

A BIBLE PROPHECY ADVENTURE **REVELATION SEMINARS**



REVELATION'S PAGEANT OF CONQUEST AND DEFEAT

Jesus has given us in Revelation a unique three-fold view of history from apostolic days until the end of time. These three views are given in the: 1. SEVEN CHURCHES, 2. SEVEN SEALS, and the 3. SEVEN TRUMPETS.

In the messages to the SEVEN CHURCHES (Lesson #5), Jesus unfolds the RELIGIOUS HISTORY of the Christian era. He points out His people's faults and promises the victory to overcome. He makes it clear that his church is very precious to Him and that it will come through triumphantly.

The SEVEN SEALS (Lesson 9), unfold the SOCIAL HISTORY of the Christian era and trace especially the great apostasy. The seals comfort God's people by pointing out that God is in control of history and that He will bring an end to sin and suffering.

The SEVEN TRUMPETS, which we study today, depict the MILITARY HISTORY of the Christian era as it affects the church. They present Revelation's pageant of conquest and defeat.

FIRST, the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th trumpets portray the breakup of the original Roman Empire (both east and west) in symbols that are astonishing in their detail. In symbolic language, we see the barbaric tribes which carved up the Pagan Roman Empire and prepared the way for the Papal Roman Empire. Both Daniel and John (in Revelation) prophesied that this religious power would rule and persecute Bible-believing Christians for 1260 years.

SECOND, the 5th and 6th trumpets picture the onslaughts of the Mohammedan tribes, under their various leaders, which gave rise to another religious power that warred against Christianity.

THIRD, the 7th trumpet presents the final period of time, when God's last day church gives the everlasting gospel and the Three Angels' Messages of Revelation 14:6-10 (1815) to the entire world, (Lesson 18).

The trumpets finally culminate in that great final battle of Armageddon which ushers in the second coming of Jesus and brings an end to sin.

BEFORE BEGINNING THIS LESSON, PLEASE READ REVELATION, CHAPTERS 8,9 AND 11:14-19. THEN CAREFULLY REVIEW EXHIBIT #1 WHICH EXPLAINS THE SYMBOLS OF CHAPTER 8. WE WILL NOT EXPLAIN SYMBOLS IN THE MAIN BODY OF THE LESSON SO YOUR STUDY OF EXHIBIT #1 IS CRUCIAL. KEEP THE EXHIBIT ON HAND AS YOU STUDY FOR READY REFERENCE.

CLIMAX OF WORLD HISTORY

1. The "silence in heaven" of Revelation 8:1 (1808) takes place at the coming of Jesus (see Lesson 9). Verses 2-5 give a view inside the sanctuary. Is this sanctuary on earth or in heaven? Revelation 8:3 (1808)

Ans: "The golden altar which was before the _____".

NOTE: The throne is in heaven. Revelation 8:1-5 (1808) is really a continuation of chapter 6 of Revelation, and is thus part of the closing events of earth's history as portrayed in the sixth and seventh seals.

2. Where did the angel cast the censer filled with fire? Revelation 8:5 (1808)

Ans: "The angel . . . cast it into the _____".

NOTE: Casting the censer to the earth signifies that the judgment, which is now in progress in heaven, has closed. The voices, thunderings, lightnings and earthquake take place at Jesus' coming, Revelation 16:17,18 (1817); 6:14-17 (1807). Now, let us study prophetic history that leads up to this great event.

The WINDS of WAR, under the 7 trumpets give rise to major religious powers that OPPOSE GOD'S PEOPLE. Here we find DANIELS PROPHECY concerning the fall and division of Pagan Rome COMING TO PASS UNDER THE FIRST, SECOND, THIRD and FOURTH TRUMPETS. Brutal attacks by the OSTROGOTHS (Goths), VANDALS, HERULI and HUNS FULFILLED this prophecy of Daniel 7. See Lesson 12, Exhibit # 2.

