

Session 7: Trumpet and Bowl Judgments: The End-Time Exodus Drama

Revelation 8-9. For those who are new with us tonight, we are in a fourteen-part series on the seven seals, the seven trumpets, and the seven bowls of wrath, the three judgment series in the book of Revelation. There are three series, and there are seven in each one of those judgment series. Tonight, we are on the seventh session out of fourteen. What we are doing is—we are about to do a study of the seven trumpets.

Before we do that, I wanted to take this entire session to draw the comparison between the seven trumpet and seven bowl judgments and the book of Exodus. The drama that occurred in the book of Exodus, when Moses under the anointing of the Holy Spirit released the judgments of God upon Pharaoh and Egypt, was a dress rehearsal for the end-time drama. It was a real event, but it was also a prophetic foreshadowing of a global drama that would happen. What happened in Egypt as a nation will happen on a global scale.

THE TEN PLAGUES OF EGYPT: A FORESHADOWING OF THE TRUMPETS AND BOWLS

Paragraph A. The trumpet bowl judgments intentionally parallel the ten plagues of Egypt—meaning, it is not just an idea that a few preachers have. It is a very common and well-established idea that is quite evident once you begin to study it. When we study the book of Exodus, we find that the book of Exodus is really like the Old Testament book of Acts, just as the book of Revelation is the end-time book of Acts.

When you study the book of Acts, the book of Exodus, and the book of Revelation, those three books have a dynamic connection to one another. They are the records of the unusual activity of the Holy Spirit in one generation, in the generation of Moses—unusual activity never equaled in the Old Testament time.

Even David did not touch the dimension, or the measure, of the supernatural power that happened in the generation of Moses. We have the generation of Moses in the book of Exodus, the generation of the apostles in the book of Acts, and the end-time church in the book of Revelation.

The three of them are meant to be read and understood together. When we study the ten plagues of Egypt, the ten plagues that Moses released, we understand the prototypes of the trumpet and the bowl judgments.

THE TEN PLAGUES: A FRAMEWORK TO UNDERSTANDING THE TRUMPETS AND BOWLS

When we study them, it gives us a framework to understand what is going to happen in the future. It is a very important framework. As a matter of fact, the book of Exodus gives a human dimension with the interaction of the king—with Pharaoh—who is a type of the Antichrist.

The Antichrist is the end-time pharaoh on a global level. We see the human interaction between Pharaoh and Moses, and we get insight into how the Antichrist is going to interact with the end-time prophets. We see some of the dimensions of what happens in the life of the nation of Egypt. It gives us insight into what is going to happen in the nations of the world.

GREAT EXODUS OUT OF THE KINGDOM OF DARKNESS

Paragraph B. The ten plagues occurred just before Israel's exodus out of Egypt. That is a prophetic foreshadowing, because the end-time judgments will occur just before we exit out of the kingdom of darkness.

All of society is going to make a massive exodus out of the kingdom of darkness at the time of the second coming. It will be no more. It will not have its place on the earth like it has had through history. There is a great exodus that is awaiting the people of God. It is a global exodus out of the kingdom of darkness. As individuals, we are called out of the kingdom of darkness, but we are still confronting it and being confronted by it on a daily basis.

EXODUS IS THE OLD TESTAMENT BOOK OF ACTS

Paragraph C. We gain insight into the end-time drama by studying what God did through Moses. Again, I call the book of Exodus, the story of what God did through Moses—I call it the Old Testament book of Acts, like the book of Revelation is the end-time book of Acts. When we study them together—the ten plagues together with the bowls and the trumpets; you put all those together—we have the best insight.

We have the best chance to see the whole picture that God wants us to see through His Word. You study the ten plagues along with the bowls and the trumpets; we have the best opportunity from a Biblical point of view to get the whole picture of what God intended. We see the major trends of what God wants to do in the generation that the Lord returns.

Paragraph D. Now God is preparing the forerunners of this hour and this decade, and the decades that follow if the Lord does not return soon. My opinion is that we have several decades, plus or minus a few.

FORERUNNERS MUST STUDY EXODUS AND REVELATION WITH PRAYER AND FASTING

I believe that the forerunners of this hour—in the early days of the preparation process leading to the coming of the Lord—if they will study Exodus and Revelation together, they will gain a greater practical knowledge of how to apply the book of Revelation.

In Jeremiah 23—I have it right there on the notes—it says this. It is an amazing prophecy. I quote it all the time: Jeremiah 23:20. It is talking about in context to the end-time judgments of

God. It says, “In the latter days you will understand it” (Jer. 23:20). The “it” is the violent whirlwind of the Lord. That is what the “it” is in the passage before, the sentence before. The Lord says, “I am about to release My violent whirlwind and it will not be turned back. In the last days, you will understand it perfectly.” We are approaching the time frame. Again, I am sensing we are some decades out, that the Body of Christ worldwide will have supernatural insight into the drama.

