

**I. THE SEVENTH SEAL**

- A. The last seal on the Title Deed to this universe opened – REV. 5:1-3
  - 1. No one in Heaven nor Earth could open these seals but the Lamb
  - 2. In some cities, right now homeless camps line the sidewalks
    - a. Businesses cannot cause the homeless to be moved
    - b. It means law is unequally enforced (can't own public sidewalks)
    - c. Means the owners do not REALLY own their own property
  - 3. John "wept much" because no one had authority to kick out Satan
    - a. Satan had squatter's rights – owning the Earth by default
    - b. This title deed was sealed for only the RIGHTFUL owner
    - c. A squatter builds no improvements, doesn't make things better
    - d. The true owner will throw out the squatter and clean things up!
    - e. There are no restrictions on the Owner and King!
- B. Out of this seal comes Seven Angels who sound Seven Trumpets
  - 1. Trumpets are a signal of great events or a call to attention
    - a. Throughout the Bible we see trumpets used
      - i. A signal to war, a call to Battle, rally round the banner!
      - ii. We have a deep military tradition that use trumpets
      - iii. Many bugle calls require no courtesy (mess, assembly)
    - b. SOME require EVERYONE to face the flag (reveille, retreat)
    - c. Before politically incorrect, everyone knew Cavalry Charge!
    - d. Some trumpets make great announcements or proclamations
      - i. Make way for the King, the King is coming
      - ii. A royal birth, a royal wedding
  - 2. There was a readying after the seal was broken
    - a. The seven angels assembled and prepared
    - b. I think of the moments before reveille, the flag ready to raise
    - c. And the army bugler at attention for the command!
  - 3. We don't know much about many of these angels
    - a. We only know that they were prepared to do their duty
    - b. God provided all they needed to fulfill their role in the plan
    - c. And God provides all WE need to fulfill ours in everyday life
      - i. We have the grace and mercy of His Salvation
      - ii. We have the Truth and Light of His Word
      - iii. We have comfort and counsel of His Holy Spirit
      - iv. We have protection of membership in one His Churches
- C. All Heaven waits in silence for these Trumpets to sound!
  - 1. They will announce the judgments!
  - 2. We see the Seventh Seal

3. Let's look at the Silent Scene, the Signals that Sound, the Sentence Summary, and we will finally examine the Single Savior

## II. THE SILENT SCENE

- A. Seven angels with seven trumpets all prepared
  1. As we all know, seven is a significant number in the Bible
  2. It is a number God uses to indicate completeness
  3. And this judgement will be COMPLETE – nothing escapes!
- B. John also sees another angel, apart from these seven, with a golden censer
  1. Webster's 1828 – "A vase or pan in which incense is burned. Among the Jews, a kind of chafing-dish, covered by a dome, and suspended by a chain, used to offer perfumes in sacrifices."
    - a. You sometimes see Catholics using these in their pagan rituals
    - b. Noah Webster ignores Catholicism and goes to the source
    - c. It DOES make a difference what you believe!
  2. This is GOD'S Golden Censer – filled with sweet smelling incense
    - a. What does God consider a sweet smell?
    - b. The prayers of the Saints, offered up to God
    - c. God keeps our prayers!
  3. Jesus TAUGHT us to pray and led by example
    - a. LUKE 11:1 – "And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples. (2) And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth."
      - b. I find myself spending more and more time in prayer
      - c. I USED to think Daniel was making a statement when he defied the political mandate and prayed three times a day.
        - i. I don't think that anymore
        - ii. I think he was DRIVEN there by the world around him
        - iii. How much more should we in our world today?
    4. MAKE PRAYER your refuge and your recharge
      - a. How would we dare let a day go by in prayerlessness?
      - b. The thought frightens me
  - C. The Censer filled with the fire from the Altar and cast to Earth (vs. 5)
    1. This judgment recalls the mind to Sodom and Gomorrah
      - a. Cities destroyed by fire from Heaven
      - b. Why? Because wickedness cries out to God for judgment
      - c. GEN. 18:20 – "And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;"
    2. But wasn't the censer already smoking? Wasn't it already on fire?
    3. And yet God FILLED IT AGAIN with fire

