

# REVELATION CHAPTER 8

## PART 1



***BLESSED IS HE THAT READETH,  
AND THEY THAT HEAR  
THE WORDS OF THIS PROPHECY....***



OPENING OF THE SEVENTH SEAL.  
Rev. viii. 1-6.

## REV 8:1-5

**KJV** <sup>1</sup>And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand. <sup>5</sup>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.

## REV 8:1-5

**NLT** <sup>1</sup> When the Lamb broke the seventh seal on the scroll, there was silence throughout heaven for about half an hour. <sup>2</sup> I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and they were given seven trumpets. <sup>3</sup> Then another angel with a gold incense burner came and stood at the altar. And a great amount of incense was given to him to mix with the prayers of God's people as an offering on the gold altar before the throne. <sup>4</sup> The smoke of the incense, mixed with the prayers of God's holy people, ascended up to God from the altar where the angel had poured them out. <sup>5</sup> Then the angel filled the incense burner with fire from the altar and threw it down upon the earth; and thunder crashed, lightning flashed, and there was a terrible earthquake.

## REV 8:1-5

**AMP** <sup>1</sup>WHEN HE [the Lamb] broke open the seventh seal, there was silence for about half an hour in heaven. <sup>2</sup>Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets. <sup>3</sup>And another angel came and stood over the altar. He had a golden censer, and he was given very much incense (fragrant spices and gums which exhale perfume when burned), that he might mingle it with the prayers of all the people of God (the saints) upon the golden altar before the throne. <sup>4</sup>And the smoke of the incense (the perfume) arose in the presence of God, with the prayers of the people of God (the saints), from the hand of the angel. <sup>5</sup>So the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and cast it upon the earth. Then there followed peals of thunder and loud rumblings and blasts and noises, and flashes of lightning and an earthquake.

**The opening of the seals on the scroll stretch from Revelation chapters 6 to 8. Chapter 7, is placed between the opening of the sixth seal and the opening of the 7<sup>th</sup> seals. The 144,000 from the 12 tribes of Israel spread the Gospel, either before or after the 6<sup>th</sup> seal, the great earthquake. The great earthquake of the 6<sup>th</sup> seal, opens up the world for further evangelism. The break of time, between the sixth seal, and the opening of the seventh seal, allows humanity to contemplate their eternity. In chapter 8, the seventh seal is opened (Rev. 8:1), this brings forward the seven trumpet judgments, in the seventh trumpet are the seven bowl judgments. The seventh bowl judgment concludes with fall of the cities of the earth and the return of Christ in Revelation 19.**

**Prior to the opening of the seventh seal, the evangelism of the 144,000 and the “Two Witnesses” in Jerusalem, calling down God’s judgment on the earth turn many to salvation in Christ. With an increase in saved souls, there is also an increase in persecution, as the Antichrist and his servants pursue those who turn to Christ. It’s the prayers of these new “Saints” that are heard in Heaven, causing God’s wrath to commence on the earth. However, even in the Trumpet Judgments, God’s mercy is demonstrated, by the limited extent of the judgments. The Trumpet Judgments are limited in their scope as opposed to the bowl judgments in the second half of the tribulation, which are more encompassing. One of the main purposes of the tribulation is bring people to a point of decision.**

**In chapters 8 and 9, the trumpet judgments are carried out when the 7 angels blow their trumpets causing God's judgments to fall on earth. In the book of Joshua, there is a prophetic foreshadowing of the events taking place in Revelation. In Joshua, we have 7 priests with 7 trumpets who circle the city of Jericho 7 times, followed by the *Arc of the Covenant*, led by Joshua. This foreshadowing is ultimately fulfilled in Revelation's *Trumpet Judgments*.**

Battle of Gog and Magog  
Ezekiel 38-39



7 Seals



7 Trumpet

Abomination of Desolation



7 Bowls



First Half Chapters 6-10  
1260 Days

Middle  
Chapters 11-13

Last Half Chapters 14-19  
1260 days

Daniel's 70th Week

**He** At this point, the Lamb is still opening the seals on the scroll. Chapter 7 was a break between the 6<sup>th</sup> seal, which resulted in a great earthquake and the opening of the 7<sup>th</sup> seal.

