# REVELATION – THE TIME IS NEAR THE SEVEN TRUMPETS

# Revelation 8:1 The 7<sup>th</sup> Seal and Silence in Heaven

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

- *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth! (Gen 1:1)*
- God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. (Gen. 1:31)
- The earth is the Lord's and everything in it! (Psalm 24:1)
- <sup>24</sup> "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. <sup>25</sup> And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. <sup>26</sup> From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. <sup>27</sup> God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. (Acts 17:24-27)
- *Now is the time for judgment on this world.* (John 12:31)
- For God so LOVED the world...(John 3:16)

The Greek word for world is 'kosmos' and is used to denote all that God created: heaven, earth, sea and ALL that is in them. The **Day of the Lord** is the imminent prophetic promise of holding Satan and humanity accountable for their actions that have corrupted the world and themselves. What John is about to witness is not a cavalier reaction by a ruthless divine being like the Greek or Roman gods. Father God – the God who is LOVE and JUST – is keeping a promise he made prior to creation that He would send Jesus, his one and only son to be **the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world**. (1 John 2:2) To all who believe in him and receive him as Lord they will be saved from his wrath; but to all who reject him, they **stand condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son**. (John 3:18)

God seated on his throne calls for SILENCE in heaven as he prepares himself for this moment – and the silence declares God's heart of **LOVE** for his creation...

# Revelation 8:2-6 The 7 Angels with 7 Trumpets and Another Angel

<sup>2</sup> And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. <sup>3</sup> 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 God's people, on the golden altar in front of the throne. <sup>4</sup> The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of God's people, went up before God from the angel's hand. <sup>5</sup> Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from

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the altar, and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake. <sup>6</sup> Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to sound them.

# Revelation 8:7 The First Angel – God Strikes the Earth

<sup>7</sup> 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.

## Zechariah 9:14

Then the Lord will appear over them; his arrow will flash like lightning. The Sovereign Lord will sound the trumpet; he will march in the storms of the south...

**Zephaniah 1:14-16** (Zeph. 1 is focused on Judgment on the Whole Earth in the Day of the Lord)

<sup>14</sup> The great day of the Lord is near—near and coming quickly. The cry on the day of the Lord is bitter; the Mighty Warrior shouts his battle cry. <sup>15</sup> That day will be a day of wrath—a day of distress and anguish, a day of trouble and ruin, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness—<sup>16</sup> a day of trumpet and battle cry

# Revelation 8:8-9 The Second Angel – God Strikes the Oceans

<sup>8</sup> 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, <sup>9</sup> a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

## Revelation 8:10-11 The Third Angel – God Strikes the Rivers and Springs

<sup>10</sup> 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— <sup>11</sup> 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 8:12 The Fourth Angel – God Strikes the Cosmos

<sup>12</sup> 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.

## Isaiah 13:10 (6-13)

<sup>10</sup> The stars of heaven and their constellations will not show their light. The rising sun will be darkened and the moon will not give its light.

## **Joel 2:31**

<sup>31</sup> The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. (Acts 2:20)

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#### Matthew 24:29

<sup>29</sup> "Immediately after the distress of those days "the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken."

## Revelation 8:13 Woe to the Inhabitants of the Earth!

<sup>13</sup> 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!"

The usage of "WOE" is a distinctive form of prophetic speech often found accompanying an accusation or threat which immediately preceded an announcement of judgment. The OT Hebrew word translated 'woe' is *hôy* and occurs approximately 50 times in the OT. It is 'onomatopoeic' and expresses a sharp outburst of feeling, sometimes of anger, sometimes of grief, and sometimes of alarm. <sup>1</sup>

Rev. 9:12 (after 5<sup>th</sup> trumpet) *Woe one is passed*...

Rev. 11:14 (after 6<sup>th</sup> trumpet and various actions) *Woe two is passed*...

Rev. 12:12 (after 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet and various actions) *Woe three is never culminated* by John like the first two, but he does announce the recipient of the woe's judgment: *woe to the earth and sea*.

## Conclusion

# Genesis 6:5-8 God's heart was BROKEN when he saw the Wickedness of people and its result!'

<sup>5</sup> The Lord saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. <sup>6</sup> The Lord regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled. <sup>7</sup> So the Lord said, "I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them." <sup>8</sup> But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.

# 2 Peter 1:3-4 (an exhortation to escape the world's corruption)

<sup>3</sup> His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. <sup>4</sup> Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, *having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires*...

# 2 Peter 2:4-9 (a promise that the godly will be rescued from God's wrath)

<sup>4</sup> For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them in chains of darkness to be held for judgment; <sup>5</sup> if he did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Collins, R. F. (1992). <u>Woe</u>. In D. N. Freedman (Ed.), *The Anchor Yale Bible Dictionary* (Vol. 6, pp. 946–947). Doubleday.

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protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others; <sup>6</sup> if he condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by burning them to ashes, and made them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; <sup>7</sup> and if he rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was distressed by the depraved conduct of the lawless <sup>8</sup> (for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard)— <sup>9</sup> if this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials and to hold the unrighteous for punishment on the day of judgment...

# 2 Peter 3:3-13 (a challenge to repent, live righteously and speed the return of Christ by soulwinning!)

<sup>3</sup> Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. <sup>4</sup> They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." <sup>5</sup> But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water. <sup>6</sup> By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. <sup>7</sup> By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly. <sup>8</sup> But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. <sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. <sup>11</sup> Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives <sup>12</sup> as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. <sup>13</sup> But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

## John 1:10b-12

<sup>10b</sup>...though the world was made through him [the word/Jesus], the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him [Israel]. <sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him [Jew & Gentile], to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God...

## 1 John 2:15-17

<sup>15</sup> Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. <sup>16</sup> For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. <sup>17</sup> The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.