We are not just waiting for the Holy Spirit to drop it into our spirit. We are studying Exodus. We are studying Acts. We are studying the book of Revelation. Of course we are studying the entire Bible. The gospels and epistles are foundational to everything. In terms of understanding the end-time activity and strategy—the books of Exodus and Revelation—we will gain insight into that specific strategy of the Lord.

This is a time when Jesus said—Luke 21:26, in those years leading up to the coming of the Lord; it will be so disruptive—“men’s hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things.” Strong men will faint for fear. They will be overcome with the spirit of fear because of the expectation of the things that they imagine will happen in the near future. As they see things, they will only imagine it will become more intense.

Men will faint for fear, but the Body of Christ will not. The Body of Christ will have perfect understanding. The Body of Christ will walk in peace, revelation, and power.

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN THE TEN PLAGUES AND THE TRUMPET/BOWL JUDGMENTS

Roman numeral II. Looking at the similarities between the ten plagues and the trumpet and bowl judgments: Paragraph A. They are similar in purpose. We are going to look at the purposes in a few minutes. They are similar in purpose. In other words, the ten plagues—the purpose of the ten plagues—just to abbreviate it, was to reveal the power of God and destroy the resources of Pharaoh.

God’s power was revealed and the resources of Pharaoh were destroyed. The same thing is going to happen in the time when the trumpets and the bowls are released.

HEARTS WILL HARDEN TO GOD

Paragraph B. The response of Pharaoh and many in the nation of Egypt—not all of the nation of Egypt, because some of the people actually were converted—the response is that many will harden their hearts as Pharaoh did.

The Antichrist and his empire will harden their hearts in a way we see clearly in the book of Exodus when we study Pharaoh. The overall message is going to be similar. That we announce to the authorities, “Thus says the Lord, ‘Let my people go.’”

The authorities will say, “No.”

The prophetic church will say, “Yes.” There will be a confrontation.

The confrontation between the Antichrist and the end-time prophets will be very similar to the confrontation between Moses and Pharaoh. It is recorded in advance to give us insight.

What I am really doing tonight is just giving a big, long advertisement to study the book of Exodus. To see its relevance to events that might happen in your lifetime. The book of Exodus is very relevant.

PROPHECY AND PRAYER RELEASE JUDGMENTS

Paragraph C. There is a similarity in the way that the events are released. Moses released the power of God through prophetic declarations and through prayer. Moses declared it and then prayed it. In the same way, the trumpets and the bowls will be released by the saints declaring them and then praying their release. They are going to be released in the same way.

Paragraph D. The quality of the miracles will be similar. I am going to point out two very remarkable passages and promises. John 14:12—this has been troublesome to theologians for 2,000 years. Jesus said, “The works that I do he shall do also; and greater works than these he will do.”

The Church has been wrestling with what that means. There are many different answers to that that are really inadequate. Because the only way to get around this besides just really believing it is to figure out—there are all kinds of ways guys have tried to figure out that it means something else than it means. The end-time Church will do greater miracles than the miracles in the Gospels. Micah 7:15 gives us a hint: “As in the days when you came out of . . . Egypt, I will show them wonders.” There are actually quite a few verses that tell us this.

I WILL SHOW THEM WONDERS

Micah 7:15 is describing the generation the Lord returns. In context, it is about the generation the Lord returns. We are not taking a passage out of context and squeezing it in to our own interpretation.

Micah 7 is about that dramatic timeframe leading to the coming of the Lord: “As in the days when you came out of Egypt, I will do the same wonders and miracles that I did in the days when you came out of Egypt” (v. 7, paraphrased). The miracles that Moses released will happen again. They were more dramatic—some of them were more dramatic and more startling than a number of the miracles that Jesus did in the gospels.

Of course, the great miracle is to be born again. There is no miracle greater than that. In terms of startling a nation, the miracles of Moses are of a greater astonishing impact to a nation. Many of the miracles of Jesus—although raising Lazarus from the dead after four days is going to be hard to beat. There will be a similar quality of miracles taking place.

GOD WILL MANIFEST HIS PROVISION TO HIS PEOPLE

Paragraph E. Just like in the days of Moses, there will be supernatural provision of food, water, and direction. We look at what happened in Exodus, and it gives us insight as to what God will do with His people in the generation in which the book of Revelation takes place.

It is not just an issue of provision, but it is also an issue of protection. There is going to be a similarity in the protection. God will protect His people from the judgments of God. This is not the same thing as the promise of not ever being persecuted. This is not a protection from persecution. Although there will be protection, there will be supernatural miracles.

