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The Seven Trumpets

8:2 to 9:21



During the half hour of silence, most of those on the earth will undoubtedly harden their hearts further toward **ADONAI** thinking that somehow they had won victory over **Him**.²³⁸ But the silence will be broken when the seventh seal is opened containing the **seven trumpet** judgments. **The LORD's** wrath will become increasingly severe and **the trumpets** will unleash more fury than all that had gone before **them**.

With each **trumpet** a plague will be poured out upon the earth. They embody the wrath of **ADONAI** upon **the people** of the earth who will choose to give **their** allegiance to the antichrist rather than to **the Lion of the Tribe of Judah (5:5)**. This wrath is not directed against **mankind** in general, but to **those people who did not have the seal of God on their foreheads (9:4)**. Two-thirds of the Jews will die during the Great Tribulation and any Gentile accepting **Messiah**, during that time will be martyred.

A line will be drawn in the sand. In other words, **John** sees a day when the forces of righteousness and the forces of evil will be so open and clear that everyone will have to make a decision between **Christ** or the antichrist. The struggle that is implicit in the mission of the gospel in the world for the souls of **mankind** will become so explicit that there will no longer be any middle ground. The powers of unbelief and of hostility to **the LORD** will explode in the person of the antichrist, and everyone's loyalty will be tested.

Yet, the wrath of **God** is not merely judgmental. It also symbolizes **His** mercy. The **seven trumpet** judgments are designed to drive men and women to their knees while salvation is still possible, before it is too late. After the sixth **trumpet**, we read: **The rest of mankind that were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the work of their hands; they did not stop worshiping demons and idols (9:20a)**. It is implied that when men and women are confronted by the evident wrath of **Ha'Shem**, they would be humbled, **repent**, and turn from their wickedness to worship **Him**. If it were possible for **the LORD** to have people experience the reality of their sin, the judgments of the **trumpets** will do so, **not wanting anyone to perish, but to come to repentance (Second Peter 3:9b)**.²³⁹

Notice the pattern being established. The **seven** seals were broken down into two sets: the four horsemen followed by three additional judgments. Likewise, the **seven trumpet** judgments will be broken down into two sets: four judgments followed by three judgments called **woes**.²⁴⁰

One of the challenging aspects of reading the book of **Revelation** is this: Can we establish ourselves in the Word of **God** just as **John** did? Is it our base? Our core? Can we take a hold of **His** view of salvation and allow our very outlook on the future to be shaped by **the LORD's** promises in the past and **His** faithfulness in the present? We can confidently say yes, because **the Ruach ha-Kodesh** can bring the Scriptures alive in our hearts. For **all Scripture is God breathed (Second Timothy 3:16a)**. So turn to **God the Spirit** today and ask **Him** to anchor your life - past, present and future - in **Messiah Yeshua**.

*Dear **God** in heaven, I am a sinner. I surrender my life to **Your** control and choose to follow **You** in love. **You** are my **Lord** and **Savior**. Thank **You** for being my **Father**. Thank **You** that **You** will walk with me guiding each of my steps that I may honor **You**. Please give me actions and words to share **You** with my family and friends so they find **You** as their peace and joy. In **Your** holy **Son's** name and power of **His** resurrection. Amen*