

REVELATION REVISITED

Assignment #5 - Trumpets 1 - 4

As the unsealing of the book comes to an end, the inhabitants of the earth come to the conclusion that God is angry. With the blowing of the Trumpets we see the beginning of the expression of His wrath.

Read Revelation 8. Read it slowly and carefully. Rather than trying to figure it out, just imagine yourself seeing the same scene that John is seeing. Play it in slow motion, watching the ships being destroyed and the forests going up in raging flames. Also read Jesus statements in Matthew 24:21-22 and Luke 21:25-26

1. In Matthew 24:21-22 and Luke 21:25-26, is Jesus speaking of localized events or of world-spanning events? _____
2. Do the first four Trumpets suggest local or international impact? _____

3. Complete the following table:

	Agent that causes harm:	Damage sustained by:
1st Trumpet		
2nd Trumpet		
3rd Trumpet		
4th Trumpet		

Two outside articles are included with this lesson, one with a Biblical viewpoint, the other with a scientific slant. The first article, written by Marvin Moore and published in the *Signs of the Times*, is titled “Asteroid Impact, A Biblical View”. The second article appeared in the Time/Life book *Comets, Asteroids and Meteorites*. Please read both articles before finishing this assignment.

Before we can make any determination as to whether or not the above articles might apply in a literal way to the story of the Trumpets, we must ask and answer two questions. First, is there any evidence in scripture that God has ever used such “air strikes” in the past, or that he might do so in the future? Second, does a literal application make sense scientifically?

4. Has God ever used fire and stone from the sky as a weapon? See Gen 19:24 _____
5. What very unusual action did God take in fighting for the Hebrews in the Valley of Gibeon? See Joshua 10:10-11. _____
6. In Isaiah 28:21-22, Isaiah looked far down the avenues of time and warned that a time was coming for “**decisive destruction on all the earth.**” (NASB) He said that when God does this “unusual task” that He will be stirred up as He was in what valley? _____
7. Read Luke 21:25-26. Does a literal understanding of the 2nd trumpet help us grasp what Jesus was speaking of? _____
8. Read Joel 2:28-32. Notice the environmental backdrop to the pouring out of the Holy Spirit. Did these events occur in the 1st century at the time of the early rain? _____
9. Does the scientific community accept that literal impacts have occurred in the past, and does John’s narrative line up with what science predicts? _____
10. Could *any* Christian prior to 1980 have seen the possibility of a literal fulfillment of these Trumpets? _____

Questions to Ponder

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| A. | Jesus commands the Trumpets to be blown. What comfort does that give? |
| B. | What assurance is given in Joel 2:32 specifically for that time? |