One person will die and become a martyr; for the other one, the prison doors will open. There will be supernatural deliverances in the face of persecution. There will be many martyrs as well. When the Lord promises to protect His people, it is from His own judgments. He is not releasing His judgments on His people. As a matter of fact, it is His people releasing the judgments in the way Moses did.

THE GOSHEN PRINCIPLE

I call it the Goshen principle. Goshen was a geographic area where the children of Israel lived. They called it the land of Goshen. I have several references to the land of Goshen in the book of Exodus. Israel, they were a slave community. They were nearly three million people, somewhere between two and three million. Think of three million slaves. It is a run-down slum type place. It is the lowest rung of society. They are slaves. It is not like a nice subdivision, Goshen. The judgment of God did not fall on Goshen. It fell on all the land, but not on Goshen.

Look what it says in Exodus 8:22, “I will set apart the land of Goshen, in which My people dwell, that no swarms of flies shall be there.” Because when God released flies through the prayers of Moses on the land of Egypt, none of the flies went to Goshen. Verse 23: “I will make a difference between My people and your people.” This is a tremendous insight into how God is going to manifest His glory in the book of Revelation. He will make a difference between the people of God and the people who are against the Lord in terms of the release of His judgments. You can read those different verses in Exodus about Goshen.

SEALS TO PROTECT THE SAINTS

In the book of Revelation, it does not describe the land of Goshen, but it talks about seals that protect the saints. There are the 144,000 of the tribes of Israel, who are literal people of Jewish decent. They will be sealed. Now, the sealing of protection from the judgment is not limited to 144,000. There was a reason the Lord emphasized that group. It will be very important to them to see that passage in the days to come. The sealing to protect is not limited to the 144,000.

Paragraph G. There are four different examples in the book of Exodus of the ten plagues. Now we are led to believe that none of the plagues touched Goshen. That is the conclusion. That is the common consensus. It actually specifies four of the ten plagues and points them out. The

livestock—when the cattle died in Egypt under the plagues—none of the cattle died in Goshen. These are categories that we are meant to understand—categories of life that we are meant to understand, because this is going to be duplicated again. There are dynamic similarities between the book of Exodus and the book of Revelation.

When the hail fell on Pharaoh to destroy his crops and destroy parts of society, the hail did not fall in Goshen. The swarms of flies—that just sounds repulsive. It is disease-ridden. It is more than just a disease-infested environment where swarms of flies fly to a geographic area in a supernatural way. It is just repulsive beyond measure. Can you imagine just being covered in flies for hours and hours, some days on end? This is just after the frogs were all over your bed the week before or whatever. That is intense.

I think the most remarkable is this one about light. I do not know how this works, but I believe it. It says it in Exodus 10:21–23. I do not have to know how it works because God is really smart. Sometimes, guys read these passages and say, “That is not possible.”

I say, “Guys, we are dealing with Someone who has Genesis 1 on His resume. I mean, come on. If you can do Genesis 1, you can do any of this.”

It is time for little guys with little brains like us to bow down before a big God with a big brain. Big wisdom. Just look up in the sky. He is really smart, and He is really powerful. So hey, from then on, I just bow down and say, “Whatever. I am little guy. You are big guy. I am little.”

He says, “There you go. That is a good way to approach this relationship.”

When I read some of these books and some of these guys are thinking, “big theologian, little God,” I think, “No, other way around. Pee-wee theologian, big God. Turn the thing around; bow down to the Word and tremble before it and its mysteries.” I do not know how it all works, but I know it will work, and it will be dynamic and dramatic as it works.

Here in Exodus 10, “Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven, and there was thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days” (v. 22). Look at verse 23 (paraphrased): “But the children of Israel—all the children of Israel had light in their homes.” I do not know how this works, because the darkness is so heavy that no one in Egypt can produce a light to overcome the darkness. It is terrifying. We find in the trumpets—in the fourth trumpet and in the fifth bowl—there is darkness coming to the earth.

It is actually God’s mercy, because the darkness that comes in the fourth trumpet and the fifth bowl is a warning of hell. Because if men think the darkness is bad now for a short period of time, the Lord is saying, “You have no idea what the outer darkness will be like. Repent now.”

THE PURPOSES OF THE TRUMPET/BOWL JUDGMENTS PARALLEL THE PLAGUES

Even all of the plagues, as well as the trumpets and the bowls, are warnings of what God is capable of doing, and how far He will go to warn us to get our attention so we avoid the ultimate. The ultimate would be these plagues and judgments brought to the full degree in the lake of fire. The Lord is wooing the human race. Much of the human race will not take the warning, even though God's messengers will be declaring with clarity what is going on.

