

SEVEN SEALS, TRUMPETS, AND BOWLS

SEALS

1. White horse conquering and to conquer - 6:2
2. Red horse takes peace from the earth; men slay one another - 6:4
3. Black horse, pair of scales, famine - 6:5 and 6
4. Ashen [pale] horse; death and Hades; $\frac{1}{4}$ of the earth killed by sword, famine, pestilence, and wild beasts - 6:8
5. Slain souls must wait until the right time - 6:9 - 11
6. Great earthquake; sun black; moon like blood; stars fell; sky split; every mountain and island moved; wrath of the Lamb - 6:12-17
7. Seven trumpets - 8:1 and 2

TRUMPETS

1. First angel - hail and fire mixed with blood; $\frac{1}{3}$ of the earth and $\frac{1}{3}$ of the trees were burned and all the green grass - 8:7
2. Second angel - something *like* a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea; $\frac{1}{3}$ became blood; $\frac{1}{3}$ of the creatures died; $\frac{1}{3}$ ships destroyed - 8:8 and 9
3. Third angel - great star burning *like* a torch fell on $\frac{1}{3}$ of rivers and springs, became bitter with wormwood; many men died - 8:10 and 11
4. Fourth angel - $\frac{1}{3}$ sun, moon, and stars were darkened; $\frac{1}{3}$ of day and night darkened - 8:12
5. Fifth angel - key to bottomless pit; locusts torment for 5 months - 9:1-12
6. Sixth angel - 4 bound angels released at the great river Euphrates; 200 million horsemen destroy $\frac{1}{3}$ of mankind with fire, smoke, and brimstone - 9:13-21
7. Seventh angel - Christ returns; resurrection of the just - 11:15-19; 7 bowls of wrath - 15:5-8

BOWLS OF WRATH

1. First angel - loathsome and malignant sore on people with the mark of the beast - 16:2
2. Second angel - the seas become blood; every living thing in the sea dies - 16:3
3. Third angel - rivers and spring of waters become blood - 16:4-7
4. Forth angel - the sun scorches men with fierce heat - 16:8 and 9
5. Fifth angel – the throne of the beast and his kingdom become darkened; gnaw their tongues because of pain - 16:10 and 11
6. Sixth angel - Euphrates dries up... Har-Magedon - 16:12-16
7. Seven angel - Great earthquake; great city splits into three parts; cities of the nations fall; islands flee away; mountains are not found; hailstones, 100 lbs - 16:17-21

REVELATION 9

What happens with the wrath of God is like nothing that has ever happened before, so we should not be shocked if it is odd and scary.

Daniel 12:1

Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued.

Matthew 24:21

"For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will.

1 Thessalonians 1:10

And to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.

As with the last three seals, the last three trumpets move into the realm of spirit. These visions are described in greater detail than the first four. The symbolism of the locusts is horrible and strange. When people fail to respond to God's gracious invitation and set themselves in opposition to His purposes, then they become the prey of horrifying demonic forces. They suffer the consequences of their choice.

Revelation 9:1 - "Star" here signifies angel. Job 38:4-7

From the bottomless pit, come the locusts, and in 11:7 and 17:8, the beast comes up out of the abyss.

Luke 8:26-32 Demons did not want to go away into the abyss.

1 Peter 3:18-20; 2 Peter 2:4; and Jude 6 The spirits from the time of Noah are in a place of incarceration.

Revelation 20:1-3 Satan's future incarceration is in the abyss for a thousand years.

God has the key to this place, so it is under His control. It is not the place of punishment that is described as a lake of fire in chapter 20.

Revelation 9:2 - Morning of May 18, 1980 at Mt. Saint Helen, the largest terrestrial landslide in recorded history reduced the summit by 1,300 feet and triggered a lateral blast. Within three minutes, the lateral blast, traveling at more than 300 miles per hour, blew down and scorched 230 square miles of forest. Within 15 minutes, a vertical plume of volcanic ash rose over 80,000 feet. In the afternoon of May 18, 1980, the dense ash cloud turned daylight into darkness in eastern Washington, causing streetlights to turn on in Yakima and Ritzville. The volcanic ash cloud drifted east across the United States in three days and encircled Earth in 15 days. The eruption was the most economically destructive volcanic event in U.S. history. The landscape devastated by the eruption has evolved into a rich and diverse habitat for plants and animals.

Revelation 9:3 - Locust formed the eighth plague in Egypt. Exodus 10:12-20 and the book of Joel talk about locusts and the end times.

Revelation 9:4 - Normal locusts eat green vegetation and have nothing to do with humans. The first trumpet (8:7) effects the vegetation as in Exodus 10:1.

The sealed ones are protected (7:3-8; Ezekiel 9:1-4) just as they were with the plagues at the exodus. God's faithful are exempted from this torment. Exodus 8:22; 9:4, 26; 10:23; 11:7

Revelation 9:6 - The same was stated with 6th seal which is why I think it to be an introductory view of the whole that is now described in detail 6:16; Job 3:20-23; Isaiah 2:19; Jeremiah 8:3; Hosea 10:8; and Luke 23:30. Today, we talk about mercy killing for those who are suffering; in that day, there will be none.

