

Studies of End Times Prophecies

Book of Revelation

Chapter 8

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Rev 8:1 When he opened
the **seventh seal**, there was
silence in heaven for about half
an hour.

This **silence** comes as a dramatic contrast to the shouting of praise and the playing of harps that has been going on in heaven up to this point. Millions of angels, hosts of redeemed humans, and other heavenly creatures have been crying out before the throne of God, and singing praises to him. But now suddenly everything ceases.

This is the silence of mystery, a
silence of intense anticipation of
what is about to happen.

a. *Habakkuk 2:20 The Lord is
in his Holy Temple; let all the
earth keep silence before him!*
(KJV).

Rev 8:2 And I saw the
seven angels who stand
before God, and to them
were given **seven trumpets**.



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a. Josh 6:13-16: ¹³ The seven priests carrying the seven trumpets went forward, marching before the ark of the LORD and blowing the trumpets. The armed men went ahead of them and the rear guard followed the ark of the LORD, while the trumpets kept sounding. ¹⁴ So on the second day they marched around the city once and

*returned to the camp. They did this for six days. ¹⁵ On the seventh day, they got up at daybreak and marched around the city seven times in the same manner, except that on that day they circled the city seven times. ¹⁶ The seventh time around, when **the priests sounded the trumpet blast, Joshua commanded the people, "Shout! For the LORD has given you the city!***

b. Zeph 1:14-16: ¹⁴ "The great day of the LORD is near-- near and coming quickly. Listen! The cry on the day of the LORD will be bitter, the shouting of the warrior there. ¹⁵ That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of trouble and ruin,

*a day of darkness and gloom, a day
of clouds and blackness, ¹⁶ a day of
trumpet and battle cry against the
fortified cities and against the corner
towers.*

Rev 8:3 Another angel, who had a **golden censer**, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all the saints, on the golden altar before the throne. ⁴ The **smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of the saints**, went up before God from the angel's hand.

*a. Ps 141:2 May my prayer be set
before you like incense; may the
lifting up of my hands be like the
evening sacrifice.*

b. Rev 5:8 And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

Rev 8:5 Then 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. ⁶ Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to sound them.

The thunder and lighting is a
manifestation of the presence of
the Lord Almighty as seen in
Exodus 20:18-19:

a. Exod 20:18-19: ¹⁸ When the people saw the thunder and lightning and heard the trumpet and saw the mountain in smoke, they trembled with fear. They stayed at a distance ¹⁹ and said to Moses, "Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not have God speak to us or we will die."

The **first four trumpets** bring disaster onto the **earth**, rivers and springs; i.e. man's environment) and the **heavens** (sun, moon and stars).

Rev 8:7 The **first** angel sounded his **trumpet**, and there came **hail and fire mixed with blood**, and it was hurled down upon 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.

a. Exod 9:22-25: ²² Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the sky so that hail will fall all over Egypt-- on men and animals and on everything growing in the fields of Egypt." ²³ When Moses stretched out his staff toward the sky, the LORD sent thunder and hail, and lightning flashed down to the ground.

*b. Micah 7:15 "As in the days
when you came out of Egypt, I will
show them my wonders. “*

*c. Joel 2:30 I will show wonders
in the heavens and on the earth,
blood and fire and billows of
smoke.*

Rev 8:8 The 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, ⁹ a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.



This probably refers to a meteor.

*a. **Exod 7:20-21:** ²⁰ Moses and Aaron did just as the LORD had commanded. He raised his staff in the presence of Pharaoh and his officials and struck the water of the Nile, and all the water was changed into blood.
²¹ The fish in the Nile died, and the river smelled so bad that the Egyptians could not drink its water. Blood was everywhere in Egypt.*

Rev 8:10 The 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 --¹¹ the name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter.



This probably refers to a comet.

*a. Jer 9:15 Therefore, this is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: "See, I will make this people eat bitter food and drink **poisoned** water.*

Rev 8:12 The 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.

a. Luke 21:25-26: ²⁵ "There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶ Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken.

Rev 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!"



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Some people spiritualize this verse by saying that it is probably an angel rather than an eagle. They forget that God has the power to make an animal speak in order to convince men of the wickedness of their ways.

a. 2 Pet 2:15-16: ¹⁵ They have left the straight way and wandered off to follow the way of Balaam son of Beor, who loved the wages of wickedness. ¹⁶ But he was rebuked for his wrongdoing by a donkey— a beast without speech-- who spoke with a man's voice and restrained the prophet's madness.



Questions?

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