

REVELATION CHAPTER EIGHT

Verse 1: *"And when He had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour."* The first verse of this chapter deals with the opening of the seventh seal. As we studied the seals, we found that every time a seal was opened that something was said or something was written, but when this seventh seal is opened, there isn't a thing written or a thing said. Why? Because the whole book is opened, and that Mighty Angel comes down in Revelation chapter 10 with the opened book in His hand. We'll get more on this verse in the tenth chapter.

Before one trumpet can sound, the seven church ages, the seven seals, and the seven thunders, which are the revelation of the seven seals are fully made known to the Church; because, here, the seven angels are back before the throne.

Verse 2: *"And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets."*

Do you see this transition? To them were given seven trumpets. This is a change over period. They have already done various other jobs, and now they are given seven trumpets to blow; and when they blow them there will be something take place in the earth. **These are the same seven angels that had the church ages, the seals, and they are the seven thunders which utter their voices through the voice of the seventh church age messenger to make known the revelation of the seven seals.** That's why the church ages, the seals, and the thunders will all have taken place before even one trumpet sounds. **It's the same seven spiritual angels.** They have the vials also.

Verse 3: *"And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne."*

Verse 4: *"And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand."*

Verse 5: *"And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake."*

Verse 6: *"And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound."*

Those verses means that these seven spiritual angels who are the thunders of Revelation, chapter ten, are ready to sound the trumpets. This is a transitional period, from God dealing with the Gentile Bride to dealing with the nation of Israel again. This is taking place in heaven, but it is a time period in earth. God is getting ready to turn and, again, begin to deal with Israel. Do you see this transition? This is the period of time between the opening of the seventh seal, and before even one trumpet sounds. The temple was just as it was in Old Testament worship when they offered the incense; but, here, it was the prayers of

the saints they offered.

The angel in verse 5 took a censer full of fire from the altar and cast it into the earth. What does that mean? It's the closing out of an age and getting ready, or making preparations, to start something else. This was getting the heavenly realm ready for the sounding of the trumpets. This all takes place in a short period of time.

These seven trumpets are another work of these angels, which means that they have already uttered their voices as thunders to the Bride. What it amounts to is that those seven thunders have to be the voices of "those seven" spiritual angels bringing the results of what had been done through the seven church ages and restoring God's knowledge, God's Word, and the power of Christ to earth. What it will be is Christ in the earth, just like He was in the Book of Acts. So after the thunders have uttered, the first angel picks up a trumpet and blows.

Verse 7: *"The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up."*

When these trumpets sound there is something that takes place in the spiritual realm that John saw; but the earth receives the results of it. Watch the results of what John saw. It says, *"and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up."* That's what will happen in the earth, but people will not see the first part of this trumpet—the fire, hail, and blood falling out of the sky. John saw this in the Spirit. The results of it in the earth were that the third part of the trees and the grass were burnt up. That *third part* means that it's in the Middle Eastern part of the world. These trumpets are God's warning judgment to Israel.

By this time the 70th week of Daniel has already begun. Two prophets stand in Israel and they will be men with the spirits of Moses and Elijah on them, as their work reveals them to Israel. The trumpets that sound in the first part of Daniel's 70th week will be the message of Moses and Elijah. The first part of the week is not tribulation, but there will be a time of drought in Israel like hasn't been since the days of Elijah. For he will shut the heavens and there will be no rain fall from heaven in and around Jerusalem. Also, Moses will stand and turn the sea to blood—all in the first part of the week.

Micah 7:15-16 shows how God will deal with Israel in the last day. It says, *"According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt will I shew unto him marvelous things. The nations shall see and be confounded at all their might: they shall lay their hand upon their mouth, their ears shall be deaf."*

We are so used to living in a push-button world where everything is automatic that it's hard for the Gentile nations to understand how that God uses nature sometimes, and when these nations see it, they will be confounded and will say, "What in the world is going on?" When Moses turns the sea into blood, those nations will try to figure it out scientifically; but the Bible says they will be confounded.

Micah 7:17 says, *"They shall lick the dust like a serpent, they shall move out of their*

holes like worms of the earth: they shall be afraid of the Lord our God, and shall fear because of thee."

If we want to see what God is going to do in Israel in the first 3 ½ years of the 70th week of Daniel, we can get a glimpse by looking back into Egypt. As He dealt with them when He led them out of Egypt, so will He deal with them in the last day. Did not Moses smite the earth with all kinds of plagues?

The first trumpet causes the third part of the trees and the grass to be burnt up. It's going to be applied in an earthly realm. There will be severe drought like the world has not seen since the days of the original Elijah. It's God's warning to Israel, saying wake-up and seek God.

