

# The Seven Trumpets

“And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets. And the... angels... prepared themselves to sound...” - John

**Rev 8:2-6** <sup>2</sup> And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound

Seven angels sound in response to the prayers of God's people.

This indicates the beginning of intercession.

This continues throughout the 'daily' ministry of the sanctuary.

But there comes a time when intercession in the heavenly temple ceases.

The trumpets are God's response to these prayers.

## Ruler Over The Kings Of The Earth —

**Rev 1:5** <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth.

**Psa 2:1-12** Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing? <sup>2</sup> The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, *saying*, <sup>3</sup> "Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us." <sup>4</sup> He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The Lord shall hold them in derision. <sup>5</sup> Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, And distress them in His deep displeasure: <sup>6</sup> "Yet I have set My King On My holy hill of Zion." <sup>7</sup> "I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, 'You *are* My Son, Today I have begotten You. <sup>8</sup> Ask of Me, and I will give *You* The nations *for* Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth *for* Your possession. <sup>9</sup> You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.'" <sup>10</sup> Now therefore, be wise, O kings; Be instructed, you judges of the earth. <sup>11</sup> Serve the LORD with fear, And rejoice with trembling. <sup>12</sup> Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish *in* the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed *are* all those who put their trust in Him.

**Luk 19:14** <sup>14</sup> "But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We will not have this *man* to reign over us.'

Why do the nations rage (the kings of the earth) and 'the people' (God's people, the Jewish nation) plot a vain thing (See Acts 4:23-31)?

God set His King (Jesus Christ) on His holy hill on the day of Pentecost, when Jesus sat down at His right hand until God makes His enemies His footstool.

Christ will break all nations in rebellion against Him with a rod of iron (Rev 12:5)

This is a warning to kings and kingdoms who would rebel against the Messiah's rule.

## Trumpets A Call For Help In War —

**Num 10:2, 9** <sup>2</sup> “Make two silver trumpets for yourself; you shall make them of hammered work; you shall use them for calling the congregation and for directing the movement of the camps...

<sup>9</sup> “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.

**2Ch 13:2-3, 12-15** And there was war between Abijah and Jeroboam. <sup>3</sup> Abijah set the battle in order with an army of valiant warriors, four hundred thousand choice men. Jeroboam also drew up in battle formation against him with eight hundred thousand choice men, mighty men of valor... <sup>12</sup> “Now look, God Himself is with us as *our* head, and His priests with sounding trumpets to sound the alarm against you. O children of Israel, do not fight against the LORD God of your fathers, for you shall not prosper!” <sup>13</sup> But Jeroboam caused an ambush to go around behind them; so they were in front of Judah, and the ambush *was* behind them. <sup>14</sup> And when Judah looked around, to their surprise the battle line *was* at both front and rear; and they cried out to the LORD, and the priests sounded the trumpets. <sup>15</sup> Then the men of Judah gave a shout; and as the men of Judah shouted, it happened that God struck Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah.

These trumpets were used to call to God to remember His people when they went an enemy oppressed them in their land.

Israel — Under Jeroboam (10)

Judah — Under Abijah (2)

God delivered Judah from the hand of Israel and struck their enemies.

## The First Trumpet —

**Rev 8:7** <sup>7</sup> 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.

## Hail and Fire, Mingled with Blood —

**Eze 38:21-22** <sup>21</sup> “I will call for a sword against Gog throughout all My mountains,” says the Lord GOD. “Every man’s sword will be against his brother. <sup>22</sup> “And I will bring him to judgment with pestilence and bloodshed; I will rain down on him, on his troops, and on the many peoples who *are* with him, flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.”

Hail and fire are judgments of God against the enemies of His people. See also Ex 9:23-25; Ps 18:13 for more on hail, fire and blood.

## The Third Part —

**Rev 12:4** <sup>4</sup> His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

The third part has a strong reference to those whom Satan has deceived. See also Rev 16:13, 19.

## Trees and Grass —

**Psa 52:8** <sup>8</sup> But I *am* like a green olive tree in the house of God; I trust in the mercy of God forever and ever.

**Jer 17:7-8** <sup>7</sup> “Blessed *is* the man who trusts in the LORD, And whose hope is the LORD. <sup>8</sup> For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, Which spreads out its roots by the river, And will not fear when heat comes; But its leaf will be green, And will not be anxious in the year of drought, Nor will cease from yielding fruit.”

