The Trumpets
PART I
Revelation 8:6-13

MAIN THOUGHT The first four trumpet judgments are NATURAL – desolating land, saltwater, fresh water, and the heavenly bodies. The 5th and 6th trumpets announce DEMONIC forces that torment (9:1-12) then kill (9:13-21).

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TRUMPET #1: DESOLATION ON EARTH (6-7). REV. 16:1-2
- The “hail and fire” reminds us of the 7th plague of Egypt (Ex. 9:18-19, 23).
- “Mixed with blood” is explained by the loss of life (Ex. 9:19; Ezek. 38:22).
- A third of the earth and trees were burned up and all the grass. This fraction (⅓) was incrementally more intense (¼ in 6:8) – REPENT (2 Pet. 3:9)!

TRUMPET #2: DESOLATION IN THE SEAS (8-9). REV. 16:4-7
- The HUGE MOUNTAIN could be a large volcanic eruption (Mt. Vesuvius [AD 79]).
- A triple judgment resulted: (1) a third of the seas turned to blood is like Egypt’s first plague (Ex. 7:20-21); (2) a third of the living creatures in the sea died; (3) a third of the ships were destroyed.

TRUMPET #3: DESOLATION IN THE FRESH WATER (10-11). REV. 16:8-9
- A GREAT STAR, perhaps a meteor burning and breaking up in the earth’s atmosphere, was scattered on a third of rivers and springs of fresh water.
- The name of the star is WORMWOOD (GK – absinthe = bitter) for God has all his stars named and numbered (Job 9:9-10). This name means BITTER and is translated as gall or poison (Prov. 5:4; Jer. 9:15; 23:15; Amos 5:7).
- In Moses’ day God made sweet what was bitter (Ex. 15:23-25), but during the tribulation, God will make bitter what was sweet!

TRUMPET #4: DESOLATION IN THE HEAVENS (12-13). REV. 16:3
- Whereas only a third of the land, seas, and fresh water were adversely effected, all the earth will suffer from diminished light as a third of the sun, moon, and stars will turn dark effecting photosynthesis and temperatures.
- Reminiscent of the 9th plague of Egypt – DARKNESS (Ex. 10:21-23) and the prelude to the 10th plague – death of the firstborn (CRUCIFIXION [Matt. 27:45]).
- This darkness was temporary for later the sun would intensify and scorch people (16:8-9).
- This was all predicted by the prophets (Joel 2:1-2; Amos 5:18; Matt. 24:29).
- An EAGLE (Deut. 28:49; Hos. 8:1) announced the last three WOES (TRUMPETS 5-7 – 9:1; 12-13; 11:14-15) – the most intense of all!