"And I looked, and I heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!" **Revelation 8:13** 

If I had ten thousand tongues, They would not be enough, If I had the sweetest voice, It would not be enough. To worship you my king, Keeper of my life To worship you my lord, Lifter of my head...

So let my spirit worship you, Let the flesh be gone from me. Let my spirit worship you, Let the flesh be gone from me. Be glorified... Yahweh (×2), Let my spirit worship you Yahweh Yahweh, Let my spirit worship you, Yahweh Yahweh. If I had silver and gold, They would not be enough If I had precious stones, They would not be enough. To pay for the life you give, Keeper of my life to pay for the love you've shown, Lifter of my head...

So let my spirit worship you, Let the flesh be gone from me. Be glorified... Yahweh Let my spirit worship you, Yahweh Yahweh

Let the flesh be buried in you, Lead me to your holy place I don't want to worship from a far...

### Sh'ma Yisrael, Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad Baruch Shem k'vod malchutto, I'olam va'ed

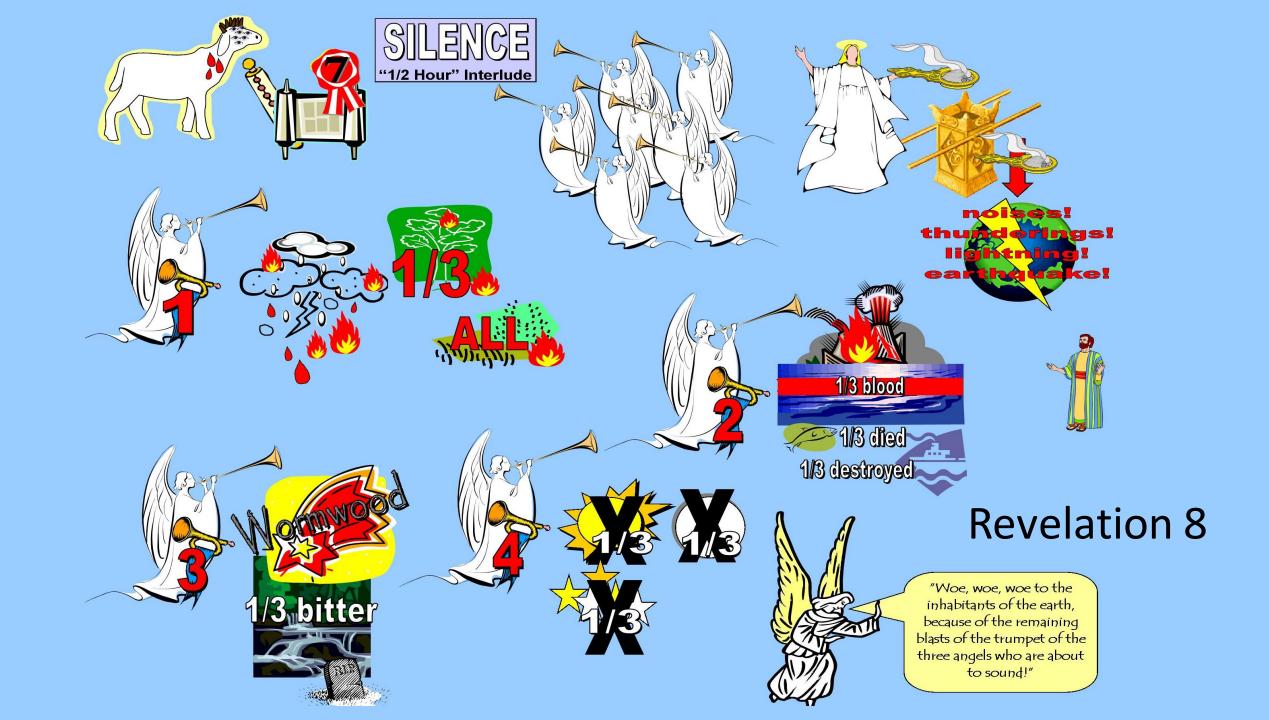
Hear, O Israel: the LORD is our God. The LORD is One. Blessed be the name of His glorious kingdom for ever and ever.

100

# Revelation 8

### Part 2:

### Trumpet Judgements 1-4





#### Part 1: Revelation 8:1-6

<sup>7</sup> The first angel sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.

