

# A Study Of The Book Of Revelation

October 18, 2020

## Revelation

### I. Struggle on Earth (1-11)

#### A. *John's Vision* (1)

#### B. *Letters to 7 churches* (2-3)

#### C. *God in control* (4-5)

#### D. *Opening of seven seals* (6-11)

#### 1. Chapter 7 – Interlude answering the question, “Who is able to stand?” (6:17)

Revelation 7

## The Great Multitude Coming Out of Tribulation

### Who is the “Great Multitude”?

- Sealed **servants** of the earth (**verses 2-8**)
- Sealed **servants** passed through death (**verses 9-17**)
- **God's name** written upon them
  - The 144,000 (**7:3-4; 14:1-4**)
  - Those who overcome (**3:12; 22:4**)

Revelation 7

## The Great Multitude Coming Out of Tribulation

- “Have **washed** their robes” and made them white in the **blood of the Lamb!**
  - **Ephesians 1:7; Isaiah 1:18; Hebrews 9:14; (1:5)**
- Serve Him for that reason
- 144,000 **sing** before the throne!
- “**Day and night in His temple**” sanctuary showing one service as priests
- “The redeeming Lamb has become their providing Shepherd; he shall guide them to fountains of water of life, and God shall remove all grief from them.”

(Ray Summers, *Worthy Is The Lamb*, Page 152)

Revelation 7

## The Great Multitude Coming Out of Tribulation

- Those who **serve Him** are cared for: (Note: 2 Corinthians 5:1-10; especially verses 6-8; Philippians 1:21-24; 1 Thessalonians 4:14; 3:13)
- “Perfect **protection**”
  - Provision made for them (**21:3**)
- “Perfect **provision**”
  - Not be hungry, thirsty, hot, or tormented (**7:16**)
- “Perfect **leading**”
  - The Lamb is their Shepherd (**22:1**)
- “Perfect **joy**”
  - Wipe away every tear from their eyes (**21:1-4**)

Revelation 7

## The Great Multitude Coming Out of Tribulation

- Therefore no tears will be in heaven.  
“*He hath swallowed up death for ever; and the Lord Jehovah will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the reproach of his people will he take away from off all the earth: for Jehovah hath spoken it.*”  
(Isaiah 25:8)
- This same scene is presented again after the judgment, portraying the eternal condition of the Lord's faithful (21:3-4; 22:1-5).

Revelation 8

**“Opening of the Seventh Seal:  
Four of the Seven Trumpets”  
Outline**

- I. Opening of the Seventh Seal (vv. 1-6)
- II. Four Trumpets Sounded (vv. 7-12)
- III. Eagle Flying – Announces Woes from Remaining Trumpets (v.13)

Revelation 8

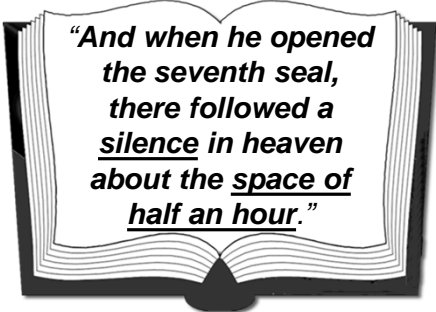


**The Seventh Seal –**

- Seven Angels with
- Seven Trumpets

Revelation 8

**Revelation 8:1**



*“And when he opened  
the seventh seal,  
there followed a  
silence in heaven  
about the space of  
half an hour.”*

Revelation 8

**Revelation 8:2**



*“And I saw the seven  
angels that stand  
before God; and there  
were given unto them  
seven trumpets.”*

Revelation 8

**Silence in Heaven**

Silence in heaven for the “space of half an hour” as the **seventh seal** is opened.

