

**Daniel & Revelation End-time Prophecies Sermon Series**  
**Study #42: Censer Throw & 7 Trumpets**  
**Revelation 8:2 - 6**  
**Bible Sermon Study Notes by Cary Rodgers, pastor**

This is what the last days look like! Awake awake! Preparation time is almost over! (Following just in 2 ½ wks)  
**Man who killed 2 at Kroger tried to enter a predominantly black church minutes earlier, police say, October 28, 2018, CNN <https://www.cnn.com/2018/10/26/us/kentucky-kroger-shooting/index.html>**  
“(CNN)A [white man](#) who allegedly killed two people (October 24, 2018) at a Kroger grocery store in Kentucky tried to enter a predominantly black church nearby minutes before the fatal shooting, police said.

**11 Killed in Synagogue Massacre; Suspect Charged With 29 Counts, October 27, 2018 by By Campbell Robertson, Christopher Mele and Sabrina Tavernise NY Times - <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/27/us/active-shooter-pittsburgh-synagogue-shooting.html>**

“PITTSBURGH — Armed with an AR-15-style assault rifle and at least three handguns, a man shouting anti-Semitic slurs opened fire inside a Pittsburgh synagogue Saturday morning, killing at least 11 congregants and wounding four police officers and two others, the authorities said.”

**California Shooting Kills 12 at Country Music Bar, a Year After Las Vegas, November 8, 2018, by By Jose A. Del Real, Jennifer Medina and Tim Arango, The New York Times - <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/08/us/shooting-california-thousand-oaks.html>**

“THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — Country music was blaring and beer was flowing. The Lakers game was on the television, and if revelers weren’t line dancing they were playing pool. Then all of a sudden, into “College Country Night!” at the Borderline Bar & Grill stepped a man with a gun.”

**‘The Whole World Was on Fire’: Infernos Choke California, Piling On the Grief, November 9, 2018, By Thomas Fuller, Jennifer Medina and Jose A. Del Real, The New York Times - <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/09/us/california-fires.html>**

“THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — Even in a state hardened to the ravages of wildfires, the infernos that raged at both ends of California on Friday were overpowering. At least nine people were killed, including several who died in their cars in a retirement community called Paradise. Malibu mansions burned. And in the neighborhood in Thousand Oaks where a gunman had killed 12 people in a crowded bar earlier in the week, survivors now fled the flames.”

“Officials estimated that the blaze in the north, called the Camp Fire, had destroyed a staggering 6,700 structures — most of them residential. Such vast devastation would make it the most destructive fire in modern state history.”

“The ungodly cities of our world are to be swept away by the besom of destruction. In the calamities that are now befalling immense buildings and large portions of cities, God is showing us what will come upon the whole earth. He has told us, "Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: so likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it [the coming of the Son of man] is near, even at the doors." Matthew 24:32, 33.- Ellen White, Testimonies for the Church Volume 7, p. 83.

“I am bidden to declare the message that cities full of transgression, and sinful in the extreme, will be destroyed by earthquakes, by fire, by flood. All the world will be warned that there is a God who will display His authority

as God. His unseen agencies will cause destruction, devastation, and death. All the accumulated riches will be as nothingness. . . .” {Ellen White, Evangelism, p. 27.2}

**‘We’re not going to die like this’: Nine confirmed dead in California’s most destructive fire**, November 9, 2018, The Sacramento Bee <https://www.sacbee.com/news/state/california/fires/article221407060.html#storylink=cpy>

“On Friday, she checked satellite images of the neighborhood and saw “a ball of fire” where their house once was.” - <https://www.sacbee.com/news/state/california/fires/article221407060.html#storylink=cpy>

### **MR No. 918 - Cities Destroyed by "Balls Of Fire", Ellen White**

“In the night I was, I thought, in a room but not in my own house. I was in a city, where I knew not, and I heard explosion after explosion. I rose up quickly in bed, and saw from my window large balls of fire. Jetting out were sparks, in the form of arrows, and buildings were being consumed, and in a very few minutes the entire block of buildings was falling and the screeching and mournful groans came distinctly to my ears. I cried out, in my raised position, to learn what was happening: Where am I? And where are our family circle? Then I awoke. But I could not tell where I was for I was in another place than home. I said, Oh Lord, where am I and what shall I do? It was a voice that spoke, "Be not afraid. Nothing shall harm you."

