

Book of Revelation – The Seven Trumpets, 1st Woe I (The Fifth Trumpet--Rev 8:13-9:6)

Series REV-15

Heard an Angel Flying (Rev 8:13)

The last verse of chapter 8 is unique and one easily passed over. It is unique in what John heard. It indicates what we studied last week with the separation of the first four trumpets and the last three, known as “woes” (4:3).

Remember, what the word of the Lord says in 2 Timothy 2:15.

“Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

We must study the word of truth and as we have come to believe that these last three trumpets, “woes” that we are about to embark on are tied to the three angels’ messages. Hence, present truth.

“ And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!”

This sounds like Revelation 14 language. But as a springboard into chapter 9, notice these points:

- An angel flying in the ‘midst of heaven’ spoke with a ‘loud voice’
- Three woes are mentioned warning the inhabitants of the earth
- By reason of the other voices of the trumpet (singular) of these three angels, yet to sound.

Notice: **Loud Voice / Woes / Trumpet Voices**

Questions:

- 1) The angel warning is in a _____ voice.
- 2) If these are warnings for past generations (the traditional application) of the trumpets, why then study them? *{hint: history will be _____}*
If for no other reason but that, as Scripture states--history will be repeated, we should study these ‘woes,’ correct? _____ {Note Eccl 1:9}.
- 3) Challenge Question: Note the singular emphasis on the word, “trumpet” as it relates to these last three angels, yet to sound. Why is it in the singular and not the plural?

REVIEW

Before proceeding into Rev 9, the fifth trumpet, we need to be encouraged as we do a quick review of the work of our great High Priest, as Mediator in our behalf. {Remember it is a REVELATION OF/FROM/ABOUT JESUS CHRIST.}

Rev 1 – we see the ascended Lord in humble common priest garb, who’s eyes are a flame of fire and feet as fine brass. John is overwhelmed and falls down to worship his Master. (Here we see sanctuary language, first time in the book).

Rev 2 & 3 – The messages of instruction Christ gives to His churches for their recovery to righteousness. (Sanctuary language appears in each church, either directly or indirectly. Why? Because it is the process or pathway God has provided for our recovery and restoration.)

Rev 4 & 5 – Here we see the Throne in heaven as the command center for the universe. The vision given John as recorded here reveals that (especially in chp 5) all the action deals with a book which contains all human history in all its bearing and the One who prevails to open that book, with the appropriate praise and worship from heavenly beings and redeemed subjects which follows. (A fitting description indeed of the Investigative Judgment & the Cleansing of the Sanctuary.)

Rev 6 – The church is checked out (investigated/sealed) as that book is opened (the opening of the seals). As this takes place in a contemporary setting-- four horseman are described and the three final seals being opened reveal the closing scenes of the examination of the church. (Themes of present truth.)

Rev 7 – Opens with answering the question who is going to make it through the final crisis: The sealing of the 144,000 is revealed along with the Great Multitude who are shown to be standing before the throne in their immortal state. (The Center figure of the Sanctuary--“the Lamb”--is mentioned four times in this chapter.)

Rev 8 – Those who overcome are given trumpets of warning to blow to the world. We have now covered the first four of these trumpets. Now we begin the last three of these trumpets, known as woes. We begin with the first woe. (Trumpets were used in the warning of the Day of the Atonement in type.)

But before we begin, let us look at a few statements to help us keep the main points of present truth ever in the forefront of our minds:

“The Third Angel points to the work of Christ as our Mediator—“I saw the incense in the censer smoke as Jesus offered their confession and prayers to His Father. And as it ascended, a bright light rested upon Jesus and upon the mercy seat; and the earnest, praying ones, who were troubled because they had discovered themselves to be transgressors of God’s law were blessed, and their countenances lighted up with hope and joy. They joined in the work of the third angel and raised their voices to proclaim the solemn warning. But few at first

received it; yet the faithful continued with energy to proclaim the message. Then I saw many embrace the message of the third angel and unite their voices with those who had first given the warning, and they honored God by observing His sanctified rest day. – EW 256.1

