

Decoding Revelation Week 4

When the 7th Seal is opened, there is **silence**. (8:1)

"And the angel answered and said to him, 'I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God; and I have been sent to speak to you, and to bring you this good news.'" Luke 1:19 (NASB)

I. THE ANGEL AT THE ALTAR OF PRAYER (8:2-5)

Altar of Incense - Hebrews 9:3-4

- The altar of incense was just outside of the **holy of holies**.
- The coals for the altar came from the altar of **incense**.

3 different types of "Tribulation"

1. The trials of **everyday life**.
2. The **Great Tribulation**.
3. The **Day of the Lord**.

II. THE 7 TRUMPETS

These judgments remind us of the **Egypt**. (Exodus 7-12)

The seven trumpets are divided into four and three. The first four bring devastation nature. The last three are aimed more directly at man.

1. 1st trumpet: destruction of a third of the **Earth**. (8:6)

Compare with Ex. 9:23-26

2. 2nd trumpet: destruction of a third of the **Sea**. (8:8)

Compare with Joel 2:30

3. 3rd Trumpet: destruction of a third of fresh **water**. (8:10)

"And when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter; therefore it was named Marah. So the people grumbled at Moses, saying, 'What shall we drink?' Then he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree; and he threw it into the waters, and the waters became sweet." Ex. 15:23-25 (NASB)

4. 4th Trumpet: destruction of a third of the sun. (8:12)

It is very important when studying prophecy to distinguish the difference between:

- Prophetic Revelation
- Prophetic Interpretation
- Prophetic Speculation

5. 5th Trumpet... mankind is tortured (9:1)

Locust – See Exodus 10:12-20

What are God's purposes in this time of tribulation?

- To unmask Satan.
- To judge sin.
- To invite salvation.

What is this "abyss?"

Demons – See Luke 8:31

6. 6th Trumpet: destruction of a third of mankind. (9:13)

The Euphrates River stood at the edge of Jewish influence and of the Roman Empire.

Who are these 200 million troops?

How will people respond? (9:20-21)

- Rebelliously unrepentant.
- Religiously idolatrous.
- Morally decadent.

The 7th trumpet will be the 7 bowls of God's wrath.

Scriptures Referenced: Revelation Ch. 8 and Ch. 9, Luke 1:19, Hebrews 9:3-4, Leviticus 16:12-13, Exodus 9:23-26, Joel 2:30, Exodus 15:23-25, Exodus 10:12-20, and Luke 8:31-33.