

Questions About the Sequence of Seven Trumpets and Seven Plagues

By Pastor Ed Anderson

Do the seventh trumpets sound first than followed by the seven last plagues? Or do they occur along side of each other at same time?

Answer:

Excellent and important question.

Short Answer:

Yes — the **Seventh Trumpet sounds before** the **Seven Last Plagues** begin. They do **not occur at the exact same time**, but the Seventh Trumpet *ushers in* the final phase of God's judgment, which includes the Seven Last Plagues.

Biblical Timeline Overview:

Let's break it down with biblical clarity:

1. The Seventh Trumpet – Revelation 11:15–19

"Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, 'The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!'" (Revelation 11:15)

- This trumpet marks the **announcement of Christ's reign**.
- It is not the Second Coming itself — but it **signals that it is near**.
- The text then references:
- **God's wrath beginning** (v. 18)
- The **temple in heaven being opened** (v. 19)
- **Lightning, earthquake, thunder** — similar signs shown again during the plagues

This is **heaven's declaration** that the final phase of God's judgment has begun.

2. The Seven Last Plagues – Revelation 15–16

After the Seventh Trumpet sounds:

- The **heavenly temple is opened** (Rev. 15:5)
- Seven angels are given the **bowls of wrath**
- Revelation 16 details each of the **seven last plagues**

“Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels ‘Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth.’” (Revelation 16:1)

So the **Seventh Trumpet precedes the Seven Last Plagues** — the plagues are a **consequence** of what the trumpet announces: God’s kingdom is being established, and the last judgments are being released.

Do They Overlap?

There may be **some overlap**, especially in terms of global chaos, judgment, and intensity.

But **sequentially**, this is the order:

1. **Trumpets 1–6**: Partial judgments to awaken people to repent
2. **Interlude (Rev 10–11)**: God’s remnant work, final warnings
3. **Seventh Trumpet (Rev 11:15)**: Heaven declares the time has come
4. **Preparation (Rev 12–14)**: Conflict and choice between Beast and Lamb
5. **Seven Last Plagues (Rev 15–16)**: Full wrath poured out — **no more mercy**
6. **Second Coming (Rev 19)**: Jesus returns as King of Kings

Prophetic Insight:

- The **Trumpets** are like **alarm bells** during probation time — warnings.
- The **Plagues** fall **after probation closes** — no more intercession (Rev 22:11).
- The Seventh Trumpet marks that **Jesus is about to return**, and that the **final judgments are irreversible**.

Final Thought:

So yes — the **Seventh Trumpet sounds first**, followed by the **Seven Last Plagues**. It’s a **transition point**: from warning to final judgment.