<sup>8</sup> Then the second angel sounded: And something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood. <sup>9</sup> And a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

<sup>10</sup> Then the third angel sounded: And a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water. <sup>11</sup> The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the water, because it was made bitter.

<sup>12</sup> Then the fourth angel sounded: And a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them were darkened. A third of the day did not shine, and likewise the night. <sup>13</sup> And I looked, and I heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!"



Scripture requires us to take the Word of God literally FIRST. And if it doesn't work for any reason, then we look for symbolic meanings. The <u>literal interpretation</u> of the Book of Revelation is critical.

In all these judgments, and in this book, <u>temptation to</u> <u>take it allegorically/symbolically</u>. God does uses symbols and metaphors and types, but on the whole **safest to interpret and receive this word literally**. All of His word.

**COMMENTARY:** "The truth is, if *earth, trees,* and *grass* do not mean earth, trees, and grass, no man can tell what they mean. Letting go the literal signification of the record, we launch out upon an endless sea of sheer conjecture." (Seiss)

- This is the whole problem w/allegorical interpretation of scripture.
- Symbols + types in scripture repeated and understood as such.
- Allegorical interpretations depend on man's wisdom (guesses). Not a very good platform!

<sup>7</sup> "The first angel sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up."



- <u>Hail always sign of judgment in scripture</u>: "Have you entered the treasury of snow, Or have you seen the treasury of hail, Which I have reserved for the time of trouble, For the day of battle and war?" (Job 38:22-23, God speaking to Job)
- FIRE also symbol of judgment, and this mixed with blood also indicates this event = not "natural." Dealing with <u>supernatural events</u>. Don't make mistake of thinking this is just a typical hailstorm!

- Plants (greens) first living things created, now first destroyed.
- "Trees" = dendron, "fruit trees" (perhaps ref to trees that bear food)
- Many ask HOW does this happen? As if we can compare to a natural event. Maybe nuclear war, fallout, pollution meteors, severe drought – <u>or literal</u> <u>burning hailstones on whole earth</u>. *Remember, not natural!*

God brings judgment. He deals in the SUPERNATURAL! He is revealing who He is to an unbelieving world.

(Master and King of the Universe!)

- Interesting to note many judgments resemble plagues in Egypt. Hardened heart of Pharaoh, hardened hearts of mankind. (what brings on both sets of plagues)
- **Egypt = material world**. What used in Egypt used here.
- In Egypt, Israelites in Goshen not affected. What does this mean this time? Don't know! Perhaps reminder He always takes care of His own. Anytime, all the time.
- Egypt plagues real, no reason to believe these won't also be literal. <u>Don't allegorize</u>!

	EXODUS	Reference	REVELATION	Reference	Judgment	
1	Water turned to	7:14-24	1/3 of seas turned to blood	8:8	2 <sup>nd</sup> Trumpet	
	blood		2 witnesses have power to turn water into blood	11:6	2 Witnesses	
			Seas, rivers, springs turn to blood	16:3-4	2 <sup>nd</sup> Bowl 3 <sup>rd</sup> Bowl	
2	Frogs	7:25-8:11	3 unclean spirits like frogs	16:13	6 <sup>th</sup> Bowl	
3	Gnats	8:12-15	No mention of gnats			
4	Flies	8:15-28	No mention of flies			
5	Pestilence (Livestock)		but 2 <sup>nd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> horsemen may include 3 <sup>rd</sup> Se		2 <sup>nd</sup> Seal 3 <sup>rd</sup> Seal 4 <sup>th</sup> Seal	

	EXODUS	Reference	REVELATION	Reference	Judgment
6	Boils	9:8-12	Festering sores	16:2, 11	1 <sup>st</sup> Bowl
7	Hail (and Lightning)	9:13-35	Lightning hurled to earth	8:5	PRE-1 <sup>st</sup> Trumpet
			Hail/fire mixed with blood	8:7	1 <sup>st</sup> Trumpet
			Huge hailstones	16:21	7 <sup>th</sup> Bowl
8	Locusts	10:1-20	Locusts (demonic)	9:3-11	5 <sup>th</sup> Trumpet
9	Darkness	10:21-29	1/3 "night lights" darkened	8:12	4 <sup>th</sup> Trumpet
			Beast's kingdom in darkness	16:10	5 <sup>th</sup> Bowl
10	Death of Firstborn	11:1-10; 12:29-30	1/3 earth population dies (4 angels of death, army of horsemen)	9:13-19	6 <sup>th</sup> Trumpet

- <u>Plagues also in other places</u> (Genesis 19, Sodom and Gomorrah, Joel 2, etc.)
- In particular, Genesis 19:24 shows an almost identical judgment: "Then YHVH (the LORD) rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from YHVH out of the heavens."
- In Sodom and Gomorrah destruction was complete and total. Here it is an <u>act of mercy</u>: Limited, "controlled" judgment (1/3), <u>but ALL grass</u>.

