

“The Trumpets of Judgment Begin to Blow”
The Revelation of Jesus Christ — Part 14
Revelation 8

1. The “lull” before the “storm.”

When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.
Revelation 8:1

**Compare the Trumpet
and the Bowl Judgments:**

<i>Trumpets</i>	<u>Judgment</u>	<i>Bowls</i>
8:1-7	Earth	16:1-2
8:8-9	Sea	16:3
8:10-11	Rivers	16:4-7
8:12-13	Heavens	16:8-9
9:1-3	Mankind	16:10-11
9:13-21	An Army	16:12-16
11:15-19	(Angry Nations)	16:17-21

And I saw the seven angels who stand before God and to them were given seven trumpets.
Revelation 8:2

Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go, pour out the seven bowls of God's wrath on the earth."
Revelation 16:1

2. The potent power of prayer!

Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all the saints, on the golden altar before the throne. The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of the saints, went up before God from the angel's hand. Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake.
Revelation 8:3-5

They called out in a loud voice, "How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?"
Revelation 6:10

***“Prayer that can precipitate such things truly must
be potent indeed! So, the silence ends.”***
John Phillips

The Trumpet Judgments Begin!

Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to sound them.
Revelation 8:6

3. The first trumpet blast!

The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down upon 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

4. The second trumpet blast!

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

5. The third trumpet blast!

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

6. The fourth trumpet blast!

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 judgments announced by the first four trumpets are so shocking and severe that our natural tendency is to doubt their literal meaning...Revelation uses symbols to communicate, but these symbols always point to real events. When we feel tempted to water down the language, soften it’s severity, or over-spiritualize the interpretations, we must remember Christ’s ominous words.”

Pastor Chuck Swindoll

For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now--and never to be equaled again.

Matthew 24:21

7. The worst is yet to come!

*As I watched, I heard an eagle that was flying in midair 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!"*

Revelation 8:13

Life Response: God often uses suffering to draw our attention away from the things of earth to Himself.

- How has God used trials, suffering or disaster to get your attention?
- Would you have heard the message without the experience?
- Have you grown more spiritually while sailing in clear waters or in stormy seas, when you desperately need God's help?

***God is orchestrating all the events of life to draw
you into a closer relationship with Himself.***