

Passage: Revelation 8:1-13

Title: Silence in Heaven & the 7 Trumpets of God

Summary: As we open this chapter, we read there will be 30 minutes of silence in heaven. All of heaven goes silent, because of what is next to come the 7 Trumpets. Yet even with the blast of each trumpet, we see God extending grace to mankind, to receive His offer of love and forgiveness of sin. The offer is for anyone today as well..... will you receive it?

Revelation 8:1–13 (NKJV) ¹ When He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ² And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets. ³ Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. ⁴ And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand. ⁵ Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw *it* to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake. ⁶ So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. ⁷ The first angel sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up. ⁸ Then the second angel sounded: And *something* like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood. ⁹ And a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed. ¹⁰ Then the third angel sounded: And a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water. ¹¹ The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the water, because it was made bitter. ¹² Then the fourth angel sounded: 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 were darkened. A third of the day did not shine, and likewise the night. ¹³ And I looked, and I heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!"

Blessing / John on Patmos

The only book that comes with a promised blessing for those who read it:

(Revelation 1:3 NKJV) Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

John on Patmos / John wrote 5 Books / Believe – Eternal Life – Be Ready

John on the Island of Patmos receives this revelation of Jesus Christ. The Apostle John wrote 4 other books to the church. The Gospel of John, and 1,2,3 John, and this fifth book, Revelation. In the Gospel of John he wrote that we might believe, he uses the word believe some 60 times:

(John 20:31 NKJV) but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

He wrote us in 1,2,3 John so that we might know that we have eternal life:

(1 John 5:13 NKJV) These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

So he wrote that we might believe, then that we might know, and now he writes Revelation so that we might be ready:

(Revelation 2:7 NKJV) "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

Before Glorified Christ / Write these Things / All Things Coming Before Throne

John is now before the glorified Christ, and Jesus says John now write these things so that they might be ready, for this book is all about man coming before the Holy God, the flow of all humanity is flowing to the throne of God whether man realizes it or not, John writes so that all of man might be ready:

(Ephesians 1:10 NKJV) that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth; in Him.

Book of Revelation Outline

- The Things Which You Have Seen - (Chapter 1).
- The Things Which Are - (Chapters 2-3).
- The Things Which Will Take Place After This - (Chapters 4-22).

(Revelation 1:19 NKJV) "Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.

Recap Outline

- Chapter 1 is the revelation of the glorified Christ.

- Chapters 2-3 are the 7 churches, the current church period, this period known as the dispensation of grace. The church period ends with the Rapture as God takes us, His Bride, out of here for a 7+ year honeymoon with Him. We can see from the signs around us that the rapture is very soon.
- Chapters 4-5 are the scene around the throne of God, before the dispensation of grace ends, and God pours His wrath out on a Christ rejecting world.
- Chapters 6-19, known as the 7 year Tribulation Period.
- Chapter 20, at the end of the Tribulation Period Satan is cast into the bottomless pit, and the saints will rule and reign with Christ for 1,000 yrs (Millennial Kingdom) over those that survived the Tribulation. Then at the end of the thousand years Satan will be loosed, believe it or not, people will chose to follow him, then Jesus will say enough and cast Satan all those who follow him into the Lake of Fire.
- Chapter 21-22, then will come the new heaven, and the new earth, and we shall live happily ever after – but there will be no end as we will spend all of eternity beholding Him, and fellowship with each other.

Recap / Revelation – Exhortation – Expectation - Explanation

So in chapter 1 we saw the Revelation of the Lord. Chapter 2-3, the Exhortation from the Lord, to be ready. Chapter 4, we have the Expectation of the Saints, as the Lord says Come up here, get out of there. And, chapter 5, we have the Explanation, of why the world is in the condition that it is in, as we saw Jesus reclaiming the Title Deed (the Scroll) to this earth, as Adam forfeited to Satan, who is the god of this world.

Chp 6 - 4 Horseman – Martyrs – Earthquakes / Chp 7 – 144K Sealed – More Martyrs

Things are going badly. The bow of the horseman on the white horse is broken. Blood flows in war. Famine follows. Disease and sickness run rampant. Man finally gets what they wanted, to be totally self governed, no God in their lives and government, and none of those obnoxious Christians with all their moral values. The resultant we saw that in just these 4 seals a quarter of the population is dead (post rapture that may be somewhere around 2 billion people). We saw, part of the Wrath of the Lamb is the Rapture of the Church, for the Restrainer is taking out (the Holy Spirit in you, the church) and the world is left with no moral conscience. Then we saw a multitude of saints (saved after the rapture) killed for their faith, and the sixth seal brought on great earthquakes and cataclysmic events on the earth, as the whole earth is in upheaval. In chapter 7 we saw the sealing of the 144,000 children of Israel who can't be touched by the calamities that are upon the earth, and we saw even more martyred saints before the throne of God. So here in chapter we will see the 7th Seal, which will contain 7 Trumpets, and that 7th Trump will contain 7 Bowls of Wrath. So Chapter 8, some tough road to travel:

Healthy Fear

Herman Melville's famous novel, *Moby Dick* is the story of Captain Ahab's self-destructive obsession to hunt down the white sperm whale that bit off his leg. Captain Ahab's unbridled lust for vengeance is countered by his first mate's desire to return safely home, to his young wife and child. His mate is a man called, "Starbuck" - the coffee company's namesake. But there's a line in the novel that applies to our text... Starbuck is speaking to the ship's crew, when he says, "I will have no man in my boat who is not afraid of a whale..." According to Starbuck some fear of the peril at hand is healthy when encountering danger. Giant sperm whales are lethal. And without a proper fear, a sailor won't be as vigilant as he needs to be in light of the risks involved in harpooning a killer whale.