## Earth already a mess, survival a challenge, and only just started.

<sup>8</sup> "Then the second angel sounded: And something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood.<sup>9</sup> And a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed."



- <u>Notice word "like</u>" John struggles to describe things never seen. **LIKE** great mountain. (USED FREQUENTLY)
- However, notice also he said <u>seas will turn to blood</u>, not LIKE blood!
- (Avoid wild speculation!...meteor, volcano, nuclear bomb?) Don't know exactly what it is, but will cause massive environmental damage (commerce, agriculture, commercial trade, just about everything else!)

TRUMPETS

1-4

TRUMPETS

5-6

- Doesn't seem to come from heaven directly, but comes from above.
- First 4 trumpet judgments seem to <u>come</u> from above (perhaps not heavenly, but maybe a reference from God's hand.)
- In opposition to last trumpet judgments which come from earth, and below the earth (demonic?)
- God allows, but He doesn't produce!

 Word SEA = singular here, may indicate reference only to Mediterranean Sea.

 However, more <u>likely used to</u> <u>indicate ALL seas</u>. Either way, it is devastating.



- A great mountain can also be a symbolic indication of a great leader or great nation, in this case being judged.
- Interesting...Jeremiah 51:25 "Behold, I am against you, <u>O destroying mountain</u>, Who destroys all the earth," says the LORD. "And I will stretch out My hand against you, Roll you down from the rocks, And make you a burnt mountain."
- This is from a chapter that promises destruction of <u>Babylon</u> (addressing Babylon, the nation and the leader) Any relevance here? We don't know!



- <u>Remember to read exact</u> <u>words</u>, "something LIKE" a great mountain. John isn't sure of what he is seeing.
- Be sure to keep this in mind when reading ALL of scripture. <u>Watch the words</u>. Pay close attention to all words and *don't try to fill in with your own words!*

Seas cover ¾ of earth, feed vast numbers of people. Will result in starving world, many deaths.

- Separation of land and sea happened same day as plants created. (Day 3)
- Seems God is "unmaking" His creation a little at a time.



Copyright Ted Larson 2003

### Remember all judgments are cumulative!

## A stunning and frightening thought.

Desseletter a Alt

<sup>10</sup> "Then the third angel sounded: And a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water. <sup>11</sup>The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the water, because it was made bitter."



- Again, "great star" much speculation. Literal star (meteor?), or figurative, for <u>someone</u> or something else.
- Take literal when possible. ("stars" can also be figurative for powerful men/women)
- Literal devastation of 1/3 of drinking water sources on planet.
- (In 3<sup>rd</sup> Bowl judgment ALL drinking water turned to blood, undrinkable.) <u>Massive water shortages</u>.



- 2<sup>nd</sup> Trumpet affected SEAS, now 3<sup>rd</sup> Trumpet affects rivers and springs (drinking water).
- <u>Not turned to blood here</u>, but
  "bitter" and undrinkable.
- Mankind assumes water as a certainty. <u>Now God shows He</u> <u>has control over everything</u>. *Everything is from His hand*.

- "Wormwood" = name of "star." Gr. <u>Apsinthos</u>, absinthe = "undrinkable." Also, figuratively "calamity."
- Absinthe = distilled, highly alcoholic beverage. An aniseflavored spirit derived from botanicals, including flowers/leaves of Artemisia absinthium (a.k.a. "grand wormwood")
- Typically between 90 148 proof, but can find 179 proof absinthe — (89% alcohol). By comparison other liquors like vodka and whiskey generally contain 40% alcohol.