MILITARY CONQUESTS DESTROY ROME

3. What was cast upon the earth when the FIRST TRUMPET sounded? Revelation 8:7 (1808)

Ans: "Hail and _____ mingled with _____".

NOTE: Most Bible commentators agree that the hail, fire and blood represent the savage attack upon Rome by the GOTHs under their ruthless leader ALARIC. They came like a hail storm with massacre, arson and cruel oppression. Family members were separated and people were treated with brutality as the hordes swept over Greece, Asia Minor, Italy, Spain and southern France. The city of Rome was invaded and ravaged for six days in 410 A.D.



The destruction
was like
hail and
fire mingled
with blood.

4. The trees of Revelation 8:7 (1808) represent God's people. What happened to them?

Ans: "The third part of the _____ was _____ up".

NOTE: Trees being burned up represent severe persecution upon and mass destruction of God's people. Grass also refers to God's people. The burnt grass refers to the desolation and difficult times that came to them.

5. A mountain represents a nation or kingdom, (see Exhibit #1). When the nation of the SECOND TRUMPET was cast into the sea, what happened? Revelation 8:8 (1809)

Ans: "The third part of the sea became _____".

NOTE: Blood refers to the bloodiness of their onslaughts. This fiery mountain represents the VANDALS under their leader GENSERIC. The "ships" of verse 9 (1809) indicate that the power was a maritime power which, indeed it was. Their ships controlled the Mediterranean. At one time these pirates destroyed 1,110 Roman ships in one night. On land they pillaged and plundered. The word VANDAL comes from their exploits. They ravaged the city of Rome for 14 days in 455 A.D. taking 1,000 captives, including the Empress and her daughters.

6. How many sea creatures and ships were affected when the Vandals struck? Revelation 8:9 (1809)

Ans: "The _____ part"

NOTE: "Creatures . . . in the sea" and "ships" refer to the sea of humanity and their possessions. "The third part" means that a sizeable portion of people and their possessions were wiped out. See Exhibit #1.

7. What fell from heaven when the THIRD TRUMPET sounded? Revelation 8:10 (1809)

Ans: "A great _____, burning as it were a _____".

NOTE: This flaming meteor represents ATTILA, the leader of the HUNS. His troops devastated and occupied Europe from the Volga river to the Danube. They killed or forced survivors to pay large indemnities. Attila called himself the SCOURGE OF GOD and boasted that the grass never grew where his horses trod. His warriors scarred their faces to add terror to their appearance. Once his warriors, on horseback, trampled 200 young ladies to death and left their bodies for the vultures. The word HUN is still a synonym for plunder and pillaging.

8. What was the star called? Revelation 8:11 (1809)

Ans: "The star is called _____".

NOTE: WORMWOOD means BITTERNESS and it represents the bitter, cruel and heartless onslaughts of the Huns which resulted in the death of many people.

9. When the FOURTH TRUMPET sounded, what was smitten and became dark? Revelation 8:12 (1809)

Ans: "A third part of the _____, _____ and _____".

NOTE: Some say the sun, moon and stars refer to the Roman emperors, senators and consuls who were either destroyed or hindered from doing their work effectively. However, they also symbolize the light of the gospel which was darkened during this onslaught. See Exhibit #1.

