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## Revelation 8

YouTube Prayer Link

Revelation 8

Seven anomalies: The judgment of the end times

This chapter deals with the fifth and sixth visions. The first vision was that the church was being persecuted in the Roman Empire at that time, and John saw Christ, the Son of Man, walking among the seven churches with seven stars. The second vision is that God is holding a scroll on a throne in heaven and sealing it with seven seals, so that only the Lamb can open the scroll and see what is to come. The third vision is to see the six seals, which is when Satan the Devil establishes the kingdom of the Antichrist and persecutes the church, and in this chapter we talk about the fifth vision, and the seventh seal appears; Sandwiched in the middle is a fourth vision, of 144,000 Israel being sealed, and thousands of Gentile believers, dressed in white, who came out of tribulation.

In this chapter, the prayers of the saints are repeated, reflecting how important our prayers are. While our prayers may not be answered immediately by God, we will never be left behind. When the time comes, it will be answered. We need to trust that God hears our prayers and that our prayers will not fail. The catastrophe of the previous six seals was only a prelude. The punishments of God's judgment came one after another, and when the seventh seal was opened, it was some devastating tribulation.

When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about two hours. "The seven angels who stood before God" were already standing there, ready to receive the "seven trumpets." Why doesn't God speak? Back to Genesis 1:1-2: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth is empty and chaotic, and the face of the abyss is dark; The

Spirit of God hovers over the waters." The devil had fallen with a third of the angels, and the whole earth and a third of the sky were in chaos, and God did not speak, and the heavens were silent. But God is at work: His Spirit hovers over water.

When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was a pause after describing the 144,000 people who had come out of the great tribulation and the many believers. There are about two moments of silence in the sky: The New International Version of the Bible translates it as "the silence in heaven is about half an hour": half an hour of silence is not long, but the background is different, and the same time may feel long or short. Heaven is a place of constant praise and worship of God, so about two quarters of silence is a long time. There are about two moments of silence: There is an explanation: 1. . the preparation period for the catastrophe that followed, the silence and silence that preceded the catastrophe of the great earthquake; 2. God has given people on earth a final chance to be saved. This silence is an intermediate process that has progressed from the Seventh Seal to the Seventh Plague.

The seven angels are not ordinary angels, but the highest angels, who have the highest status and can always stand before the great lord of heaven and earth. One of them was Gabriel. For he stood before God, and had been commanded by the Lord to explain the meaning of the vision to Daniel, to convey the prophecy of seventy weeks, and to give good tidings to Zechariah and Mary. There was also Michael, who had argued with the devil over Moses' body, who was raptured to the Lord for the resurrection of the Saints, who fought the devil victorious during the tribulation, and who was sent to protect Israel. As for the other five archangels, the Bible does not record their names.

And an angel came and stood by the altar with a golden censer. Much incense was given to him, to be offered with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar before the throne. The incense ascended to the golden altar along with the prayers of the saints, and when the smoke and prayer came to God, God saw and got it, and the fire was the spirit, the power, the judgment. And the angel poured out the altar full of fire on the earth, and it was God's judgment that fell on the ground. With thunder, loud noises, lightning, earthquakes. And the seven angels with the seven trumpets were ready to blow. Before the first trumpet was sounded, another angel laid the prayer of the believer in front of the golden altar of the throne of Jewel.

Golden incense burner: Prayer and incense are often linked. The meaning here is that just as incense is precious and delightful, rising into heaven, so is our prayers.

There are generally two explanations for the relationship between the "Seven Seals" and the "Seven Trumpets": since the two disasters have many similarities, they are considered to be repeated, juxtaposed records of the same event. The similarities are that both calamities are related to the second coming of Christ; The first four of the two calamities are about the natural world, and the last three are about the spiritual part; After the sixth plague, there are inserted sentences; Both calamities end with the praise of the overcomer.

The two types of disasters are successive events in time. The differences are: the plague of the trumpet is more intense and extensive than the plague of India; There are many differences between the two catastrophes in chronology and content; Believers have not been sealed until the

plague of the sixth seal, but the plague of the seventh trumpet is premised on being sealed. Thus we can see that the two disasters are not parallel, but in fact a series of events that occur one after the other.

