

# Jesus Revealed: A Study of Revelation

## Week#6: The 7<sup>th</sup> Seal = 7 Trumpets

**To re-set the scene in heaven:** The scroll that the Lamb of God takes from the hand of the Heavenly Father in Chapter 5 represents the final will of God to settle the affairs of the earth – bringing judgment and eternal reward. The scroll has 7 seals which bind the document. Those seals need to be broken *before* the scroll is read and executed. The 7 seals aren't part of the final affairs of the earth, but they tell us the kind of world we'll live in before the end (for believers and unbelievers).

The 7<sup>th</sup> seal is different. It is a series of 7 trumpets which are warnings of the impending wrath of God coming upon unbelievers. Believers were sealed in chapter 7, then God's wrath is poured out in the form of the first 6 trumpets upon a wicked, unbelieving, and unrepentant world.

### Read Revelation chapters 8–9.

1. **Revelation 8:1–6 is a powerful vision of God's compassion, mercy and wrath.**
  - a. Why the "silence in heaven"? What emotion does this conjure up?
  - b. Describe the power of the prayers of the suffering Church going up to the Father from the altar. Based on what you know of God's nature, how does He respond to our prayers? (see Heb 4:14–16)
  - c. Explain why God waits so long to pour out His wrath (see also 2 Peter 3:7–10).
  - d. Explain the imagery of why the bowl containing the prayers of a suffering church is the very bowl that contains the fire of God's wrath.
  - e. What is the most profound message you take away from these verses in the context of your life and walk with God?
  
2. **In Revelation 8:7–9:19, six of the trumpets sound, pouring out the wrath of God upon an unbelieving and wicked world that continues to celebrate sin, ignore the grace of God in Christ, and persecute the Saints of God. Do you best to explain a) the emotion, and b) the message of each trumpet to an unbelieving world.**
  - a. The first trumpet of hail, fire and blood.

- b. The second trumpet of a fiery mountain in the sea.
  - c. The third trumpet of a blazing star in fresh waters.
  - d. The fourth trumpet of darkness.
  - e. The fifth trumpet of unleashed demon-creatures that afflict the body.
  - f. The sixth trumpet of angelic armies to cause war and famine.
- 3. These trumpets only affect a third of mankind. Even in God's terrible wrath, He shows mercy by measuring His judgment on the earth. Still, how does an unbelieving world respond when everything they trust in crumbles, (9:20-21) and how do you see this kind of response to God in today's world?**

### **Responding in Prayer**

- Pray (by name) for friends and family members who don't yet know God's mercy and forgiving grace through Christ. Pray that you might have a powerful influence in their lives as you represent Christ to them.
- Pray for an extended time focused entirely on the fullness of God's nature; certainly His love and mercy toward us, but also experience an awe of His holiness, His justice, His anger toward sin and injustice, and His terrible and fierce wrath. Bow in awe and reverence to our Heavenly Father.