10. What power was it that darkened the sun, moon and stars under the fourth trumpet? (see note below)

Ans: _____

NOTE: The fourth trumpet power is the barbaric HERULI led by their king ODOACER. He deposed Romulus, the Roman emperor, and abolished the Roman empire of the west. Rome surrendered to him in 476 A.D. Government officials (sun, moon and stars) were unseated as pointed out in the note under question 9. Rome, shortly after this, was broken up into the ten kingdoms that became modern Europe. The attacks upon Pagan Rome during the first four trumpets led to the demise of that proud empire which had murdered untold thousands of God's people.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT **THREE** OF THE **FOUR** BARBARIC POWERS PICTURED UNDER THE FIRST FOUR TRUMPETS, WERE UPROOTED AND DESTROYED BY THE LITTLE HORN POWER OF DANIEL 7. THEY WERE THE **VANDALS, OSTROGOTHS (GOTHS) AND HERULI**, (SEE EXHIBIT #2, LESSON 12). THE LITTLE HORN, **PAPAL ROME**, EMERGED AS **PAGAN ROME** WAS BEING DESTROYED. THUS THE PAPACY WAS ESTABLISHED. THE PAPACY IS ALSO IDENTIFIED AS THE BEAST OF REVELATION 13 WHICH HAS A MARK, (SEE LESSON 19). IT ESTABLISHED A COUNTERFEIT DAY OF WORSHIP AND ELEVATED TRADITION ABOVE THE HOLY BIBLE.

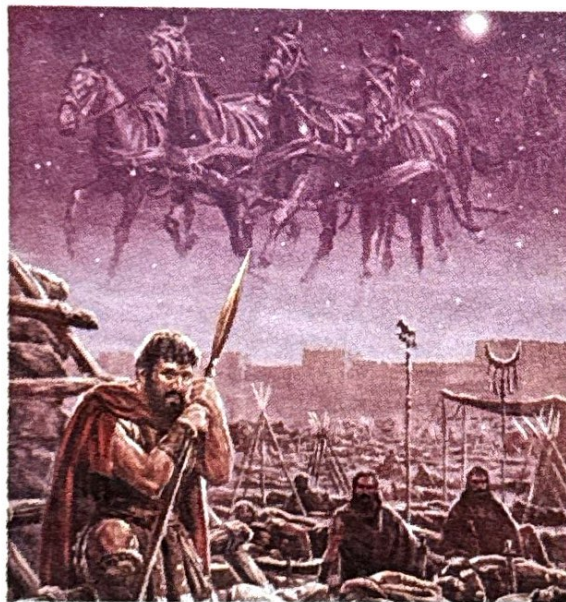
BEFORE PROCEEDING, STUDY THE SYMBOLS OF CHAPTER 9. SEE EXHIBIT #2.

MOHAMMEDANISM'S BLOODY CONQUESTS

11. The last three TRUMPETS ARE ALSO CALLED WOES because they are so extensive and devastating. When the 5th trumpet sounded (first woe) a star fell to earth and was given the key to something. What was the key to? Revelation 9:1 (1809)

Ans: "The_____of the bottomless_____".

NOTE: The bottomless pit here represents the vast wastes of the Arabian and Sahara deserts from whence the warriors of this trumpet came. See Exhibit #2.



**Warriors
from the
desert
bring the
first and
second
woes.**

12. The warriors are represented by what insect? Revelation 9:3,7 (1809)

Ans: "And there came out of the smoke_____".

NOTE: LOCUSTS represent the Arabs or SARACENS, (see Exhibit #2). The "star" of verse 1 represents MOHAMMED whose religion of ISLAM formed the basis for welding these desert nomads into a mighty war machine which in a few years

conquered Persia, Syria, Egypt, Africa and Spain. The SARACENS converted two-thirds of the Christians of Africa and Asia to ISLAM. They brought in a false Sabbath (Friday); a false prophet (Mohammed); and a counterfeit Bible (the Koran). They reject Jesus as the Messiah and teach righteousness by works. So effective was their religious persuasion that they threatened to obscure the light of the gospel. Their onslaughts were largely against Eastern Rome.

- 13. How long were the Saracens given power to hurt and torment people? Revelation 9:5,10 (1809)**

Ans: _____

NOTE: For hundreds of years the Mohammedan tribes were nomadic with little organization. Near the close of the 13th century Othman welded them together and formed the Ottoman Empire. The **five months** are 150 years prophetic time ($5 \times 30 = 150$). The 150 years **began** on July 27, 1299 A.D., when Ottoman invaded Nicomedia and **ended** on July 27, 1449 A.D. By this date, the Empire had attained such power that the Greek Emperor Constantine had to ask its permission before mounting the throne. This 150-year period helps anchor this prophecy.