**Psa 72:16** <sup>16</sup> There will be an abundance of grain in the earth, On the top of the mountains; Its fruit shall wave like Lebanon; And *those* of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth.

**Isa 44:2-4** <sup>2</sup> Thus says the LORD who made you And formed you from the womb, *who* will help you: ‘Fear not, O Jacob My servant; And you, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen. <sup>3</sup> For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, And floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, And My blessing on your offspring; <sup>4</sup> They will spring up among the grass Like willows by the watercourses.’

## Burning Trees Or Grass —

**Jer 11:16** <sup>16</sup> The LORD called your name, Green Olive Tree, Lovely *and* of Good Fruit. With the noise of a great tumult He has kindled fire on it, And its branches are broken.

**Isa 40:5-8** <sup>5</sup> The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see *it* together... <sup>6</sup> The voice said, “Cry out!” And he said, “What shall I cry?” “All flesh *is* grass, And all its loveliness *is* like the flower of the field. <sup>7</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades, Because the breath of the LORD blows upon it; Surely the people *are* grass. <sup>8</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.”

**Luk 3:8-9** <sup>8</sup> “Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as *our* father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. <sup>9</sup> “And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

**Act 4:29-30** <sup>29</sup> “Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, <sup>30</sup> “by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.” <sup>31</sup> And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit...

Green is a symbol of living faith in the Bible. The things that are green symbolize those who have trust and faith in Him.

Trees are leaders of the people, while the people themselves are likened to grass. A green tree is one that has a living faith, that is drawing its nutrients from the river of God’s Spirit, while a dry tree is one that does not have the sap of the Spirit dwelling in him (See Lk 23:27-31).

See Rev 9:4 for more support of this idea that trees and green things represent God’s people.

See also (Isa 27:11; Jer 21:8-14; Eze 20:47)

See also (Mat 3:10; Luk 13:6-9; Mat 21:18-20)

The Prayer of Acts 4 is the first century church blowing the trumpet for God to act for them against the Jewish nation who is oppressing them. See also Lk 19:41-44; Mt 23:34-35.

**1st Trumpet** — The Destruction of Jerusalem (31AD—70AD)

The first trumpet is God’s judgment against the church’s first oppressors — the Jewish nation. God sent the armies of Rome against them for persecuting His apostles and prophets.

“...one would have thought that the hill itself, on which the temple stood, was seething-hot, as full of fire on every part of it, that the blood was larger in quantity than the fire...”

“...they... made the whole city run down with blood... that the fire of many of the houses was quenched with these men’s blood.”

**2nd Trumpet** — The Fall of Rome (100AD—476AD)

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

**3rd Trumpet** — The Fall of the Church (313AD—538AD)

**Rev 8:10-11** <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> 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.

**4th Trumpet** —The Dark Ages (538AD—1798AD)

**Rev 8:12** <sup>12</sup> 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.

**5th Trumpet** —The Ottoman Turk Torture (1299—1449AD)

The Ottoman Turk began tortmenting the people of the Holy Roman Empire in the east in 1299AD. For 150 years, they the Holy Roman Empire, but were not allowed to destory it. This was brought about because of their unfaithfulness to God’s covenant and because they were persecuting the faithful people of God.

**6th Trumpet** —The Ottoman Empire (1449— 1840AD)

In 1449, Constantinople was given to the Ottomans when the Roman prince asked permission to ascend the throne. Exactly 391 years and 15 days later, the Turkish Sulton did a similar thing.