Okay, the purposes, Roman numeral III, of the trumpets and bowl judgments and how they parallel the ten plagues, because these purposes are true of the trumpets and of the plagues.

TO GLORIFY GOD

The number one purpose, paragraph A, is to glorify God, of course. God released His power through Moses to show His superiority over Pharaoh and Pharaoh's false gods. Pharaoh's gods were humiliated before Moses' God. The same thing is going to happen. The Antichrist and the False Prophet will be the two most powerful men in history in terms of evil. God is raising up a people who will release power that is superior to them. It will show Satan as inferior to God.

Romans 9:17: Paul is talking about the book of Exodus and the Exodus drama. In Romans 9:17, this is Paul quoting it 1500 years after the Exodus drama was over. He says, "For the Scripture says to the Pharaoh, 'For this very purpose I raised you, Pharaoh, up. I raised you up so I could show My power in you, and that My name would be declared in all the earth'" (Rom. 9:17 paraphrased).

The reason God is raising up the Antichrist—it is God raising up the Antichrist. The devil is fully involved, but it is under God's supervision that it happens. God is going to allow him to be raised up—for Satan to raise him up himself, in full cooperation with evil men's participation and fully guilty for their participation in it.

It is under the orchestration of God. The reason He is doing it is to create a situation in the earth to show forth His power. All the nations will be talking about the name of Jesus. That is the point. To create a global environment in which the people of God—we cannot survive without the power of God.

Right now, if we do not have the power of God at a certain level, we just kind of go on with business as usual. The day is coming when if we do not have the power of God, we will die. In a way, beyond the norm of life, that is what the Lord wants. Even the unbelievers will be talking about the God of Jesus. They will be talking about Jesus and His Father.

TO JUDGE THE ANTICHRIST

Paragraph C. The second purpose for which God is raising up the judgments is to destroy the Antichrist resources in the same way He destroyed Pharaoh's resources.

TO WIN THE LOST

Paragraph D. To win the lost. There are many ways the lost will come to Jesus during this time in history. Revelation 7 tells us there will be a great multitude from every tribe and tongue of the

whole earth. The greatest revival in history will happen in context to the Great Tribulation. One of the ways that the unbelievers will be convinced is they will see the raw power of God far beyond the book of Acts and far beyond the book of Exodus.

They will see the power of God far beyond any time in history. That will be convincing itself. A remarkable thing is that the Church—the forerunners who have studied Exodus—they have studied the book of Revelation; they have a spirit of revelation; they will be declaring in advance what is going to happen next.

The judgments are numbered one after another on purpose. The reason the judgments are numbered—the fourth trumpet and the fifth trumpet. After the fourth one happens, we know the fifth one is next. Everybody knows. Five always comes after four. Some of the people in your neighborhood will not ever open the book of Revelation to figure out what is coming next. You will declare it and they will say, “How did you know with such clarity?”

“Actually, it is written.”

Even the declaration of what is going to happen will be part of that apologetics that convinces unbelievers, as well as the power itself.

KICK AWAY THE PROPS

Another dimension that will convince the unbelievers is the fact that the props that they are leaning on—the false thing they are leaning on to numb their hearts and distract themselves from the pain of real life—those props are going to be kicked away by the judgments of God.

They are not going to be able to prop themselves up and keep themselves numb from facing the reality of what is happening in the earth. Because when the judgments disrupt society, it will be harder for them to escape away in some of their addictions. It is harder to escape reality when you do not have the resources there to prop up their addictions, etc. It will wake up many people. Just by the very fact that so many people are dying, people will face their own mortality.

There will be so much death. People will think about death and eternity like no other time in history. Many will be saved. (I do not believe the majority will be saved.) We are believing God for a billion new souls in that time.

TO ALLOW MAN’S SIN TO BE FULLY MANIFEST

Paragraph E. The next purpose allows man’s sin to be fully manifest. What do I mean by that? God has declared His judgments in time, and He has declared His judgments in eternity. The thing that offends the human race most about God is His judgments. Much of the Church is offended at God for His judgments. Not just unbelievers. Believers are too.

The reason—the argument that is lodged in the human heart is: “Your judgments are not fair, God. They are too extreme and the people did not have a fair chance. If you would have given them a chance, you would not have judged them so severely.” Here is man with very limited

information before a God with perfect information. Man assumes and has confidence in his own arrogance that his information is right, though it is very little, and God's information is wrong. There is a complaint in the human spirit that complains against the judgment of God: "If I was God, the judgments would be different."

The Lord could say, "It is only because you do not have all the information."

Part of the information is that men hate God more than they know they hate God. (Not all men. Many get saved.) Multitudes—millions and millions of people hate God more than they think. They do not know they hate God, because the environment is such that their hatred of God never comes fully to the surface. It is there. God sees it crystal clear. The Lord is going to allow an environment where the truth that is in the human heart is manifest. The love of God and the hatred of God will come to a red-hot boil, a red-hot fire.

