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# The Book of Revelation: Session 13

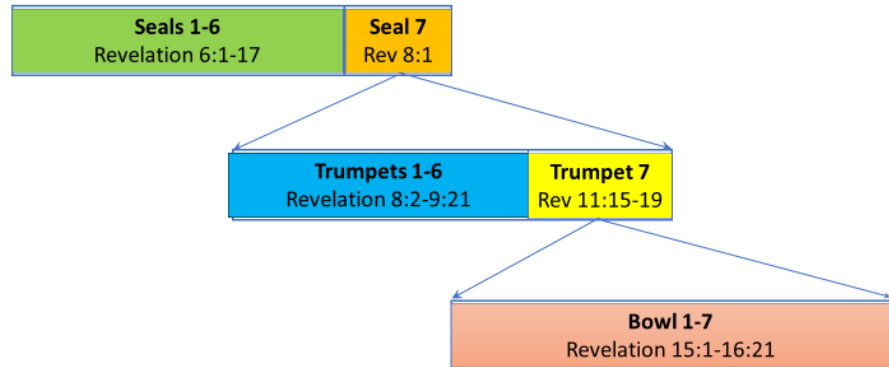
## Revelation 8

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**YouTube:** “Verse by Verse Teaching | Revelation 8 | Gary Hamrick”  
(taught on September 23, 2020 | 38:06 minutes)

**Notes:**

“Incense is a picture of the prayers of the saints ... that rose to God. ... As the prayers go up, judgment comes down.”



Trumpet #1:  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the earth and trees, and all of the green grass are burned up.

Trumpet #2: A blazing “mountain” hits the earth:  $\frac{1}{3}$  of sea becomes blood,  $\frac{1}{3}$  of sea life dies,  $\frac{1}{3}$  of ships are destroyed.

Trumpet #3: A blazing “star” (“Wormwood”) hits the earth:  $\frac{1}{3}$  of earth’s fresh water becomes bitter, many deaths.

Trumpet #4:  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the sun, moon, and stars turned dark.

**Questions:**

1. Read Revelation 8:1-5. Perhaps we sometimes feel like our prayers are not heard by God, because He does not act as we want Him to, or on our timeline. We pray for justice, but it doesn’t happen, or happen as completely as we would like it to. We pray that the evil in our world will be vanquished, yet we don’t fully see it. What does this passage communicate about our prayers for justice, for redemption? How does this truth impact you?

2. Read Luke 18:1-8. Though we don't always experience God's justice fully in this life, God will bring complete justice one day. In the meantime, we are commanded to pray, pray, and pray some more. What keeps us from praying, or from praying more? What have you found helpful, that has strengthened your prayer life?
  
3. Read Revelation 8:6-13. C. S. Lewis once wrote: "God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but *shouts in our pains*. *It is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world.*" Chuck Swindoll adds: "A day is coming when the hardness of the unbelieving hearts of the unregenerate will intensify. When that happens, God will turn to other means to get through to a deaf and stubborn world. In the book of Revelation, we see God using an intensifying series of judgments to capture the world's attention for the purpose of redemption." Have you experienced God shouting to you in your pain? How does it impact you to realize that, even in the midst of tribulation, some will choose to receive God's amazing grace?
  
4. Warren Wiersbe explains: "'Inhabitants of earth' (Rev 8:13) means much more than people who live on the earth. Instead, it refers to a kind of people: those who live *for* the earth and the things of the earth." Read 1 John 2:15-17. How can we work with God to cultivate in ourselves a greater love for Him, and a hatred for the evil things of this world?

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"We can we choose to heed the warnings of God's Word, or we can harden our hearts. Either way, God will work out His plan."

- Chuck Swindoll

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Want to dig deeper? Engage with these sermons by John MacArthur, taught in 1993:

- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-31/the-seventh-seal>
- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-32/divine-destruction-of-earths-ecology>