**7th Trumpet** — Jesus Receives His Kingdom (20??)

See Mt 22:6-7

Josephus, *The Wars of the Jews*, Bk VI, Chap V, Sect 1

Josephus, *The Wars of the Jews*, Bk VI, Chap VIII, Sect 5

**Mountain** = (Dan 2:35; Isa 13:4; Jer 51:23-24; Rev 18:8)

**Sea** = (Jer 51:41-42; Ps 65:7; Isa 17:12-13; Isa 57:20; Rev 17:15, Rev 18:21)

**Star** = (Gen 37:9-10; Dan 12:3; Rev 1:20; Rev 12:1; Jud 1:12-13)

**Torch** = (Rev 1:20; Rev 4:5)

**Rivers & Springs** = (Isa 12:3; Pr 13:14; Pr 25:26; Jer 2:13; Rev 22:1)

**Wormwood** = (Dt 29:16-18; Amo 5:6-7; Jer 9:13-15; Jer 23:13-15)

**Sun** = (Ps 89:36; Isa 9:2; Mal 4:2; Jn 1:9; Jn 8:12; 2 Cor 4:6)

**Moon** = (Ps 89:37; Jn 5:39; 2 Pet 1:19)

**Star** = (Gen 37:9-10; Dan 12:3; Rev 1:20; Rev 12:1; Jud 1:12-13)

**Darkened** = (Pr 2:13; Pr 4:19; Isa 5:20; Isa 8:19-Isa 9:2; Eze 32:7-8; Jn 1:4-5; Jn 8:12)

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# The Sanctuary in Revelation

## The Organization of the Book of Revelation

Rev 1:1-8	Introduction	Blessing on those who read and keep.
Rev 1:9-20	Introduction to the Churches Jesus Among the Candlesticks	*Jesus is in the midst of His churches to encourage, rebuke and promise life to those who overcome in His churches.
Rev 2:1-3:22	Letters to the Seven Churches	
Rev 4:1-5:14	Introduction to the Seals Jesus Enthroned (Table Showbread)	*Jesus' priestly inauguration — The book of life is opened and the citizens of God's kingdom are made up. Believers are found worthy of eternal life during the flow of world history.
Rev 6:1-16	The First Six Seals	
Rev 7:1-17	The 144,000 (Those Who Stand)	
Rev 8:1	The Seventh Seal	
Rev 8:2-6	Introduction to the Trumpets Jesus Empowers (Altar Incense)	*Holy Spirit poured out at Pentecost in response to the prayers of God's people. The consequences of rejecting the gospel are also poured out in judgments upon those who persecute and reject Christ.
Rev 8:7-11:18	The First Six Trumpets	
Rev 10:1-11:14	Interlude / Prophecy / Witnesses	
Rev 11:15-18	The Seventh Trumpet	
Rev 11:19	<b>Temple (Judgment) Opens</b> <b>Jesus at Ark of Covenant</b>	<b>The Day of Atonement begins -</b> *At the cross, Heaven gains the victory over Satan.
Rev 12:1-17	Heaven Prevails Over Satan	Satanic Plan
Rev 13:1-18	Satan's War Strategy	<b>God's Counterattack</b>
Rev 14:1-13	<b>God's Final Appeal</b>	<b>Righteous Ripened</b>
Rev 14:14-16	<b>Righteous Reaped</b>	Wicked have ripened
Rev 14:17-20	Wicked Reaped	After the last appeal is given, saints gain the victory over Satan .
Rev 15:1-8	Saints Prevail Over Satan	<b>The Day of Atonement ends -</b>
Rev 15:8	<b>Temple (Judgment) Closes</b> <b>Jesus Leaves the Temple</b>	Final consequences of rejecting the gospel. Satanic spirit poured out on the wicked.
Rev 16:1-21	The Seven Last Plagues 3 Unclean Spirits / Walk naked	
Rev 17:1-18	The Harlot and the Beast	The citizens of Satan's kingdom are made up, his kingdom is judged and its citizens are judged and found worthy of death. (Satan was already judged at the cross)
Rev 18:1-19:24	Judgment of the Harlot	
Rev 19:1-10	Rejoicing of Heaven Over Babylon	
Rev 19:11-21	Vindication of the Bride of Christ	
Rev 20:1-3	Satan During the 1000 Years	Jesus' fulfills His promises to the churches. (Tree of life, 2nd death, hidden manna and new name, power over nations, clothed in white, pillar in the temple, sit on throne)
Rev 20:4-6	God's People During the 1000 Years	
Rev 20:7-15	Satan and the Wicked After 1000 Years	
Rev 21:1-8	God and the Righteous After 1000 Years	
Rev 21:9-22:5	New Jerusalem	Spirit & Bride invite / Curse those who add or remove any words from the book.
Rev 22:6-21	Epilogue	

\* — Indicates a cycle of time: From John's day (the cross) to the 2nd coming of Jesus Christ