God's judgments will be seen as fair and as good. Of course one of the big statements around the throne of God in the book of Revelation many times is where the multitude, the saints, and the angels say, "God, Your judgments are good. Your judgments are good" (Rev. 16:5–7; 19:1–3; etc.).

When all the information is available and it is clear, they say, "That was a really good judgment. That was a great decision." Right now, people and even the saints are a little suspicious that God lacks wisdom and love compared to them. If God had as much wisdom and love as they had, then there would not be the problem of judgment.

God says, "I am going to give an environment to expose truth to where the love that is in people under the anointing of the Spirit will shine. Also, the negative truth about how far man can go in their hatred to God will be clear." The environment will bring it to the head—to the surface so God's judgments are seen as necessary, as wise, as fair, and as loving.

This is an important part of His leadership of history. His judgments are very necessary. They are not a kind of a momentary lapse in His character where He just gets frustrated—"I cannot take it anymore!"—He just bursts out in a fit of rage. No, His judgments are a perfect expression of His love, and His purity, and His fairness. The big dilemma of the human race is the charge that God is not fair.

So God says, "I am going to bring the world stage up to date." All of history will be brought up to date with what men are capable to do if given the full liberty to do it. Forever, everybody will understand the fairness and the goodness of the judgments of God in time and eternity. It is very important—one of the purposes. Even at the Red Sea, Pharaoh looked at Israel as slaves, but he was so enraged at God. At the Red Sea, he was going to take his army and exterminate the entire Jewish race. It was going to be genocide. He was so enraged. That rage was always there in him. They just made him enough money through the free labor, so his rage against them was held in check.

He did not know he had that much rage, but that rage came to the surface. He actually wanted to kill all of them. I am sure that surprised some of his leaders. “Kill all of them? Are you sure that is what we want to do?”

“Yes, we are going after them and we are going to kill them.”

I am talking about the rage of murder. I am stressing the murderous rage in his heart against Jesus—this is the real point I am making.

TO VINDICATE THE SAINTS

Paragraph F. One of the things that the judgments will do is to vindicate or avenge the saints. When God broke through in Moses, all the nations knew that God put His favor on the children of Israel. The nations were talking about it for generations. I mean generations after the testimony was coming: “We remember way back when, when you guys came out of Egypt. We are still afraid.”

There are several times in the Old Testament where it is a generation who are trembling over the power of God in the nation of Israel. God will vindicate His saints through the release of His judgments.

TO CLEANSE THE EARTH

Paragraph G. Another thing God is doing, He is going to cleanse the earth. His judgments are not only confronting evil and vindicating righteousness. It is actually part of His plan to cleanse the earth before Jesus’ millennial kingdom is established. His judgments do not do all the work of cleansing. They are a significant part of cleansing the earth, to prepare for the age to come.

TO PARTNER WITH HIS BRIDE

Paragraph H. The thing that comes to light that is most moving to my heart is the way that Jesus shows His love and the desire He has for partnership. In the whole book of the Revelation story, He is working together with the saints on a global level like He did through Moses. He does not want to cleanse the earth, confront evil, and vindicate the saints apart from deep partnership with the saints themselves. That is in this age.

Then, of course, in the age to come—I have here in Revelation 3:21—it is the most extreme statement that you could grapple with. Jesus said in Revelation 3:21, talking about partnership—He says (paraphrased), “This is not just during the final decades leading up to the second coming.” He says, “To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne forever. He will sit with Me forever on my throne. He will be with Me governing all of eternity with Me” (Rev. 3:21, paraphrased). That is the cry of Jesus. This comes out in the Moses drama at the end of the age.

He wants to do it with us. He wanted to show Israel how dear they were to Him. I have on the notes there that in Jeremiah 2:2, the Lord betrothed Israel to Himself at Mount Sinai. He actually

proposed to them and betrothed Himself to them. It was all about a wedding to Him. The whole scenario was about that.

THE SEVEN TRUMPETS IN REVELATION AND THE FALL OF JERICHO

Roman numeral IV. The seven trumpets in the book of Revelation and the fall of Jericho. We are going to compare them because they are meant to be compared. Paragraph A. At the battle of Jericho, they have come through the wilderness with Moses. They are right on the promised land. They are crossing over the Jordan. They have one big battle in order to open the way to possess the land.

It is the battle of Jericho. These guys are strong. It is the defining moment for them to possess the land. They have to get passed Jericho, a fortified city. They are slaves. They do not have good weapons, they do not know how to overcome a fortified city, but they cannot possess the land if they cannot get through Jericho.

