

Trumpet Judgment Reminders

Revelation 8.6-13

Sunday February 02, 2025

The judgments brought on by the trumpet blasts leave us with 3 reminders:

1. **Worldly security as we know it ends.**

Note that each trumpet destroys 1/3 of the world's resources.

- **1st trumpet** affects trees and green grass
 - Trees provide food and oxygen
 - Green grass, could this represent our cereal grains and other farmland resources?
- The ground was cursed at the Fall of Adam and Eve
 - **And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life... Gen.3.17**
- Add to this the loss of 1/3 of plant life and arable ground

- **2nd Trumpet** announces 1/3 of the sea turned into blood killing 1/3 of sea life and destroying 1/3 of the ships
 - More than 3.5 billion people depend on the ocean for their primary source of food. **Internet report Aug 3, 2023**
 - Maritime transport is the backbone of international trade and the global economy. Over 80% of the volume of international trade in goods is carried by sea, and the percentage is even higher for most developing countries. **Review of Maritime Transport 2021**
 - This affects the loss of food production and international trade.

- **3rd Trumpet** affects our fresh water supply.
 - 1/3 is contaminated bringing death to many
 - Contaminated water (bitter) diminishes food production, plant life, and fresh water food sources
 - Humans require fresh water to maintain good health

- **4th Trumpet** affects natural light
 - Again, 1/3 diminished
 - Light is essential for plant life, heat, other energy sources

The loss/diminishment of each of these resources seriously limit our ability to provide for ourselves

- Shortages created bring about inequality of access and distribution
- The poor become poorer
- Sustaining life becomes more difficult

These losses are nothing that man can reproduce

- They are only what God can provide
- Now a large portion removed

2. Judgment is immanent.

Often in OT times the trumpet was used to sound an alarm

- **Blow a trumpet in Zion; sound an alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming; it is near, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness!** Joel 2.1-2

Gave warning of God's approaching judgment

Given as a consequence to sin and rebellion often bringing economic, ecological and political upheaval:

- **And the waters of the sea will be dried up, and the river will be dry and parched, ⁶and its canals will become foul, and the branches of Egypt's Nile will diminish and dry up, reeds and rushes will rot away. ⁷There will be bare places by the Nile, on the brink of the Nile, and all that is sown by the Nile will be parched, will be driven away, and will be no more. ⁸The fishermen will mourn and lament, all who cast a hook in the Nile; and they will languish who spread nets on the water. ⁹The workers in combed flax will be in despair, and the weavers of white cotton. ¹⁰Those who are the pillars of the land will be crushed, and all who work for pay will be grieved.** Is.19.5-10

Judgment can be given with intent to bring people to repentance:

- **“And when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the Lord your God has driven you, and return to the Lord your God, you and your children, and obey his voice in all that I command you today, with all your heart and with all your soul, then the Lord your God will restore your fortunes and have mercy on you, and he will gather you again from all the peoples where the Lord your God has scattered you.** Deut.30.1-3

“Therefore these trumpets symbolize natural and political disasters throughout this age that display God's sovereignty over creation, supremacy over man's idols, and wrath against sin. **Joel Beeke, Revelation, p.267**

3. God is patient.

Demonstrated in that the whole world has not been totally destroyed since John wrote letter 2000 years ago!

Peter acknowledges scoffers:

- **This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, ²that you should remember the**

predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, ³ knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. ⁴They will say, “Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation.” 2 Pet.3.1-4

And gives reply:

- **The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. 2 Pet.3.9**
- **Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? Rm.2.4**
 - God is patient giving periods of remission to allow for repentance

The mystery lies not in why we are judged but in why we are spared:

- **“None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.” “There is no fear of God before their eyes.” Rm.3.10-12, 18**

The mystery is explained:

- **“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Jn.3.16-17**

Then I looked, and I heard an eagle crying with a loud voice as it flew directly overhead, “Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, at the blasts of the other trumpets that the three angels are about to blow!” Rev.8.13

- Warning is given: woe, woe, woe! Even harsher judgment is coming.
- How do we respond?!