

Midweek Bible Study

Exposition of Revelation

The Trumpet Judgments (Rev. 8:6-13)

I. Preparation of the Seven Angels (8:6)

Resumes 8:2

The seven trumpet judgments span 8-11, with an interlude between the sixth and seventh trumpets (10-11:17). The last three trumpets are introduced with a threefold woe.

TABLE 9.8: The Seven Trumpets

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|------------|--|
| Trumpet 1 | Earth | 8:7 | Hail, fire, and blood on land |
| Trumpet 2 | Sea | 8:8-9 | Burning mountain thrown into the sea |
| Trumpet 3 | Rivers and springs | 8:10-11 | Burning star falls on rivers and springs |
| Trumpet 4 | Sky | 8:12 | Sun, moon, and stars darkened |
| <i>Interlude</i> | | 8:13 | |
| Trumpet 5 | First woe | 9:1-12 | Demons from the abyss |
| Trumpet 6 | Second woe | 9:13-21 | Demons from the east |
| <i>Interlude</i> | | 10:1-11:14 | |
| Trumpet 7 | Third woe | 11:15-19 | Kingdom come |

The trumpet judgments have been understood from very different perspectives. The trumpets are a recapitulation of the seals, with intensification.

II. The First Trumpet (8:7)

- A. Hail and fire mixed with blood was cast to the earth
 - 1. The first trumpet follows the seventh plague (Ex. 9:22-25)
- B. The result

III. The Second Trumpet (8:8-9)

- A. And the second angel sounded the trumpet
This trumpet is analogous to the first plague (Ex. 7:14-21).
- B. Something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea
- C. And a third of the sea became blood
- D. And a third of the creatures which were in the sea and had life, died
The first plague with the fish dying (Ex. 7:20-21).



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- E. And a third of the ships were destroyed
The impact on sea-faring commerce – Cf. Rev. 18:11-19

IV. The Third Trumpet (8:10-11)

- A. And the third angel sounded the trumpet
This is also patterned after the first plague
- B. And a great star fell from heaven
 1. Burning like a torch
This looks like a meteorite
A star can be a reference to an angel (Isa. 14:12-15)
 2. It falls on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water
 3. The name of the star is called Wormwood
 4. A third of the waters became wormwood
- C. Many men died from the waters because they were made bitter

V. The Fourth Trumpet (8:12)

- A. The fourth angel sounded
This is patterned after the 9th plague, darkness (Ex. 10:21-29)
- B. And a third of the sun was struck
- C. And a third of the moon and a third of the stars were struck
- D. In order that a third of their light might be darkened, and a third of the day might be kept from shining, likewise and third of the night.
(Isa 13:9-10; Joel 2:30-31; 3:14-15)

The LORD roars from Zion, and utters his voice from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth quake. But the LORD is a refuge to his people, a stronghold to the people of Israel. (Joel 3:16 ESV)

VI. The Three Woes (8:13)

- A. I looked and heard an eagle flying in midheaven
- B. Saying, Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth
- C. Because the remaining trumpet blasts of the three angels who are about to sound

Conclusion