Paul spoke of the relationship between the "trumpet" and the return of the Lord Jesus, saying, "The Lord himself will come down from heaven with a cry and the voice of the archangel and the trumpet of God, and he who is dead in Christ will rise first" (I Thessalonians 4:16). And he said, "When the trumpet sounds, we will also be changed, because the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised to become incorruptible" (1 Corinthians 15:52). When the Lord Jesus returns, the trumpet will be sounded many times, and it will not be until the "last time" is sounded that believers will be resurrected and changed

And the first angel sounded his trumpet, and hail and fire were thrown to the earth with blood. A third of the earth and a third of the trees were burned, and all the grass was burned." The first trumpet striking the ground will cause a worldwide food crisis, and the first trumpet may cause a huge change in the climate, so that "one-third" of the area will be unusually hot and dry, and the sandstorm will blow high into the air, forming large hailstones and lightning to rain down like "fire mixed with blood". The dryness caused fires that destroyed "one-third" of the land, trees and grass, as well as the arable land on which human beings depended.

"All grass" means all grass that is located on "one-third" of the ground. God gave "green grass" to "the beasts of the earth, and the birds of the air, and every living thing that creeps upon the earth" for food, and a third of the vegetation on the planet was burned. The first disaster describes the destruction of the ecological environment that occurred in the three-and-a-half-year period after the catastrophe.

And the second angel sounded his trumpet, and it was like a burning mountain thrown into the sea. A third of the sea was turned into blood, and a third of the living creatures of the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

It's like..... Mountain: It is a huge mass of burning matter, huge in size, like a large mountain.

A third of the sea turned to blood: the catastrophe was a catastrophe, perhaps a meteor crashing into the sea, and the residue polluting the ocean caused a great change. A third of the living creatures in the sea died, and blood may have been responsible for the widespread death of the world's marine life.

The second could lead to a massive volcanic eruption, spewing huge amounts of lava into the air and crashing into the ocean, like a "burning mountain", destroying a third of marine life and ships. "One-third of the sea will turn into blood" may mean that the sea will be heavily polluted. But for the man of God, "We are not afraid, though the earth be changed, and the mountains be shaken to the heart of the sea, and though the waters thereof are tossed, and though the mountains tremble with the rising of the sea" (Psalm 46:2-3).

The third trumpet sounded, and the water source suffered.

And the third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great burning star fell like a torch from heaven, and fell on a third of the rivers and on the fountains of waters. The name of this star is "Yin Chen". And a third part of the waters became staple, and because the waters became bitter, many died.

There are large burning stars that seem to be torches falling from the sky: it is easy to associate this with comets or meteors hitting the Earth and bringing ecological catastrophe. However, it is possible that God here means something else, not just these things. Yinchen is a bitter grass that grows in the Near East. These contaminants can make the water bitter and poison many people. Yin Chen expressed pain and sorrow, since the third trumpet, disasters have gradually directly affected people, fresh water resources are a necessity for human survival, and today, there have been many conflicts between countries over water resources.

The fourth angel sounded the trumpet, One third of the day has no light, and so is the night: this does not describe a third of the light being weakened, but a third of the day and night are not light, and are plunged into absolute darkness. As Jesus said, "The sun is darkened, and the moon does not give light, and the rest of the trumpets shall be sounded. Woe to you! Woe to the angels: The angel's lament is that one-third of the earth's population will die in the judgment of the three trumpets that will blow next. The eagle is the king of birds, and the sex is the fiercest, indicating that the trial is approaching quickly. The eagle also has the specialty of flying high and sharp-eyed, and Jesus once said, "Where the head is, the eagle will gather there." This reminds one of the four angels who had caused the death of many people on earth because of their plagues, and their exposed bodies on the earth were being eaten for the eagles. "Woe to you! Woe to you! Woe to you" is a triple warning that God still shows grace and mercy in the midst of retribution, leaving room for repentance for sinners. The first four trumpets also reveal mercy in God's judgment; These are only partial judgments, striking only "a third," and are meant to warn this rebellious world and lead the world to repentance.

Let's pray:

Abba Heavenly Father, You are the Lord of all things, of history, and you have the power to judge the world. Your judgment is just. You are also a God of grace and mercy, and in the midst of judgment you still warn the world to turn back to you! May the world hear your warnings, repent of their sins, and come to you! It also helps us to be vigilant and pray, and to spread the gospel.

In the holy name of Jesus Christ. amen

Revelation 8

8:1            When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about two hours.

8:2 And I saw the seven angels standing before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.

8:3 Another angel came and stood by the altar with a golden censer. Many incense was given to him to be offered on the golden altar in front of the throne along with the prayers of the saints.

8:4 And the smoke of the incense, and the prayers of all the saints, were lifted up from the hand of the angel to the face of God.

8:5 And the angel took the censer, and filled the altar with fire, and poured it out on the earth. with thunder , loud noises , lightning bolts , earthquakes .