In essence, this is what I hear Pastor John saying to the churches in these chapters. This Revelation was written to cultivate a healthy respect in the Lord Jesus. As Proverbs states, "The beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord." Jesus is not a person with which to trifle. *Moby Dick* was the king of the sea; but the Bible calls Jesus "the Lion of the tribe of Judah." He is king of the jungle!... And in the words of Starbuck, "Everyone in his boat needs to have a healthy fear of that Lion." (Sandy Adams)

*Proverbs 9:10 (NKJV)*¹⁰ "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

*2 Timothy 1:7 (NKJV)*⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Outline: Revelation 8 (Silence in Heaven & the 7 Trumpets of God)

- Silence in Heaven (for 30 Minutes) – 8:1-2
- The Prayers of the Saints – 8:3-4
- Prayers Returned to the Earth – 8:5
- The 7 Trumpets of God – 8:6
- The 1st Trumpet (The Trees & Grass) – 8:7
- The 2nd Trumpet (The Sea) – 8:8-9
- The 3rd Trumpet (The Springs & Rivers) – 8:10-11
- The 4th Trumpet (The Sun & Moon) – 8:12
- The 3 Woes – 8:13

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need

Silence in Heaven (for 30 Minutes) – 8:1-2

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

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

Silence

8:1 – “He” – Jesus.

- “silence” – This must be an odd, deafening silence; especially in light of the noise typically surrounding the throne (4:8 – cherubim resting not; 5:9 – multitudes praising). 35

- “Be silent...for He has risen up.” (Zech. 2:13)

- This is the only mention of silence in Revelation.

- This is the point of no return. Within the 7th seal are the 7 trumpets and 7 vials. In this seal are the final, but most destructive judgments of all.

- God seems to be brooding over this impending series of events. God’s heart must be breaking at the destruction coming upon the world He loves. He is patient and desires for all people to be saved. He doesn’t take pleasure in the death of the wicked. This must hurt.

- All the angels, cherubim, and people are looking at the heart-broken Father on the throne.

Remember this silence, silences..... Holy, Holy, Holy

Revelation 4:8 (NKJV) ⁸ The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!”

8:2 – “given seven trumpets” – Silently the 7 trumpets are given to 7 angels surrounding the throne.

- “angels who stand before God” – These are not archangels. Michael is “the archangel” (Jude 9).

Gabriel is one of these angels standing before God (Luke 1:19)

Commentaries – Reasons / Don't Know / Pastor Chuck / Notice the Context of Silence – Prayer

Silence can be deafening. You can read many commentaries and hear many thoughts of what this silence means, and to be honest I do not know myself. Is it the calm before the storm, is it the heavy heart of God as His heart breaks for what is next to come, I do not really know. As Pastor Chuck noted, men even have a hard time being silent about silence, they feel they need to explain it. I won't try to guess why there is 30 minutes of silence in heaven before the next seal is broken, I believe we will be there soon enough to see, and hear (the silence) for ourselves. But there is something that I do notice here, and that is that prayer is in the context of this silence, that even in the midst of all the noises in heaven, God still hears our prayers.

****The Key to prayer is not looking for God's answers, but believing that He has heard. The answers will come with His hearing.****

Heaven Loud – Busy / Angels – Creatures – Elders – Saints / How can God Hear Us

As we have been seeing and reading, heaven is loud, heaven is busy, there is a lot going on around the throne of God. There are angels, and creatures, elders and saints; worship and words, thundering and lightening. Just in everyday life there seems to be so much noise and actions going on, and we can question, is God hearing me, how can He hear me with all that is going on. Yet we see that He does.

The Prayers of the Saints – 8:3-4

(Revelation 8:3 NKJV) Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

(Revelation 8:4 NKJV) And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand.

Song in Heart / Written To Sufferers – Fed to Lion / Keep Backdrop in Mind / Yes God Hears

Just these few verses would pour forth a song into the hearts of a group of people (and should to us also), those people that would receive this letter from John himself. Mind you, this letter (Book of Revelation) is going to be circulated to the churches, and what are they themselves going through at the time of this writing? The apostle John is writing to a group of people who are picked on, put down, beat up, and persecuted as they are fed to lions, crucified upside down, and ignited as candles by the hand of the Roman Empire. As you read the Book of Revelation, keep this backdrop in mind. The temptation is to view this book only in the context of current events and eschatology. Although current application is important, we must listen to John's heartfelt words to his readers in A.D. 90—people who had no prestige, power, or prominence—people who perhaps wondered if God was hearing their prayers. These verses here, God through John, is telling them yes, yes your prayers are being heard. God speaks to us and says yes your prayers are being heard, and will be answered.

As If God says Hush / Want to Hear Every Word / Manage Universe – Hear Individually

And.....It is as if God is saying in the midst of all that is happening, Hush, silence, my people are praying, I want to hear every word that they have to say. Somehow He can do that, He can manage the universe, hear the prayers of millions simultaneously, yet your prayer is of undivided attention, uninterrupted, and undistracted. Christian do you believe that today, that every prayer is heard, and has His undivided attention.

Church Historians – Church Believed Heard / How Much Pray Indicates How much Heard

According to church historians, the distinctive feature of early Christian prayer is the certainty of being heard. In other words, when the early church prayed, they believed God was actually listening. How much we pray is the truest indication in our lives.