**Seventh Seal** The 7-sealed scroll represents the title deed of the earth. The seventh seal is the final seal on the scroll. In the seventh seal, are the seven trumpets and under the seventh trumpet, is the *Seven Bowl Judgments*.

**Silence** Heaven in chapters 4 and 5 is a place where the angels and the redeemed loudly proclaim God's glory, rejoicing. At the start of the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter, we have silence for half an hour. The silence warns of the storm about to envelope the earth. The first six seals resulted in unprecedented destruction and death of ¼ of the earth population, the events to follow are more horrific in scope. All Heaven stands in silence at what is about to happen when the 7<sup>th</sup> seal is opened.

**Seven angels** In Heaven seven angels stand in the presence of God by His throne, waiting the command, we know one them is Gabriel. Gabriel told Zacharias the priest, he would have a son named John (Luke 1:19) Gabriel was also dispatched from the throne to give Daniel understanding, about the timing of the death of Messiah and what would precede the Messiah's return. (Daniel 9:23)

Gabriel and the six other angels are now to herald the coming judgments on the earth.

**Seven trumpets** The purpose of the trumpet is to draw attention, so people take notice. In Exodus (Exodus 19), we see the trumpet of God proclaim God's presence to Israel. The trumpet is also used to call up the saints in the rapture. In 1 Thess.4:13-18

**13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. 15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words**

## Matthew 2:29-31

**29 “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>30</sup> *Then* the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and *then* all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. <sup>31</sup> And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.**

## **I Cor. 15:50-52**

**<sup>50</sup>Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.**

**<sup>51</sup>Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, *(to be dead)* but we shall all be changed,**

**<sup>52</sup>In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.**

**Here seven trumpet are given to seven angels to herald the judgments of God on the Earth. In a prophetic foreshadowing of this event, before Israel entered the promised land 7 priests held seven trumpets. Joshua, commands Israel how Jericho is to be taken. Let's look at this chart to compare the conquest of Joshua with the conquest of Jesus.**

