

Syllabus
The Book of Revelation
Chapter 8

Rev. 8:1 ¶ *And when he opened the seventh seal, there followed a silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.*

Rev. 8:2 *And I saw the seven angels that stand before God; and there were given unto them seven trumpets.*

Think of it! Silence in Heaven!

The Living Creatures stop saying Holy! Holy! Holy!

Saints and Angels stop singing and praising. Heavenly music stops!

Heaven's harmonic sound system is interrupted by a long silent pause.

And we are not told why. We can only guess. My guess is that it is in contemplation of the judgment about to be released upon the earth. For the day of the LORD has come.

The Prayers of the Saints

Rev. 8:3 ¶ *And another angel came and stood over the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should add it unto the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.*

Rev. 8:4 *And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand.*

Rev. 8:5 *And the angel taketh the censer; and he filled it with the fire of the altar, and cast it upon the earth: and there followed thunders, and voices, and lightnings, and an earthquake.*

In commenting on Chapter 5:8, I asked you to note that the twenty-four elders held "golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints." Here again, we see that the prayers of the saints are before God and play a major part in what happens on earth.

I asked you to do this, because I want to relate something Sister Jeanne Wilkerson shared with me. She was a woman of much prayer and Bible study. And she was a true prophetess. I believe the Lord used her, more than any other person, to deliver His prophetic word to Dr. Kenneth E. Hagin. This began in the sixties when she walked into a church in Tulsa where Dr. Hagin was teaching. The Lord pointed her out to him and told him she was a prophet. Brother Hagin accepted her as standing in that office.

She was one of my God-given mentors. She shared the following at one of her own very special teaching sessions which she held somewhat regularly.

Sister Wilkerson was a champion of intercessory prayer. In teaching us, she related how she had literally kept a man alive for years with her intercession for him in his long battle with cancer. While she was out of town ministering, he passed away rather suddenly.

Perturbed, she went to the Lord and said something like, "I prayed for him for years. There's also another situation I've been praying about for years which has not gotten better. (She named it to the Lord.) You know that when I pray, it is real and not just a little 'Lord bless so-and-so.' I need answers. I don't like to waste my time. I don't like to waste my prayers."

At that, she was caught away to Heaven. There stood the man who had died. And there stood the Lord Jesus.

The man spoke first, "Sister Jeanne, don't feel badly that I came on to Heaven... There are things you don't know...."

Then he told her about the storing up of prayers. He said, "It works like a blood bank. I was a donor of blood on the earth. [She was unaware of this. Later she checked it out and found that earlier he'd donated blood regularly.] That blood was stored. And then when needed, it could be withdrawn. You are well known in the bank of prayer in Heaven. You have much stored. And you have a right to make withdrawals when you or yours need prayer...."

Then Jesus taught her to this effect, "Prayer is never wasted. Intercessory prayer is never ineffective. When the prayer is initially made for a person, a situation, a nation, the forces of Heaven are released to the object of the prayer. If the object of the prayer receives what Heaven sends, the answer is manifest in that case. But, if the prayer is unheeded, the prayer can become judgment...."

Then the Lord quoted to her Revelation 5:8 and Revelation 8:3-5. He said that it is the unheeded prayers for the earth that are poured out as judgments in the tribulation period.

The Seven Trumpets
Mid-Tribulation

Rev. 8:6 ¶ *And the seven angels that had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.*

The first four angels sound trumpets releasing plagues.
Five of the plagues of Egypt are repeated during the tribulation period.

Dr. Hilton Sutton, *Revelation Revealed*, page 110

The plagues are controlled by the Two Witnesses who use them against the Antichrist throughout the last half of the tribulation as they deem necessary.

Rev. 8:7 ¶ *And the first sounded, and there followed hail and fire, mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of the earth was burnt up, and the third part of the trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.*

The Third Part of the Earth

The prophetic earth includes the lands surrounding the Mediterranean Sea. The Bible calls the Mediterranean Sea, The Great Sea. By the time of the Roman Empire, the Mediterranean Sea was as a huge lake surrounded by the Roman Empire. These were the lands of the Four Empires of Daniel. These are the nations that the O.T. prophets told their end. These are the nations Jesus told us to watch as signs of His Coming when said to “Behold the fig tree (Israel) and all the trees (the nations of prophecy)” (Luke 21:29-31).

The Numeric Bible, Hebrews to Revelation

The third part of the earth...The earth is not the globe, but the prophetic earth; and this is practically the territory of Daniel’s four empires.

Rev. 8:8 ¶ *And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood;*

Rev. 8:9 *and there died the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, even they that had life; and the third part of the ships was destroyed.*

Does not say that it is a mountain, but something like a great mountain.
Possibly from space, a meteor, etc.

Rev. 8:10 ¶ *And the third angel sounded, and there fell from heaven a great star, burning as a torch, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of the waters;*

Rev. 8:11 *and the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.*

Personal Experience: April 26, 1986 was the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in the Ukraine. I was in Israel with the “Tone Down” tour. Chernobyl is a Ukrainian name for mugwort, a species of *Artemisia*, known as common wormwood—a bitter herb. Much fear resulted from the disaster. Some even claimed the Chernobyl, or Wormwood disaster fulfilled this prophecy. It did not.

Belarus was the country most polluted by the fallout. On a later trip to Minsk, Belarus, we visited a hospital where the patients were all children affected by the widespread and terrible results of Chernobyl. I cannot describe the sights and suffering we saw. While Chernobyl did not fulfill the prophecy, it chillingly foreshadowed the disastrous effect of poisoned waters and food affected by something called Wormwood.

Revelation 8:12, 13. (Please read in your Bible.)

Compare with the Sixth Seal.

Signs preceding the Second Coming of Christ. (Luke 21:25-28.)