****The Key to prayer is not looking for God's answers, but believing that He has heard. The answers will come with His hearing.****

Prayers Ascend – Hush Living Creatures – Elders – Angels / Not Miss a Word

The prayers of the saints ascend before Him, and it's as though God says, "Hush." To the living creatures who cry, "Holy, Holy, Holy," He says, "Hush"; to the twenty-four elders who praise Him continually, He says, "Hush"; to the thousands of angels who serve Him perpetually, He says, "Hush"—rendering heaven completely, totally silent. It's as though God says, "At this moment in time, nothing else has My attention like this prayer being offered to Me. I don't want to miss a single word."

Day Filled with Noises / Friends in Bible College – Every Word

Because our days are filled with a multitude of noises, we don't hear each other very well. We talk, but we don't listen. We converse, but we don't understand. There is, however, one exception: Two people who are totally in love can sit in a crowded, noisy restaurant and converse as though there's no one else around. I remember in Bible College my 2 friends who eventually got married. I remember them sitting next to me at dinner, and he was telling her about working on some water pipe, and how water was pouring out all over the place as he worked on it. I looked at her and she was hanging on to every word he was saying. She was, really, then what happened, really then what did you do. She hung on every word that he said. I was like please it's a water pipe – give me a break. But they were so in love, that when they talked, each listened intently. It wasn't about the water pipe to her, it was about her man.

Idea Here / My Child – Passionately in Love With / Hear Every Word

And that's the idea here. "I am passionately in love with the child speaking to Me," says God, "and I don't want to miss a word he's saying." So, like a laser, fixing His full attention on the person offering even the simplest of prayers, God listens.

****The Key to prayer is not looking for God's answers, but believing that He has heard. The answers will come with His hearing.****

Immediately Run to Someone Else / Jer 33 – Run To – Not past / Seek Counsel After

When something happens in our life we are immediately picking up the phone to call someone, or pulling up the email. Don't run off or out to talk to someone else, talk to the Father. He gives His undivided, complete, total attention to the prayers of anyone going through tribulation, trouble, or just wants to talk to him about the water pipe busting. The key is simply to pray. We look for help and solutions from others as we run right past Him. Talk to them after, seek your counsel after you have sought Him:

(Jeremiah 33:3 NKJV) 'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'

Our Intercessor – Heb 7:25 / Power Booster – Prayers Can't Get Out

Listen to this, remember this next time you pray; in Hebrews 7:25 we are told that Jesus lives to make intercession for us. This is two-fold (to say the least), in that Jesus prays for us even when we are not, He is our High Priest (that's the picture of the coal added to the incense – that's what the Priest would do in the temple). But also, this means my prayers go through Him on the way up before the throne. As my prayers go through Jesus they are adjusted, a prayer in weakness, or a weak prayer, go through our intercessor and they are boosted up to the Father in Power. Prayers that I can't even get out, I'm just groaning, help me Lord, are turned into powerful prayers as Jesus converts them into the words we can't muster because of what we are going through.

(Hebrews 7:25 NKJV) Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

You need not worry did I say in the name of Jesus or those things. As with salvation, so too will it be for our whole walk, it is all about asking, and receiving.

Prayers Returned to the Earth – 8:5

(Revelation 8:5 NKJV) Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake.

The Blood

I wonder since there was silence in heaven, if there was silence on the earth. After all the wars, famine, pestilence, close to 2 billion dead, if the earth as well has 30 minutes of silence, that they feel they have

outlasted the worst of it. Regardless..... the earth is shaken, and silence (or even the sound of daily despair they have been living in) will be broken through, as here comes unimaginable beyond what you have already seen and heard. It is still grace..... as we will see, a wakeup call, that you can still be forgiven.

Prayers Hurling Down – They are Answered / Shake their World / Right Time - Impacting

The angel takes the censer of prayer, perfumed with intercession, and casts, or literally “hurls” it back to earth. As the answer reenters earth’s atmosphere, the whole world is shaken with incalculable effect. These guys being beat up and persecuted are told through this prophecy that their prayers are heard, and that, in due season, the answer will shake their world. And, when God determines that the time is right, the prayers we pray will impact the earth.

Thy Kingdom Come

Every time we pray a prayer Lord heal him Lord touch her Lord help here Lord show up there and our heart cries because of the broken world that we live in a world that is broken because of sin and when we cry out or prayers Lord help cry out or prayers Lord where are you truly the depths of those prayer and the center of those prayers our Lord your Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven we are praying Lord make these things whole again Lord take the broken and mend them make them new Lord broken marriages is not your heart Lord broken bodies with disease and decay are not your will wars hatred greed lost ohh destruction and we pray Lord make these things right and we're literally praying let your Kingdom come which is perfect and whole because the king will be on the throne when that happens.

[Matthew 6:9–13 \(NKJV\)](#)⁹ In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰ Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. ¹³ And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Music to Ears – Promised Victory – Liberation - Collapse of Foe

Thus, the answer to their prayers was truly music to the ears of John’s congregation, for the sound of the trumpet promised victory, liberation, and the collapse of a city stronger even than Rome. And so too it is for us!

Nice Study you May Say / Not My Life – No Prayers Answered for Me – Marriage – Cancer - Job

“Interesting study,” you may say, “but I’ve been saved for a while, and I know differently. Oh, I’m not saying God doesn’t listen to prayer generally—just that He doesn’t hear My prayer specifically. My marriage was on the rocks,” or, “My daughter had cancer,” or, “My business was going bankrupt, so I prayed and prayed and prayed—and nothing happened. You talk about blaring trumpets, about a fireball of an answer hurled from heaven. That’s fine theoretically, but it doesn’t play that way for me personally.”

