



TRINITY AME CHURCH

"God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer, Holy Spirit
Our Comforter, and Humankind Our Family"

Bible Study Notes

Series: *Revelation*

Lesson Scripture: Revelation 8-9

Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Teacher: Pastor Grate

Revelation 8 – Trumpets 1-4

The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down on the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up. (Revelation 8:7)

- Recalls the seventh plague on the Egyptians from Exodus 9:23-25

The second angel sounded his trumpet, and something like a huge mountain, all ablaze, was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea turned into blood, ⁹ a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed. (Revelation 8:8-9)

- Recalls the first plague on the Egyptians from Exodus 7:20-21

The third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water— ¹¹ the name of the star is Wormwood.^[a] A third of the waters turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter. (Revelation 8:10-11)

- Wormwood is bitter herb
- Wormwood was used as sign of punishment for idolatry (Jeremiah 9:14; 23:15)

The fourth angel sounded his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them turned dark. A third of the day was without light, and also a third of the night. (Revelation 8:12)

- Recalls the fourth plague on the Egyptians from Exodus (Exodus 10:21-23)

Revelation 9 – Trumpets 5-6

The fifth angel sounded his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen from the sky to the earth. The star was given the key to the shaft of the Abyss. ² When he opened the Abyss, smoke rose from it like the smoke from a gigantic furnace. The sun and sky were darkened by the smoke from the Abyss. ³ And out of the smoke locusts came down on the earth and were given power like that of scorpions of the earth. (Revelation 9:1-3)

- A chasm is opened in the earth creating a vehicle by which evil celestial evil enters into the world.
- These evil forces are like locust consuming not just the agricultural produce of the land but also humanity itself.

The sixth angel sounded his trumpet, and I heard a voice coming from the four horns of the golden altar that is before God. ¹⁴ It said to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." (Revelation 9:13-14)

- The Euphrates River is the eastern border of Roman Empire. East of the Euphrates River was the Kingdom of Parthia, a rival of Rome.
- The invasion of a foreign army into the boundaries of the Roman world symbolized the intrusion of outside forces in the overthrow of the society. Because Rome is associated with wickedness and this army with God, the invasion symbolizes God in breaking into the present age bringing forth is power and judgement.

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