Jericho speaks of the fortification of the enemy against the people of God. They have to possess the land. The story is very dramatic in Joshua 6. The story is not just important for that day and for history to look back and reflect on. It is also a prophetic foreshadowing of another battle that is going to come that is going to have great fortifications. There is a global, eschatological Jericho that must fall—that is the Antichrist Empire and the harlot Babylon. You could tie it to whichever thing touches your heart. My point is it is the power of darkness, the harlot Babylon, the Antichrist system.

It will keep the people of God from possessing the land until it comes down. The goal is not just to possess the land of Israel. That is very important. Jesus wants to possess the entire earth. Every nation He wants to possess. The land is the entire earth. He wants it all under His full leadership. It is under His leadership now, but I mean His manifest leadership where every single nation is actively obeying Him in the way they run their societies.

In Joshua 6, in the battle of Jericho, Joshua—of course, Jesus and Joshua are the same name (Joshua is Yeshua). It is the same name. Joshua sent seven priests and they blew seven trumpets. Well, King Jesus is sending seven angels to blow seven trumpets. It is the same story. They marched around Jericho seven times. They all shouted and the walls fell down.

There is going to be a victory shout and it is actually going to be the Lord Jesus who shouts from heaven with His own voice. We are going to do a lot of shouting between now and then. The great shout at the end—there are several scriptures that talk about the Lord Himself shouting. The walls will fall down. The global fortifications—I am talking about the real military build up in the earth resisting God—it will all crumble under the power of these seven trumpets and seven bowls.

THE TRUMPETS IN REVELATION: ANNOUNCING JESUS' VICTORY OVER HIS ENEMIES

Paragraph B. After the seven trumpets in the book of Revelation—we are going to look at them and start into them in my next session, session eight. I wanted to give you the background. If you do not have the background, without this framework, you miss so much of the bigger picture that Revelation 8–9 is a part of. The seven trumpets in Revelation are announcing Jesus' victory over His enemies and the full possession of the earth belonging to the people of God.

THE PURPOSE OF THE TRUMPETS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Roman numeral IV. The purpose of the trumpets. Now we are going to take a minute. Of course we are not going to go into any detail, but just give you a little snapshot of the purpose of the trumpets. Because the Lord Himself instructed Moses to tell the people, and of course all of redemptive history—this is what the trumpets are for. The Lord speaks audibly to Moses and says in Numbers 10, “Make two silver trumpets and do this with the trumpets” (Num.10:2, paraphrased).

Of course when we study Numbers 10, and we find out what happens in Numbers 10, and the whole of the Old Testament with trumpets, then we get insight as to what the trumpets are going to be used for under the leadership of Jesus in the generation the Lord returns.

TO SUMMON GOD'S PEOPLE TO WAR

Paragraph A. Again, just ever so brief, but we will see that they all come together in the end-time scenario, in the end-time unfolding of God's plan. The purposes of the trumpets come to light in the end-time battle plan.

Paragraph A. God summons His people to war through the trumpets. He commands the trumpets to be blown, and it is the signal for war. When those trumpets are blowing in reality, the Body of Christ will be more engaged in war more than in any time in history.

We are engaged in the war now, but it is just a small percent. It is millions of believers, but the percentage is really small of those who are engaged with all their might in this war. God says, “I have some trumpets to blow, and they will call everyone who names My name into the battle.” There will be a whole shift of motivation when these events begin to take place.

TO SUMMON GOD'S PEOPLE TO GATHER BEFORE THE WAR

Paragraph B. The trumpets are meant to call the people together, to rally the people together to the tabernacle, to the house of prayer in that day, to the solemn assemblies, to the prayer gatherings. When these trumpets begin to be released—of course we are gathering now in prayer assemblies around the world—but as we get closer to those events intensifying, we are going to see. There is going to be a greater zeal in the Body of Christ to gather at the tabernacle. The tabernacle is the place we gather before the Lord for worship and prayer.

There is going to be a greater anointing from heaven. As these seven trumpets really blow and actually happen in history, the prayer movement will be stronger and stronger. This is what the

trumpets are for: to engage us in the war, to call us to come together before the Lord as a people, and to rally the people in the place of prayer.

TO WARN OF COMING DANGER

Paragraph C. The trumpets warn of coming danger. We are going to use the prophetic trumpet messages to warn the nations that danger is not only coming, it is going to increase in its intensity. You can say it now, but until these events happen, many in the nations will say, “Well, whatever, it is just kind of fanatical Christian thinking.” When these events begin to actually happen on a global level, the power to warn the nations of danger will be even more realized.

Paragraph D. When the trumpets blew, it was a time for the people of God, because they were camped in the wilderness for forty years. Right? So they would be camped sometimes for months and months at the same place. When the trumpets blew, they had to pick up, move, and follow the cloud.