- INTERESTING.... Absinthe has often been portrayed as a <u>dangerously addictive</u> psychoactive drug.
- Blamed as responsible for violent crimes, social disorder and deaths on occasion.
- Used to be called "The Green Fairy"



#### Chernobyl Nuclear Disaster Ukraine 1986

 "Wormwood" = "Chernobyl?" Some say "Chernobyl" = "Wormwood" in Russian. *Perhaps.*

 Provides something else to consider about this word.

#### IS "WORMWORD" "CHERNOBYL" IN RUSSIAN?

The world's worst ever nuclear meltdown occurred in 1986 at Chernobyl in Ukraine, at that time one of the states of the Soviet Union. <u>Incredibly, Chernobyl is the</u> <u>Russian word for wormwood</u>! It appears that the Chernobyl catastrophe [may be] a fulfillment [warning] of the sounding of the third trumpet of Revelation 8!...

**COMMENTARY:** The prophecy of the third trumpet emphasizes that the star called Wormwood made the waters bitter. As the nuclear cloud produced by Chernobyl drifted over the Soviet Union and over Europe, an extraordinary amount of rain fell. The rain brought the radiation from the nuclear cloud onto the soil, the animals, the crops, the trees, and into the rivers. The greater the rainfall, the greater was the amount of radioactivity. These heavy rains greatly increased the magnitude of this horrible disaster. Much of Europe was affected. When the prophecy said that many men died because of the waters, it explicitly described the effect of Chernobyl. (www.endtime.com)

- Origins in Russian come from mugwort plant, which grew profusely in area of massive nuclear accident. Over time, mixed up with word for <u>wormwood</u>, now Russians identify it's meaning (Chernobyl) as wormwood. Not a "coincidence."
- Nuclear reaction process identified at times as "burning like a torch." Is this burning mountain a nuclear accident or exchange? We don't know. (Note: drinking waters of Europe still polluted in places from Chernobyl accident.)



#### **Chernobyl in 1986**

...............

The Chernobyl nuclear disaster began early in the early hours of Saturday 26 April 1986 within the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant. An explosion and fire released large quantities of radioactive contamination into the atmosphere, which spread over much of Western USSR and Europe. It is considered the worst nuclear power plant accident in history and is one of only two classified as a level 7 event on the International Nuclear Event Scale.





"A Monument to the Third Angel" stands at the entrance to Chernobyl's 'Wormwood Star Memorial Complex, a trumpet pressed to his lips. The sculpture, created by Ukrainian artist Anatoly Haidamaka, is a tribute to those who perished in the world's worst nuclear disasters.

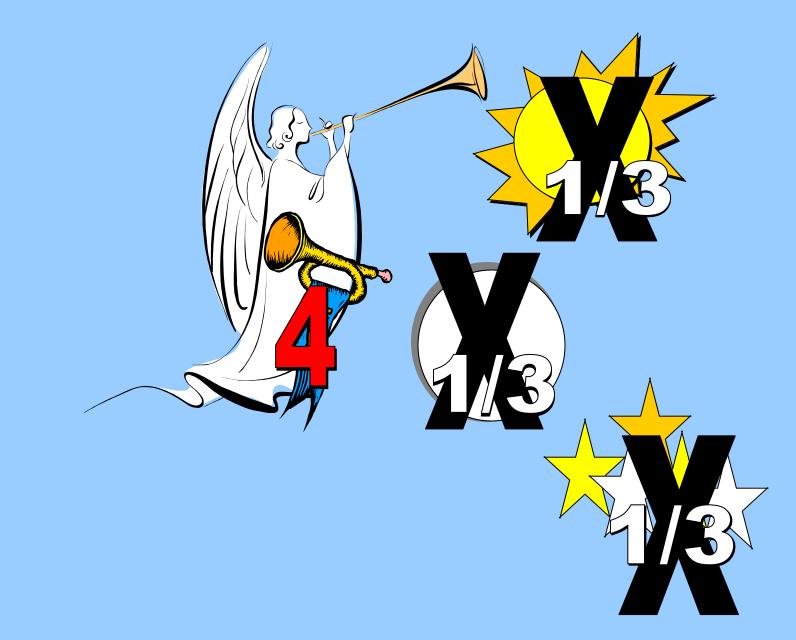
- Some believe this event in history (Chernobyl explosion, 1986) totally fulfilled prophecy of <u>third</u> angel/trumpet judgment.
- However, prophecies of first two angels have <u>not</u> been fulfilled.
- Seems more likely = ominous "harbinger" (preevent warning) of something else yet to come.

