

The Voice of Truth # 497

Let My People Go

The Lord Jesus Christ opened that seventh seal as recorded in Revelation 8:1, and when the inhabitants of heaven looked upon the recorded judgments, silence prevailed among them for 30 minutes. It was a lull before the storm. The storm of God's eternal wrath was fixing to break upon the world. Jehovah had said, **let my people go**.

Then there stood before God seven elect angels, the highest group of created angelic beings, including Michael and Gabriel, to carry out the administration of God's justice, to break the dominion of sin upon the earth and free God's people. They looked upon that seventh seal and saw the reenacting of the plagues of Egypt on a worldwide scale. God had to break the dominion of sin and the power of Satan over Egypt, which is a type of the world, before Pharaoh, the type of Satan or the Antichrist, would let the children of Israel go. God has to break the dominion of sin and the power of Satan over this world before Satan will let God's people go. Now you get it, friends. Now, I believe in preaching the gospel, but the gospel itself will not break the power of sin except over the heart of the individual who believes, not over the world. And these trumpet judgments, beginning with that eighth chapter, are the judgments of God upon a Christless, godless world to break the power of sin, the dominion of sin, and break the power of Satan to let God's people go. You listen to me this morning, will you?

Through the ages, the Lord God of heaven has heard the groanings and cries of his people from the brick kilns of the world, calling for deliverance, just as he heard the cries of the Jews calling for deliverance from the brick kilns of Egypt. When God broke the power of sin and Satan over Egypt, it was a hundred years before they drifted again into idol worship. Jehovah is saying here, **let my people go**. But this time it will be the breaking of the power of sin, idolatry and Satan and the Antichrist forever over this earth. Old Babylon must fall with all of her idolatrous worship. Old Babylon will fall under the opening of the seventh seal. Jehovah, he

is God. There is none beside him. The religious world today is headed for organic unity, but it's to be wedded together in a world church with every form and device of idol worship that has ever been known or practiced coming out of old Babylon. In the finality, the Antichrist will be the head of this world church and will set himself up, as Paul wrote in 2 Thessalonians 2:4, as God to be worshipped; **who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God**, or that is worshipped; So that **he has God, sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God**. The world is headed for a one world government, and in the finality, the Antichrist will be the head of this one world government, bringing everything under his control religiously, politically, economically, educationally, and socially. Now that is what God faces in the breaking of that seventh seal. Seventh seal, that is, to break the dominion of sin, dethrone the Antichrist and all idol worship, that his people may go because the meek shall inherit the earth. Say what you please, brother, you're going down if you don't know Christ. So, then we see in Revelation 8:6, **and the seven angels, which had the seven trumpets, prepared themselves to sound**. There are seven angels with seven trumpets, and when each angel sounds his trumpet, judgment in some form falls. If you'll study the sounding of those seven trumpets, you'll find there's a division. The first four, when sounded, calls down judgment upon places and things, and when the last three sound, they call down judgment upon people. There's a break between the sounding of the first four and the sounding of the last three. You'll find that break in Revelation 8:13, when John said, listen, **and I beheld and heard an angel, or an eagle 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**. So, the last three judgments might be called the woe judgments. The word woe indicates that they'll be more terrible than the falling of the first four judgments.

Now let's notice briefly the first four of these seven judgments. As recorded in Revelation 8:7-12, the first trumpet judgment fell upon the earth. The instruments God used were fire, hail, and blood. The second trumpet judgment fell upon the sea. The instrument God used was a ball of fire, as recorded in the eighth verse. The third trumpet judgment fell upon the rivers and fountains of water. The instrument God used was a great star named Wormwood, as recorded in that tenth verse. The fourth trumpet judgment fell upon the sun, moon, and