You are Not Alone

If you feel this way, you’re not alone....

Luke 1 / Zacharias

Let me remind you of a story, a righteous man named Zacharias.

[\(Luke 1:5 NKJV\)](#) There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah. His wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth.

[\(Luke 1:6 NKJV\)](#) And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.

[\(Luke 1:7 NKJV\)](#) But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both well advanced in years.

Considered a Defect / Brokenhearted – Wants Wrong with Me / Prayer Answered Years Later

Because barrenness was considered a curse, Zacharias and Elisabeth were considered sinful in the eyes of their community. Although God deemed them righteous, others believed there was a defect in their piety. This being the case, perhaps Zacharias and Elisabeth lived their lives brokenhearted, wondering what was wrong. But the Lord answered them, years later:

[\(Luke 1:11 NKJV\)](#) Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense.

[\(Luke 1:12 NKJV\)](#) And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.

[\(Luke 1:13 NKJV\)](#) But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John.

[\(Luke 1:14 NKJV\)](#) "And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth.

What Prayer – Stopped Praying Long Time Ago / God Remembered / Son - Prophet

“What prayer?” Zacharias must have asked. “Prayer for a son? I stopped praying for a son thirty years ago!” Do you understand the implication? This verse tells us that God remembers even the prayers we forget. “Give us a son,” prayed Elisabeth and Zacharias. But they heard nothing day after week after month after year because God wanted to give them more than just a son. His plan was to give them the herald for His own Son (Matthew 11:11). They wanted a son, but God wanted to give them a prophet.
(Matthew 11:10 NKJV) "For this is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.'
(Matthew 11:11 NKJV) "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Lord's In Box / Simmer at the Altar as Incense / Answered Unimaginable

Slowly, I begin to understand that my prayers remain in the Lord's “To Do” box, even though I may have given up hope long ago. Mixed with the sweet incense of Christ's intercession, they simmer on the altar until God answers them in a way I would never have dared dream:
(Ephesians 3:20 NKJV) Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,
(Ephesians 3:21 NKJV) to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

****The Key to prayer is not looking for God's answers, but believing that He has heard. The answers will come with His hearing.****

Delay – Not Deny / Keep Praying

Thus, the delay in answered prayer is not due to God's procrastination, but to His desire to exceed even our wildest imagination. Keep praying, keep asking, believing that He hears:
(James 4:2 NKJV) You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.
(James 4:3 NKJV) You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.

How Explain Cancer – Hardship

How do you explain things such as divorce, cancer, bankruptcy, children rebellion? I can't fully, but what I can explain is that there are things that God is doing that is in a bigger picture than I can ever see. As these saints were being persecuted, and they received this letter, they would see God was working a big picture, and their suffering played a part of what God was doing. So too with us, what we can't see and understand, may just very well be part of the big picture. Maybe you want a son, and God wants to give you a prophet:
(Revelation 8:5 NKJV) Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it to the earth. And there were noises, thunders, lightnings, and an earthquake.

Hush – My Child is Praying / At right Time – It will Quake the World

“Shhh,” says God. “My child is praying.” And at the right time—maybe that day, maybe next week, maybe ten years down the road, maybe half a century later—the answer will quake your world.

Every time You Pray – Full Attention / Trumpets will Sound – Walls - Debts – Victory

Every time you pray, dear saint, you have your Father's full attention. And one day, trumpets will sound; walls will fall; debts will be canceled; victory will abound. Ohh that we may be people who pray.

****The Key to prayer is not looking for God's answers, but believing that He has heard. The answers will come with His hearing.****

Storm Approaching

When you see and hear thunder and lightning off in a distant, then you know a storm is coming.

The 7 Trumpets of God – 8:6

(Revelation 8:6 NKJV) So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

Answer to Where are You / Music to Ears of Suffering

Here was the answer to their prayers, how much longer Lord, Lord are you there? It was music to the ears of the persecuted.

1st Century Believers – Read OT / 800 OT Ref / Understand these Trumpets

Realize this, when these first-century believers studied the Bible, they studied mostly the Old Testament, the New Testament was still being written, was still being distributed. There are over 800 references to the OT in the Book of Revelation, these believers would have seen them so clearly. These trumpets would jump out to them, and they would have started to tie things together. When they read the Old Testament, they would have read of trumpets, and what would they have read:

Walls of Jericho / Impregnable Walls Coming down

The blast of seven trumpets preceded the collapse of the seemingly impregnable walls of Jericho. No doubt that is how they felt, there was no chance of victory against what was upon them – maybe you can relate to that:

(Joshua 6:13 NKJV) Then seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD went on continually and blew with the trumpets. And the armed men went before them. But the rear guard came after the ark of the LORD, while the priests continued blowing the trumpets.

(Joshua 6:14 NKJV) And the second day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp. So they did six days.

(Joshua 6:15 NKJV) But it came to pass on the seventh day that they rose early, about the dawning of the day, and marched around the city seven times in the same manner. On that day only they marched around the city seven times.

(Joshua 6:16 NKJV) And the seventh time it happened, when the priests blew the trumpets, that Joshua said to the people: "Shout, for the LORD has given you the city!....."

(Joshua 6:20 NKJV) So the people shouted when the priests blew the trumpets. And it happened when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat. Then the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

Numbers 10 – God bring the Victory

The alarm of two trumpets reminded the children of Israel that the Lord their God would bring them victory
(Numbers 10:9 NKJV) "When you go to war in your land against the enemy who oppresses you, then you shall sound an alarm with the trumpets, and you will be remembered before the LORD your God, and you will be saved from your enemies.

