

Revelation

The Trumpets—Revelation 8:6–9:21

Topics: Angels, Blindness, Danger, Darkness, Death, Enemies, Environment, Evil, Heaven, Hopelessness, Judgment, Last Days, Pain, Rebellion, Stress, World

Open It

1. What is most moving to you about wildfires, earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, and tornadoes?
2. Why do you think some people believe that everyone will go to heaven (that is, no one will be punished or sent to hell by God)?

Revelation 8:6–9:21 (ESV)

⁶Now the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to blow them.

⁷The first angel blew his trumpet, and there followed hail and fire, mixed with blood, and these were thrown upon the earth. And a third of the earth was burned up, and a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.

⁸The second angel blew his trumpet, and something like a great mountain, burning with fire, was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood.

⁹A third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

¹⁰The third angel blew his trumpet, and a great star fell from heaven, blazing like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water.

¹¹The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many people died from the water, because it had been made bitter.

¹²The fourth angel blew his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, and a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of their light might be darkened, and a third of the day might be kept from shining, and likewise a third of the night.

¹³Then I looked, and I heard an eagle crying with a loud voice as it flew directly overhead, "Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, at the blasts of the other trumpets that the three angels are about to blow!"

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¹And the fifth angel blew his trumpet, and I saw a star fallen from heaven to earth, and he was given the key to the shaft of the bottomless pit.

²He opened the shaft of the bottomless pit, and from the shaft rose smoke like the smoke of a great furnace, and the sun and the air were darkened with the smoke from the shaft.

³Then from the smoke came locusts on the earth, and they were given power like the power of scorpions of the earth.

⁴They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any green plant or any tree, but only those people who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads.

⁵They were allowed to torment them for five months, but not to kill them, and their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it stings someone.

⁶And in those days people will seek death and will not find it. They will long to die, but death will flee from them.

⁷In appearance the locusts were like horses prepared for battle: on their heads were what looked like crowns of gold; their faces were like human faces,

⁸their hair like women's hair, and their teeth like lions' teeth;

⁹they had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the noise of their wings was like the noise of many chariots with horses rushing into battle.

¹⁰They have tails and stings like scorpions, and their power to hurt people for five months is in their tails.

¹¹They have as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit. His name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in Greek he is called Apollyon.

¹²The first woe has passed; behold, two woes are still to come.

¹³Then the sixth angel blew his trumpet, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar before God,

¹⁴saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates."

¹⁵So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour, the day, the month, and the year, were released to kill a third of mankind.

¹⁶The number of mounted troops was twice ten thousand times ten thousand; I heard their number.

¹⁷And this is how I saw the horses in my vision and those who rode them: they wore breastplates the color of fire and of sapphire and of sulfur, and the heads of the horses were like lions' heads, and fire and smoke and sulfur came out of their mouths.

¹⁸By these three plagues a third of mankind was killed, by the fire and smoke and sulfur coming out of their mouths.

¹⁹For the power of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails, for their tails are like serpents with heads, and by means of them they wound.

²⁰The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshiping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk,

²¹nor did they repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

Explore It

3. What happened when the first angel sounded his trumpet? (8:7)
4. What was the result when the second angel sounded his trumpet? (8:8–9)
5. What happened when the third angel blew his trumpet? (8:10–11)
6. What events followed the fourth angel's trumpet blast? (8:12)
7. What did John see an eagle do? (8:13)
8. What did John see at the sounding of the fifth trumpet? (9:1)
9. What creatures came out of the Abyss? (9:2–3)
10. What special powers did the creatures from the Abyss have? (9:4–6)
11. What did the creatures from the Abyss look like? (9:7–10)
12. What events transpired when the sixth angel blew his trumpet? (9:13–19)
13. How were the few human survivors affected by these horrible plagues and catastrophes? (9:20–21)

Get It

14. What significance is there to the plagues that will befall the world in the final days?
15. What is most frightening to you about these judgments? Why?

Apply It

16. What changes can you make in your prayer life this week as a result of what you have studied today?