands of years? **THY KINGDOM COME (GOD), THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS ITS BEING DONE IN HEAVEN.**

Christians of every age have been praying for justice. Been praying for an end of suffering. They've been praying for the return of Jesus Christ. That is the prayer of every true Christian. And now the angel is pouring out those prayers on the earth and saying **those prayers are about to be answered.** Lightening is the sign of a thunderstorm. Thundering, the earthquake. These are all the direct result of the prayers of God's people throughout all the ages.

Walter Waite, the theologian said, "The message is clear, history belongs to the intercessors who pray the future into being".

That's what these Christians through the ages have been doing. They have prayed the future, God's future judgment and Christ's future return, into being.

And now we are ready for the sounding of the first 4 of those trumpet judgments.

II. THE SOUNDING OF THE FIRST FOUR TRUMPETS

Revelation 8:6 And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

Something I want to say about the trumpet judgments before we look at the first four of them. You will notice how all 7 of these trumpet judgments closely parallel the plagues God sent against Egypt during the time of Moses. And there's a reason for that.

Remember, Pharaoh hardened himself against God and said, who is this God that I should obey Him? God said, oh I can answer that's for you. He sent those plagues and demonstrated who He was to the hard heart of Pharaoh. In the same way during the final 7 years of earth's history, men and women will be living rebelliously. They will say, who is God that I should submit my will to Him? And God demonstrates the answer to that thru these 7 trumpet judgments. You will notice that the first 4 of these trumpet judgments are against the earth. Against nature, and the final 3 are against mankind.

And people say, well do we take these literally? They are so fantastic...do we take them literal? Well, the plagues against Egypt were literal plagues that resulted in the people's release. There's no reason not to take these literally. Especially with the specificity that we will find in just a moment.

The first 4 trumpet judgments are very short. These are like the staccato verse of the trumpet. They don't take long to unleash. And notice the destruction of the earth is measured in fractions, a third or a fourth. It's not total destruction. Not yet anyway.

Let's look at the first trumpet - fire on earth. Beginning in ***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 the earth was burnt up, and 1/3 of the trees and all green grass was burnt up.***

We don't know if animals will be caught up in this destruction for sure. Dr. Henry Morris, the father of our Henry and John Morris speculates this might be the earth passing thru a meteor shower, but whatever it is, the devastation is real. Notice the results. 1/3 of the earth was burnt up. Can your mind comprehend what it would be like to have 1/3 of the earth burnt up? We've seen the tremendous devastation of Australia. That's localized. Imagine if that were world wide?

A third of the earth was burnt up. Just imagine the draught of having the earth burnt up, the mudslides that's would take place. Not only that, a third of the trees were burnt up.

There's about 3 trillion trees in the world. Imagine a trillion trees, the rain forest being devastated. What that would do to our ecological system. Imagine no wood for construction. Imagine what it would do to animal life. And not only that, but all the green grass is burned up.

Again, later on we're going to see later on that some of the grass is going to be protected. In this trumpet judgments, all of the green grass is going to be destroyed. Think again about the tremendous damage that is going to do to our eco system. Think about losing 1/3 of the green grass in the world. You know as I read about this first trumpet judgment, with the natural world (1/3 of the world) burned up, the trees destroyed, and 1/3 of all marine life killed. Think about all of this ash and smoke going into the atmosphere.

I can't help but think about the current situation in our world regarding the environment. Let me be very clear. I believe we ought to take care of the environment. I think we are stewards of the world that God has given us.

I have no argument with that. Its Biblical.

But today, there seem to be those that have put so much emphasis on the creation they have forgotten the creator.

They are making the same mistake they did in ***Romans 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.***

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Paul says they worship the creature rather than the creator.

25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:

27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,

30 Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,

31 Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

There are people today worshipping the creation instead of the creator.

I read this week, Elizabeth warren said the survival of our planet depends upon the 2020 election. No it doesn't. The survival of our planet depends upon Almighty God.

And the greatest danger this world faces is not what the hands of man do to the environment, the greatest threat to this environment is what the hand of God is going to do to this world.

A. THE FIRST TRUMPET: FIRE ON EARTH

Don't get alarmed by all these people that say we only have 12 years left as a planet if we don't do this or that.

Don't believe any of this *II Peter 3:7 says But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.*

Very clearly the present heavens and earth are being preserved for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. God is preserving this planet for the time he is going to destroy it by fire. And that is not going to happen one second sooner than God has already ordained.

Listen to what the word of God says. And you know its going to be interesting in those final 7 years for people to see - for those who have worshipped the earth and put so much concern in this world, to see God destroy the world.

One of the patterns you see in the old and new testaments is that God loves to destroy idols. An idol is anything you love, you focus on more than God himself. An idol doesn't have to be a figurine. Your career, family, money or be an ideal. Its anything you like more than God. And many times God will destroy that idol thing right before your very eyes. He'll take away that relationship, He'll end that career, He'll consume your money, not because he hates you - because he loves you. He wants you to know that there is only one person worthy of your worship and love; and that's God Himself.