They had to go to the next stage in the wilderness. There is going to be a dimension of that which will happen in the end-time trumpet blast as well.

TO CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS

Paragraph E. There were many feasts, and they had trumpets related to them. Many of the feasts of Israel had the trumpets related to them. There was one feast called the Feast of Trumpets. They blew trumpets every day, morning and night. That feast is going to be fulfilled prophetically. You say, “I do not know much about the feasts.” We have a seminar going on right now on the feasts of Israel. When we understand the significances of the trumpets and the feasts, we know where the end-time Church is going. We are going to fulfill these feasts.

TO CELEBRATE BRINGING THE ARK TO JERUSALEM

Paragraph F. David—when David restored the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem. The ark of the covenant had not been in Jerusalem—never before, actually. The ark of the covenant had never been in Jerusalem before David. David said, “We are building the tabernacle in Jerusalem, and we are putting the ark there.”

He blew the trumpets. It is interesting—he had seven priests blowing the trumpets. There is a greater David who is going to restore His ark, His throne in the city of Jerusalem. His name is Jesus, and it is going to be at the end of the seven trumpets.

Paragraph G. The trumpets announced the enthronement of a new king. These seven trumpets are telling the Church and the nations, “A new King is coming. He is coming. He is coming. There is a King who is coming.” That is one of the primary messages in them.

REVOLT AGAINST THE KING

Paragraph H. The trumpets were also sounded when there was a revolt against the king. That revolt was crushed. They blew the trumpets in celebration. Beloved, there is going to be a great revolt against our King. That revolt will be crushed and the trumpets will be sounding.

APPLICATION OF THE END-TIME SEVEN TRUMPETS

Roman numeral VI. The application of the end-time trumpets. I have just said it all, but I will just give you one or two points. This is just really superficial. If you put some time into this, you will get a lot more than this little set of notes here.

Paragraph A. The seven trumpets in the book of Revelation are announcing the enthronement of Jesus as King of kings. They are announcing the defeat of the enemy that is revolting against Him. There is a victory note in these trumpets. The reason I say that is because some people read Revelation 8–9 and say, “Oh, no.”

I say, “No, no. You are not reading it through the lens of the Scripture. The meaning of the trumpet is the sound that a king is coming to take over the nations.”

“Oh, they look pretty negative.”

“They are negative to the people who do not love the King. He is going to give them every chance to say yes to Him.”

Our spirit is excited when the trumpets of God are going off, even though it is not a practice game. This is the real deal. Evil men will be steadfast in their evil and they will oppose Jesus till the end. Jesus will confront them, and He will kill them, and He will drive wickedness off the planet.

It is a real war. It is not a figurative war. It is really going to come to a place of tremendous confrontation in those final three and a half years. It will be under Jesus’ leadership with supernatural power.

The saints we will not ever confront, except for prophetic declaration, and through prayer and through kindness. The power of God will confront. It will be the heavenly arsenal that strikes the kingdom of darkness. The saints will never pick up a weapon to strike the kingdom of darkness. Our weapon is prophetic declaration, prayer, and deeds of kindness.

The Spirit will move on it; the heavenly arsenal will break in like it did in the days of Moses. Moses did not have a weapon. He took on the most powerful army of the earth, Pharaoh’s army, with no weapon at all. He had a shepherd’s rod. That is it. He did not even have a slingshot. One rod, that is it, but he had prophetic declarations. He had intercessory prayer that was in unity with God, and the zeal of God was behind it.

This heavenly arsenal was absolutely decimating the empire of the greatest nation of the earth, which was standing against God. The only weapons he really had were prayer and prophecy.

THE SEVEN TRUMPETS WILL CELEBRATE JESUS RESTORING THE ARK OF HIS THRONE

Paragraph B. Jesus is going to restore the ark like David did. The ark spoke of the throne of God in the Old Testament. Jesus is putting His throne in Jerusalem. The trumpets are blasting—just like David had the seven priests blasting seven trumpets as the ark is being restored. Let's go to Roman numeral VII.

You can read the other ones on your own. You can add to them. Again, these are really simple. We are coming to an end here. This is at the last page. It is just a comparison of all the trumpets and bowls and the plagues together. I will leave that with you just to read on your own. We will end with this final section here.

UNDERSTANDING THE TRUMPETS

Roman numeral VII. Understanding the trumpets. Paragraph A. The trumpets are limited to one-third. What I mean by that, of course, if you have read Revelation 8–9, you know exactly what I mean by it. Fourteen times it highlights the phrase “one-third.” One-third of the sea is being touched by the judgment of God, one-third of the light, one-third of the food supply, and one-third of the people are being touched in a certain way. The reason it is limited to one-third is because the Lord is even in the trumpets. Because the trumpets are not only announcing a King, they are still announcing a warning. There is still a chance to change. They are still in the warning stage. It is not the ultimate final hour, but we are getting close. The trumpets are warning that there is something more severe to come. It is called the seven bowls.

