

## What Was, What Is and Is to Come

### A Biblical End Times and Prophecy Study

#### **VIII. The 70<sup>th</sup> Week Continued – 2 Witnesses and the Wrath of God (Trumpets and Bowls)**

The Antichrist has established his world dominance, set himself up in the Temple as “God” and offered a sacrifice to himself and Satan (the “abomination of desolation”). The first 6 seals brought about the introduction of the Antichrist and the results of the world conditions and his quest for power (war, famine, death, persecution, martyrdom), culminating in terrestrial & celestial disturbances, the [visible] appearing of the Christ in the air and the rapture [“gathering of the elect”] of the believers.

##### **1. The 2 Witnesses - Revelation 11:1-14**

**a. The Temple.** 11:1-2. The temple will be rebuilt during the first part of the 70<sup>th</sup> week and the OT system of sacrifices will be allowed to recommence, signifying even further the nation of Israel’s rejection of Christ. The temple will eventually be desecrated by the Antichrist at the midpoint of the 70th week.

**b. Timing.** 11:3. At that time, two (2) divine witnesses will rise up and prophecy and witness for 1,260 days. They will probably conduct their ministry concurrently with the 144,000 and focus on Israel.

**c. Traits.** 11:4-6. They will have super-natural powers to preserve and continue their witness. Because of the specific abilities mentioned (*stopping the rain* and *turning the water into blood*) and their presence at the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-3), many believe these two to be Elijah and Moses. Also, Malachi 4:5-6 prophesied that Elijah would come *before the day of the Lord*. For the olive tree reference, see Zechariah 4:1-4, 11-14.

**d. Tragedy.** 11:7-10. At the end of their 3 ½ year/1,260 day ministry, the Antichrist will execute them publicly in the city of Jerusalem. Everyone in the world will see (TV/satellite) their dead bodies lying in the street for 3 ½ days and will celebrate their deaths by giving presents (a sort of *anti-Christmas?*).

**e. Triumph and terror.** 11:11-14. God will resurrect the 2 witnesses after 3 1/2 days. 1/10th of the city will be destroyed and 7,000 people will die by an earthquake.



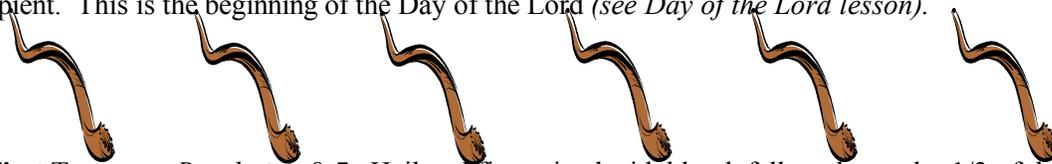
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**The Seventh Seal - Revelation 8:1-6.** With the opening of the 7th seal there is silence for 1/2 an hour, a reverent pause prior to the outpouring of God’s wrath. 7 angels assemble ready to sound seven trumpets.

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##### **2. Seven Trumpet Judgments - Revelation 8:7 - 9:21.**

Many believe the seal judgments to occur over the course of at least the first half of the 70<sup>th</sup> week. The trumpet judgments may then cover an undetermined amount of time during the last half. Also, we now enter into the portion of the 70<sup>th</sup> week where God is initiating the judgments. He is the sender and the unrepentant earth is the recipient. This is the beginning of the Day of the Lord (*see Day of the Lord lesson*).



a) **First Trumpet - Revelation 8:7.** Hail and fire, mixed with blood, fall on the earth. 1/3 of the earth and trees and all of the grass are burned up.

b) **Second Trumpet - Revelation 8:8-9.** 1/3 of the sea turned to blood and 1/3 of all the sea creatures and ships are destroyed.

c) **Third Trumpet - Revelation 8:10-11.** 1/3 of the fresh drinking water is poisoned or made unfit to drink.

d) **Fourth Trumpet - Revelation 8:12-13.** 1/3 of the sun, moon and stars are darkened and a warning (3

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woes) is given that the worst (the last 3 trumpets) is yet to come.

e) **Fifth Trumpet** - *Revelation 9:1-12*. Demon "locusts" are allowed to torture (but not kill) everyone **without God's seal** (the 144,000/2 witnesses, Israel or 2<sup>nd</sup> chance believers?) on their heads for five months. Even suicide attempts will be fruitless. They are led by a powerful angel/demon whose name means Destroyer.

f) **Sixth Trumpet** - *Revelation 9:13-21*. Another army (demon or angel?), this time on horseback, numbering 200 million is allowed to kill 1/3 of the people on earth. Verse 20 seems to indicate that those destroyed were unrepentant - not sealed by God - (as in the 5th trumpet), nor are they likely to be (vs. 17-19). The destruction will apparently come from the "horses". (mouths and tails) v. 20-21.

**NOTE: Mankind, in spite of all that has happened, will still not REPENT.** (is anybody saved after this?)



g. **Seventh Trumpet**. *Revelation 11:15-19*. The elders and other voices praise God, announcing several events (v.18):

- Wrath has come
- Judging of the dead and the rewarding of the prophets and saints (see I Corinthians 3:10-15)
- Destroying those who destroyed the earth

The temple in heaven is opened revealing the ark of the covenant (v.19) and there will be lightning, thunder, earthquakes and hail.



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**The 7 bowls**. *Revelation 15:5-8*. The seven angels are given the seven golden bowls representing the wrath of God.

### **3. The Bowl Judgments - The Wrath of God.** *Revelation 16.*

1. **The First Bowl** (v. 1-2). Painful sores break out on everyone who had taken the mark of the beast.

2. **The Second Bowl** (v. 3). The sea turns into blood and everything in it dies.

3. **The Third Bowl** (v. 4-7). The fresh water turns to blood.

4. **The Fourth Bowl** (v. 8-9). The sun scorches people's skin. ***But they refuse to repent.***

5. **The Fifth Bowl** (v. 10-11). Darkness covers the kingdom of the beast. Men curse God and ***refuse to repent.***

6. **The Sixth Bowl** (v. 12-16). The Euphrates River dries up allowing the armies from China (the East) to cross. Three evil spirits in the form of frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, beast and false prophet and summon the nations of the world to fight against God. They begin to gather at Armageddon.

7. **The Seventh Bowl** (v. 17-21). With the seventh bowl, God's wrath is complete. Widespread destruction occurs. "Babylon the Great" (the kingdom of the beast) is given God's full wrath and the city of Jerusalem is dramatically altered (see Zechariah 14:1-9) preparing it for the Millennial reign. 100-pound hailstones fall, killing many.

**At the culmination of these events – CHRIST RETURNS!!!**