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**Resting Ends…And the End Begins…Again!**

**Revelation 8:1-6, “**When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. 2And I saw the seven angels who stand before God (stands before God in His presence), and seven trumpets were given to them. 3Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all God’s people, on the golden altar in front of the throne. 4The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of God’s people, went up before God from the angel’s hand. 5Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake. 6Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to sound them.”

**Sometimes God gives us some time to recuperate for what is coming next!**

**Opening of the 7th Seal…Silence for a period of half hour (30 minutes).**

 **Why silence? Why such a short time?**

* ***To get people to understand that time has run out. People have been given more than enough time…and even heaven and all that is part of it realize that this is it.***
* ***The time has come for punishment of sin…punishment of those that refuse to believe that God is still on His throne…and punishment for the abomination of God’s creation that has refused His great, extended and open invitation to accept Him as their source of salvation.***

Just as man has nothing to say when there has been a tragedy occur in the family…and they realize that the play or scene is real…it is not a dream or nightmare…Man is speechless…with no words to say.

**Just in the last 100 years…World War I and WW II, The Holocaust, Jones Town tragedy, David Koresh (Waco Tragedy), 9-11… People don’t know what to say…**

**Well, Heaven realizes the consequences…it is going to happen…soon.**

**Short time: Preparation of heaven to witness God’s own creation being punished.**

**Seven angels…Angels of Presence (In the Presence of God); Same as Archangels.**

**Two (2) things are meant by the Angels of Presence:**

1. ***These angels had Special honor.***
2. ***They were ready for immediate service.***

***The single angel started administering the judgment on the earth…with thunder and lightning (Remember: Thunder and Lightning are often connected with the manifestation of God, the judgment of God, and the authority of God).***

Jesus is able to open the seals…and now the angels are getting ready to sound the final trumpets.

**Revelation 8:7-12,** ***“The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down on the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up. 8The second angel sounded his trumpet, and something like a huge mountain, all ablaze, was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea turned into blood, 9a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed. 10The third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water— 11the name of the star is Wormwood.[***[***a***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+8&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30839a)***] A third of the waters turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter. 12The fourth angel sounded his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them turned dark. A third of the day was without light, and also a third of the night.”***

**Trumpet—Symbol of Intervention of God in History.**

**Trumpet blast can mean 3 things:**

1. **A Sounding of alarm,**
2. **To Announce the Arrival of Royalty,**
3. **A Summon to Battle.**

**Each Trumpet blast means a different part of the world is attacked.**

**The Four-Fold Destruction:**

1. ***Destruction Falls on earth (land), v. 7***
2. ***Destruction Falls on the Sea (v. 8 and 9)***
3. ***Destruction Falls on the Fresh water, Rivers, and Springs (v. 10 and 11)***
4. ***Destruction falls on the Heavenly Bodies (sun, moon, stars, etc.) (v. 12)***

**Destruction is unleashed on every part of the Created Universe.**

***No escape! No excuses!***

***Execution of Judgment predicted throughout the Word of God.***

**God uses nature to send His messages to men.**

***Revelation 8:13, “As I watched, I heard an eagle that was flying in midair call out in a loud voice: “Woe! Woe! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the trumpet blasts about to be sounded by the other three angels!”***

 **Woe to those living on earth…they don’t have a prayer.**

**This is not the end of the world…but, it is part of the beginning of the end.**

**THE PENALTY OF SIN IS UNLEASHED**

# Revelation 9:1-2 (NIV)

***“The fifth angel sounded his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen from the sky to the earth. The star was given the key to the shaft of the Abyss. When he opened the Abyss, smoke rose from it like the smoke from a gigantic furnace. The sun and sky were darkened by the smoke from the Abyss.”***

Evil is released…Hell is opened…Sin is being punished on earth.