8:6 And the seven angels who had the seven trumpets were ready to blow.

8:7 The first angel blew the trumpet, and hail and fire were mixed with blood and thrown on the earth. A third of the ground and a third of the trees were burned, and all the grass was burned.

8:8 The second angel blew the trumpet and threw a mountain into the sea like a burning fire . one-third of the sea becomes blood .

8:9 one third of the living creatures in the sea died . The ship was also damaged by one-third.

8:10 And when the third angel blew his trumpet, there was a great burning star, like a torch falling from heaven on a third of a river, and on the fountain of water.

8:11 the name of this star is yin qiang . one-third of the water becomes a pot . Because the water became bitter, many people died.

8:12 The fourth angel sounded the trumpet, and the sun was one-third of the moon, and the third of the stars were smitten. so that one-third of the sun, moon, and stars were darkened, and one-third of the day had no light, and so was the night.

8:13 Then I saw an eagle flying in the air, and I heard him cry out, Three angels will blow the rest of the trumpet, woe to you people who dwell on the earth.

At the beginning of the eighth chapter of Revelation, the seventh seal is opened, causing silence in heaven for about half an hour. Then the seven angels were given seven trumpets, and another angel offered incense in front of the golden altar, along with the prayers of the saints.

The first angel blew his trumpet, and hail and fire mixed with blood were thrown on the earth, causing destruction.

And the second angel sounded his trumpet, and a great mountain with fire was thrown into the sea, turning a third of the sea into blood, killing a third of the sea creatures, and destroying a third of the ships.

And the third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star fell from heaven named Yin Chen, and made a third of the water bitter, and many people died because of the water.

The fourth angel blew his trumpet, and a third of the sun, moon, and stars were struck, reducing their light by a third.

Then an eagle flew in the middle of the sky and cried out in a loud voice: "Woe to you! Woe to you! For the three angels shall blow the trumpet, and the inhabitants of the earth shall suffer the rest of the plague. "

Chapter 8 describes the opening of the seventh seal, the angels blowing the first four trumpets, and leading to destruction and destruction on earth. It also includes warning of the impending destruction of those who inhabit the earth.

The key verses of the eighth chapter of the book of Revelation are in the Chinese version in the Union Version.

1. Revelation 8:1 - When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.
2. Revelation 8:7 - And the first angel sounded his trumpet, and hail and fire were thrown upon the earth with blood, and a third of the earth was burned, and a third of the trees were burned, and all the grass was burned.
3. Revelation 8:10-11 - And the third angel sounded his trumpet, and there was a great burning star, like a torch falling from heaven, and falling on a third of the rivers and on the fountains of waters. And the name of the star was Inco, and a third of the waters became Inco, and because the waters became bitter, many people died.

Revelation chapter 8 goes on to describe the events of the end times and God's judgment, especially the opening of the seven trumpets. This chapter deals with angelic trumpets, God's judgment, and earthly calamities. Here are some highlights of the theological implications, theological thinking, and spiritual implications of chapter 8:

**Opening of the Seven Seals:** Describes the opening of the seventh seal, which triggered an event in which the angels sounded their trumpets. The opening of the Seven Seals heralds the events of the end of the world and the beginning of judgment.

**Angel Trumpet:** Describes seven angels blowing their trumpets, each of which brings a calamity such as fire, blood, poison, etc. This symbolizes God's judgment on sin, as well as the difficulties of the end of the world.

**God's Sovereignty:** This chapter reemphasizes God's sovereignty and control. The trumpets of the angels and the calamities are carried out according to God's plan, expressing God's dominance in history and end-time events.

**Revelation of the End Times:** Describes the tribulation and judgment during the trumpet-blowing event, which reveals the dilemmas and sufferings of the end times. This underscores eschatology and the persistence of believers in difficult situations.

**Spiritual Awakening:** Describes the blowing of the fifth trumpet by a star falling from the sky, bringing with it a poisonous smoke that symbolizes the devil. This may symbolize the spiritual disorientation of humanity, but it may also point to God's intervention in the last days in some way.

In terms of theological thought and spiritual influence, Revelation chapter 8 emphasizes God's judgment and sovereignty. This chapter reminds us of the nearness of the end times, emphasizing the gravity of sin and God's judgment. While this chapter describes the apocalyptic catastrophe, it also reminds us to seek God's protection and deliverance. The chapter also encourages believers to persevere in their faith, knowing that God is in control. At the same time, this chapter paves the way for the events and themes in subsequent chapters to help us understand God's plan for history and end-time events.