

God's Judgment on the World
The First Four Trumpets
Revelation 8

Introduction

1. The seven seals reveal the birth pangs of the end (Matt. 24:4-8).
2. What is the importance of the "silence"?
 1. There is no time in heaven and this is "half a time". (8:1)
 2. God has authorized a perfect warning to the world and its inhabitants.
 3. Contrast what has been heard with the silence.

Sounds and peals of thunder (4:5)	The voice "A quart.." (6:6)
Ceaseless praise (4:8)	The cry of martyrs (6:10)
Elders praise (4:11)	The cry of wicked (6:16-17)
New song of elders (5:9)	The angel cries for sealing (7:2)
Unified voice of praise (5:12)	The number sealed is heard (7:4)
All creation praises (5:13)	The cry of the Redeemed (7:10)
Four living creatures "Amen" (5:14)	The praise of angels (7:12)
The "Comes" (6:1ff)	The description of Redeemed (7:13-17)
 3. Silence! An important revelation is about to occur.
3. The prayers of the saints rise in the silence. (8:3-4)
 1. Censers were used before God as a reminder to regard His people and accept them. Nu. 16:46
 2. Only those called by God could approach God with censers at the altar.
 1. Korah (Numbers 16:1-35)
 2. King Uzziah (2 Chron. 26:19)
 3. The incense of the censers was a shadow of the prayers of the saints who were to be made priests to God.
 4. The angel has been appointed by God to add his reminder to God to regard them and not pour out His wrath on them. Rev. 5:8
 5. So while God is poised to send warnings to earth of God's judgment and wrath to come, the Spirit of God comforts the Redeemed in heaven that God himself has made sure not to forget them and to regard them with mercy.
 6. Our prayers remind God that we are His and that He regard us in mercy.
 7. God Himself lifts our prayers. Rom. 8:26-27

God's wrath revealed in the 7th seal.

1. When God's wrath was revealed in the OT, it was revealed with fire from the altar.
 1. Korah's rebellion (Numbers 16)
 2. Nadab and Abihu (Lev. 10).
2. Now God's judgment is revealed from a different aspect than man being given over to wickedness. God warns of impending total destruction of earth by partial destruction on earth.
3. The signals of judgment: thunder, sounds, lightening, and earthquake. (Rev. 4:5; 11:18-19; 16:18; Ps. 18:14; Ezek. 21:28).
4. The angels prepare to sound the trumpets.

The first four trumpets warning of God's judgment on earth.

1. God destroys nature.

2. God destroys the seas.

3. God destroys the rivers.

4. God destroys the luminaries.

There's more to come! 8:13