Now, Israel is growing an abundance of oranges, grapefruits, etc. They have more than they need, so they are exporting them, but there is going to be a drought. When the nation of Israel signs a covenant with the pope and goes along with the antichrist, God is going to show His disapproval on that. That prophet, Elijah, is going to stand right there in Israel and smite the earth and speak the Word of God, the word of judgment, and say, "Let there be no rain fall until I call for it." The heavens will be shut up, the third part will, in and around the Middle East will dry up, and those nations are going to see it. It's going to be so dry that the leaves on the trees are going to parch and all the pastures will dry up.

Let's read a few verses in Joel, and then we'll go to Revelation 11 to show you that this doesn't happen two times, one in Revelation 8 and one in Revelation 11; it is the same in both chapters. It only happens once; and the prophets prophesying is the result of the trumpets sounding. In the Spirit there is an angel sounding a trumpet.

Joel 1:15-17 says, *"Alas for the day! For the day of the Lord is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come. Is not the meat cut off before our eyes, yea, joy and gladness from the house of our God? The seed is rotten under their clods, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down; for the corn is withered."* (because it hasn't rained according to Elijah's prophecy.)

Two prophets try to warn the nation of Israel and there is still mercy as long as these two prophets stand there, but those political Jews will make a covenant with the antichrist, and God doesn't like it. He will "cut the water off" and it won't rain a drop, to fulfill the Word of God.

Here's what happens to the fields: the seed will rot in the fields and the garners will be laid desolate. They're not desolate now; they're bursting because they are so full. Israel is trying to export more and more and sell to other nations. Why? The land is producing, the desert is blossoming forth, and they can't do anything with all they're producing. God is smiling upon Israel today, but watch when this trumpet sounds. The fields all dry up and the corn withers.

Joel 1:18 says, *"How do the beast groan! The herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate."* Why is this? The angel has blown a trumpet and Elijah has said, "Let there be no rain," and

everything in Israel dries up. Even the cattle have no green pasture. Joel 1:19—*“O Lord, to thee will I cry: for the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness, and the flame hath burned all the trees of the field.”* This says that fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness. It doesn't mean that someone threw a match and it burned all the pastures up. It is a drought, severe drought, like the world has not known since the time of Elijah.

When it says that the third part of the trees and green grass is burnt up, it means there is a great time of drought, 3 ½ years, and the pastures are burnt up. Joel calls it a fire burning up the fields and flames devouring the pastures, but it is not a literal flame; it is the flame of severe drought. There will be no rain, and the pastures will just wither away. It's God's judgment during that time.

Joel 1:20 says, *“The beasts of the field cry also unto thee: for the rivers of waters are dried up, and the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness.”* In the days of Elijah, did not the brook dry up where Elijah was staying? There was a famine in that day and the water became scarce. It will be a rough time, but there is still mercy; for there are two prophets on the scene. God always sends a warning before He sends the judgment. This is not judgment without mercy; this is a warning judgment.

In the Book of Micah it said that He would deal with them like He did when He brought them out of Egypt.

Let's read in the eleventh chapter of Revelation to show you this is the same thing. It deals with it on a greater scale of clarity.

Revelation 11:3 says, *“And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.”* This is exactly 3 ½ years.

Watch what else they do. Revelation 11:6 says, *“These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.”* This is the 3 ½ years of drought that we've been reading about. This will be the spirit of Elijah coming back on another man and he'll say, *“Let there be no rain till I call for it.”* And there will be no rain, the pastures will wither away, the seed will rot under the clod, etc. There will be severe drought in the land of Israel. The third part of the trees and the grass will be burnt up.

Who turned the water to blood in Bible days? Moses. He turned the water to blood in the land of Egypt. Who will these two prophets be? Moses and Elijah.

The rest of this verse says, *“And to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.”* They not only shut the heavens, they not only turn the water to blood, but they smite the earth as often as they will.

What did Moses do in the land of Egypt? He not only turned the water to blood, but he called for fleas and the fleas came. He also called for darkness and there was darkness on the land for three days. As God dealt with Israel when He was bringing them out of Egypt, so will He deal with them in the last day.

Notice, these are the same seven angels, and they are now blowing the trumpets. It's to call judgment, to warn Israel and say, "You've listened to the beast, and now you'd better take heed, you'd better line up and listen to the prophets." This is the ministry of the two prophets.

In the heavenly realm here, an angel is blowing a trumpet; but in the earthly realm two prophets stand there prophesying.

Do you see the first trumpet? The first trumpet is the drought. It's the message of Elijah, the prophet, closing the heaven that it rain not. That's trumpet number one. Let's sound trumpet number two.

Verse 8: *"And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood;"*

Verse 9: *"And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed."*

The Mediterranean Sea, and waters around Israel will be the attraction of the whole world. It will be on the newscast, on television, etc. "Something is taking place in Israel, the sea has become blood."