- Pure oil of wormwood very poisonous.
- Not sure if people die due to lack of drinkable water, or from drinking poisonous water.
- Word "wormwood" found 9X in scripture.
- Associated with sorrow, calamity, curse, hemlock (poison), bitterness, both physical and spiritual.
- We simply **do not know** exactly what this trumpet judgment entails. It will be known when it happens.
- At the very least it means very scarce drinking water.

- Water shortages already an issue around planet. (due to previous judgments)
- Water to become very sought-after commodity.
- <u>People will most likely buy up</u> large water sources to control them, and profit (*already started*)
- Drinking water likely <u>huge problem throughout time</u> of judgment.

Copyright Ted Larson 2003

<sup>12</sup> Then the fourth angel sounded: And a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them were darkened. A third of the day did not shine, and likewise the night.



- Darkness 9<sup>th</sup> plague of Egypt.
- Worse in Bowl Judgments (complete, palpable, terrifying darkness on "throne of beast")
- Only 1/3. Less light day, more darkness night
- Could mean fewer daylight hours and darker night, or less light that actually hits earth during normal hours.
- <u>Havoc on agriculture</u>, power generation, other economies
- Ongoing food shortages.

- <u>Defies natural explanation</u> (as do other trumpet judgments). Most will see as God's hand. ("And yet...")
- Passages in Isaiah, Joel sound familiar: "…Behold, the day of the LORD comes, Cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, To lay the land desolate; And He will destroy its sinners from it. <sup>10</sup> For the stars of heaven and their constellations will not give their light; The sun will be darkened in its going forth, And the moon will not cause its light to shine. (Isaiah 13:9-10)

- Also... "And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke.
   <sup>31</sup> The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. (Joel 2:30-31)
- Joel reference about end of time, Jesus' return.
  About the DAY of the LORD. When Jesus says "time is up" to mankind. <u>HE will take over</u>.

- Isaiah 13, prophecies about ultimate <u>destruction of</u> <u>Babylon</u> (6 major chapters in scripture deal with this subject: Isaiah 13 and 14, Jeremiah 50 and 51, Revelation 17 and 18)
- [Note "Babylon" never destroyed, kingdom overrun by Persia in 539 BC, but Babylon continuously inhabited since, prophecies still to come] <u>WILL BE</u> DESTROYED.
- Babylon also <u>figurative for all in opposition to God</u> (the City, the people, the "beast") – "Tale of Two Cities"

- First 4 trumpets seen as "natural" events, or at least things happening to "natural" world.
- Supernatural origin and scope, however. Both physical and spiritual bitterness, darkness and death will occur.
- Bottom line...what man has put his entire trust and hope in (this world) is being destroyed piece by piece.
   <u>His whole foundation for existence being yanked out</u> from under him...

 Air, water, vegetation, light, food, all things mankind needs to survive in really bad shape... and it only gets worse.

<sup>13</sup> "And I looked, and I heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!"



- "Angel" some translations say "eagle" Gr. is aggelos, word used for angel, literally meaning "messenger."
- "midst of heaven" literally "zenith of the sky" about where sun is at midday.
- Satellite enabling teaching of gospel around world?? Warning? Word literally "messenger," whatever that will be.



 Known as "The Three Woes" – "you think this is bad...you ain't seen nothin' yet!"

- Woe = *ouai* (Grk) = cry of grief
- 3 woes = 3 trumpets left.
- With 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet, <u>all judgments poured out and all the</u> <u>wrath stored in the scroll will be completed</u>. *Definite cry of grief*.

