

THE JUDGMENTS OF THE TRIBULATION:
PART 2—THE TRUMPETS
(Revelation 8 and 9)

- I. A Strictly Literal Interpretation—Describing Events EXACTLY as They Occur
 - A. The First (Rev. 8:7)—All GRASS and one third of all TREES destroyed by storm of HAIL and FIRE mingled with BLOOD
 - B. The Second (Rev. 8:8-9)—One third of all SEA LIFE and SHIPS destroyed by what is probably a METEOR strike that turns the sea to BLOOD
 - C. The Third (Rev. 8:10-11)—One third of earth’s FRESH WATER supply poisoned by what is probably another METEOR strike
 - D. The Fourth (Rev. 8:12-13)—One third of all CELESTIAL LIGHT is blacked out worldwide
 - E. The Fifth (Rev. 9:1-12)—the First WOE
 - 1. An ANGEL unlocks the BOTTOMLESS PIT (cf. 1:18; 20:1-3)
 - 2. Releases SMOKE that darkens the SUN and the AIR
 - 3. Demonic LOCUSTS emerge from the smoke
 - 4. Cause great TORMENT for five months, but not DEATH
 - 5. Locusts led by a KING called “DESTROYER”
 - F. The Sixth (Rev. 9:13 – 11:14)—The Second WOE (Read 9:13-21)
 - 1. Four ANGELS are RELEASED from bondage at the Euphrates
 - 2. They are accompanied by an army of 200,000,000 DEMONIC horrors mounted on HORSES

3. They are empowered to slaughter one third of earth's POPULATION
 4. Followed by pronouncements from seven peals of THUNDER John was forbidden to RECORD (10:1-11)
 5. May include the testimony, death, and resurrection of the TWO WITNESSES (11:1-14)
- G. The Seventh (Rev. 11:15-19)
1. Marshals the heavenly host for CHRIST'S RETURN
 2. Pours DESTRUCTION of God's WRATH upon forces still opposing Him

II. A Possible Symbolic Interpretation—Describing Real Events in SYMBOLIC Terms

- A. The First—A judgment upon EARTH killing one third of the POPULATION
- B. The Second—A judgment upon the SEA killing one third of its INHABITANTS: Together, may represent PALESTINE and the GENTILE nations
- C. The Third—A judgment removing ministry of the GOSPEL because the people believed “the LIE” (cf. 2 Thess. 2:11)
- D. The Fourth—A judgment upon world RULERS
- E. The Fifth: the First Woe—An INDIVIDUAL energized by SATAN who releases unprecedented TORMENT upon the earth
- F. The Sixth: the Second Woe—A huge, destructive army of DEMONICALLY controlled MEN that sweeps across the earth
- G. The Seventh—Brings CHRIST'S RETURN to destroy all remaining HOSTILE FORCES and establish His KINGDOM