The people in Israel won't look up and see a big mountain on fire fall into the sea, but they will see a man, Moses, stand there and say, "If you don't believe I'm the prophet that God has raised up, then the Sea is going to turn into blood." He'll speak the Word and turn the whole Mediterranean Sea into blood, that being the third part of the sea. Don't get your eyes on the Pacific, the Atlantic, or the Indian Oceans. It will be in the Mediterranean Sea area.

Before all these nations around the Mediterranean Sea can see Israel, they have to look across that sea. The Bible says that they'll crawl out of their holes like worms. They'll say, "What in the world is going on?" It's two prophets that God has in Israel; that's what's going on. It's God visiting Israel to bring the Word to pass again in the last day.

When the 144,000 see the sea turn to blood, and see that no rain is coming, they'll believe the two prophets. There will be 144,000 sealed out to go preach the Everlasting Gospel of the fourteenth chapter of Revelation. There will be no mountain on fire fall into the sea when this angel sounds. **That's just God's way of hiding the Word until He gets ready to reveal it.**

The first trumpet is drought in the land of Israel as Elijah, the prophet, spoke the Word. The second trumpet is Moses turning the Sea to blood. Let's go on to the third trumpet.

Verse 10: *"And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters;"*

Verse 11: *"And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter."*

Something will happen, and God will cause something to disturb the rivers and streams in Israel and around the Middle Eastern countries; it will become so

bitter that men can't drink it.

People won't see a star fall, but they'll look at the waters. The water will change color and begin to get bitter so that they can't drink it. What will it be? It'll be two prophets smiting the water. They will speak the word of judgment and say, "Let every river in Israel become bitter so that men can't drink the water, because you've rejected God's Word." This takes place by the words of the prophets. In the spiritual realm an angel comes out and blows a trumpet.

Now, what did Moses do down in the land of Egypt? Moses called for darkness in the land of Egypt and it was so dark that it was as though they could feel the darkness. Watch when this fourth trumpet sounds.

Verse 12: *"And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise."*

Why was this only the third part of these? Because it affects in and around the Middle Eastern nations that's around Israel, just like down in Egypt. God said, as He dealt with them when He was bringing them out of Egypt, so would He deal with them in the last day. There was darkness in the land of Egypt, and there'll be darkness in Israel. Now, as you will see, there's nothing left but judgment. This brings us to about the middle of the 70th week.

When this fourth angel sounds, God flips the lights off for a little while, showing Israel that it is going to get dark and that there is coming a time when demons are going to come out. **This is God's last warning to Israel.**

These first four trumpets are warning Israel to accept God's way and to reject the antichrist. By this time, 3 ½ years have passed, and it's about the middle of the week. Then an angel comes flying through heaven to announce the three woes that are to take place when the fifth trumpet sounds.

Verse 13: *"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!"* (These are the same angels that utter their voices in the tenth chapter, verse four of Revelation).

Now, there are three woes here; this is at the middle of the week. I want to show you what these three woes are.

Woe number one is recorded in Revelation 9:1-12. The bottomless pit is opened and all the demons come out to torment men, and they'll say they would be better off to be dead.

The *second woe* is recorded in Revelation 11:7-14, and is the antichrist killing God's two prophets. That stops the mercy of God and the voice of God. There is no more mercy of this type. There is nothing but great tribulation. This is the time of Jacob's trouble where there will be great tribulation.

The *third woe* is in Revelation 12:7-17. The dragon is cast out of the heavenly realm, meaning that all the powers of satan, the devil himself, comes and is incarnated in the pope. He persecutes Israel, that woman of Revelation chapter 12, and he slays those tribulation saints. Satan himself will be turned loose on

human flesh. He'll go forth and persecute the seed of that woman and those who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus.

Do you see the woes? The angel flies through and says that mercy is over, and says, "*Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth.*" This announcement of the three woes is made between the fourth and fifth trumpets; although, the woes don't happen until the fifth trumpet sounds. **All three woes are loosed by the fifth trumpet and the results of them continues on under the sixth and seventh trumpets.** As the sixth and seventh trumpets sound in the last part of the week, the severity of this condition that the three woes start just gets worse and worse. That's why the last three trumpets are mentioned at the announcement of the three woes. Again, all three woes happen under the fifth trumpet, and that's right at the middle of the 70th week of Daniel.

In conclusion, the *first trumpet* is Elijah closing the heavens that it rain not. The *second trumpet* is Moses turning the water to blood. The *third trumpet* is the water in the rivers becoming so bitter men die from drinking of it. The *fourth trumpet* is God cutting the lights off for a third part of the day. It all takes place in Israel. Then before the fifth angel sounds, an angel flies through heaven and announces the three woes that are to happen when the fifth angel sounds his trumpet at the middle of the week.

This eighth chapter is the message of the two prophets and four of the angels sounding forth their trumpets. The first part of this chapter is a little transition period after the Bride gets ready for the Rapture, and before the trumpets start sounding to Israel, as verses three through six indicate. Amen.