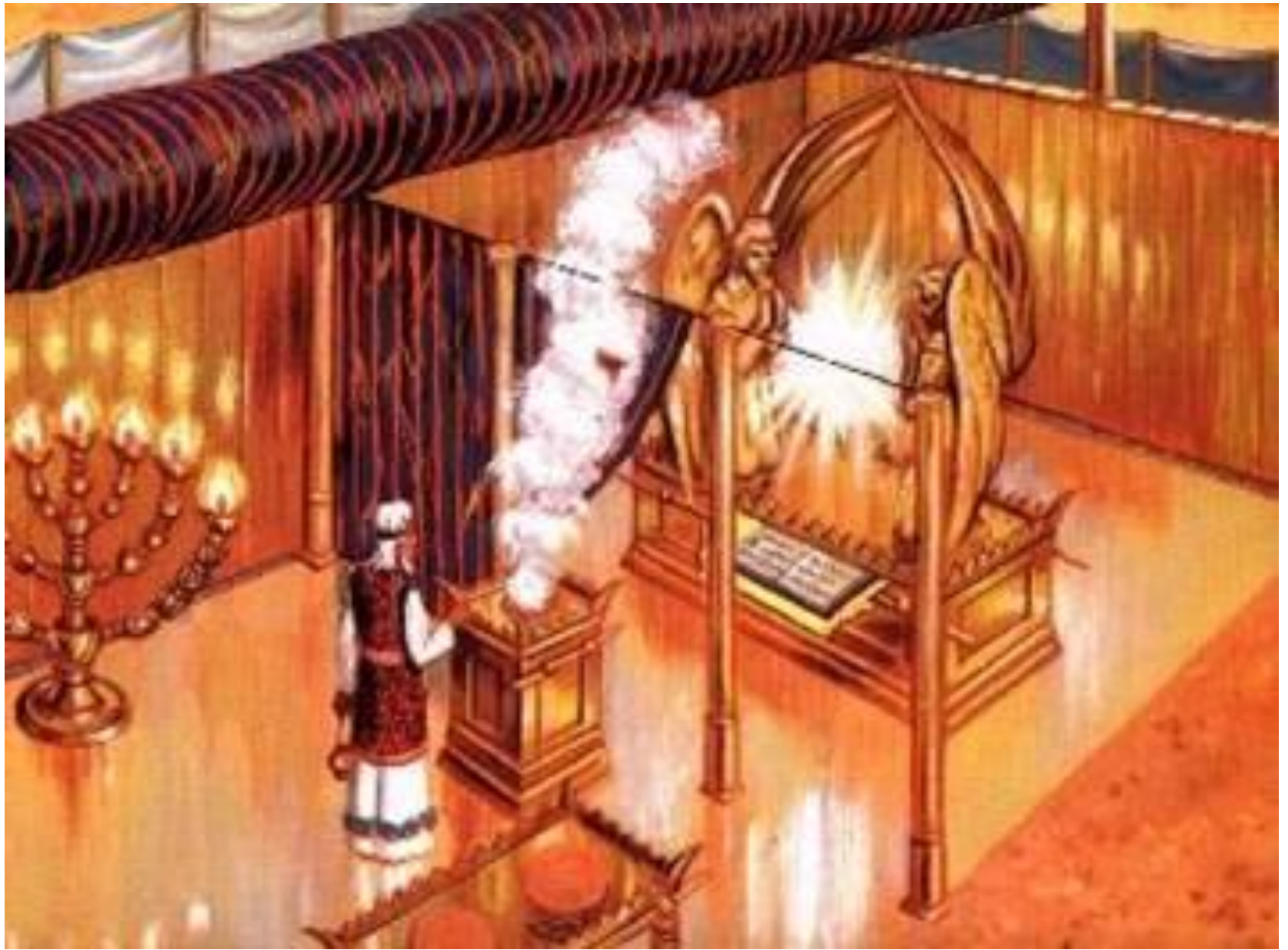
## The Seven Trumpets of Joshua and Revelation

	Joshua Conquest	Jesus' Conquest
<b>Commanders Name</b>	Joshua (Joshua 5:13)	Joshua (Jesus) (Mat 24:30-31)
<b>Trumpets</b>	7 Trumpets (Joshua 6:6)	7 Trumpets (Rev 8:2)
<b>Days of Conquest</b>	7 days	7 years (Dan 9:27)
<b>Location of Trumpets</b>	Before the Arc (Joshua 6:6)	Before the Throne (Rev 8:2)
<b>Silence</b>	Silence until the sixth day (Joshua 6:10)	Silence in Heaven for ½ and hour (Rev. 8:)
<b>Invading army</b>	Children of Israel (Joshua 6:1)	Saints with angels (Rev 19; 14, Mat 24:31)
<b>Time of Invasion</b>	End of 7th Trumpet (Joshua 6:15-18)	End of 7th Trumpet (Rev 10:7)
<b> HOLDERS of Trumpets</b>	7 Priests before arc (Joshua 6:6)	7 Angles before Throne (Rev 8:2)
<b>People's reaction to 7th Trumpet</b>	Shout by Israel (Joshua 6:16)	Loud voices in Heaven (Rev 11:15)
<b>Inhabitants spared</b>	Rehab and all her house waiting for Joshua's invasion (Joshua 6:17)	Inhabitants on Earth waiting for Jesus' return (Matt 24:31-41)
<b>Description of Rehab and Israel before invasion</b>	Prostitute (Joshua 6:17)	Prostitute (Ezekiel 16:33-36; Ezekiel 23; Hosea 1:2; 2:4; 4:10)

**Another Angel** The identity of this angel has been a point of debate among Bible scholars, since this angel seems to intercede with the prayers of saints. Some argue this is Jesus Christ appearing as an angel, interceding on the behalf of saints because he offers the prayers on the golden altar. This was the function of the priestly office in the Old Testament.

