

THE SEVEN TRUMPET JUDGMENTS

A. The Breaking of the Seventh Seal : Awesome Preparation for Judgment

Rev. 8:1-5

Introduction: God has handed Jesus the great Book of Destiny which tells about the end of the world.

- The book was so full and so secret that seven seals were required to bind it.
- Each time a seal is broken action is played out before John's eyes.
 - The four horsemen who bring havoc upon the earth as the first four seals are broken.
 - The fifth seal reveal the slaughtered martyrs by the antichrist.
 - The sixth seal showed God's judgment being prepared.

The seventh seal is now ready to be broken and it reveals in more detail the awesumness of God's coming wrath.

I. A SHATTERING SILENCE PREVAILS

1. It seems that the heavenly host is stricken numb with silence at the coming events.
 - Stillness, complete and absolute stillness.
 - The Lord stands in complete silence.
 - A silence of suspense and trembling anticipation of the coming judgment
 - It lasted for about one half hour.

II. INSTRUMENTS OF GOD'S JUDGMENT ARE REVEALED

1. Seven angels are called out to stand before God. (God's first instrument).
 - Each is given a trumpet. Picture the suspense:
 - all the heavenly host surrounding the throne of God.
 - still in the minds of everyone are the great events leading up to this moment.
 - the seventh seal broken and the deathly silence that followed.
 - the seven angels taking their places before God and each given a trumpet.
 - Something is about to happen....the suspense is breathtaking...judgment is about to fall upon earth.
2. The second instrument of judgment is the prayers of ALL the saints or believers.
 - Some were in heaven and some still on earth but all had suffered persecution for their belief in Jesus.

- God is going to answer the prayers of His dear people and cast His judgment upon the antichrist, his government, and all unbelievers.
- All who have rebelled against Jesus, rejected, denied, cursed, ignored, neglected, disobeyed, and disbelieved Him, shall be judged.
- All who have ridiculed His people - who have cursed and abused them - who have attacked and struck them - who have arrested and imprisoned them - who have condemned and killed them.

3. Yet, with God's judgment even in progress, He will save any who call upon the name of Jesus.

III. THE SIGNS OF THE COMING JUDGMENT

1. Fire from the altar of God is taken by an angel and mixed with the prayers of God's suffering saints.
 - Their prayers are for vindication and justice.
 - God mixes His holy wrath and their prayers together to be cast upon the earth. When He does: enormous amounts of earthquakes and violent thunderstorms with lightening and thundering sweep across earth and all mankind knows that something dreadful is about to happen.
2. The Great Tribulation is now being launched. Time is up for mankind as men of God forewarned:
 - Jude 14; Acts 17:31; Romans 1:18; Psalms 96:13
3. Not a single believer on earth will be harmed throughout God's judgment. God will provide all His children need whether protection or food.

CONCLUSION

1. From the beginning of human history, it has always been God's intention to fellowship with man for eternity.
2. Sin came into that fellowship and separated God from man, but Jesus came and made a way for that fellowship to be restored.
3. In God's time He will bring things to an end, separating His family from all the rest of the world and bring judgment upon those which are left.