

## When God Sounds the Alarm

Revelation 8-9; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; 3-27-2022

Revelation 8-9 highlights what God does to sound the alarm to unbelievers so they will turn and trust and love as God calls them to.

*What is pictured in the book of Revelation?*

- *7 Seals: Birth Pangs* – Matthew 24:8
- *7 Trumpets: Tribulation and Fig Leaves* – Matthew 24:21-22, 32-34
- *7 Bowls: Day of the Lord* – Matthew 24:37-39; 1 Thessalonians 5:2; 2 Peter 3:10

### **The Calm Before the Storm: Revelation 8:1-6**

– Zephaniah 1:7

*What do the prayers of the saints have to do with the trumpet judgments?*

The believer has been commanded to pray the Lord's Prayer which includes, *Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven*. The trumpets are announcing that God is about to answer this prayer and people need to get ready.

### **The Fire Alarms: Revelation 8:7-9:19**

- ***7<sup>th</sup> Seal: 7 Trumpets (Revelation 8:1-2)***

What can a 'trumpet' do? Announce a warning of impending danger (like an alarm) or impending rescue (like the coming of the calvary). Its purpose is to get people's attention and often to sound an alarm. – Ezekiel 33:1-5, 11

- ***1<sup>st</sup> Trumpet: Increased Natural Disasters (also that due to war) – Revelation 8:7***

– Luke 21:11

- ***2<sup>nd</sup> Trumpet: Increased Societal and Political Unrest and Chaos (including the rise of the One World Government) – Revelation 8:8-9***

- Luke 21:10

- ***3<sup>rd</sup> Trumpet: Increased Economic and Basic Resource Issues (including the rise of the Anti-Christ) – Revelation 8:10-11***

– 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5; Revelation 13:1-8

- **4<sup>th</sup> Trumpet: Increased Moral Darkness (including the rise of the False Prophet and the great apostasy) – Revelation 8:12-13**

– 2 Thessalonians 2:3a, 9-12; Matthew 24:10, 24; Revelation 13:11-18

- **5<sup>th</sup> Trumpet: Unprecedented Demonic Oppression of Unbelievers (physical and psychological torment and distress) – Revelation 9:1-12**

– Luke 21:25-26

- **6<sup>th</sup> Trumpet: Unprecedented Lawlessness (with genocide and incredible loss of life under the effects of unrestrained evil) – Revelation 9:13-19**

– Matthew 24:12; 2 Thessalonians 2:7

- **7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet: 7 Bowls (Revelation 11:15-18; 15:1)**

### **The Kindness of God Rejected: Revelation 9:20-21**

- Romans 2:4-6; Luke 13:1-9

### ***Implications and Applications***

Be Alert! (Luke 21:28-36)

1. God is sovereignly working out His plan, but we should never doubt the role prayer plays in the purposes of God. (8:3-4)
2. God warns and we need to heed the warnings in Scripture and in life. (8:6)
3. God brings judgment on a sinful world, but we can rest in the truth that nothing can truly hurt a believer in Jesus. (9:4)
4. God is sovereign over life and death and our efforts toward life or death are under His hand. (9:6)
5. What is happening on the world stage is determined by what is happening behind the scenes in the heavens. (9:14)
6. God sends warnings of judgment to lead us to repentance. (9:20-21)
7. God is leading us to repent of the worship of idols ('God-substitutes') and the sin against one another it causes. (9:20-21)
8. Our greatest need is repentance (turning to God for help and happiness); God's primary purpose in our circumstances is repentance, whether through *kind kindness* or *severe kindness*.

*These kinds of Bible passages are intended to alarm us, not out of our wits, but into them!*