

I. Introduction to the Trumpet Judgment Series

- A. Chronologically, the trumpet judgments are the next in the series of events that Jesus brings about to prepare the earth for His return. In His mercy, the trumpet judgments are his final plea to turn as many hearts to himself as possible before He splits the sky. The trumpets follow the same pattern as the seals, in that the first 4 are connected and affect the natural. The 5th and 6th are connected and affect the spiritual and the 7th stands alone and but affects both.
- B. Each “blast” of the trumpet will release an incredible supernatural judgment as a sign and a wonder. Unlike the seal judgments, which are done through the hands of unrestrained wicked men, the trumpets are clear statements from Jesus like the sounding of an alarm for the earth and a call for the final warfare of the saints. These soundings will serve to move and position saints as well as moving men from the valley of decision. Each confrontation with the power of God is designed to give men an opportunity for acceptance or refusal of His mercy.
- C. Many wrongly read the trumpet judgments from the posture that they are against the church, or just randomly affect those who dwell on the earth. When you read the trumpet judgments, you must understand they are judgments released by Jesus through His partnering and participating bride on the earth with a threefold purpose.
1. Disrupt the Antichrist Agenda – They will hinder the spread of Antichrist evil and persecution by destroying the natural resources of the Antichrist Empire.
 2. Disrupt Unbelievers - They are released as signs and wonders upon the unrighteous in order to turn them.
 3. Unite the Church - As the trumpets unfold, there will be greater intensity of worldwide prayer and unity.
- D. Interpreting Events – The prophetic events should be interpreted as literal events unless the text itself indicates otherwise. Jesus literally fulfilled over 350 prophetic passages of scripture and in doing so made a clear statement of their literal nature.

4. Symbols and word pictures within the book of Revelation are almost always explained within the very pages in which they are found. Those that are not explained within the context of Revelation are explained elsewhere in the scriptures. There are also usually very clear indicators that John is using a symbol or word picture through the use of words such as “like”, or “sign”.
5. Many passages that should be understood as literal are often interpreted as symbolic simply because we can't wrap our minds around such events happening literally. Our lack of understanding of how an event will occur is not a sufficient reason to relegate or reduce passages to poetry or symbolism. Such relegation is also a statement of our unbelief in God's sovereign creative power.

II. Trumpet Judgment Parallels

- A. The final Exodus parallels the first Exodus – The Exodus of God's people out of Egypt is a real historical event, but it was also a prophetic picture of the last days. Moses prayed and released God's judgments upon the Pharaoh to stop his oppression of Israel. God's People were supernaturally protected during these plagues. The Exodus story will be retold again on a global level on a grander scope. Instead of Aaron, through prayer, releasing judgments on Pharaoh, it is the end-time church under the greater Moses, Jesus, releasing judgments on the end-time Pharaoh called the Antichrist. The great oppressor is toppled, fully defeated and people of God are delivered and brought out of the present evil age and into a new and eternal kingdom order. (Mic. 7:15; Isa. 10:22-25; 11:12-16; 30:30; Jer. 16:14-15; 23:7-8; Ezek. 38:22)

It is critical to understand the release of the trumpet judgments according to the pattern set forth by Moses. He perceived the plagues in the Spirit; announced them to the authorities; released them through intercession; stopped them through intercession; and then interpreted the message they contained clearly for all to understand. – Brandon Hammonds

- B. Taking possession of the promised land - Another very important prophetic parallel of the seven trumpets is when Israel under Joshua took possession of the Promised Land. Jericho stood as the impenetrable stronghold keeping them from their inheritance. At the blowing of seven trumpets the stronghold of the enemy is destroyed supernaturally, demolished and dismantled. The seven trumpets at the end of the age are sounded before the people of God enter into the eschatological Promised Land, the full promises of that millennial earth. The stronghold of the evil one will be dismantled through the seven trumpet judgments, and the people of God will receive their inheritance. (Josh. 5:13-6:21, 1 Thes. 4:16)