Revelation 9:7 - Their appearance is horrible, with nothing in history to compare:

Locusts **like** horses prepared for battle

Heads appear to be crowns **like** gold

Faces were **like** the faces of men

Hair **like** women

Teeth were **like** the teeth of lions

Breastplates **like** breastplates of iron

The sound of their wings was **like** the sound of chariots of many horses rushing to battle

Tails **like** scorpions and stings

Revelation 9:8 - Think not of size but ferociousness, very destructive

Revelation 9:9 - Breastplates of iron indicate they are well protected, immune from resistance.

Revelation 9:11 - They had a king over them. Proverbs 30:27 - "The locusts have no king, yet all of them go out in ranks." Locusts generally move in bands, though they do not appear to be under the direction of any one as a particular ruler or guide. In this case, they have a king. "Angel" seems to refer to the chief of the evil angels, who presided over the dark and gloomy regions from whence the locusts emerge.

The name "Abaddon" means literally destruction, the destroyer of the place of the ruined dead. Job 26:6; 28:22; 31:12; Palm 88:12; Proverbs 15:11

Revelation 9:14 - The fact that they have been bound indicates they are not good angels voluntarily doing God's will. In the Old Testament, many pagan armies marched to bring God's wrath upon the disobedient Israelites. Here, we see clearly that demonic beings carry out the wrath of God. Evil is so intrinsic to demons they are willing to destroy, even though in doing so they fulfill God's purposes. Or maybe they just do not know, as with the Assyrians and Babylonians of old.

Euphrates - the throne of the beast will be in this part of the world, and his empire is called Babylon that is located by the Euphrates. Many of Israel's enemies starting in Genesis 14 have come from the other side of the Euphrates.

Revelation 9:15 - It seems that God holds these demonic forces back until the very time He determines, and then He frees them to do what they do - kill and destroy.

Revelation 9:17 - We are reminded that what is described is a vision and may have a strong symbolic element, but what is certainly literal is the ferocity and destructiveness of the horses brought out in the likening of their heads to the heads of lions. Their fearsome nature is further seen in the fact that from their mouths issue fire, smoke, and brimstone.

Jude 7

Just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, are exhibited as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.

Revelation 9:20 - Just as today, the devastating consequences of idolatry and immorality will not cause people to repent, although they are given opportunity to do so just like in Joel and other Old Testament records.

REVELATION 10

This is an interlude which provides comfort and encouragement after the sixth seal. In like manner, after the sixth trumpet, is another interlude that provides insight and encouragement.

Revelation 10:1 - After viewing the evil from the bottomless pit and the four angels of destruction, which were released from the river Euphrates, we switch focus to gain perspective. Yahweh's great angel symbolizes the one who has ultimate authority on the earth. The phrase "great angel" also occurs in 5:2 and 18:21.

The great angel bears the similarity of God or the manifestations of God. In Exodus 13, Yahweh went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud to lead them in the way; and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, to go by day and night. The rainbow is above God's throne.

Ezekiel 1:28

As the appearance of the rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so *was* the appearance of the surrounding radiance. Such *was* the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw *it*, I fell on my face and heard a voice speaking.

Revelation 10:2 - The little book is never identified. Right foot on the sea and left on the land probably indicate mastery over both the land and sea. His posture indicates gigantic size

towering above all the affairs of man and the evil influences of the devil. God is in charge, and in the end, His will is going to be done.

Revelation 10:3 - "Cried with a loud voice" as with the previous great angel in 5:2

Revelation 10:4 - The seven peals of thunder are not for us to know now. In verse seven, we are told the mystery of God is finished, so God revealed to us this information which had been hidden in the past.

Revelation 10:6 - He is solemnly swearing that the events of which he speaks will take place certainly and speedily when the seventh angel blows his trumpet.

Revelation 10:7 - To the prophets (OT), the information was a mystery. Paul made the mystery plain for all to see (Romans 16:25-27; 1Corinthians 2:1-16; Ephesians 1:9-11; 3:1-6; Colossians 1:26-2:2). When Jesus returns and the dead are raised, the mystery will be finished. Another mystery will be understood when Christ returns, which is recorded in 1Corinthians 15:51-56.

Revelation 10:11 - Ezekiel 2:8-3:11 The prophet in a very similar way to John was told to eat the book that more than likely was the word of truth about the apocalyptic prophecy which is sweet but also bitter. In the first chapter, verse 11, John was instructed to write the visions down in a book and send it to the seven churches (and by extension to all the church). Here he is told to prophesy, which at its core means to declare God's message to others on behalf of God. The message he was to speak and we are to speak would most certainly include the book of Revelation. He and all believers continue to have the ministry of reconciliation that is to keep going until the two final witnesses recorded in the next chapter.