### **THIS IS being fulfilled at a rapid pace! Did you know that the wildfire in Paradise, CA, known as the Campfire fire, grew at a rate of one football field (100 yards) every 3 seconds!**

(Continuing) I was instructed that destruction hath gone forth upon cities. The word of the Lord will be fulfilled. Isaiah 29:19-24 was repeated. I dared not move, not knowing where I was. I cried unto the Lord, What does it mean? These representations of destruction were repeated. Where am I? "In scenes I have represented that which will be; but warn My people to cease from putting their trust in men who are not obedient to my warnings and who despise My reproof, for the day of the Lord is right upon the world when evidence shall be made sure. Those who have followed the voices that would turn things upside down will themselves be turned where they cannot see, but will be as blind men." {11MR 361.1}

### **Destruction, destruction is coming even more intense and frequent. Are you PREPARED and READY?**

#### **Review**

#### **Vision One**

##### **Heavenly Scene: Holy Place**

**7 Churches:** Revealed condition of church throughout the ages. The last church reveals the condition of the church at the end of time; Laodicea was lukewarm – solution gold tried in the fire.

#### **Vision Two**

##### **Heavenly Scene: Most Holy Place (Time of Judgment)**

**7 Seals:** The seven seals gives the great controversy in summary. The **first four seals** outline the contrast between God’s true church versus Satan’s false corrupt church. The **fifth seal** reveals the martyrs of the past and that there will be martyrs in the future who will die because they refuse to worship the beast and his image. The **sixth seal** reveals last day events of the coming Lamb. During the scenes of the sixth seal the wicked, as they are trying to hide from the face of the Lamb, cry out, “For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?” (Revelation 6:17)

**Before the 7<sup>th</sup> Seal was opened Jesus answers the question of “who shall be able to stand?”** Only the “servants of our God” that are sealed with the seal of the living God in their foreheads and will be preserved when the winds are let loose, time of trouble. The “servants of our God” are described as 144,000 literal in number but symbolic in meaning. 144,000 are spiritual Israelites who possess the character of the Lamb. 144,000 is a multiple of 12. Like the 12 apostles 144,000 are trained and commissioned by Jesus to give the everlasting gospel. The 144,000 are literal in number but represent a worldwide apostleship that will give the loud cry message to get out of Babylon during the mark of the beast crisis. As a result of their evangelism there will be a harvest of converts who are a part of that great multitude that no man can number from every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. Many of those will be sealed to go through the great time of trouble.

**The last and seventh seal is opened in Revelation 8:1.** “And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.” When you convert to a day to a year (prophetic time – context symbolism) ½ hour = 7 ½ literal days. For 7 ½ days heaven is silent, why? Because no one is there. Jesus at that time is coming to this planet to get His faithful and ALL of heaven wants to witness this great universal event. It appears Jesus will take less than a day to get here and He along with the faithful will travel through the galaxies for seven days on our way HOME!

“And the angels struck a note higher and sung again while the cloud drew still nearer the earth. Then Jesus' silver trumpet sounded, as he descended on the cloud, wrapped in flames of fire. He gazed on the graves of the sleeping saints, then raised his eyes and hands to heaven and cried, Awake! Awake! Awake! ye that sleep in the dust, and arise. Then there was a mighty earthquake. The graves opened, and the dead came up clothed with immortality. The 144,000 shouted, Hallelujah! as they recognized their friends who had been torn from them by death, and in the same moment we were changed and caught up together with them to meet the Lord in the air. We all entered the cloud together, and were **seven days ascending** to the sea of glass, when Jesus brought along the crowns and with his own right hand placed them on our heads.” Ellen White, *Spiritual Gifts*, Volume 1, p. 33.

After the second vision ends in Revelation 8:1, the third vision begins in Revelation 8:2. Of course the third vision starts in heaven in the heavenly sanctuary. The third vision involves 7 Trumpets.

### **Vision Three (Begins)**

**After the event of the seventh seal in Revelation 8:1, what did John see that introduces the third vision?**

#### **Revelation 8:2**

2 And I saw the **seven angels** which **stood before God**; and to them were given **seven trumpets**.

Seven angels are given seven trumpets waiting for orders from the Master to blow the trumpets.

**After John sees these seven angels with seven trumpets in hand waiting for orders to blow, what does John see next?**

#### **Revelation 8:3-4**

3 And **another angel** came and **stood at the altar**, having a **golden censer**; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

4 And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, **ascended up before God out of the angel's hand**.

Right after John sees seven angels waiting to receive orders to blow their trumpets, he sees a scene of an angel that appears to be performing a religious sacred ceremony in Heaven before a golden altar which is before the

throne of God with a golden censer filled with incense. The smoke of the incense represents the prayers of the saints that go before God.

