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- A dramatic sunset scene with a bright sun low on the horizon, casting long rays of light through a cloudy sky. The sun is partially obscured by the dark silhouette of a mountain range in the foreground. The overall color palette is dominated by warm oranges, yellows, and deep blues.
- Revealing Jesus in
 - Revelation

Prophecy



THE SEVEN TRUMPETS

Reiffert



Literal Interpretation

- Four barbarian invasions, Goths, Vandals, Huns, Heruli AD 395-476
- Islamic depredations, July 27th, 1299 to August 11, 1840
- 7th trumpet October 22, 1844 to the End



More Modified Literal/Figurative Interpretation

- 1st & 2nd trumpets literal (fall of Jerusalem, Fall of Rome)
- 3rd & 4th trumpets figurative (spiritual apostasy, darkening of the Word of God)
- 5th trumpet Rise of secular atheism
- 6th trumpet rise of end time Babylon
- 7th trumpet likely the close of probation



Generally Two Approaches to the Trumpets

1. The trumpet symbolism stands for a literal person, or historical event or character trait.
 2. The trumpet symbolism is to be interpreted as symbols of spiritual realities.
 3. Mixture of the two
- - As we have shown, the interpretation is moving from the one to the other, but not totally so yet.



Purpose of the Trumpets

Loren M. K. Nelson (Remnant Publications) “The seven trumpets represent scourges that fall upon the nations that rejected the gospel given during each of the Christian time periods. The trumpets sound God’s own assessment of the ungodly political decisions made by man.” “The seven trumpets sound God’s judgment upon those both inside and outside the church who do not take God seriously.”



Purpose of the Trumpets

1. “The seven trumpets are a judgment on Rome for persecuting God’s people.
2. The first four trumpets are a judgment on Western Rome.
3. The 5th and 6th trumpets are a judgment on Eastern Rome.
4. The seventh trumpet heralds a judgment on Papal Rome, as manifested in the seven last plagues...in the big picture of Revelation,
5. God is avenging his saints in the seven trumpets.
6. God pours out his judgments on the wicked in the seven trumpets.”



Purpose of the Trumpets

Wm. Miller's view

- A. “The trumpet is the harbinger of destructive wars, and the dissolution of empires, states, or the earth, as the case may be.
- B. “Taking away of Pagan rites and rituals.”
- C. The first four trumpets have their accomplishment under Pagan Rome. The last three trumpets describe the judgments that God has sent and will send on this Papal Beast.
- D. The trumpets become a check on Roman Power.



Purpose of the Trumpets

James White's View

James White “The sounding of the seven trumpets I understand to shadow forth the instrumentalities by which the Roman empire was to be overthrown and subverted, and finally ruined...Under the first four trumpets the two western divisions fell, and under the fifth and sixth the eastern empire was crushed; but under the seventh trumpet great Babylon entire will sink to rise no more at all.” Pgs. 1. 1859 – James White – *Sounding of the Seven Trumpets of Revelation 8 and 9*, By James White. Steam Press of the Review & Herald Office. Battle Creek, Mich. 1859.



Purpose of the Trumpets

James White's View

- "The Roman Empire declined, as it arose, by conquest; but the Saracens and the Turks were the instruments by which a false religion **became the scourge of an apostate church**; and hence, instead of the fifth and sixth trumpets, like the former, being marked by that name alone, they are called woes. **It was because the laws were transgressed, the ordinances changed, and the everlasting covenant broken, that the curse came upon the earth or the land.**" Pgs. 30, 31.



Purpose of the Trumpets

Eugene Prewitt's View

- “In the visions of the seven churches and the seven seals, the history of the Christian church was brought to the attention of all that had ears to listen. It is presented as a series of causes and effects. During the experience of the church of Pergamos, the history of the church became the history of the state as the two began forming bonds that would last for over a millennium.



Purpose of the Trumpets

Eugene Prewitt's View

- “Antipas,” the “faithful martyr” (Rev. 2:13), typified those that were protesting the papal usurpations. The word is a conjunction of the Greek words “against” and “fathers.” The church fathers [leaders]...were against...those who had just taken the title, “pa,” as the supposed universal father. This spiritual fornication, despised not only by Antipas, but by God Himself, called forth the Seven Trumpets.”



Purpose of the Trumpets

My view

- **The trumpet judgments come upon on God's errant people in the book of Revelation for one primary reason, for judgment on their apostasy and their open rebellion against God.**



Purpose of the Trumpets

Composite View

- The trumpets herald war and destruction on
 - Western Christian Roman or Pagan Roman Empire as it has been called. (AD 395-476)
 - Eastern Christian Roman Empire. (July 27th, 1299 to July 27th, 1449 to August 11, 1840).



Purpose of the Trumpets

Composite View

- The trumpets sounded because “because the laws were transgressed, the ordinances changed, and the everlasting covenant broken”, in these two time periods. They were warnings of literal and physical judgments on the Pagan and Papal Roman States, resulting in destruction.
- The trumpets soundings were judgments on the apostate persecutors of God’s people.
- The trumpet soundings were a call to repentance of those who remained.



Revelation 9:20-21

- I think the Scriptural key that unlocks the purpose of the trumpets is found in Rev. 9:20-21. “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: ²¹ Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.”
- Don't forget Isaiah 24:4-6



Apostasy vs. Judgment

- **Judgments come as a result of apostasy.** This is a biblical truth throughout the Old AND New Testament. **Conversely, apostasy is NOT a judgment.**



Apostasy vs. Judgment

- For example, emerging atheism, as stated by some regarding the 5th trumpet, is an apostasy, NOT a judgment. The apostasy is the REASON for the judgment. We shall review this idea when we look at the various interpretations of the trumpets. **Where does the text reveal that the apostasy itself is a judgment from God?** This idea is something new in our interpretations. This is not correct. This biblical truth will become important in dealing with some of the new interpretations of the trumpets.



Interpretation of Revelation 8:26

- ² And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets. 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. 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 thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake. ⁶ And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.



Real Judgments

1. on the antediluvians with the flood
2. on Sodom and Gomorrah with an example of eternal fire. (Jude 1:7)
3. on Egypt with the Ten Plagues.
4. on the 10 northern tribes of Israel by Assyria
5. on the southern tribe of Judah by Babylon



Real Judgments

6. on Jerusalem in the 1st century by the Romans
7. on the Western Christian Roman Empire by the Goths, Vandals, Huns, & Heruli
8. on the Eastern Christian Roman Empire by the Saracens and the Ottomans.
9. on all those who worship the beast and his image by the Seven Last Plagues
10. on all those who are not found written in the Lamb's Book of Life by the Lake of Fire