Levt 25 – Year of Jubilee / Debts Cancelled – Slaves Freed

The sound of the trumpet signaled the year of Jubilee—in which all debts were canceled, all slaves set free:

(Leviticus 25:9 NKJV) 'Then you shall cause the trumpet of the Jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement you shall make the trumpet to sound throughout all your land.

The 1st Trumpet (The Trees & Grass) – 8:7

(Revelation 8:7 NKJV) The first angel sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.

Where does this blood come from, consider that. Is it the blood of the martyred saints, is it the blood of the Lamb, the blood of the millions of sacrifices from the OT, who knows other than (the life is in the blood), and we will begin to see natural life dying in trees and grass, that will bring death to the living.

Supernatural

Obviously supernatural judgments (1-4 on ecology, 5-7 on mankind).

- This is different from the seals in that the seals gave way to tyranny, war, famine, and an earthquake. Those things have happened before and could lead the people to explain these occurrences apart from God. But the trumpet judgments are going to make it know that these things are coming directly from God.

- At the same time, there is the testimony of the two prophets and an eagle/angel traveling through the sky. God has not left Himself without witness. (Rev. 11)

- It is God's mercy to only destroy a third. The upcoming vials will destroy all.

- "When your judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness."

(Isa. 26:9)

8:7 – “hail...fire...blood” – No symbolic language, actual hail, blood, and fire from the sky.
- God doesn't need nuclear weapon to pull this off. He did similar things in Egypt without the help of nuclear warfare. See the plague of hail in Exod. 9:23-24. - “trees” – The Greek word usually means “fruit trees.”
- The destruction on the fruit trees and the green grass would devastate the meat and milk industries.
- “grass” – Lit. “herbage.” Grass, trees, plants, etc. Everything that was green is gone.
- With the wind stopped in Ch. 7 and the inevitable ensuing drought, the earth foliage would be extremely dry and combustible.
- This will be a great affront to tree-huggers. Their mistake is to miss that the greatest resource on the planet is not the environment, but humans. And the most dangerous threat to the environment overall is sin.

Grass & Tree Destroyed / Oxygen Problem / Food Shortage – Cattle Grazing / Fruit Trees

Hail from above will destroy the trees and grass. A third of the trees would cause there to be an oxygen problem on the earth as trees are needed to produce breathable oxygen. A third of the grass would contribute to the food shortage that has been caused by war for the animals like the cow, goat, sheep need grass to eat. I assume that if the grass is destroyed then so would wheat, barely, corn, green beans, brussel sprouts, lettuce, carrots, watermelon, and the likes, all contributing to more famine in the world. Also, the trees destroyed would include fruit trees like apples, oranges, pear, and bananas. There will be a great vitamin deficiency for all humans at this time.

Gov't Seed Banks

Our government has seed banks of every imaginable seed in underground cryogenic tanks just incase of a nuclear holocaust or some plague that would wipe out the earth's crop so they may replant.

Spurgeon's Greatest Compliment

Charles H. Spurgeon reckoned as the highest compliment ever paid him the words of an open enemy who said, “Here is a man who has not moved an inch forward in all his ministry, and at the close of the nineteenth century is teaching the theology of the first century, and is proclaiming the doctrine of Jesus Christ as current today as it was eighteen hundred years ago.”

Every Word will Pass / Tough Road / Can be Heavy - But Blessing Promised

Every word of this Bible will come to pass, including these next 2 chapters. The next 2 chapters will be tough road to travel, some of the toughest in all the Bible as we read of more calamity and destruction (chapter 16 will be equally as tough), with no relief in sight. The study of this book can be heavy, it can be hard, but God does promise a blessing to all who read it. As we study verse-by-verse, there is a time of laughter and joy, singing and praise, but to be a balanced Christian, a time for sadness and sorrow for these things will come to pass on this earth. In each area, God promises a blessing:

Healthy Fear – Great Grace

May we have a healthy fear of our God, and let it affect the way we live today

And may we not miss this number over and over, 1/3..... not 1 whole – God is still giving grace for man to repent, by letting the upheaval give him time to come to repentance.

[2 Peter 3:8-9 \(NKJV\)](#) ⁸ But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day *is* as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

The 2nd Trumpet (The Sea) – 8:8-9

(Revelation 8:8 NKJV) Then the second angel sounded: And something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood.

(Revelation 8:9 NKJV) And a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

Like a Mountain

8:8 – “like a great mountain” – Not an actual mountain.

- "the sea" – May refer to the Mediterranean, but effects all the oceans. And the context of this judgment seems to be directly on "earth dwellers" (v. 13).

Destroyed

8:9 – "destroyed" – Scientists have identified 2,000 asteroids of the large variety. Only one asteroid the size of 1 km hitting the earth would be more destructive than a limited nuclear exchange (without the nuclear fallout.) If it hit the ocean, it would produce 200 ft tidal waves all over the earth. This collision would likely send the earth into a wobble.

- Because of the earth's atmosphere, the earth has been protected. But the pock-marked moon gives ample evidence of an asteroid's destructive capabilities.

- "third of the ships" – Proportionally, this would be over 1.5 million men and could quite possibly take out a nuclear submarine.

- 50% of the earth's oxygen comes from plankton. That would equate to a 20-25% reduction in the earth's oxygen.

- The animals destroyed in this catastrophe constitute the lowest and most basic components of the world's food chain.

1st Plague in Egypt

The water to blood takes us back to the 1st plague God levied against Pharaoh in Egypt.