- What is the meaning of this “**silence**?”
- “**Calm before the storm**?”
- “Silence” increases the **tension**.
- Impact on the **judgments** that are coming.
  - “**But the LORD is in His holy temple. Let all the earth keep silence before Him.**” (*Habakkuk 2:20; Zephaniah 1:7; Zechariah 2:13; cf. Revelation 4:9-11, Revelation 5:8-14, Revelation 7:9-12*)

Revelation 8

**Seven Angels – Seven Trumpets**

- Angels standing “**ready**” to carry forth His message.
- Each is given a **trumpet**.
- Purpose of “**trumpets**?”
  - Assemble for a meeting (**Numbers 10:3; Joel 2:1, 15**)
  - To move the people. (**Numbers 10:5**)
  - Alarm for war (**Numbers 10:9; cf. Ezekiel 33:3; Hosea 5:8**) Likely this use in our text.
  - Times of festivity (**Numbers 10:10**)

Revelation 8

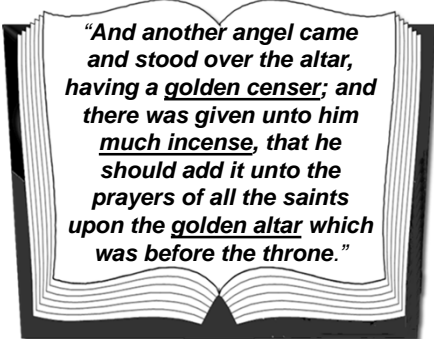
## Seven Angels – Seven Trumpets

- Purpose of “**trumpets?**”
  - To call the wicked to repent?
  - Used as a warning and call to judgment:
    - 7 seals – introduce judgments
    - 7 trumpets – announce judgment
    - 7 bowls of wrath – judgment

**Warning of Judgment  
Call to Repentance**

Revelation 8

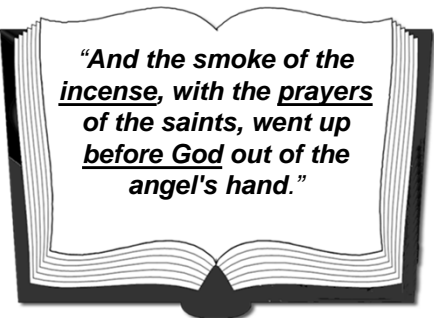
## Revelation 8:3



*“And another angel came and stood over the altar, having a **golden censer**; and there was given unto him **much incense**, that he should add it unto the prayers of all the saints upon the **golden altar** which was before the throne.”*

Revelation 8

## Revelation 8:4



*“And the smoke of the **incense**, with the **prayers** of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand.”*

Revelation 8

## Another Angel

God's awareness and **prayers** of the saints

- Angel was given a great quantity of “**incense**” to add to the prayers of the saints. (Revelation 5:8; 6:9-11; James 5:16)
- “**Censer**” was a firepan in which hot coals from the altar were placed. Grains of incense were burned on the coals to produce a sweet smell before the Lord.
  - Leviticus 16:12,13; cf. Luke 1:8-10
  - Luke 18:1-8, “Ought always to pray, and not to faint ... And shall not God avenge his elect, that cry to him day and night, and (yet) he is longsuffering over them?”

Revelation 8

## Altar of Incense

This scene preceding the sounding of the first trumpet symbolizes the prayers of the saints **ascending**, like incense, unto God.

- “Much incense” might represent the Savior's **intercession** in heaven for the saints.
  - Hebrews 7:25
  - Romans 8:26-27, 34
- Ingredients needed for the **prayers** to come before God's throne!

Revelation 8

## Revelation 8:5



*“And the angel taketh the **censer**; and he filled it with the fire of the altar, and cast it upon the earth: and there followed **thunders**, and **voices**, and **lightnings**, and an **earthquake**.”*

Revelation 8

**Sounds in Heaven**

- The censer that offered the incense is filled with **fire** taken from the altar.
- Fire strikes the earth, causing thunder, voices, lightning, and an earthquake – all **symbolical of God's response**.
- All this expresses certainty that God **hears and answers** the prayers of His people. (Exodus 2:23-24; 1 Peter 3:12; 1 Peter 2:5; 1 Timothy 2:5; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; Philippians 4:6).
- **God always warns first – then comes judgment!**  
**Amos 3:3, 7; 2 Peter 3:9**