REVELATION – CHAPTER 8

THE SEVENTH SEAL – SEVEN TRUMPET JUDGMENTS

Vs 1 Picks up chronologically with chapter 6 The 7th Seal contains all the subsequent developments Which lead up to the Return of Christ. (The 7th Trumpet Judgment contains the 7 Bowl Judgments.) There is "dead silence" in Heaven for half an hour; the silence which can be felt before the jury foreman reports the verdict. Vs 2 An introduction to the 7 Angels (God uses Angels to carry out His plans in a similar manner to the way He uses humans. Heb 1:14; Rom 10:13-15; Rom 7:7 The Law is spoken of as "an active entity" doing the work of God by itself. In fact, it was delivered by both Man (Moses), and angels yet once delivered, works the work of God. Luke 1:19 The fact that these angels stand before God indicates Their place of prominence within God's creation. Trumpets and their use are prominent in the Scriptures 1. At the giving of the Law Ex 19:17-19 2. To announce special days Liv 23:23-25; 25:9 3. To announce the movement of the people Num 10:2-10 4. The OT tells us it was to be used to announce the coming Tribulation Period. Joel 2:1-ff Altar: Rev 6:9; 8:5; 9:13; 14:18; 16:7 which is in Vs 3-4 Heaven Ex 30:1-10 (altar of incense) Ex 37:25-29; Heb 9:1-5 Incense: Ex 30:34-38 is added to the prayers of the saints. Many believe that the incense represents the work of Christ, mixed with the prayers of believers, which together became a soothing aroma to God.

		These prayers prayed on earth, delivered by the Holy Spirit Rom 8:26-27, through our High Priest Heb 7:18-28, end in the presence of Him who sits on the throne.
Vs 5	Censer	(fire pan): Lk 16:12-13 in the service of the Temple; was used to take fire off of the Altar, to be carried into the Holy of Holies, where incense was added. Here the angel takes the fire on the censor and throws it to the earth, as a part of the judgment which comes from God.
	Note: Family Heads are also said to use censors in their position before God. Num 16:6-ff. Thunder, lightening, and earthquakes (smoke filling The room). God is in it.	
Vs 6	The Seven Angels with the Seven Trumpets prepare to Sound their trumpets.	
Vs 7	The First Trumpet sounds – desolation is spread over the earth. Vegetation is destroyed and blood is mixed in with the destruction. Ex 9:18-26	
Vs 8-9	One Third of the land is affected. The Second Trumpet sounds – the sea is God's focus. To be taken literally – a Heavenly Body strikes the ocean and destroys all that is in its path upon impact. Again, a Third part is affected.	
Vs 10-11	The Third Trumpet sounds – any heavenly body entering Earth's atmosphere would enter burning. The result of the "wormwood" hitting the water is to turn it bitter and therefore, undrinkable. This is the exact opposite of that which occurred with Israel in the wilderness. Ex 15:22-26	
Vs 12	They did not - The Fourth A He is God of t	– so He has. ngel sounds – God shakes the Heavens. he Universe; there is no God besides Him. dant upon Him for their continued

In Egypt darkness was experienced for 3 days. Ex 10:21-22 During this judgment, in the Tribulation Period it will be experienced by a Third of the world.

Vs 13 John heard an "eagle" (earlier manuscripts). Later manuscripts use the word "angel".
Mid-heaven – the atmosphere. Rev 19:17; 14:6
Woe to the earth – it is not almost done.
It is, in fact, just Beginning!
Little time is left in comparison but the pain and suffering that has been experienced is nothing compared to that which lies ahead for planet earth.
God's focus of judgment will now move from man's created home – earth, to man himself!