

REVELATION REVISITED

Assignment #6 - Trumpets 5 - 7

With the sounding of the first four trumpets, the Earth is dramatically altered. Nothing remains untouched. The land, the sea - and the societies that man has built - are all forever changed. Mankind is aware of the fact that Earth has been dealt a fatal blow - that mankind faces extinction. And yet, in the face of this massive destruction, we now see an eagle flying in the heavens with a terrifying message, “Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet!” In other words, “You ain’t seen nuthin’ yet!” Read Revelation 9 - 11

1. As the 5th trumpet sounds a fallen star is given a key to the abyss. Is this an actual star or is something else implied? _____
2. Who (and what) are protected from harm in the fifth trumpet? (9:4) _____

3. Who (or what) is harmed in the fifth trumpet? _____
4. What one specific action is forbidden at this time? (9:5) _____
5. How long are the “locusts” allowed to torment men? (9:5,10) _____
6. John’s description of the “locusts” released under the fifth trumpet calls them horses with men’s faces and women’s hair, with teeth of lions and tails of scorpions. Is John describing *people*, or some other type of force? _____
7. The following texts mention the “abyss”: Luke 8:31, Revelation 9:1-2, Revelation 11:7, and Revelation 20:1-3,7. What can we learn from them? Who is in the abyss at the present time?

8. Who is the king over this locust hoard? (9:11) _____

In the time of the fifth trumpet the Bible tells us that “people will want to die, but they will not be able to. They will hope for death, but it will escape from them.”
Such is not the case in the “woe” that follows.

9. In Rev 9:14-15, four powerful angels are released from beside the River Euphrates. Do the events that follow lead you to believe that these are evil angels or good angels? _____
10. The Contemporary English Version of Rev 9:15 states that these angels “had been prepared for this very hour and day and month and year.” Does this “hour, day, month and year” sound like a specific point in time – or a period of time? _____
11. What are these angels released to do? (9:15) _____

12. What do you notice about the attitude of those who survive the events listed in the sixth seal?

13. Does this imply anything about those who do not survive this ordeal? _____

In between the 6th and 7th Seal, is the story of the sealing of the 144,000 servants, showing what God is doing in the lives of His people during the time when the Seals are removed. Now, in the story of the Seven Trumpets we find another story dropped in. This story – with The Seven Thunders, The Angel with the Little Book, Measuring the City, and the Two Witnesses - tells what God will be accomplishing in the lives of his people during the time when the Trumpets sound.

14. Read Rev 10:6-7 in any *modern version*, then read Ezekiel 12:27-28. What is God saying in these passages? _____

15. What is the “mystery of God” spoken of in Rev 10:7? _____

16. The two witnesses are defined in Rev. 11:4 as the two olive trees and the two lampstands. Zechariah 4 also uses this imagery. What may the olive trees suggest? _____

The Lampstands? _____

17. Can these two witnesses perform miracles? _____

18. How long a time period were the two witnesses to testify? _____

19. Why are two witnesses needed? (Read Deuteronomy 17:6.) _____

20. What is their apparent fate? (11:7) _____

21. When the seventh trumpet sounds, our attention is drawn to heaven where we hear loud voices proclaiming that Christ has “begun to reign”. Why is that a “Woe”? _____

Questions to Ponder

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| A. | We have long feared a “close of probation” that was sudden, arbitrary and unanticipated. What does this lesson teach us about God’s desire to make sure that everyone possible will be saved? |
| B. | Will the close of probation cut off even one single person who might have later decided to serve God? |
| C. | Joel 3:14-16 seems to speak specifically of this time period. What assurance regarding our own salvation can we get from this passage? |