**Where in heaven is this scene taking place and who is the “angel” with the golden censer before the throne of God?**

Remember, in the introduction to vision one, where did John see Jesus? In the **Holy Place** in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks. At the introduction of vision two, where did John see Jesus? In the **Most Holy Place**.

Remember the earthly sanctuary is a classroom illustration of salvation and the ministry of Jesus in the past, present and future. The earthly sanctuary was a miniature copy of the sanctuary in heaven.

[Show earthly diagram on screen]

Two main services in the sanctuary: **Daily and Yearly**

**Daily Service:** Daily involved the daily sacrifices in which the blood of the sacrifices (sin) was symbolically transferred from the outer court into the holy place. The priest would either eat part of the sacrifice inside the holy place or sprinkle the blood sacrifice on the veil between the holy and the most place.

**Yearly Service:** Known as Yom Kippur or Day of Atonement, Day of Judgment and the Cleansing of the Sanctuary. **ONLY** the high priest perform this sacred and holy service once per year. The blood of the Lord's goat represents Christ sprinkling before the ark of the covenant (mercy seat representative of God throne) seven times inside the most holy place. On that day the high priest would take the coal off the altar and place in the golden censer and pour incense on it. He would take this censer in with him in the Most Holy Place before the mercy seat of God, ark of the covenant. As the smoke filled the room, he would sprinkle the blood the atonement sacrifice seven times before the throne of God (ark of the covenant).

**Leviticus 16:12-14**

12 And he shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire from off the altar before the LORD, and his hands full of sweet incense beaten small, and bring it within the veil:

13 And he shall put the incense upon the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of the incense may cover the mercy seat that is upon the testimony, that he die not:

14 And he shall take of the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it with his finger upon the mercy seat eastward; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times.

In the sanctuary service the high priest represented the people's advocate or intercessor between them and God. **ONLY** the high priest in the most holy place can perform the ceremony of the day of atonement.

**In the earthly sanctuary service who does the High Priest represent?**

**Hebrews 4:14-16**

14 Seeing then that we have a **great high priest**, that is passed into the heavens, **Jesus the Son of God**, let us hold fast our profession.

15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

**1 Timothy 2:5**

5 For there is one God, and **one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus**;

The High Priest on earth represented, Jesus Christ. Jesus is our High Priest who died for our sins and is alive again interceding on our behalf in the Heavenly sanctuary.

**After Jesus ascended back in Heaven, where in the sanctuary did He continue His ministry as our intercessor?**

**Hebrews 9:11-12**

11 But **Christ being come an high priest** of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;

12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in **once into the holy place**, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Jesus went into the Holy Place in Heaven in AD 31. We learned from Vision 2 and the previous prophecy of Daniel 8:14 that Jesus did not enter into the Most Holy Place in the Heaven sanctuary until 1844. VERY IMPORTANT... Most Holy Place – Day of Atonement – Time of Judgment. The NIV and some other versions try to have Jesus go right into the Most Holy Place after His ascension in AD 31. This is out of order and not in harmony with the Bible scriptures and prophecy.

**Jesus [High Priest and Archangel]**

**So when we go back to the introduction of vision three in Revelation 8:3 and 4**, there is no doubt that the angel with the censer in his hand is in the Most Holy Place of the Heavenly Sanctuary before the throne of God. Also, this angel in the position of the High Priest in the Heavenly Sanctuary is not an ordinary created angel, this is Jesus our High Priest. Remember Jesus is the archangel – Commander in chief of all the angels.

**1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**

16 For the **Lord himself** shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the **voice of the archangel**, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

**Remember: We are living in the anti-typical Day of Atonement (Day of Judgment)**

The Introduction of the third vision in Revelation 8:3,4 reminds us that Jesus is in the Most Holy Place not only presenting the sweet smelling incense of the prayers and lives of His obedient children before the throne of God, He is also judging. He is going through each case and making decisions... guilty or not guilty covered by the blood of the Lamb. The judgment does not last forever. It will come to an end. How long will Jesus continue to intercede for us? How long will it be until Jesus says, "It is finished, every case has been judged."?

**Going back to Revelation 8:2 – 4**: While the seven angels are at attention with the seven trumpets in their hand waiting for the command to blow, it appears that Jesus is completing the sealing. It appears that the last call for salvation has been made and now our High Priest is presenting the sweet aroma of the prayers and lives of those sealed with the seal of the Living God. He burns the incense before God until it is complete!