Pray to the Sanctuary—“Do not bow down and cover up your faces as if there were something that you desired to conceal; but lift up your eyes toward the heavenly sanctuary, where Christ your Mediator stands before the Father to present your prayers, mingled with His own merit and spotless righteousness, as fragrant incense.” – CT 241.2

Every sincere prayer ascends to the sanctuary—“As yet the disciples were unacquainted with the Saviour's unlimited resources and power. He said to them, “Hitherto have ye asked nothing in My name.” John 16:24. He explained that the secret of their success would be in asking for strength and grace in His name. He would be present before the Father to make request for them. The prayer of the humble suppliant He presents as His own desire in that soul's behalf. Every sincere prayer is heard in heaven. It may not be fluently expressed; but if the heart is in it, it will ascend to the sanctuary where Jesus ministers, and He will present it to the Father without one awkward, stammering word, beautiful and fragrant with the incense of His own perfection.” – DA 667.3

Watched, strengthened and cared-for—“Stronger far than their foe is He who in this world and in human nature met and conquered Satan, resisting every temptation that comes to the youth today. He is their Elder Brother. He feels for them a deep and tender interest. He keeps over them a constant watch-care, and He rejoices when they try to please Him. As they pray, He mingles with their prayers the incense of His righteousness, and offers them to God as a fragrant sacrifice. In His strength the youth can endure hardness as good soldiers of the cross. Strengthened with His might, they are enabled to reach the high ideals before them. The sacrifice made on Calvary is the pledge of their victory.” – MYP 95.4

To our Advocate—“Christ has pledged Himself to be our substitute and surety, and He neglects no one. There is an unexhaustible fund of perfect obedience accruing from His obedience. In heaven His merits, His self-denial and self-sacrifice, are treasured as incense to be offered up with the prayers of His people. As the sinner's sincere, humble prayers ascend to the throne of God, Christ mingles with them the merits of His own life of perfect obedience. Our prayers are made fragrant by this incense, Christ has pledged Himself to intercede in our behalf, and the Father always hears the Son.” – SD 22.3

The intercession of Christ and the Holy Spirit—“Oh, that all may see that everything in obedience, in penitence, in praise and thanksgiving, must be placed upon the glowing fire of the righteousness of Christ. The fragrance of this righteousness ascends like a cloud around the mercy seat.

Are not these mighty statements to encourage us in the path of godliness?

THE FIRST WOE (Rev 9:1-6) – Part I

¹The fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. ²And he opened the bottomless pit: and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. ³And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. ⁴And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads. ⁵And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man. ⁶And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.

Here is what we under the inspiration of the Spirit of God will strive to understand, as we look at these verses and the symbols recorded in chapter 9. They are full of meaning and we need the Lord to speak to us that we comprehend how to apply this 5th Trumpet in our day. Use the resources you already have to assist your research:

Vs.1 - The fifth angel sounded,

Result: I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: _____

To him was given the key of the bottomless pit: _____

Vs.2 - And he opened the bottomless pit: _____

Result: and there arose a smoke out of the pit: _____

As the smoke of a great furnace: _____

Result: the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. _____

Vs.3 - And there came out of the smoke

Result: locusts upon the earth: _____

unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power: _____

Vs.4 – And it was commanded them that they should not hurt:

The grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree: _____

but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads: _____

_____.

Vs.5 – And to them it was given that they should not kill them

Result: *But that they should be tormented five months:* _____

And their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man: _____

_____.

Vs.6 – And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.

_____.

Do your best as we press forward seeking for light to apply to the contemporary time, we are living in. We will discuss your findings in class.

Note: The fifth and sixth woes of Rev 9 are probably the most challenging of all the trumpets to figure out and could very well be the most difficult part of the entire book to figure out. But with God, nothing shall be impossible. Remember, this book is a revelation of the Lord of Glory and that includes the trumpets. The Son of God desires us to study for understanding. “Study to show thyself approved unto God.”