

THE TRUMPET JUDGMENTS

Revelation 8 and 9

INTRODUCTION

LESSON 6: THE SEVEN SEALS (REVELATION 6-7)

Now I watched when the Lamb
opened one of the seven seals,
and I heard one of the four living
creatures say with a voice like
thunder, “Come!”

(Revelation 6:1)



INTRODUCTION

LESSON 6: THE SEVEN SEALS (REVELATION 6-7)

In this study we witness the beginning of God's judgment on earth. The book (scroll) that was at the right hand of God and was received by the Lamb was sealed with seven seals (something like a stamp). One by one, the Lamb opens the seals and, with each opening, a judgment from God is released.



THE 4 HORSEMEN

The opening of the first four seals result in the coming of *the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse*.



THE FIRST SEAL

Revelation 6:2

² And I looked, and behold, a white horse! And its rider had a bow, and a crown was given to him, and he came out conquering, and to conquer.



THE SECOND SEAL

Revelation 6:3-4

³ When he opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, “Come!” ⁴ And out came **another horse, bright red**. Its rider was permitted to take peace from the earth, so that people should slay one another, and he was given a great sword.



THE THIRD SEAL

Revelation 6:5-6

⁵ When he opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, “Come!” And I looked, and behold, **a black horse!** And its rider had a pair of scales in his hand. ⁶ And I heard what seemed to be a voice in the midst of the four living creatures, saying, “A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius, and do not harm the oil and wine!”



THE FOURTH SEAL

Revelation 6:7-8

⁷ When he opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, “Come!” ⁸ And I looked, and behold, a **pale horse**! And its rider's name was Death, and Hades followed him. And they were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by wild beasts of the earth.



THE FIFTH SEAL

Revelation 6:7-8

⁹ When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. ¹⁰ They cried out with a loud voice, “O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?”



THE SIXTH SEAL

Revelation 6:12-17

¹² When he opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, ¹³ and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. ¹⁴ The sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place.

THE SIXTH SEAL

The sixth seal is open and worldwide catastrophes take place: great earthquake, darkness, meteors, tsunamis, etc. This seal brings destruction upon the Earth on a scale never seen before.



THE SEVENTH SEAL

Revelation 8:1-5

¹ When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

With the removal of the seventh seal, the scroll can finally be opened. To highlight the importance of this event, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour! Reverence, awe, and anticipation fill the air. This is the calm before the storm.



THE SEVEN TRUMPETS



Then, seven angels receive seven trumpets (8:2). In the Old Testament, trumpets were used to summon the people to war or to ceremonies, or to warn them of approaching danger. Here in Revelation, these trumpets herald the judgment of God. Yet, before the angels blow these trumpets, another angel presents to God an incense with the prayers of the saints.

THE FIRST TRUMPET

Revelation 8:7 (CEV)

⁷ When the first angel blew his trumpet, hail and fire mixed with blood were thrown down on the earth. A third of the earth, a third of the trees, and a third of all green plants were burned.

At the sound of the first trumpet, hail, fire, and blood fall from the sky and destroy **a third of earth's vegetation.**



THE SECOND TRUMPET

Revelation 8:8-9 (CEV)

⁸ When the second angel blew his trumpet, something like a great fiery mountain was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea turned to blood, ⁹ a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

THE SECOND TRUMPET

When the second trumpet sounds, “something like a great mountain, burning with fire...” (possibly a large meteor) strikes the ocean. As a result, **a third of marine life and ships perish.**



THE THIRD TRUMPET

Revelation 8:10-11 (CEV)

¹⁰ When the third angel blew his trumpet, a great star fell from heaven. It was burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on a third of the springs of water. ¹¹ The name of the star was Bitter (Wormwood), and a third of the water turned bitter. Many people died because the water was so bitter.

THE THIRD TRUMPET

When the third trumpet sounds, a burning star (possibly another meteor, but this one at night) strikes a **third** of the rivers and bodies of fresh water, “and many people died from the water, because it had been made bitter” (poisonous).



THE FOURTH TRUMPET

Revelation 8:12-13 (CEV)

¹² When the fourth angel blew his trumpet, a third of the sun, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars were struck. They each lost a third of their light. So during a third of the day there was no light, and a third of the night was also without light.

