



The 7 Trumpets and 7 Angels

1 Corinthians 14:8

“Again, if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?”

The blowing of a trumpet in ancient times heralded an event of poignant importance. Paul writing to the Corinthians on the subject of communicative gifts states our text above.

Short sharp trumpet sounds heralded an event. A long high sound announced impending danger. Certain notes sounded by blowing the trumpet meant attack or preparation for battle, others for retreat.



The Trumpets and the Judgments

At the heart of the seven trumpets in Revelation are the judgments that come with the blowing of each one. Each trumpet will be blown by a different angel, but the angels are not named. Let's consider each trumpet and what they announce.

The first trumpet brings devastation to the earth itself.

“The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down on the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up” (Revelation 8:7).



Page 2/The third trumpet

The second trumpet is targeted towards the seas.

“The second angel sounded his trumpet, and something like a huge mountain, all ablaze, was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea turned into blood, a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed” (Revelation 8:8-9).



The third trumpet affects the water supply which brings death to many people.

“The third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water — the name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter” (Revelation 8:10-11).



The fourth trumpet attacks the sky affecting the sun, moon, and stars

“The fourth angel sounded his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them turned dark. A third of the day was without light, and also a third of the night” (Revelation 8:12).



The earth, seas, water and sky are all affected by these first four judgments. These are all the things required for life, and God is affecting these things as judgment for those who have rejected him. After blowing the fourth trumpet, there is a brief pause before the last three trumpets are blown.

Revelation 8:13 – *“As I watched, I heard an angel that was flying in mid-air call out in a loud voice: ‘Woe! Woe! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the trumpet blasts about to be sounded by the other three angels!’”*

In the middle of judgment God pauses. He decides to give additional warning of what is to come and at the same time give people an opportunity to repent. I think sometimes people believe God brings judgment because he likes to judge. He brings judgment because he is a just God. In order for God to be who he is, he must judge sin. Yet even in the judging process, God offers opportunity for repentance because that is his heart.

The Last Three Trumpets

As you can see with the first four of the seven trumpets in Revelation, things are getting worse. Greater turmoil will follow.

Page 3/The fifth trumpet....

The fifth trumpet (Rev. 9:1-12)

This trumpet releases Satan with power to use demonic influence, described as locusts, to torment those who have rejected God. Surprisingly, they are allowed to torment but those who they torment won't die. What an incredible time of torture and pain. Ironically the ones who are protected are those who had the seal of God on their foreheads.



The sixth trumpet (Rev. 9:13-21)

This trumpet brings an astonishing amount of death and an absolutely incredible response to it. With the sixth trumpet, four angels are released along with an army of 200 million which is probably a demonic army. They proceed to kill one third of all the people on the earth. Again, a time unlike any we have ever witnessed in human history. What is fascinating however, is the response of the people who survive this period:



“The rest of mankind who were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the work of their hands; they did not stop worshiping demons, and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone and wood—idols that cannot see or hear or walk. Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts” (Rev. 9:20-21).

Instead of turning to God in repentance, they dig in with their defiance even more. The heart of man has grown so hard that even among great tragedy and death they refuse to turn from sin and turn towards God. They continue to reject his love and compassion. This shows you the danger and power of a hardened heart. That's why the Bible warns against hardening your heart – there are dangerous consequences associated with it.

In Scripture seven is the number of completion, so the announcement associated with this trumpet falls right in line. Here is what happens when the seventh trumpet is blown:



“The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever” (Revelation 11:15).

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With this trumpet the announcement of Christ's reign is made as we move to the completion of this period. While the tribulation doesn't end immediately when this trumpet is blown, it is getting close. There are some major events left to play out but we know this trumpet is blown closer to the end of the Great Tribulation.

Hopefully this will challenge and encourage you to look into Bible prophecy and the end times without fear, but with open eyes. In all honesty if you are in Christ there is nothing for you to be afraid of. If for some reason, you should ever get fearful, always remember whose side you are on and know that when it is all said and done, we win.

The Archangels Trumpet Call

Preceding the 7 Trumpets of Revelation (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18), the voice of God calls to believers is also called the appearance or "parousia". The expression "caught up" in Greek is "harpaza," a snatching away—the rapture.

Conclusion

I hope the lessons on angels will help you better understand the role of angels as "ministering spirits" and that God's plan is to exercise judgement against evil so good will ultimately triumph—Note Colossians 2:18.

Revelation 22:16 (a)

"I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify of these things."


Similarity between the Seven Trumpets and the Seven Last Plagues

7 TRUMPETS

1. Upon Earth
2. Upon Sea
3. Upon fresh waters
4. Sun darkened
5. Sun & air darkened
6. Euphrates
7. Voices lightnings, thunders earthquake.

7 LAST PLAGUES

1. Upon Earth
2. Upon Sea
3. Upon fresh waters
4. Sun burns
5. Darkness
6. Euphrates dried up
7. Voices lightnings, thunders earthquake.



"For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the Archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.

And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words."