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The seventh seal will introduce the Trumpet Judgments.

## Revelation 8

### The Seventh Seal

**1And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. 2And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.**

We have no clear Biblical interpretation of what this silence in heaven is; perhaps a moment to understand what is about to happen to earth and to humanity; we know it involves the pouring out of prayers; whatever the full understanding of the lull is, what follows is not good for the inhabitants of the earth.

**3And 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.**

The censer that is used here carried the prayers of the Saints from earth to Heave and was a sweet fragrance to God.

I saw that one commentator at least made the point that these were the “unanswered prayers” of the Saints. His point was that we saw early those beneath the throne crying out to God to avenge their deaths. Up until now and the beginning of Tribulation that request had been on hold. God was about to support the request now.

***Revelation 6: [10](#)And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?***

**[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.**

We need to take some time to understand the images/  
Types and Shadows of what is being described and why.

First Incense for worship in God’s Temple was made of three rare specific spices and then blended with Frankincense and salt. The spices symbolize either the Truth of God or the prayers of Saints and are always a Sweet Aroma to God.

Placing it on top of a burning coal ignited the incense; the resulting smoke rose upward and smelled quite pleasant according to the Bible filling the Temple of God with the aroma. It was to be done in the Tent of meeting to begin with and then later in the Temple in Jerusalem as part of God's Laws for the nation of Israel.

Incense was burned as an offering to God in the Holy Place, which also had the Table of Show Bread, the Menorah; 7 candles that lit the Holy Place and the table of Incense.

Each of these items according to various commentators independently stood for an aspect of Jesus the Christ. The Table of Show Bread represented Christ as the Bread of Life. The Menorah represented Christ as the Light unto the World and the Alter of Incense stood for His sweet fragrance of Mercy and Grace through His Blood on the Cross. From time to time the Priest, in accordance with the law, would put blood on the horns at each corner of the Alter of Incense, this blood was from an animal sacrificed on the Alter of Burnt Offerings and of course represented the atoning Blood of Christ.

Once a year the High Priest on the Day of Atonement would take blood from the animal sacrificed on the Alter of Burnt

Offerings, and a scepter with burning Incense and enter the Holy of Holy where the Arch of the Covenant was concealed behind the veil. The incense smoke would act as a cloud within the Holy of Holies and protect the High Priest from the presence of God. While there the High Priest would sprinkle blood on the Arch as atonement for the sins of Israel.

**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 thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.

Now God is going to send the censor back to earth, but it will be directed at those who have rejected God. It will carry fire and destruction back to mankind. Probation on earth is over; it is now time for God's Judgment.

The numbers we will see in this chapter except for counting angels from 1-7, will either be the whole number **(7)** or the fraction of **1/3** which implies or uses two whole numbers to depict a portion or part of something. The number **1 implies unity**, and the **number three Biblically implies the Trinity**. So, one third may be considered as **Unity within the Trinity** as to bringing about these catastrophic events.

Mathematically, if you convert a fraction of 1/3 to find its decimal equivocal you will come up with an infinite number

of (3's) shown as a decimal .333333 continuing ad-nauseum: referencing the infinity of the Trinity.

Seven (7) Biblically implies the completeness of God. God completed His creation in 6 days and on the 7<sup>th</sup> day He rested. We find 7 seals, 7 trumpets and 7 vials. There are many examples of how God used 7 to show something completed or finished.

### **The First Four Trumpets**

**6And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.**

Why Seven; most commentators believe that seven is the completeness of God so Seven Trumpet's will be used to bring about a completion of some aspect of the end times. The 7 Seals and coming 7 Trumpets and 7 Vials will each in their own way bring about a finishing or complete again some aspect of God's final judgment on earth until the end of the Tribulation period.

**7The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.**

Earlier we had seen that God had protected the earth from His wrath.

***Revelation 7:3* Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.**

Now that the servants of God have been sealed it is time for all the earth to feel the Wrath of God. In a way the earth, not being a living creature, but still under the Creative Hand of God is a bit of an innocent bystander to what man has done. Satan has used the earth and spoiled its majesty just like he did to mankind so cleansing needs to occur. This cleansing will in part be physical, burning, destruction; reorganizing and it will be a sign to mankind that the power of God extends to all His creation. There is no mountain, no ocean, no river nor prairie that is beyond the Creators touch and control.

A third part of the tress and all the grass was burned up.

***In Genesis 1: 11* And God said, **Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, [and] the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed [is] in itself, upon the earth: and it was so. 12** And the earth brought forth grass, [and] herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed [was] in itself, after his kind: and God saw that [it was] good. 13 And the evening and the morning were the third day.**

My sense is that God has a level of devotion to His creation right down to the sands on the seashore; and it must be

painful for Him to have to destroy so much of what He created. Satan took vengeance on God and tried to destroy God's creation from the earth to God's most precious creation man by perverting God's intended uses.