stars. The instrument God used there was a partial eclipse over a period of time of the lamps of heaven. If we will study closely, we'll find that the first trumpet judgment affected vegetation of all types, fruit trees, herbs and grasses. The sounding of the second trumpet affected transportation, exportation and importation because of a third of the ships will be destroyed. The third trumpet judgment will affect sanitation because the star named Wormwood makes the waters bitter and they cannot be used. Then the fourth trumpet judgment affects the lights of heaven, and they are darkened for one third of the time, which will affect the inhabitants of the entire earth. Now remember, friend, these judgments are worldwide and will affect the entire earth's population. Our political leaders are crying, peace, peace, when there is no peace. They're talking about prosperity and plenty when our whole economic system is built only upon thin paper. It is only superficial and could crash overnight, let no man fool you, the trouble of the world today is that it doesn't care just so long as you have plenty of money, something to eat, and can then indulge in sin, you're not stopping to examine the foundation on which our economy rests today. How can a government that owes \$324 billion stand much longer? Judgment will fall. God is on the throne and he is saying, **let My people go!** The dominion of sin will and must be broken. The power of Satan will be crushed and God's people set free. Laugh, if you will, you infidel. Make fun, if you will, you atheist. Scoff at God's words, you modernists and unsaved religionists. You have built your house upon the sinking sand, and when the storms of God's eternal wrath shall sweep over your heart and life, you'll be swept into the pit because you have no foundation on which to stand. God is on the throne, supreme, eternal, unmoved, and does as he pleases. God hates sin; Sin and the sinner are synonymous. I never cease to praise the Lord that I know him, that he's mine; he's my Lord and my Savior, the rock of my salvation, the foundation of my hope, he's my life, he's my beloved, and I'm his beloved, and **I'm persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate me from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus my Lord.**

Listen to God's word, Revelation 8:7, look at it there in your Bible. **The first angel sounded and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood and they were cast upon the earth,** that is over the surface of the earth. **And the third part of trees**

was burned up and all green grass was burned up. Now this is just a brief declarative statement of fact, what a judgment. And yet men will try to spiritualize it, or make it a mere figure of speech. But my friend here is stated a literal fact. Let me call your attention again that these trumpet judgments remind us of the judgments upon Pharaoh and the Egyptians. This first trumpet parallels the seventh plague sent on Pharaoh. The judgments that fell upon the Egyptians were literal. They actually happened as the Bible says they happened. They're in the first chapters of Exodus. So, these trumpet judgments will be literal and they will happen just as stated here. The prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah indicate that God will repeat these trumpet judgments, the judgments he poured out upon Egypt.

Now let's notice the resemblance of the seventh judgment upon Egypt, and this first trumpet judgment. Let's read Exodus 9:23. The Lord sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along the ground. Then in the 25th verse, he says the hail smote every herb of the field and break every tree of the field. Now we know that was a literal judgment upon Egypt. Now let's notice again this first trumpet judgment. Listen to God's word; There followed hail and fire, mingled with blood. On Egypt there was hail and fire. Here we have blood added. The prophet Joel in 2:30 tells us of this dreadful day of judgment. Listen, And I will show wonders in heaven and in the earth, blood and fire and pillars of smoke before the great and terrible day of the Lord come. I wish it would dawn upon you listeners, and may the Lord carry to your hearts that this sinful, Christless earth is headed for judgment. I know folks don't like to hear it. As someone said the other day, Oh, I like to read of the love of God and the mercy of God, but I don't like these preachers who preach on judgment. That shows that the conscience of this individual is seared with a hot iron and she's lost, without Christ, and under the judgment of God. What a terrible state to be in.

Now, let's look again at this first trumpet judgment as recorded in the seventh verse. Listen to God's word, I'm reading this again, that you may get it. **The 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 burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.**

And the first blew his trumpet, listen now, listen, hold it, and there took place hail and fire mingled with blood. That is, the hail and the fire were mingled together in blood. And the blood here mentioned is the vehicle that carries the hail and the fire. In other words, the stones of hail, how large they may be it doesn't say, and the balls of fire, which is not lightning, fell in a rain of blood. Or we would say a shower of blood, just as hail and fireballs commonly fall in a shower of rain or a downpour of rain. Here is an allusion to the plague of hail in Egypt, of which it is said that the fire ran along upon the ground. But here we have the addition of the blood.