With the fourth trumpet, **one third of the celestial bodies become dark**. A third of the day and the night now have no light. Then, an eagle (a divine messenger) flies around the world announcing the impending doom, saying, “Trouble, trouble, trouble to everyone who lives on earth! The other three angels are now going to blow their trumpets.”

THE FOURTH TRUMPET



THE FIFTH TRUMPET

Revelation 9:1-12 (CEV)

¹ When the fifth angel blew his trumpet, I saw a star fall from the sky to earth. It was given the key to the tunnel that leads down to the deep pit. ² As it opened the tunnel, smoke poured out like the smoke of a great furnace. The sun and the air turned dark because of the smoke. ³ Locusts came out of the smoke and covered the earth. They were given the same power that scorpions have.

THE FIFTH TRUMPET

Revelation 9:1-12 (CEV)

⁴ The locusts were told not to harm the grass on the earth or any plant or any tree. They were to punish only those people who did not have God's mark on their foreheads. ⁵ The locusts were allowed to make them suffer for five months, but not to kill them. The suffering they caused was like the sting of a scorpion. ⁶ In those days people will want to die, but they will not be able to. They will hope for death, but it will escape from them.

THE FIFTH TRUMPET

Revelation 9:1-12 (CEV)

⁷ These locusts looked like horses ready for battle. On their heads they wore something like gold crowns, and they had human faces. ⁸ Their hair was like a woman's long hair, and their teeth were like those of a lion. ⁹ On their chests they wore armor made of iron. Their wings roared like an army of horse-drawn chariots rushing into battle. ¹⁰ Their tails were like a scorpion's tail with a stinger that had the power to hurt someone for five months. ¹¹ Their king was the angel in charge of the deep pit. In Hebrew his name was Abaddon, and in Greek it was Apollyon.

THE FIFTH TRUMPET

Revelation 9:1-12 (CEV)

¹² The first horrible thing has now happened! But wait. Two more horrible things will happen soon.



THE FIFTH TRUMPET



When the fifth trumpet blows, a star falls from the sky. This star is satan himself, here called Abaddon (Heb.) and Apollyon (Gr.), or Destroyer (9:11).

THE FIFTH TRUMPET

He opens the pit of the abyss and unleashes an army of locusts, strong as horses and poisonous as scorpions. (9:3-10) These are demonic creatures coming from the depth of Hades to torment for five months those who “do not have God’s mark on their foreheads. (9:4)



THE SIXTH TRUMPET

Revelation 9:13-21 (CEV)

¹³ Then the sixth angel blew his trumpet. I heard a voice speak from the four corners of the gold altar that stands in the presence of God. ¹⁴ The voice spoke to this angel and said, "Release the four angels who are tied up beside the great Euphrates River." ¹⁵ The four angels had been prepared for this very hour and day and month and year. Now they were set free to kill a third of all people.

THE SIXTH TRUMPET

Revelation 9:13-21 (CEV)

¹⁶ By listening, I could tell there were more than two hundred million of these war horses. ¹⁷ In my vision their riders wore fiery-red, dark-blue, and yellow armor on their chests. The heads of the horses looked like lions, with fire and smoke and sulfur coming out of their mouths. ¹⁸ One-third of all people were killed by the three terrible troubles caused by the fire, the smoke, and the sulfur. ¹⁹ The horses had powerful mouths, and their tails were like poisonous snakes that bite and hurt.

THE SIXTH TRUMPET

The sixth trumpet sounds and a demonic cavalry appears led by four angels (fallen, evil angels, that is, demons) who had been trapped together near the Euphrates River. This vast army (200 million strong) is given permission to attack the earth (9:15) and kill a **third of the population.**



PEOPLE'S RESPONSE

Revelation 9:13-21 (CEV)

²⁰ The people who lived through these terrible troubles did not turn away from the idols they had made, and they did not stop **worshiping demons**. They kept on **worshiping idols** that were made of gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood. Not one of these idols could see, hear, or walk. ²¹ No one stopped **murdering** or **practicing witchcraft** or **being immoral** or **stealing**.