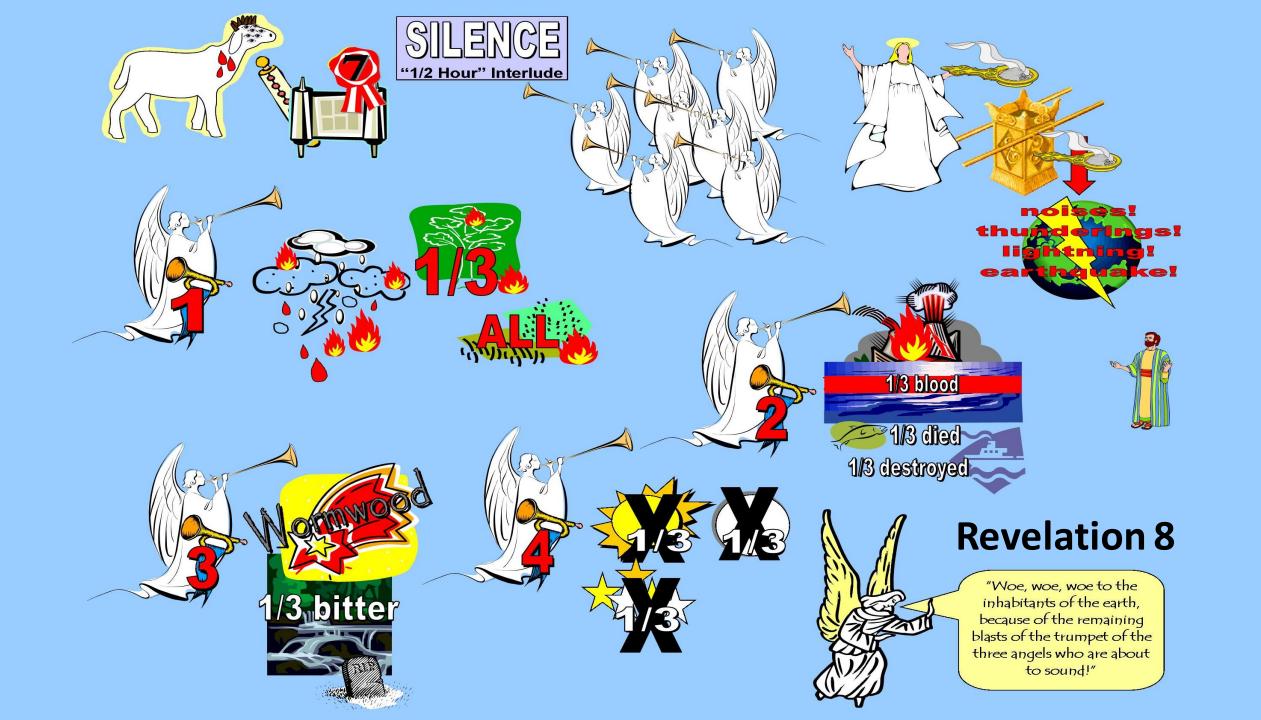
- "Woes" justified: in remaining trumpet judgments another 1/3 of mankind will die, bringing total since start of tribulation to one half earth's total population dead, and <u>it's not over yet</u>.
- In seals, ¼ of mankind dies. If earth population approximately 8 billion (that's 8,000,000,000) that's 2,000,000,000 who die, leaving 6,000,000,000. If another 1/3 dies in trumpet judgments that's another 2,000,000,000 who die, leaving 4,000,000,000. That is ONE-HALF the population of the world that began the Tribulation.

- "Inhabitants of the earth" similar to "those who dwell on the earth" (ch 6).
   Unbelievers, lost, citizens of earth. Believers are citizens of heaven.
- Phrase used multiple times in Revelation and throughout scriptures. Always refers to the lost.



**POEM** (describes "inhabitants of the earth".... Into this world, to eat and to sleep And to know no reason why he was born, Save to consume the corn, devour the cattle, flock, and fish And leave behind an empty dish. (unknown)

**COMMENTARY**: The first four trumpets also reveal the *mercy* of God's judgment; these are partial judgments striking only one-third, and are meant to warn and lead a rebellious world to repentance before the final curtain. For now, God spares more than He smites. (Guzik)



- Revelation = "developing story" or canvas.
- Strict timeline can be confusing, but visualize conditions worsening over time.
- After first 4 trumpets affect "natural" world (in supernatural way!) a messenger with <u>harsh message of</u> woe to come.
- 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> trumpets (remember 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet contains 7 Bowl judgments) contain rest of judgments.

Earth a cataclysmic mess now, so what's next? **<u>3 woes</u>: Last three** trumpet judgments (Chapter 9) are demonic in nature.



# Yevarekh-kha Adonai veyishmerekha May the LORD bless you and keep you

# Ya'er Adonai panav elekha vihunneka

May the LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you

# Yissa Adonai panav elekha viyasem lekha shalom.

May the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

