

Questions About Why Trumpets Are Connected to the Three Woes

By Pastor Ed Anderson

Why are the trumpets connected to the three woes? Is it because of the impact on Satan or the impact on God's people?

Answer:

Excellent question — and a very deep one. The connection between the **Trumpets** and the **Three Woes** in the book of **Revelation** is not arbitrary. It reveals a prophetic progression of judgment, spiritual warning, and cosmic conflict. Here's a clear breakdown of how they are connected and why:

THE SEVEN TRUMPETS & THE THREE WOES

Revelation 8–11 introduces seven trumpets, which are symbolic blasts announcing divine interventions in history, especially in judgment. Within these seven trumpets, **three are labeled as “woes”** due to their **extraordinary severity and spiritual consequences**.

“And I looked, and I heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, ‘**Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth**, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!’”

— *Revelation 8:13*

These three “woes” are **the 5th, 6th, and 7th trumpets**.

WHY ARE THESE THREE TRUMPETS CALLED WOES?

1. The “Woe” Designation Points to Spiritual Impact

While all trumpets bring judgment, the last three are called “woes” because:

- They affect **human hearts and salvation**, not just physical kingdoms.
- They involve **demonic deception, spiritual darkness, and eternal consequences**.

- They are **direct assaults on the truth of God and His people.**

THE THREE WOES AND THEIR TARGETS

Trumpet	Woe #	Description	Who is Impacted Most	Spiritual Meaning
5th Trumpet	1st Woe	Demonic locusts torment humanity	Unsealed people	False religion, deception
6th Trumpet	2nd Woe	Massive war and death	Humanity broadly	Judgment on corrupted powers
7th Trumpet	3rd Woe	Christ's kingdom declared	Beast powers and Satan	Final judgment & victory of God

WHY IS THIS A WOE TO SATAN?

- **Each woe unravels Satan's strongholds.**
- 1st Woe: Exposes and judges **spiritual darkness** (Islamic conquest in historicist view).
- 2nd Woe: Unleashes conflict that **destabilizes false religious systems** (fall of Ottoman Empire).
- 3rd Woe: Begins **heavenly judgment** and ends in **Satan's final destruction.**

So yes — the **woes are woes to Satan** because they **weaken his influence, expose his lies**, and ultimately lead to his downfall. They are also woes to **those who refuse to repent**, clinging to his deceptions.

Why Are These Also Woes to the Inhabitants of Earth?

Because these judgments:

- Shake human systems we trust in.
- Strip away false security.
- Force us to choose allegiance: **God or the beast.**

But they are also **calls to mercy** — God allows these to awaken hearts before it's too late.

Good News for God's People:

While the Trumpets sound judgments, **God's sealed people are protected** (see Revelation 9:4; 7:1–3). The woes are not to terrify the faithful but to:

- Reveal God's justice.
- Show His protection.
- Announce that **the kingdom of Christ is near** (Revelation 11:15).

Summary: Why the Trumpets Are Connected to the Woes

- **Because of their intensity** — they mark a **deepening of judgment** and a **final showdown** between good and evil.
- **Because of their spiritual consequences** — they **strike at Satan's systems**, not just human empires.
- **Because of their eternal weight** — they push each soul to make a final decision: **Truth or deception, Jesus or the beast.**