Sea Contaminated / Tidal Wave – Ships / Plankton – Oxygen / Fresh Air for Granted

A third of the sea is contaminated in some way (reminder that ¾ of the earth is water to understand the magnitude of this), whether it be nuclear exchange or something prepared and sent by God as it strikes the sea. Whatever hits the sea (nuke, meteor) could cause a tidal wave like we saw with the Tsunami. That tidal wave could be what causes the ships to be destroyed, or it could be multiple nuclear hits. Now 50% of our oxygen we breathe is produced by the plankton in the sea, so there will be even more of an oxygen problem on the earth at this time. Imagine the lack/diminished oxygen, coupled with the smoke from the volcanoes, earthquakes, and wars we have read about up to this point, fresh air will be hard to get. People with breathing problems will suffer greatly with many dying. We take our fresh air for granted today.

Sea Creatures – Food Shortages / Economy Suffer – Fishing Trades – Restaurants

Now, lose a third of the sea creatures (fish, shrimp, oysters), and you multiple the food shortage on the earth, and increase the famine, Many counties live predominately off their fishing trade. The economies of the world will suffer greatly with the lost of 1/3 of the fishing industries. Consider how many restaurants will be forced out of business.

Economy Suffer / Gas Shortages – Trucks – Food Shortage

Not to mention, take out 1/3 of the ships, and now you increase the food problem because you don't have as many ships transporting food, not to mention oil moving though the world is done mainly by shipping. Take out 1/3 of the ships and that is less oil making it around the world, which will mean less gas being refined and fewer trucks on the road to move the food to the population. And, oil is literally the heart of all advanced counties economy (look what 1 hurricane did to our gas prices), so there will be great economic hardship throughout the world.

Ships – Death Toll / 25K at Sea

With a third of the ships being destroyed would most likely mean so would every man, woman, and child that were on them. It is estimated that at any given time there are 25,000 ships at sea (military, fishing, Cruise Lines, Pleasure Boats), so we are talking 8,000 of them being destroyed. The death toll would be massive, just consider all the military people that are on ships today.

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The 3rd Trumpet (The Springs & Rivers) – 8:10-11

(Revelation 8:10 NKJV) Then the third angel sounded: And a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water.

(Revelation 8:11 NKJV) The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the water, because it was made bitter.

8:10 – “star” – Lit. “any heavenly body.”

- “springs of water” – The poison here is reaching to the water table and affecting the underground sources of water..

- This judgment is on the fresh water. The previous judgment was on the salt water.

8:8-10 – “like a great mountain...like a torch” – One is mostly solid; the other is mostly fluid.

8:11 – “star is Wormwood” – In Job, we are told that God has all the stars named.

- “Wormwood” – The corresponding OT word is “hemlock.” Hemlock is poison.

- In the OT, wormwood always relates to God’s judgment on a rebellious Israel.

- In the Ukraine, Chernobyl means “wormwood.”

Undrinkable Water / Nuclear Contamination / Fresh Air – Water / Wormwood - Sorrow

Whatever this is coming from the sky causes a third of the drinking water to become undrinkable. A nuclear explosion (or meteor) will contaminate the waters for hundreds of miles around it as the water flow and carries the toxins with it. This week in China an explosion at a Chemical plant dumped 100 tons of benzene into the river and has left 4 million people without drinking water (26 Nov 05); we have seen this week a glimpse of Revelation 8:11 – all still just birth pains. So, man will be gasping for fresh air, struggling to get fresh water, and hungry. What a terrible time on the earth. Throughout the Old Testament when we see this word Wormwood, it is always associated and represents calamity and sorrow.

Craters on Moon / God Protects Us / Here see Separation of Church & State

Something to consider, if you ever see a picture of the moon, notice all the craters it has. Many, if not all have been created by impacts of meteors. Yet on the earth, we only have a few craters from meteor impact. The reason is because God protects us from them, He shields us by our earth’s atmosphere, and also I believe He steers the falling meteors away from us. God is ever so gracious to man, and those who want separation of church and state are fools who have no idea what they asking for. Here in the tribulation, we see a world that has separation of church and state.

Taking for Granted

God is touching, all these things man takes for granted every day (grass, grain, fruit, water, and..... air).

Get Your Own Dirt

One day a group of scientists got together and decided that man had come a long way and no longer needed God. So they picked one scientist to go and tell Him that they were done with Him. The scientist walked up to God and said, “God, we’ve decided that we no longer need you. We’re to the point that we can clone people and do many miraculous things, so why don’t you just go on and mind your own business?”

God listened very patiently and kindly to the man. After the scientist was done talking, God said, “Very well, how about this? Let’s say we have a man-making contest.” To which the scientist replied, “Okay, we can handle that!”

“But,” God added, “we’re going to do this just like I did back in the old days with Adam.”

The scientist said, “Sure, no problem” and bent down and grabbed himself a handful of dirt.

God looked at him and said, “No, no, no. You go get your own dirt.”

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The 4th Trumpet (The Sun & Moon) – 8:12

(Revelation 8:12 NKJV) Then the fourth angel sounded: 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 were darkened. A third of the day did not shine, and likewise the night.

8:12 – “struck” – This Greek word is used only once in the NT and its etymology and meaning are somewhat uncertain. This phenomenon cannot be merely explained by clouds or haze in the sky, since it is specifically said to be caused by a smiting of the heavenly bodies.

- “third of the sun...moon...stars” – A third of the whole or a third of its power.