- 14. The sixth trumpet (second woe) symbolizes the Ottoman Empire whose Turks overthrew the Eastern Roman Empire. Who did the angel of the sixth trumpet set loose? Revelation 9:14 (1810)**

Ans: "The four _____ ... bound in the ... river Euphrates".

NOTE: Revelation 7:1 (1807) tells us that four angels are holding back the winds of war and strife from the earth. Doubtless, angels have controlled war through the centuries. Here they turn lose the Ottoman Empire to permit her to go to war successfully. In a secondary sense the four angels apply to the four leading sultanies (kingdoms) of the empire. The Euphrates [water — Revelation 17:15 (1819)] is a symbol of the people of the empire. Study Exhibit #2.

- 15. For how long was the Ottoman empire to continue? Revelation 9:15 (1810)**

Ans: An _____, day, _____, and year.

NOTE: This is 391 years and 15 days prophetic time. See Exhibit #2. The empire was established as of July 27, 1449. Adding the 391 years and 15 days would reach to August 11, 1840. Based on this calculation Josiah Litch, an American clergyman, predicted in 1838 that the Ottoman Empire would lose power on August 11, 1840. Egypt was threatening Turkey and was well able to conquer her. Hopeless and helpless, Turkey appealed to the European nations which agreed to

protect her. The ultimatum they sent to Egypt arrived on the dot — August 11, 1840. Turkey was finished. From then on, Turkey was called **THE SICK MAN OF THE EAST**. Infidels who had laughed at Litch's audacity were so impressed that over 1,000 of them wrote him of their conversion to Christianity. The Turks, incidentally, brought the Eastern Roman Empire to an end. Islam, the Turkish religion, now numbers adherents in the hundreds of millions and its followers are among the most difficult to reach with the gospel.



**Jesus
ministers
for us in
Heaven.**

GOD'S TRUE CHURCH APPEARS

As the 6th trumpet finished its message and the 7th began to sound, a special religious movement arose (Lesson 16), called by God as His **REMNANT CHURCH** to give a positive three fold message **TO ALL THE WORLD** before Jesus returns, Rev. 14:6-14 (1815). **THREE TIMES** God repeats significant events to happen during the 7th trumpet which sounds until the end of the world, Rev. 11:15-17; 11:18; 11:19 (1812).

16. What apartment of the heavenly sanctuary does verse 19 take us into?

Ans: "And there was seen . . . the _____ of His testament".

NOTE: The ark is in the second apartment of the heavenly sanctuary. Here is a view into the Most Holy Place of the heavenly sanctuary where the judgment, which began in 1844, is in session. See Lesson 14.

17. Revelation 11:18 gives us a dramatic view of events from our day through the final destruction of the wicked. Note the steps:

- a. "Nations were angry" — World Conditions Today.
- b. "Thy wrath is come" — 7 last plagues/Armageddon (Revelation 16); Overthrow of all earthly powers by Jesus
- c. Judgment of the dead — During the 1000 years (Revelation 20)
- d. Reward saints/destroy— Fire or heaven at close of earth's destroyers 1000 years (see Lessons 7,15)

AT THIS POINT, CAREFULLY REVIEW EXHIBIT #3 BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH LESSON.

18. Obviously, we are living in momentous, exciting and most solemn hours — just moments, as it were, before the Lord's return. What if it were today? Are you ready?

Ans: _____

19. Have you made your salvation certain? The most dangerous thing a person can do is to delay. WAIT is the fatal word that will doom millions. To delay seems so innocent but nothing is more dangerous. Jesus is waiting for you to ask Him into your life. Will you say "yes" to Him today?

Ans: _____

