15 - The Seventh Seal and the Seven Trumpets (Revelation 8:1-12)

I. The Opening of the Seventh Seal (Revelation 8:1)

- When the seventh seal is opened, there was silence in Heaven for 30 minutes.

- The seventh seal contains the seven trumpets.

II. The Seven Angels and Seven Trumpets (Revelation 8:2)

- John sees seven angels who were given seven trumpets.

III. The Golden Censer (Revelation 8:3-5)

A. The Angel with the Censer (Revelation 8:3a)

- John sees another angel who stands before the altar with a golden censer.

B. The Offering of the Prayers (Revelation 8:3b)

- The angel was given incense to offer with the prayers of the saints.

C. The Offering before God (Revelation 8:4)

- The angel offers the incense and prayers before God.

D. The Censer is Thrown to Earth (Revelation 8:5)

- The angel throws the censer filled with fire to the earth.

IV. The First Trumpet (Revelation 8:6-7)

A. The Angels Prepare Themselves (Revelation 8:6)

- The seven angels prepare to blow their trumpets.

B. The First Trumpet Sounded (Revelation 8:7)

1. The Trumpet's Effect

- With the first trumpet, hail and fire fall upon the earth.

2. The Result

- The hail and fire destroy a third of all plant life on earth.

V. The Second Trumpet (Revelation 8:8-9)

A. The Trumpet's Effect (Revelation 8:8a)

- A flaming mountain is thrown into the sea.

> **Biblical Note:** Burning Mountain
> Some scholars believe that the description of the burning mountain fits with a comet or meteor. The impact of this would disrupt sea life causing all living things to die. It would also cause a tidal wave that would destroy ships upon the sea.

B. The Result (Revelation 8:8b-9)

1. The Condition of the Sea (Revelation 8:8b)

- A third of the sea was turned to blood.

- This parallels God's judgment on Egypt.

Scripture Exodus 7:14-25

2. The Destruction (Revelation 8:9)

- A third of all marine life and ships are destroyed.

VI. The Third Trumpet (Revelation 8:10-11)

A. The Trumpet's Effect (Revelation 8:10)

- A great star falls on a third of the rivers and springs.

> **Biblical Note:** A Great Star
> Some scholars believe that the description of the star fits with a comet or meteor. The star is called Wormwood.

B. The Result (Revelation 8:11)

1. The Star's Name

- The star is called Wormwood.

> **Biblical Note:** Wormwood
> Wormwood is a bitter desert plant mentioned only once in the New Testament. It is mentioned seven times in the Old Testament where it represents sorrow and bitter judgment.
> See: Deuteronomy 29:18; Proverbs 5:4; Jeremiah 9:15; 23:15; Lamentations 3:15, 19; Amos 5:7; Revelation 8:11.

2. The Star's Effect on the Water

- The water is contaminated resulting in the death of many people.

VII. The Fourth Trumpet (Revelation 8:12)

- The fourth trumpet results in a third of the lights of the sky being darkened.