**Are you prepared for the sealing in the last days?** Have you submitted ALL your selfishness, pride, lust, worldliness, and sin at the altar? NOW is preparation time. We MUST have the character of God. We must be obedient to ALL of God commandments.

**Remember, not only do you live by the commandments, but you are going to be judged by them.**

**James 2:10-12**

10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

11 For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.

12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be **judged by the law of liberty**.

### **Introduction to each Heavenly Scene is Forward Progress....**

Vision 1: In the Heavenly Sanctuary Scene Jesus goes to the Holy Place

Vision 2: In the Heavenly Sanctuary Scene Jesus goes to the Most Holy Place (Judgment is taking place)

Vision 3: In the Heavenly Sanctuary Scene : Jesus is in the Most Holy Place with censer full of incense before the throne.

**Questions: Where does Jesus go next? What happens when He is done judging the people and sealing His people in their foreheads?**

**After the incense of sweet aroma that is before the throne of God in the golden censer is completely burned, what does Jesus do with the censer?**

### **Revelation 8:5**

5 And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast *it* into the earth: and there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings, and an earthquake.

### **Day of Judgment / Atonement complete!**

**Here we see Jesus filling His censer with fire WITHOUT the sweet incense.** He then throws His censer to earth. After Jesus throws His fire filled censer to the earth John sees and hears in vision lightning, voices, thunders, and an earthquake on the earth. Remember the censer full of sweet incense in the hand of Jesus in the most Holy place before the throne of God was used as a tool to represent Jesus role as our intercessor between God and man. When Jesus throws the censer to the earth, this act reveals that His role as intercessor is complete. This scene clearly represents the end of Jesus' work as our High Priest in Heaven. After Jesus throws the censer to the earth, He is no longer interceding on our behalf. In other words, after Jesus throws down His censer to the earth, every decision made for or against Christ has been sealed. So, once Jesus stops interceding before God in Heaven, there is no more chance to get it right with God. **There is NO more forgiveness of sin. The DAY of ATONEMENT / Judgment is complete.** After Jesus throws down the censer, there is no second chance. Jesus will permanently retire from being our High Priest. He takes off His High Priestly clothes. He is moving from the Most Holy Place and preparing to get His faithful people from the earth.

### **What will Jesus pronounce after His time as High Priest is complete?**

### **Revelation 22:11, 12**

11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.

12 **And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.**

When Jesus throws the censer to the earth, probation for ALL people is CLOSED. Only those people LIVING sealed with the seal of the living God, will be preserved through the great time of trouble since there was a nation. They will have to live without and Intercessor in Heaven. But Jesus will never leave us nor forsake us. Jesus says in Matthew 28:20, "...lo, I am with you always, *even unto the end of the world. Amen.*"

**After Jesus throws down His censer to the earth and voices, thunders, lightnings, and an earthquake follow it, what did Jesus reveal to the prophet John in vision next?**

**Revelation 8:6**

6 And the seven angels which had the **seven trumpets** prepared themselves to sound.

After the scene of Jesus throwing down His censer to the earth, which represents the end of His work as our Intercessor and High Priest, and the end of the forgiveness of man's sins, you see the seven angels before God preparing to blow their seven trumpets.

**Sixth Seal Summary**

Remember what happened after the sixth seal opened in Revelation 6:12 – 17, Jesus revealed a **SUMMARY** of climatic and universal destructive events right before and during the coming of Jesus Christ. We saw a great earthquake, the sun darken, the moon turn red as blood, a great meteor shower, mountains and islands thrown out of there places and the heavens depart. We saw the wicked people running and trying to hide from the Lamb, Jesus. We saw the wicked cry "fall on us" because of the literal coming of Jesus, the Lamb, and His wrath.

**Revelation 6:15 – 17**

15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;  
 16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the **wrath of the Lamb**:  
 17 For the **great day** of his **wrath is come**; and who shall be able to stand?

**Who will receive the wrath of God?****Colossians 3:5, 6**

5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:  
 6 For which things' sake the **wrath of God** cometh on the **children of disobedience**:

**Revelation 14:9, 10**

9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, **If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,**  
 10 The same shall drink of the wine of the **wrath of God**, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

**What is the wrath of God?****Revelation 15:1, 6, 7**

1 And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the **seven last plagues**; for in them is filled up the **wrath of God**.  
 6 And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles.  
 7 And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the **wrath of God**, who liveth for ever and ever.