The immensity of it all, when we consider the Cost that God had to pay to get back what was rightfully His is staggering. So, it is not hard at all to see the fierce anger that has been stored up toward those who would steal, destroy, and pervert God's pure love and effort. And remember this is just the first of the angel's trumpet judgments.

**8And 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;**  
**9And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed.**

Regardless of whether it is the trees and grasses or the seas themselves in God's creation there was a balance a give and take within the creation. The seas among other things provide for decaying of bio matter giving off CO<sub>2</sub>. CO<sub>2</sub> is critical to the existence of all living green life and life in general. Trees, grasses, any growing plant takes in CO<sub>2</sub> and in return gives off O<sub>2</sub> or oxygen. O<sub>2</sub> is somewhat helpful to mankind and animals. God designed our bodies not to only

use O<sub>2</sub> but to give off with every exhale, CO<sub>2</sub>, so the cycle continues as God designed.

But now God is going to pour out His Wrath upon all flesh on the earth and one of the mechanisms is to interrupt His design of a symbiotic relationship between the earth and mankind. If the Oxygen is reduced and CO<sub>2</sub> is reduced catastrophic biological disaster is in order. Quite the opposite of what the left teaches. Their mantra is that increasing CO<sub>2</sub> is a bad thing. Within God's design it is a needed set of elements for life to continue and thrive.

It is interesting that God does not say that the sea became as blood but instead said that the sea became blood. Blood is a rather useful part of animal and human existence and as long as the blood stays in its designed channels all is well. However, if blood escapes the God designed container it quickly putrefies and changes to almost a sludge, to say nothing of what happens to the former possessor of said blood.

What is blood made of? This from Khan Academy

***Blood**, by definition, is a fluid that moves through the vessels of a circulatory system. In humans, it includes plasma (the liquid portion), blood cells*

*(which come in both red and white varieties), and cell fragments called platelets.*

- **Plasma** is the main component of blood and consists **mostly of water**, with proteins, ions, nutrients, and wastes mixed in.
- **Red blood cells** are responsible for carrying **oxygen and carbon dioxide**.
- **Platelets** are responsible for blood clotting.
- **White blood cells** are part of the immune system and function in immune response.

*Cells and platelets make up about 45%percent of human blood, while plasma makes up the other 55%percent.*

Interestingly our blood is predominately made up of water, suspiciously just like the earth which is predominately water as well. How that all plays into the changing of water to blood I do not know, but God does. Changing water into blood is not without precedent.

***Exodus 7: 19 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Take your rod and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their streams, over their rivers, over their ponds, and over all their pools of water, that they may become blood. And there shall be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in buckets of wood and pitchers of stone.’ ” 20 And Moses and Aaron did so, just as the Lord commanded. So he lifted up the rod and struck the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants. And all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood. 21 The fish that were in the river died, the river stank, and the***

***Egyptians could not drink the water of the river. So there was blood throughout all the land of Egypt.***

Don't doubt God He can do this with a single thought. The smell would be atrocious, not only from the blood that would decompose but the rotting flesh of the creatures of the sea that died as well.

**10And 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; 11And 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.**

Wormwood is used actually a number of places in the Bible and always seems to reflect a bitterness or bad taste.

Wormwood is also a plant and has been used for medicinal purposes over the years.

A good deal has been made about the Russian Nuclear plant that went critical and exploded in 1986. The cause of the meltdown of Unit 4 was a loss of cooling water during a test. I have read several accounts and all point to a system that was being run by a scientist with a focus on electrical generators and not nuclear power plants. Associated with that was the Russian equivalent of a higher arch that does

not take “no” for an answer. For a Nuclear Power Operator to tell the head of the test “no” was a sure way to being terminated with extreme prejudice. So, with no one with enough courage to say “No” they did things that they were pretty sure were not good. The result was the loss of 30 operators and fire fighters initially. Anatoly Dyatlov was the engineer in charge and designer of the test. It was reported that he was short tempered, ill-mannered and demanding. Those are outstanding attributes for a guy in charge of a nuclear power plant.

He survived but was convicted of mismanagement and sentenced to 10 years in prison. He was out in 5 years but took enough RADs to kill 50% of the people that get hit with that many RAD's within 30 days. He survived until 1995 when he died of heart failure.