- This is only temporary. The sun will increase in intensity 7 times later. (Rev. 16:8-9)

- In 6 verses (7-12), ‘third’ is used 9 times. It is God’s mercy to delay the total destruction.

He is slowly taking the things we take for granted, the sunrise, drinking water, green grass and growing crops, food, oxygen...

o God is long-suffering to bring some to repentance.

Not Allegories – Book of Exodus

“Come on,” some say. “These judgments are allegories. You can’t take them literally.” In response, I challenge them to compare the trumpet judgments with the plagues that befell Egypt (Exodus 7–12).

Were those plagues allegorical or literal? Ask Pharaoh. The first trumpet was water to blood, which was the first plague in Egypt, and here the 4th trumpet of the sky darkening lines itself up with the 9th plague in Egypt. There is no need to spiritualize, just take the Scripture for what it says unless it is clear that God is giving an allegory – like “the woman riding the beast, or the beast coming out of the sea”. This book isn’t meant to be confusing or hard to understand.

Mt St Helens

When Mount St. Helens erupted, the dust that shot into the air made the sky hazy for weeks.

33% Reduction Sunlight / Cold on Earth / Nuclear Winter / Crop Failure

Can you imagine what would happen if nuclear warheads were being detonated all over the world? A 33% reduction in the light of sun, moon, and stars could be speaking of what scientists ominously term “nuclear winter. If a nuclear exchange took place in the summertime, scientists tell us the high temperature on the west coast of the United States would be fifteen degrees. Obviously, crops would not grow, and starvation would result.

Heat or Eat / Gas Expensive – Trees Destroyed / Days Wages for Loaf of Bread

Here is the problem, it will be extremely cold in some places, and man will have a hard time gathering fire wood because a third of the trees have been destroyed, oil is going to be harder to get because a third of the ships are destroyed. Heating will be unimaginably expensive, but for many it won’t matter the price, for as we have read, during this time it will be a day’s wages just for a loaf of bread. Do I heat or eat, not to mention how expensive water will become. So man will be cold, hungry, and thirsty.

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Foreshadow of Hell

We have read, days of darkness, thirst, pain and suffering that goes on and on. It is a foretaste and foreshadow of eternal damnation. God in His grace gives a foreshadow, so man can make a final decision.

The 3 Woes – 8:13

(Revelation 8:13 NKJV) And I looked, and I heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!"

8:13 – “angel” – or “eagle” or both. (This could be a cherub.)

- “woe” – In Greek it is not a threat, but a cry of anguish.

- “woe...because of the remaining blasts” – The first four trumpets are not only judgments in themselves, but warnings of the last three trumpet judgments which will be far more severe in character.

37

- The prophet Jeremiah spoke of the sun and moon as tokens of God’s faithfulness to His promise to the nation of Israel and as symbols of their continuance as long as the earth endures. (Jer. 31:35-36)

- “inhabitants of the earth” – Lit. “earth-dwellers.” (Rev. 3:10; 6:10) - “heard” – This is an audible.

- It is a supernatural warning before the punishments to come directly upon the people.

Worst yet to Come

In other words, the angel is saying, “The worst is yet to come because the last three trumpets are worse than the first four.”

1st Four Deal Natural – Next the Supernatural – Demonic Activity

As we will see in chapter 9, the next three trumpets to blast judgment upon the earth are much more devastating than the first four. The first four trumpets dealt with the arena of the natural. The last three deal with the supernatural—specifically demonic activity.

Tough Road

This has been tough road, chapter 9 will be too. Thank God He says “Hush – My Child wants to speak to Me”.

No Second Chance / 2 Thess 2 / Expositional Constancy – Blasphemy Spirit – Rapture not Trigger

I think it important I at least comment on this, even though I do not see it in the Scriptures, there are many respectable and competent Bible teachers who believe and teach that once the rapture happens, those who rejected the gospel on this side of the rapture will not have the opportunity to receive the gospel after the rapture. Only those who have never heard nor had not rejected can get saved in the Tribulation. They base their position on 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12. Now I do not see that in expositional constantly, for the only unpardonable sin is the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit (rejecting the witness of the Spirit that Jesus is the Savior of your sin and you need a Savior), and I do not see the rapture as a trigger point to that unpardonable sin.

(2 Thessalonians 2:7 NKJV) For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way.

(2 Thessalonians 2:8 NKJV) And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

(2 Thessalonians 2:9 NKJV) The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,

(2 Thessalonians 2:10 NKJV) and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

(2 Thessalonians 2:11 NKJV) And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie,

(2 Thessalonians 2:12 NKJV) that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

God Wishes None Should Perish / Still Identifies Himself as the Lamb / Same Today as Forever

God is not slack concerning His promises, He wish that none should perish but all seek repentance. God still identifies Himself at this great time of wrath as the Lamb. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. God does not change;

(2 Peter 3:9 NKJV) The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

(Hebrews 13:8 NKJV) Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

(Malachi 3:6 NKJV) "For I am the LORD, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.

Those Listening After Rapture

Note: Let me also say this to those of you who are reading this or listening to this study after the Rapture has happened, the very fact that you are seeking after the things of God, the very fact that you question or clearly know that this World Leader that is on the scene today is a liar and deceiver, proves that God has not sent you a strong delusion. Had God sent you a strong delusion you would have no desire to seek out the truth, to seek out a Savior. Your Savior is Jesus Christ, and he is willing and ready to receive you, and forgive you of your sins.