**The Terrors are now beyond nature----they are demonic!**

**The “star” is probably an angel from heaven with the key to the bottomless pit. Note: Chapter 20:1, “And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven with the key to the abyss…” God has given this special angel the responsibility with the key to the bottomless pit (the abyss).**

**Places you –nor do you want your family to go.**

* ***Abyss or Bottomless Pit—Intermediate place of punishment of the fallen angels, the Demons, the Beast, the False Prophet, and Satan. (Rev. 9:1-2; 9:11; 11:7; 20:1-3)***
* ***Lake of Fire and Brimstone---Final Place of Punishment (Rev. 20:10, 14,15)***
* ***Gehenna--- Not mentioned in Revelation; place of punishment for evil men***

**Hell---It’s real, it’s not going away. It’s mentioned more times in the Bible than Heaven is mentioned. Jesus spoke of it often. Warnings to avoid going there…by every person or angel who spoke in the Bible.**

**The powers of evil are being given their last chance to work their dreadful work.**

***Revelation 9:3-12,***

***“And out of the smoke locusts came down on the earth and were given power like that of scorpions of the earth.*** ***They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any plant or tree, but only those people who did not have the seal of God on their foreheads.*** ***They were not allowed to kill them but only to torture them for five months. And the agony they suffered was like that of the sting of a scorpion when it strikes.*** ***During those days people will seek death but will not find it; they will long to die, but death will elude them. The locusts looked like horses prepared for battle. On their heads they wore something like crowns of gold, and their faces resembled human faces.*** ***Their hair was like women’s hair, and their teeth were like lions’ teeth.*** ***They had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the thundering of many horses and chariots rushing into battle.***  ***They had tails with stingers, like scorpions, and in their tails they had power to torment people for five months.*** ***They had as king over them the angel of the Abyss, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon and in Greek is Apollyon (that is, Destroyer).*** ***The first woe is past; two other woes are yet to come.”\***

* **Locust…symbol of destruction.**

**Ordinary Locusts attack plant life; Demonic Locusts attack people.**

**Torture is demonic and it is unleashed with fury.**

**People scream for mercy, but mercy is not given.**

**People beg for death, but death is not permitted.**

* **Abaddon/Apollyon is often used as another name for Satan. However, Scripture seems to distinguish the two. We find Satan later on in Revelation, when he is imprisoned for 1,000 years. This…Abaddon/Apollyon is likely one of Satan’s underlings, a destroying demon and one of the “rulers,” “authorities,” and “powers” mentioned in** [**Ephesians 6:12**](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Eph%206.12)**, “*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”***

**Remember: The torture is for only “those that did not have the seal of God on their foreheads.”**

**Revelation 9:13-21,**

***“The sixth angel sounded his trumpet, and I heard a voice coming from the four horns of the golden altar that is before God.  It said to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, ‘Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.’ And the four angels who had been kept ready for this very hour and day and month and year were released to kill a third of mankind. The number of the mounted troops was twice ten thousand times ten thousand. I heard their number. The horses and riders I saw in my vision looked like this: Their breastplates were fiery red, dark blue, and yellow as sulfur. The heads of the horses resembled the heads of lions, and out of their mouths came fire, smoke and sulfur. A third of mankind was killed by the three plagues of fire, smoke and sulfur that came out of their mouths. The power of the horses was in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails were like snakes, having heads with which they inflict injury. The rest of mankind who were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the work of their hands; they did not stop worshiping demons, and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone and wood—idols that cannot see or hear or walk.  Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts.”***

**When the 6th Angel sounds his Trumpet, it unleashes a force of 200,000,000 evil men with destruction and demonic forces to kill…kill…kill! Annihilates 1/3 of the planet.**

**Remember, ¼ of the earth was killed in Chapter 6- 4th Seal (Rider on the 4th horse --Pale Rider).**

 **Let’s see what this means:**

**¼ of the earth (about 1:7 billion people). Leaving 5.1 billion people.**

**Now, 1/3 more are killed (1.7 more)**

**So now, out of 6.8 inhabitants on earth. There are only ½ of the planet alive.**

**Understand this; that as I see it, the Christians are gone and only ½ of what was left on the planet are living.**

**Those that remain….do not repent of their sin….they are rebellious and stubborn…refusing to accept the truth.**

**In spite…In spite…No, for spite…They continue to worship Satan, idols, foolish things made of perishable materials.**

**No repentance of idolatry, murder, sorcery (witchcraft), sexual immorality (fornication, adultery, homosexuality), and theft.**

**Jeremiah 17:9, “The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked, who can know it?”**

**We are witnessing the Total Depravity of Man…**

**Without restraint!**