III. Trumpet Judgments 1-4 “Disruption of Resources” (Rev. 8:7-12)

A. The First Trumpet – Disruption of Agriculture (Rev. 8:7)

1. A supernatural ‘meteor storm-like’ event consisting of hail mingled with fire and blood fall from heaven that will damage 1/3 of the earth’s vegetation and all green grass. This will be an agricultural crisis affecting vegetation and all types of trees. The resources of vegetables, fruit, and grains used to feed people and livestock are destroyed. This agricultural crisis will interfere greatly with the Antichrist’s economic strategies and control. This is a direct parallel to the seventh judgment upon Egypt. (Ex. 9:13-35; Job. 38:22-23; Ps. 18:12-13, 78:47-48, 105:32-33; Ez. 38:22; Joel 2:30)

B. The Second Trumpet – Disruption of the Ocean’s Resources and Ships (Rev. 8:8-9)

1. This judgment will destroy food supplies and sea trade. A huge burning object like a mountain will fall from heaven turning one-third of the sea into blood and destroying one-third of the sea and ships. Some see this as referring only to a certain sea such as the Mediterranean Sea, most interpret it to be the oceans as a whole. The second trumpet is parallel to the first plague of Egypt where the rivers became as blood, causing the fish to die and polluting the land. (Ex. 7:20-25; Ps: 78:43-44, 105:2,9; Is. 2:16; Mk. 11:23)

C. The Third Trumpet – Disruption of Fresh Water Supply (Rev. 8:10-11)

1. This judgment will poison one-third of the earth’s fresh water supply. A great burning star or meteoric mass will fall from heaven poisoning fresh water (rivers and springs). The Greek word translated star used here can be used to describe a comet shooting through the sky. The bitter, poisonous herb called wormwood is referenced multiple times in the scriptures and is understood as a symbol for divine judgment. (Ex. 7:14-25, 15:23-27; Deut. 29:17-18; 2 Kings 2:19-21; Jer. 9:13-15, 23:15; Mk 16:15-20)

D. The Fourth Trumpet – Disruption of Light and Heat (Rev. 8:12-13)

1. This judgment will effect light and heat by darkening one-third of the sun, moon and stars. This supernatural work of God will affect energy, health, agriculture, navigation, etc. (Ex. 10:21-23; Josh. 10:12-14; Is. 13:9-10, 38:8; Lk 21:25)

IV. Trumpet Judgments 5-7 “Final 3 Woe’s” (Rev. 8:13-9:21)

- A. “Woe, Woe, Woe”- The Prelude to the final Trumpets - Eternal punishment in the lake of fire was created for fallen angelic beings, who at one time were face to face with the beauty and glory of God but rejected Him. God will move heaven and earth to spare as many as possible from this fate using the least severe means to win the most people to voluntary love. The severity of the three woes is a direct reflection of what is necessary in the perfect leadership of Jesus to shake hearts into repentance. These “woes” are the last desperate attempts by God to turn people from wickedness and rebellion into repentance and humility. They are becoming set into their pride, and are moving swiftly towards a fully seared conscience and blasphemy and rage against God.
- B. The Fifth Trumpet – The First Woe - Torment by Demonic Locusts (Rev. 9:1-11)
1. This event will unleash a demonic horde of locusts who’s mission is to inflict torment on those who still are unrepentant and given to lawlessness. John described this demonic army by comparing them to horses prepared for battle, wearing golden crowns with human faces. Natural locusts devour and destroy green vegetation. These locusts however are commanded not to harm green vegetation but rather to torment the wicked.
 2. As in so many events in the book of Revelation our focus should not be on the what or the who of the event but the why. Why did Jesus command that these demons be released? Why is our loving, merciful, gentle savior allowing demons to torture people? The answer to this question is actually found in His merciful and loving nature. In His mercy He is going to allow unrepentant people to experience and see the true nature of the very things that they worship. In His kindness He will not allow them to die in order that they might turn to Him rather than facing the eternal consequences of their deeds.
(Ex. 9:7-11; Rom. 1:24-28; 1 Cor. 5:5; 1 Tim. 1:18-20; Rev. 9:20-21)
- C. The Sixth Trumpet - The Second Woe – Death by an Army of Demons (Rev. 9:11-21)
1. One third of mankind will be killed by demons as a result of their worship and allegiance to darkness. As with all the other judgments the partnering church will be pleading for the nations to turn. This and the other judgments are clearly done in hopes that mankind will turn to the Lord. I personally believe that even those whom this army of 200 million demons will strike will have time to repent before they die from their wounds. (Ex. 11:1-12:30; Ez. 33:11)