**1. The Lord Jesus, when appearing in the Old Testament to the children of God, is never referred to as “an angel.” Instead, he is always introduced as “The angel of the Lord” or “The angel of God.” 2. We have no record of the Lord Jesus appearing on earth as an angel after His incarnation and ascension to heaven.**

**Also, the 24 elders have 24 golden bowls with incense which we are told is the prayers of the saints (Revelation 5:8). The angel could very well be merely administering and not interceding.**



**Golden censor** In addition to the scene, from the battle of Jericho (Joshua 6), Revelation 8 also corresponds to the shadow of the Temple worship (Hebrews 9:4,10:1, Exodus 37:25-28). The censor would hold the fire when combined with incense, a fragrant smoke would ascend upward. This was a picture of the priestly office, and the smoke represented the prayers and worship going toward heaven.

**Altar** The altar of incense before the holy of holies was a **picture of the original located in Heaven.**

**Prayers of saints** During this time in the tribulation, many of the new believers are being pursued and killed. Their prayers have come before God's throne.

**Fire from the altar** God is now about to answer the persecution of his saints with His judgment.

**In Exodus 7-11 through the hand of Moses, God sends 10 “Literal plagues” on Egypt resulting in the release of the children of Israel from their captivity. Four of those plagues are again found here in the Trumpet judgments. Just as in Egypt, these are literal plagues on the earth. One point to be revealed in Revelation 11 is these plagues are being called down on the earth by the “Two Witnesses” who are in Jerusalem during this time. They are witnessing to the world about the true “God”, another demonstration of God’s grace. Still, despite the evidence of God’s power and grace, the earth rejoices at the death of these two individuals at the hands of the Antichrist.**

## **Speaking of the two witnesses:**

**We know from Malachi 4:5 one of these two witnesses is Elijah, the other is either Moses or Enoch. Moses appeared with Elijah on the Mountain of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:3), and Enoch like Elijah never suffered death. The story in Exodus in fact is foreshadowing of this event which results in Israel being freed again after God's judgments fall on the world and not just Egypt.**

**Rev. 11:6, 10 6 These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire. 10 And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.**

Plagues on Egypt	Plagues on Earth
1. Waters turned to blood (Exodus 7:17)	Sea becomes blood (Second Trumpet Rev. 8:8)
2. Frogs from the rivers (Exodus 8:3)	
3. Lice (Exodus 8:17)	
4. Flies (Exodus 8:21)	
5. Disease on livestock (Exodus 9:3)	
6. Boils and blisters (Exodus 9:9)	
7. Hail (Exodus 9:18)	Hail (First Trumpet Rev. 8:7)
8. Locusts (Exodus 10:14)	Locusts from the earth (Fifth Trumpet Rev. 9:3)
9. Darkness over Egypt (Exodus 10:21)	Darkness (Fourth Trumpet Rev. 8:12-13)
10. Death of the firstborn (Exodus 12:29)	

**The seven angels that are now standing before God may be the same seven angels that were in the right hand of Jesus that had oversight over the seven churches on earth. These seven angels of the churches may be given the power to carry out the wrath of the Lamb on those that persecuted the Church on earth (spoken of at the fifth seal). The prayers of the saints are about to be answered and Jesus will judge those on earth who persecute and kill His saints.**

**The wrath of the Lamb does not come without reason. It comes in answer to a specific time of persecution of saints on the earth. When each angel blows the trumpet given to him, a specific judgment will fall upon the earth. These judgments do not come as a result of the warfare of man as did the horsemen of the seals. These judgments come because Jesus is angry and He answers the prayers from the saints for justice. Before the judgments come, the passage indicates that the prayers of the saints ascended up before God. An angel then took the censer containing the prayers of the saints, filled it with fire and cast it upon the earth. The voices, thunderings, lightnings and the earthquake indicate that judgment has been summoned from the throne and angelic forces are being told to prepare for action.**

**Some prophecy writers make all the judgments in Revelation come as a result of man's own weapons and a result of his own wars, but this chapter makes it pretty clear that what is coming is payback time to those who dwell on earth who have the blood of the saints on their hands. The first five trumpet judgments have nothing at all to do with any war caused by man.**