

# THE SEVEN TRUMPETS

REVELATION 8:6-11:19

As the vision of the Seven Seals comes to an end, seven angels with seven trumpets emerge. Exodus-like plagues are poured out on the earth, but the nations don't repent. The question remains: will God's people repent and walk in faithfulness, even in a world full of persecution and evil.

## THE FIRST FOUR TRUMPETS



Hail & Fire  
On the Earth  
7th Plague



Fire & Blood  
In the Sea  
1st Plague



Wormwood  
In the Rivers  
Jeremiah 9:15



Darkness  
In the Skies  
9th Plague

All of creation is facing judgement from God as he is bringing the world back into the chaos from which he brought order and blessing.

But this is not the final judgement as the plagues only bring a third of destruction to the natural world and to humanity.

### 1ST WOE



Locusts  
From the Abyss  
8th Plague

The Abyss = The Deep/Chaos Waters (Gen. 1:2)  
The Day of the Lord = Joel 2 Compares to Locusts  
Abaddon = Destruction / Apollyon = Destroyer  
Not Satan or Another Angel/Demon  
But A Personification of Destruction  
See Job 28:22 and Proverbs 27:20  
John May Also Have Hosea 13:14 In Mind

### 2ND WOE



4 Angels  
Ready to Go!  
More Plagues

### 1ST INTERLUDE: THE ANGEL & JOHN

John sees an angel as big as creation.  
He gives John a scroll and tells him to eat it.  
This is a replay of Ezekiel 3.  
The scroll tastes good but is bitter in his stomach.  
The scroll has the mystery of God's will (10:7)

## 2ND INTERLUDE: THE TWO WITNESSES

### THE TEMPLE

John measures the temple as a symbol of God's protection over his people. The city will be destroyed but they will not.

### WITNESSES

These two symbolize the church who like Elijah and Moses are called to be faithful witnesses even in the face of persecution.

### THE BEAST

The beast from Daniel 7 emerges from the Abyss and kills them but God publicly raises and vindicates them.

### 42 MONTHS?

42 Months/1260 Days/3.5 Years

These are symbols taken from a vision in Daniel 9.

Not literal times when things will take place but symbols of the age before the final coming of the Kingdom of God.

Paul calls it "this present evil age" in Galatians 1:4.

### RAPTURE/TRIBULATION?

Some use these numbers to construct a timeline.

The argument is for a rapture with a 7 year tribulation with the death of these witnesses as a defining midpoint at 3.5 years.

But as we saw in the 7 Seals, the church is rescued through the tribulation not from it.

### 3RD WOE

7



Throne Room  
Song of Praise  
Final Judgement

We've come to the end again!

The kingdom of the world now belongs to Christ.

The 24 elders sing another song praising God for bringing judgement on wicked nations and for rewarding those who were faithful witnesses.

The vision ends with the church in the presence of God and final judgement falling upon the earth.

### SO WHAT'S THE POINT?

The key to understanding this vision is right in the center—in spite of the plagues the nations did not repent (Rev. 9:20–21) and will face judgement.

But if the church repents of its worldliness and will be faithful witnesses to the Kingdom of God, they will be rescued and will be rewarded.