THE SEALS ALERT US, THE TRUMPETS WARN US, THE BOWLS POUR OUT FULLNESS

Paragraph B. The limitation of the trumpets—it is a partial judgment, though there is nothing like it in history. It will be the most dramatic judgments in history, a third of the earth being touched in these various ways. It still gives the nations a chance to repent. Some will repent, but many will become hardened, just like in the days of Pharaoh.

Paragraph B. The seals alert us that something important is to come. When you get a sealed document, it creates a sense of anticipation. Something important is on the inside. For example, if someone from an official group comes and knocks on your door, and they have a sealed document from the king, it is like, “Wow! This is pretty important.” This gives the anticipation that something important is going to happen.

When the seals happen, they are on the alert status. The trumpets say that it is more severe than the seals, but there is a warning element. There is still time because it is going to be more severe. Then the bowls—the idea of a bowl being poured out—it means nothing is hindering the full flow. It is instantly poured out and there is nothing to hinder it. The bowls speak of fullness. The trumpets are still the warning time.

THEY ARE LITERAL, FUTURE, NUMBERED, AND PROGRESSIVE

Paragraph C. These trumpets and bowls are literal. They are not symbolic. You will read some commentaries and they will say this is all symbolic. Do not go there. The plagues of Egypt were literal; they were not symbolic. That is the foundation to the plagues in the book of revelation.

They are future; they have not yet occurred. They have yet to happen. Some theologians will study it and say, “Well, it happened in 70 AD; it all took place. There is nothing to concern ourselves with. It already took place.” Not a chance.

They are yet in the future. They are numbered for a reason. We are supposed to understand the order because the order gives us insight and information and confidence into what is happening, and gives us the ability to pray it, prophesy it, and prepare for it. The order is important because the judgments will happen in a sequential order. They are progressive. The trumpets are more intense than the seals, but the bowls are more intense than the trumpets.

COMPARISONS OF THE TRUMPETS AND THE BOWLS TO THE PLAGUES OF EGYPT

The final part of the notes is Roman numeral VIII. What I do in this is that I take the plagues of Egypt, I take the seven trumpets, the seven bowls, and I put them together.

You can see how they parallel. I find it fascinating. It is more than fascinating. It will be significant to understand the end-time drama to see how they are connected. When I study the trumpets and I know which plagues they are connected to, I study the plagues to get insight as to what the trumpets will be like. It is meant to be studied as a whole picture.

When we only take one segment of the picture, we only get one part of what God wants us to know. Maybe you are looking at this saying, “Wow, I hardly do not know any of this.” Well, we have some time. We just keep our television more on “off” than on “on.” We keep our schedule focused. We do not just lose days and weeks, and lose all our free time. We engage ourselves. We are going to go after this with fasting and prayer with a spirit of revelation. We are saying, “Lord, make this all known to us.”

“I have put it all in the book. If you are hungry, I will give it to you, because My people will understand it all perfectly in the latter days” (Jer. 23:20, paraphrased).

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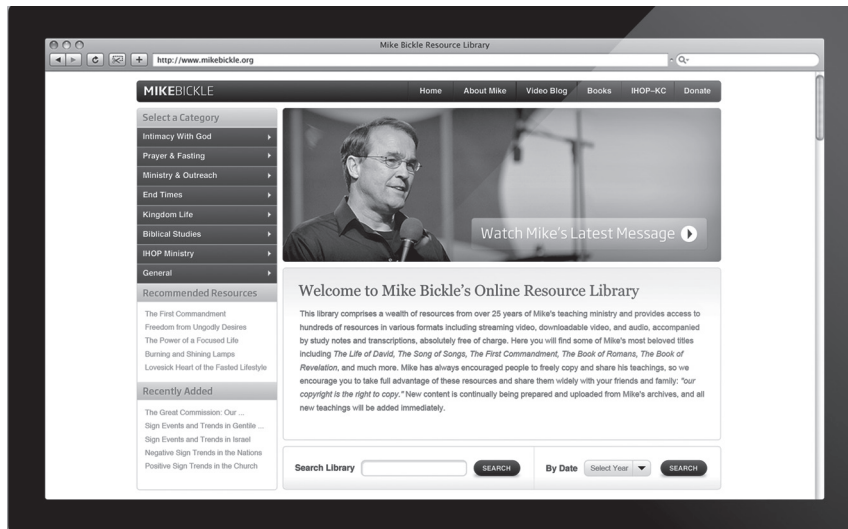
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