What if I am Wrong / Some say when I see the Rapture

But, I need to say this to those of you who are here on this side of the rapture, what if I am wrong? Many people say hey when I see the rapture then I will know all you said was true, and then I get saved. But what if I am wrong, what if you will be sent a strong delusion, then what. Let me tell you the sure way, and that is today, today is the day of salvation and we won't need to worry if I am wrong. The word for acceptable in 2 Corinthians 6 means "favorable":

(2 Corinthians 6:2 NKJV) For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

God Forewarns for 2000 years / Begg Decision Today / Does not Pleasure in Death

God forewarns all man, for 2,000 years he has told us that this day will come, and He begs man to do something about today. God says He takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked

(Ezekiel 18:27 NKJV) "Again, when a wicked man turns away from the wickedness which he committed, and does what is lawful and right, he preserves himself alive.

(Ezekiel 18:28 NKJV) "Because he considers and turns away from all the transgressions which he committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die.

(Ezekiel 18:29 NKJV) "Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' O house of Israel, is it not My ways which are fair, and your ways which are not fair?

(Ezekiel 18:30 NKJV) "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways," says the Lord GOD. "Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin.

(Ezekiel 18:31 NKJV) "Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel?

(Ezekiel 18:32 NKJV) "For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies," says the Lord GOD. "Therefore turn and live!"

Third is Demonstration of Grace / Not Dragging out Judgment / Gives Opportunity to Repent

Do you realize that with only 1/3 of the trees, sea creatures, ships, water, being destroyed, God is not dragging out his judgment, but extending His grace. He is still preserving and extending life, giving man an opportunity to repent.

Not Scaring you into Heaven / His Kindness Leads to Repentance

I am not trying to scare you into heaven, for that is not love. Could you imagine, I am so afraid of that woman I going to marry her so I can spend the rest of my life with her. Rather I hope you would see, that it is His kindness that leads men to repentance. His love for me draws me to Him:

(Romans 2:4 NKJV) Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?

His Wrath Displays His Holiness / Can't Look Upon Sin

You see, God's wrath displays His holiness, for He is too holy to look upon sin, He cannot look upon wickedness and wink at it:

(Habakkuk 1:13 NKJV) You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, And cannot look on wickedness. Why do You look on those who deal treacherously, And hold Your tongue when the wicked devours A person more righteous than he?

Wrath – Holiness – Love / What Love to Take My Sin / Revelation shows what God Thinks of Sin

His wrath displays His Holiness, and that Holiness displays His Love, for ohh what Love a Holy God has for you, has for me, that He would leave His throne, and take on my sin, to take on what offends Him. What we see here in Revelation is what God thinks of sin, and yet He would love me enough to take my place, to receive my wrath. Rather than judge me, He traded with me. He is not a God of rules and regulations, but of love and forgiveness:

(2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJV) For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

(1 John 4:10 NKJV) In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

That Love – I would Follow Anywhere / Even to Death

It is that love that melts my heart, and I would follow Him anywhere so not to be separated from that love. I would follow Him all the way, up that hill, to the cross. I would go to the cross rather than be separated from Him ever again. And that is what He says to us, pick up our cross and follow Him:

(Matthew 16:24 NKJV) Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

(Matthew 16:25 NKJV) "For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

Joseph Damien De Veuster

In 1873, a Belgian missionary named Joseph Damien De Veuster was sent to minister to lepers on the Hawaiian Island of Molokai. When he arrived he immediately began to meet each one of the lepers in the colony in hopes of building a friendship. But where ever he turned, people shunned him. It seemed as though every door was closed. He poured his life into his work, erecting a chapel, beginning worship services, and pouring out his heart to the lepers. But it was to no avail! No one responded to his ministry. After twelve years Joseph Damien made the decision to leave.

Dejectedly, he made his way to the docks to board a ship to take him back to Belgium. As he stood on the dock he wrung his hands nervously as he recounted his futile ministry among the lepers. As he did he looked down at his hands and noticed some mysterious white spots and felt some numbness. Almost immediately he knew what was happening to his body. He had contracted leprosy!

It was then that he knew what he had to do. He returned to the leper colony and to his work. Quickly the word about his disease spread through the colony. Within a matter of hours everyone knew. Hundreds of them gathered outside his hut, they understood his pain, fear, and uncertainty about the future.

But the biggest surprise was the following Sunday. As Damien arrived at the chapel, he found hundreds of worshipers there. By the time the service began, the chapel was crowded, and many were gathered outside. His ministry became enormously successful. The reason? He was one of them. He understood and empathized with them.

How Amazing

Our Loving Savior, His Holiness requires that He judge and punishes sin, yet first He chose the nails, to take on our guilt and shame, take our cross, the wrath of God against sin. He became one of us, so that we may relate to His loving kindness towards us, and see the demonstration of His love towards us, and that He is not some distant far off God, but a God who is here now. When I see His Holiness, perfection, the cross becomes ever so clear to me, that I clearly see how much He loves me. The cross becomes a statement of the God who loves me, and is so intimately interested in every detail of my life:

(2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJV) For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Outline: Revelation 8 (Silence in Heaven & the 7 Trumpets of God)

- Silence in Heaven (for 30 Minutes) – 8:1-2
- The Prayers of the Saints – 8:3-4
- Prayers Returned to the Earth – 8:5
- The 7 Trumpets of God – 8:6

- The 1st Trumpet (The Trees & Grass) – 8:7
- The 2nd Trumpet (The Sea) – 8:8-9
- The 3rd Trumpet (The Springs & Rivers) – 8:10-11
- The 4th Trumpet (The Sun & Moon) – 8:12
- The 3 Woes – 8:13

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
 -
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
 -
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
 -
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
 -
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?
 -

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need