Let me call your attention to this fact. In blood is the life. Then when blood is shed, we have the destruction of life. Therefore, the consequences of all these trumpet judgments is the destruction of life. Can you imagine my friend, just to look out and see hail and balls of fire being brought to earth in a rain of blood? What judgment? What destruction? What misery? It is God breaking the dominion of sin. Then it says here, and they, the hail and fire mingled with blood, were cast upon the earth. That is, toward the surface of the earth, not just a third part of the earth, but the entire earth. It doesn't say here that the hail and fire were cast on a third part, but it was cast upon the entire earth. What a judgment to think that all the newspapers, televisions, radios would send forth from every corner of the earth the news that there was a rain from heaven of blood; And in this rain of blood was mingled hail and balls of fire. Therefore, it will touch every continent, every island of the sea, every inhabited place of the earth. It is very difficult for anyone to imagine such judgment falling upon this earth and being worldwide. Fire and hail mingled with blood. Let me say with all the frankness of my heart, that this is to be taken literally, and it will happen literally, just as it did in the land of Egypt when fire and hail fell in the land of Egypt. It covered the entire country of Egypt, and here it will be worldwide.

The world has shed the blood of saints. Rivers of blood have flowed from the massacre of the saints of God through all centuries, from the time Cain killed Abel up until this present moment. God, in return, will give the world blood. This is clearly brought out in God's Word. Listen, Psalms 9:12. When he maketh inquisition for blood, he remembereth him, he forgeteth not the cry of the humble. That is, in the days of judgment, when he begins to search out, he'll

remember how the world, under the power of Satan, has spilt the blood of saints. And the law says an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth. That's the God of the Bible. This is also brought out in Deuteronomy 32:41. **If I whet my glittering sword, and mine hand take hold on judgment, I will render vengeance to mine enemies, and will reward them that hate me. I will make mine arrows drunk with blood, and my sword shall devour flesh; and that with the blood of the slain and of the captives, from the beginning of revenges is upon the enemy. Rejoice, O ye nations, with his people: for he will avenge the blood of his servants, and will render vengeance to his adversaries, and will be merciful unto his land and to his people.**

My friends, do you believe the Bible? You may laugh and scoff if you want to, but the Bible is so whether you believe it, whether any man believes it. And these judgments are awful. I praise God that he has delivered me from judgment in Christ Jesus my Lord.

Then again in the fourth chapter of Genesis, he said to Cain, **Thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.** I want to tell you, my friends, every saint that sealed their testimony with their blood crieth unto God for vengeance. And here God has given them blood from heaven with hail and fire.

Let's notice how destructive this first judgment, trumpet judgment is. It says here in the seventh verse, and the third part of the trees were burned up and all green grass was burned up. We see here, though the judgment is careful and sweeping in scope, yet God spares more than he smites. A third of all the trees over the entire earth is burned up. In other words, God spares two out of every three. No doubt he is referring primarily here to fruit trees of all descriptions, out of all the lands, especially of the cultivated soil. Just to think that after the entire earth, or world, it is baptized with blood, and the fire has run its course, the report will be that one third of all the fruit bearing trees and otherwise will have been burnt up and destroyed by the hail and fire. Undoubtedly that the hailstones will be of such size as to literally destroy almost beyond description and the fire burning as it goes. You say, "Preacher, are you crazy"? No, God says it and I believe it.

When I was a young boy on the farm in North Louisiana, it was early in May, I helped my father on the truck farm. We were awakened that morning with a

deathly stillness. The air seemed to be charged with electricity. Everything was humid. There was a distant roar of thunder. I'll never forget when my dad came into the kitchen for breakfast. There was a fright on his face, and he turned and said to mother and us children, we'd better get ready to die. In a short time there fell such a rain mingled with fire and hail as I have never seen in all my life. Some of the hailstones was as large as my two fists put together, resembling just blocks of ice. In two minutes, most of our crop was destroyed. Roofs on houses were broken, trees beaten by that tremendous hail.

Now to think that when this angel shall sound that first trumpet, the heavens will become dark around the entire globe, and there shall fall fire and hail mingled with blood; Blood instead of water, covering the entire earth. God's going to baptize this earth with blood, and when the storm of the wrath of God subsides, the report is made, one third of all the trees were burned up, or destroyed. Now, brother, that's coming. That's coming.