- a. But a very SPECIFIC fire – from the Altar
- b. We’ve seen this altar before – REV. 6:9
- c. God will DEFEND His Children – this is JUST RECOMPENSE

### III. THE SIGNALS SOUND

#### A. The First Trumpet (vs. 7)

1. This is a fulfillment of ACTS 2:19 – “And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:”
  - a. Hail and fire mingled with blood
  - b. This is not a meteor shower, no scientific explanation for THIS!
  - c. What will the media try to say about BLOOD falling from the sky?
  - d. Same thing the magicians said in Egypt... they will lie
2. The third part of the trees and all of the green grass
  - a. Think about the effect, the lack of oxygen
  - b. Kirk had a slide show about Albania right after communism
  - c. Pastor Ables said, it bothered him. Later, he realized why.
  - d. “Where is the grass?”
3. This is not figurative language – it is LITERAL

#### B. The Second Trumpet (vs. 8-9)

1. A great mountain cast into the sea (tsunami, tidal waves, destruction)
2. A third part became as blood
  - a. By the way, One of the Three in the Trinity shed His blood...
  - b. And this was REALLY blood.
  - c. Not red, not poisoned, but true blood. Probably HUMAN blood.
3. Nations today worship trade, commerce, and power
  - a. God exercises His sovereign judgment
  - b. One third of all the great ships the ply the ocean – wiped out
  - c. A third of all the creatures in the sea
  - d. Don’t forget their carcasses didn’t just disappear

#### C. The Third Trumpet (vs. 10-11)

1. Another great “star” that falls from Heaven called “WORMWOOD”
  - a. I’ve seen Internet “reports” for years calling various NEOs this
  - b. Some point at some new comet and call it “wormwood”
  - c. But read the verse (vs. 11)
2. No matter how big, how could one comet fall
  - a. Upon the “third part of rivers” and upon the fountains of waters?
  - b. One comet that somehow hits the Mississippi and the Nile
  - c. But not the Ganges, Yellow, Amazon, and Danube
3. Rainfall should have fixed it (distillation) but they were made BITTER
  - a. Even a polluted river runs clean at the source
  - b. But no more – the SOURCE has been changed by wormwood
  - c. And many men died from the bad water

D. The Fourth Trumpet (vs. 12)

1. The Heavens were smitten and darkened – what does that mean?
2. One effect: The third part of the objects were darkened
  - a. The objects themselves were darkened by losing one third
  - b. Doesn't sound like this means "a little less light"
  - c. Sounds like a portion is blotted out
3. Second effect: The day and night when completely black for one third
  - a. Eight HOURS each day in absolutely darkness.
  - b. Sounds like it happened at different times (day and night both)
  - c. The worst form of "solitary confinement" – worldwide!

**IV. THE SENTENCE SUMMARY**

- A. The warning goes out with a loud voice – beware! (vs. 13)
  1. Woe, Woe, Woe – A cursing and punishment to the inhabitants of Earth
  2. The first four trumpets are complete, but there are three more
  3. Woe! Woe! Woe!
- B. Three woes, three voices yet to sound
- C. A warning in HEAVEN but not on earth (vs. 13) ONLY to those on His side

**V. THE SINGLE SAVIOR**

- A. Who is on the Lord's side today?
- B. Only one way to avoid the judgment of sin
  1. The only way to avoid paying for your sin yourself
  2. Is to let HIM pay for your sin in your place!
  3. The wages of sin is death – EVERY TIME
  4. The book of Revelation demonstrates that truth for all to see
- C. Get on the Lord's side!
  1. Accept His free gift of Salvation!
  2. Don't go lost into sin's night, where only death and hell await!
  3. Be saved today!