

## ***The First Catastrophe (Terrible Destruction)***

### Revelation 9:1-6

When the fifth angel blew his trumpet, John saw a star fall from the sky to the earth. (We will see in a moment who the star is.) What did the star open up (see Luke 8:31)? Where did he get the key? What came out?

Who could the locusts torture? Who could they not torture?

### Revelation 9:7-12

What did the locusts look like? What do all of those things mean? Don't think about the whole description. Think about the crowns by themselves, then faces, then hair, etc.

The king of the locusts is also the star. He is named Abaddon, or Apollyon, both mean "Destroyer." Who is he? Read Isaiah 14:11-15 (869) for some help.

Read Job 1:8-12 (588). When Satan comes to destroy and cause suffering, who is in control? Who limits what Satan can do?

### ***To Think About...***

Which does God want to do, not let us experience any trouble, or help us live patiently through trouble?

# The Book of Revelation God's Picture of History and Heaven

*Lesson 7, Revelation 8:1-9:12*

---

### ***To Begin...***

Think about what is going wrong on the earth in the air, water, land. What is happening to the perfect world God made? Who is doing those things? Why?

### ***The Seven Trumpets of Warning and Judgment***

The vision of the seven seals is ending now, and the vision of the seven trumpets is beginning. Of the three visions (seals, trumpets, bowls), this is the longest. This study will look at the first five trumpets. Much of this vision describes what God does to the earth and to unbelievers because of sin. God's goal is for the people to repent and believe in Him. Sadly, they do not.

### ***The Trumpet Vision Begins***

#### Revelation 8:1-6

What happened when Jesus opened the seventh seal?

This could mean several things.

1. Silence is like the Sabbath rest for God's people.
2. There is silence before God's final judgment. Exodus 14:10-14 (82)
3. There was silence/nothing before God made the world. There will be silence before God makes everything new again.

Where did the seven angels get their trumpets?

Another angel came to the altar with a gold incense burner. He used the burner for what two things?

1. To burn \_\_\_\_\_, showing the \_\_\_\_\_ of all God's people.
2. To get \_\_\_\_\_ from the altar and throw it down on the \_\_\_\_\_.

The smoke from the incense is like prayers from God's people going up to God. The fire on earth caused thunder, noise, lightning and an earthquake. What does that show? Read Exodus 19:16-18 (88), Isaiah 29:6.

### ***The First Four Trumpets***

#### Revelation 8:7

When the first angel blew his trumpet, what was thrown on the earth? Does everything get destroyed?

Read Exodus 9:22-26 (76). When God sent hail on Egypt, did the hail destroy things belonging to Egyptians or Israelites?

Read Haggai 2:17 (1187). Why did God later send hail on the Jews? What was His goal?

#### Revelation 8:8-9

What happened when the second angel blew his trumpet? What got destroyed?

#### Revelation 8:10-11

The third angel blew his trumpet. What happened? What got destroyed? (wormwood is a plant that is very bitter and poisonous.)

#### Revelation 8:12-13

The fourth angel blew his trumpet. What happened?

Those four trumpets were bad, but there are worse things coming. "Catastrophe" means something very terrible destruction. There will be three catastrophes coming.

#### *The Seven Trumpets?*

*Trumpets were used for several things in the Bible. Trumpets announced a new king (1 Kings 1:34), they declared praise for God (Psalm 150:3), and they called people to pay attention. There are several reasons why God used trumpets in this vision. Trumpets speak loud like God's voice (Exodus 19:16,19). Trumpets were very often used in war (Joshua 6:20), and this vision describes part of God's war against sin. A loud trumpet blast will announce the end of the world (Matthew 24:31, 1 Corinthians 15:52, 1 Thessalonians 4:16). A trumpet will also announce that the end of the world is coming near (Joel 2:1-13).*

What About...