

## Revelation 8-9 • The Trumpets

- (Mt. 24:31, 1 Co. 15:52 & 1 Th. 4:6) The **silver** trumpets announce the removal and rescue of God's people and were experienced when Jesus returned for them between the 6th and 7th Seals; these **shofars** announce the wrath of God to come on the earth dwellers left behind.
- (8:1-6) The stage is set for all that remains for the non-believers left behind to experience the **wrath** of God's **judgment**.
- (8:7-12) These literal judgments of God's wrath are taking place because of the spiritual conditions which mankind has **chosen** to embrace. They are literal expressions of the greater spiritual **situation**.
- (8:13) A "**woe**" is never employed as a warning to repent or in the course of an offer for reconciliation, but solely to pronounce **judgment** where all that is left is God's wrath leading to the eternal destination of **hell**.
- (9:1-12) The 5th Trumpet and first woe is unprecedented **torment** and **persecution** of those who have not simply rejected Christ, but are in active **opposition** to Him.

Joel	Revelation
An earthly army in the character of locusts from an earthly nation is released as a tool of God's judgment.	A demonic army in the character of locusts from "the bottomless pit" is released as a tool of God's judgment.
The leaders of this tool of God's judgment from the Assyrian and Babylonian Empires are satanically influenced.	Satan's subordinate, the "fallen star from heaven", leads this demonic tool of judgment.

The activities are directed only against the geographical lands of Israel and Judah.	The physical environment is exempted and all activities exclusively applied to "only the men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads" (Rev. 9:4) with no geographical limitation.
The four successive invasions resulted in the Assyrian and Babylonian Captivities and their total destruction.	The goal is neither destruction of the environment nor death, but "to torment for five months" (Rev. 9:5) everyone in the whole earth with the mark; it is a judgment on the living.

- (9:13-19) The 6<sup>th</sup> Seal unleashes mankind against **each other** in the ultimate war to date.
- (9:20-21) When the judgments of God fall on those with **rebellious** hearts, it does not lead to repentance but instead **hardens** them in their sins even more.

### Overall Application:

- Deuteronomy 8:3
- Titus 3:5
- Ephesians 5:25-27
- Revelation 19:15, 20-21