The point being the name Chernobyl has been said to be the Ukrainian word for “wormwood”. I am not fluent in Russian or Ukrainian and am barely fluent in English, however the spelling of the Ukrainian word Wormwood and the Proper name “Chernobyl” are strikingly similar. So many commentators have pointed out the coincidence of this tragic

event, which still produces ongoing contamination problems today 32 years later.

It may be that we have put too much emphasis on the Chernobyl incident and not enough emphasis on what God says will cause this “wormwood” outcome. God declares that it will be a star and that word can also be considered a meteorite that will fall to earth and bring about this event. Secondly in today’s economy of life and not to be callas but 30 people killed does not make even a headline. Last weekend in Chicago 73 people were shot and 10 died and hardly a ripple in the news. No, the loss of life from this will be staggering in our current economy.

The Chernobyl incident does have long-range effects but even at its wildest damage profile it hardly affected a third of all rivers and fountains of waters. So, I believe it will be a meteorite striking the earth.

There have been many meteors strikes on the earth most will little affect. However, when meteors enter our atmosphere, they pick up two legs of the triangle of fire. The meteor itself is the fuel but lacks oxygen and heat to burn. Once it enters our atmosphere that is rich in oxygen the

speed of the meteor creates friction and causes heat a lot of heat. Mixing with oxygen you then have fire.

*“However, asteroids with a diameter of **20 m (66 ft)**, and which strike Earth approximately **twice every century**, produce more powerful airbursts. The 2013 [Chelyabinsk meteor](#) was estimated to be about 20 m (66 feet) in diameter with an airburst of around 500 kilotons, an explosion 30 times the one over [Hiroshima](#).”* source Wikipedia

*“On the afternoon of Sept. 15, 2007, residents of a village near [Lake Titicaca](#) in southern [Peru](#) heard a loud roaring noise and looked up to see a ball of [fire](#) blazing through the sky. The object struck the earth, creating a loud noise, shaking the ground and launching debris as far as 250 meters away from the impact site [source: [National Geographic News](#)]. The event resulted in a crater measuring about 16 feet deep and 55 feet across [source: [Living in Peru](#)]. The impact of the object registered a 1.5 on the Richter scale [source: [AP](#)].”*

*But before scientists could determine what happened, hundreds of local residents became sick. Up to 600 people in the area became ill, some of them after venturing to the site of the crater [source: [Living in Peru](#)]. Some of those who were ill said they felt nauseated, were vomiting and had headaches.*

God declares that many will die due to the events surrounding this Wormwood event. I believe it is yet to come.

Three Angels completed their missions four more to go.

Remember John is seeing these things happen; it goes to the theory of “already, not yet” from God’s perspective these

have already occurred He has declared them and has shown His servant John the events; from our vantage point they are yet to occur, to us they are prophetic.

**12And 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.**

This term “third part” or in our vocabulary  $1/3^{\text{rd}}$  is used several times here and throughout the Bible with no clear understanding of it other than it means  $1/3$  or a fraction of a whole in man’s mathematics. So, the reference appears to mean  $1/3$  of the suns ability to make sun light as it strikes the earth,  $1/3$  of the moon as it is seen from earth and a third of the stars were unable to be seen.

There are several ways to think of this; one would be the sun’s emitting power of heat and light is reduced by a third or something sits between the sun and earth cutting a third of the light and heat that the sun is still generating. We know that the moon is only visible due to the sun’s reflecting from the moon’s surface and the same is true with a large part of the visible universe, what we call stars.

There may be confusion on our part as to what God means by “star”. Stars make their own light, while other sky objects reflect light; like the moon, planets, asteroids, natural satellites, and comets shine by light reflected from the sun.

Here again, if the sun is somehow blocked by something and its power emissions are encumbered then it would be the same as reducing its effect by a portion or a fraction. That portion or fraction is described by God to be 1/3<sup>rd</sup>.

I think the answer or the cause and effect is found in verse 7 of this chapter;

***7The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.***

With the emissions of huge quantities of smoke and debris from a third of the plants, trees and all of the grass being burned it is quite likely that the resultant degradation of visible light and heat would be reduced by the same amount.

We can see the effects right here in Libby with fires that have been burning all across the NW the reduction of light by the smoke. We saw a more dramatic example when Mt St. Helen’s erupted throwing hundreds of thousands of tons

of particles into the atmosphere causing the sun's light to be extinguished completely.

**13And 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!**

It is hard to conceive but it seems as if the first four trumpets were warning signs to those who are alive on the earth.

When God uses any word more than once in a row it is of significant and immense proportion. Woe, woe, woe.

**Transliteration:** ouai

**Phonetic Spelling:** (oo-ah'-ee)

**Definition:** woe!, alas!, uttered in grief or denunciation.

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