The Wrath of God poured without mercy is the seven last plagues, which will be a time of trouble since there was a nation. During the time that Christ leaves the Most Holy place and the 7 last plagues fall, the Holy Spirit will be fully withdrawn from the earth and Satan will have FULL control of the wicked, but the Spirit will NOT be withdrawn from His faithful saints for it is the Spirit who seals God's people! God WILL protect His people during this time of trouble.

“The nations are now getting angry, but when our High Priest has finished His work in the sanctuary, He will stand up, put on the garments of vengeance, and then the seven last plagues will be poured out. I saw that the four angels would hold the four winds until Jesus' work was done in the sanctuary, and then will come the seven last plagues.” {Early Writings, Ellen White p. 36.}

In other words going back to the four angels, holding the four winds until God's people are sealed, are let loose when Jesus throws down the censer and His work in the Most Holy Place is done then comes the seven last plagues.

**Are the seven trumpets in Revelation 8 and the seven last plagues in Revelation 16 the same event? What does John call the events of the seven trumpets? He names it after the sixth trumpet blows in Revelation 9:20. Let's not guess. Let the Bible speak for itself.**

### **Revelation 9:20**

20 And the rest of the men which were not killed by these **plagues** yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:

**The seven trumpets are what? Plagues.** The seven trumpets are the same event of the seven last plagues. Remember, the book of Revelation is divided into two book volumes the first half Revelation 1-11 and the second half Revelation 12 – 22. When you compare both halves of the book, there are occasions when each half covers the same event. Both halves of Revelation cover specific last day events of things that will happen before and during the second coming of Jesus, such as the seven last plagues. We will see that the seven trumpets of Revelation 8 and the seven last plagues of Revelation 16 complement each other. When you line them up together, they reveal a complete picture. For instance, the seven last plagues in Revelation 16 gives us information of WHAT happens, but the same plagues described after the seven trumpets blow gives us details like WHEN, WHERE, WHY, and HOW. These trumpets also explain the CAUSE and EFFECT of the plagues.

### **Do you think these plague are literal or symbolic?**

The plagues described in Revelation 8 and in Revelation 16 are LITERAL events. These plagues are NOT symbolic. The entire context of Revelation 8 and 16 is literal. There are not images of beasts, etc.

**Were the plagues that God sent to Pharaoh and the Egyptians symbolic or literal when they refused to release the Israelites from slavery? Literal.** The same is true with the last day plagues described in the vision of the seven trumpets and the seven last plagues. They are literal events. There are places in John's description of the plagues that he uses names or titles, and similes or comparisons. He will give comparisons, like a lion or scorpion.

**Before we see what happens after each of the seven trumpet blows, we need to ask a few questions about these trumpets. Are these seven trumpets, trumpets of warning to warn the wicked to repent before the coming of Jesus or are these seven trumpets, trumpets of battle?**

In the Old Testament the Israelites used trumpets for various purposes. They blew trumpets as warnings of coming judgments, a call to worship, or signals of battle. Now, keeping that in mind let me ask you this question.

### **When do the seven trumpets blow in Revelation chapter 8?**

After Jesus throws down His censer to the earth.

**What does it represent?** The end of His work as our Intercessor in heaven which means Jesus is no longer interceding on the behalf of man nor forgiving sins.



When Jesus threw down His censer, the time to repent and ask for forgiveness is closed. The time to get it right with Jesus is closed. Probation is closed. Those who are still in sin at that time will no longer have a chance to be forgiven and saved.

If the seven trumpets are going to blow after Jesus throws down His censer, it is very clear that the trumpets are not trumpets of warning to warn people to repent and turn back to God.

**Is there any talk of war or battle found in any of the seven trumpets? Referring to events of the fifth trumpet what does Revelation 9:7 say?**

**Revelation 9:7**

7 And the shapes of the locusts *were* like unto horses ***prepared unto battle***; and on their heads *were* as it were crowns like gold, and their faces *were* as the faces of men.

This sounds like battle to me. So the seven trumpets are not warnings to repent, but sounds of battle and impending doom.

This reminds me of the sounds of the seven trumpets blowing after the children of Israel marched around the walls of Jericho. **When the trumpets blew on the seventh day of marching around the city what happened?** The walls came down and the city was destroyed. The trumpets that blew on the last day were trumpet sounds of war and disaster.

**Next sermon will we look at the seven trumpets of Revelation 8 and compare them with the seven last plagues of Revelation 16.**

**The Seven Trumpets Blow The Seven Last Plagues!**