Now, that's not all. Listen again to God's word. **And all the green grass was burned up.** That means that when the judgment was over, in the circling globe, all the green grass over the entire earth was burned up. My friend, there is no other interpretation of that scripture. You must take it literally. It says **all the green grass**, where? Upon the earth's surface. In other words, the earth is swept barren of all the grass. What a judgment. Yet men will laugh and scoff in the face of God today as never before. You blaspheme the name of Christ in this judgment. It's because the way this world has treated the Son of God and His people, it's His blood that is crying from Calvary's mountain, from God the Father for revenge, because you won't have this man to rule over you. There is a first-degree murder charge in the courts of heaven against every impenitent sinner.

Peter, on the day of Pentecost, cried out unto the Jews, calling on them to repent and said, **Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: Therefore, let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, get it now, get it now, whom ye**

hath crucified, both Lord and Christ. Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter, and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

I would that God would pierce your heart, that you would cry out, Oh, what must I do? Then Peter said, **Repent and save yourselves from this crooked generation.** I say unto you, repent and save yourselves from this crooked generation before God pours out his judgment upon a world that crucified the Son of God and counted the blood of the covenant as a common thing, and has done despite unto the spirit of grace. Repent or perish, turn or burn. It is Christ, or hell, which will it be? Yet you'll sit there and laugh at me, make fun of me, because I'm calling you to repentance. There's a first-degree murder charge in heaven against you. May the spirit of the living God take his word home to your heart. Write it in your mind, in your heart, and make you willing to bow unto him as Lord of Lords and King of Kings. That you may know him as your Lord and your Savior, God's only substitute for sinners. There is no other name given under heaven among men whereby you can be saved, except the name of Christ. And I say to you, sinner, down, down, down sinner, down, at the feet of Christ until you cry, My Lord and My God. The judgment's coming.

I'm praying the Lord will pour out His Spirit of grace and supplication upon your heart that you might see Him whom you pierced and mourn for Him as one that mourneth for his firstborn; that there might be opened unto you a fountain of cleansing. What can wash away my sins? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Emmanuel's veins, and sinners plunge beneath that blood, loose all their guilty stains.

My friend, it's either turn and be washed in the blood of Christ, or be baptized with the blood of judgment from the presence of him who sitteth on the throne in answer to God's children's prayers, or the prayers of the saints of the Most High.

Let me call your attention, in closing, to the opening of that seventh chapter of Revelation. Let me call your attention to the break between the close of the sixth seal and the opening of the seventh, as recorded in Revelation 7:1. **And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding**

the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.

In the judgments of the first six seals, the trees and the vegetation of the earth were spared. These four angels were given orders to hold back the judgments upon the vegetation of the earth, but now the judgments are released, and we're beginning to see the trumpet judgments as they begin to fall upon this earth, which adds to the famine, death, and destruction of the seal judgments. As we continue to open up these trumpet judgments, they grow with intensity and in power and in their destruction upon the earth and the human race with one purpose in mind, to break the dominion of sin and the power of Satan, that God's people might go. Jehovah cries, let my people go, and they will go. They will go. God will break the power and dominion of sin upon this earth. I don't care who our leaders are today, they'll go down under the wrath of a sin-avenging God. Every leader that is not in Christ will go down under the wrath of God until God breaks the power of sin, the dominion of sin, over this earth and sets it free.

As we continue these studies in Revelation, opening up to you the judgments of God. Once in a while they are tempered with mercy, but this judgment today is not tempered in mercy, it's a baptism of blood to let my people go. God hear us in this hour.

My friend, may I plead with you, are you ready to meet God? Are you ready to die? You may laugh at me. You may turn around and say, ha, ha, ha, what is he talking about? I know what I'm talking about. The Bible is the Word of God. The Bible is God's Word, whether you believe it, whether any man believes it. Christ is the Son of God, whether you believe it, whether any man believes it. There is no neutrality, there is none. You're either for Christ or against him, which is it today? And my friends, in thy hands, oh, may the living God rest there today and you turn to him.