In these final 7 years those that dwell on the earth are going to see the idol they've made of the world and nature. They're gonna see that idol destroyed before their very eyes.

But thats just the beginning. There's a second trumpet and it results in blood in the sea.

THE SECOND TRUMPET:

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 something John says looks like a great mountain coming to earth. He's probably talking about a great asteroid that hits the earth, all assigned by God Himself.

Do you remember 2013 there was a large meteor that went thru the Russian sky? It was measured to be 20-30 times than the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

It can have a devastating result. If you have a large meteor in the atmosphere that strikes the earth, and the Bible says when it hit the sea, a third of the sea became blood. We don't know if He's speaking figuratively or literally. The water turned to blood. Losing a third of all marine life. We don't know what that would look like. Or the lives of human beings that are lost at sea. ***It became like blood; it became blood.*** Again, if these meteors hit, it will result in title waves.

Because of the Iranian tension, our government is concerned about the straight of passage near Iran.

Imagine if 1/3 of the 55,000 merchant ships were destroyed. This would be a major catastrophe for the world.

And then

THE THIRD TRUMPET - CONTAMINATION OF FRESH WATER

Revelation 8:10 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 Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.

The word star doesn't have to mean a literal star. The word can refer to a meteor or asteroid. Some type of heavenly body that breaks up when it enters the atmosphere. But instead of striking the seas, the star is directed to fall on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water. This is an attack on the fresh water

our world enjoys. There are about 165 major rivers along with their contributories. Imagine if 1/3 of those fresh waters were removed from the earth.

The World Health Organization tells us 900,000 people die each year from contaminated drinking water. Imagine what would happen if you lost 1/3 of fresh water supply.

This star has a name. Did you know God has named every star in the universe? If your husband or boy friend tells you he's named a star after you, don't fall for that.

Isn't it amazing that God has named every star, knows the number of hairs on your head. That's the kind of God we serve. *This star is called wormwood.* Wormwood refers to bitter plant. Exodus 15 where the children of Israel came and the water was bitter tasting.

Exodus 15:22 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: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them,

26 And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.

27 And they came to Elim, where were twelve wells of water, and threescore and ten palm trees: and they encamped there by the waters.

And God, thru their prayers, change the bitter into sweet. But this water isn't only bitter tasting, it becomes poisonous and results in the deaths of millions of men, women, and children.

THE FOURTH TRUMPET

And then the fourth judgment. Darkness of the heavenly bodies.

Revelation 8:12

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

Darkness is symbolic of evil and God's judgment. This is literal. The light from sun, moon, and stars is reduced by 8 hours a day. When you look at the first judgment, think of 1/3 of the world being destroyed by fire; ash in the air from volcanic activity. What would this do to block the sun?

Global temps were reduced in 1990, due to the Persian gulf war. As Saddam Hussein was driven out of the Persian gulf, he set the oil wells on fire. It took 9 months to extinguish those fires and the average temp decreased by 20 degrees. That's what we are seeing here. The smoke, ash, and volcanic activity could easily block the sun. Think about the effect the loss of 8 hours of sunlight would have on our eco system and growing food. What would that do to have 16-20 hours of darkness every day. Think about the violence, looting, and things that would happen with that much darkness each day.

God sets against the natural world and yet, the worst is yet to come.

III. THE HEAVENLY WARNING OF WOE

Revelation 8:13 And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!

As I said a moment ago, These final three trumpet judgments will be against man himself. And these are going to result in some of the worst human suffering the world has ever known.

The Bible says its gonna last for 5 months and people who are affected by this judgment will be in such agony and pain that they will cry out to God to be able to die, but God won't allow them to die. Its an

agonizing judgment to come. That word woe is always an announcement of Devine judgment. He didn't say it once, but he said it 3 times.

There are three coming judgments to those who are unfortunate enough to dwell on the earth.

I want you to think about that phrase for just a moment.

To those who dwell on the earth. Whose going to receive those judgments? To those who dwell on the earth. Pastor, that's pretty obvious, talking about people who are living on the earth. That's not all he's talking about here. To dwell on the earth, there are two Greek words used to describe earth dwells.

PAROIKOS - a sojourner, one who lives on earth as a stranger, of Christians whose home is in heaven

Abraham lived in tents and was always ready to go where God sent him. He dwelled on this earth but was focused on the new heaven and earth.

This judgment isn't against those who just geographically live on the earth.

KATOIKO. Refers to the location of our heart. The focus of our life. It refers to people whose whole life and focus is centered around this world. Their family, bank account, entertainment, sports activity's, career; that's all they think about and talk about; and its those that have made this world their home, and are so focused on the temporal they haven't taken care of the gift of Gods forgiveness.

Hebrews 11:9-10

9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Let me ask you an all important question. What is the focus of your life right now. What do you talk about. Think about. Give your energy to? Is it the things of this world or next world. Are you focused on the temporal or are you focused on the eternal? The best indicator of your future eternal destination is your presence focus.