

**Earliteen Sabbath
School Lessons**

Second Year, Third Quarter

**The 7
Trumpets**

EARLITEEN
SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS

SECOND YEAR, THIRD QUARTER

THE 7 TRUMPETS

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INTRODUCTION

Continuing the study of Revelation, the prophecy of the Seven Trumpets presents the Christian era from the perspective of political events that impacted the church. While kingdoms and governments use force of arms and other satanic instruments to accomplish the will of their leaders, the trumpets show that nothing happens except as permitted by God.

Behind everything is the divine purpose to save humanity from evil within and evil without. Sometimes God's people must endure suffering, but always force and violence are controlled so that the divine purpose may be carried out. God also uses the powers of earth to execute judgment upon and halt evildoers, particularly hypocrites and false religious systems. This will be seen in the prophecy of the Seven Trumpets.

Let each student carefully consider this part of history as well as his or her own preparation to stand in the day when strife will engulf the world just before Jesus comes.

1 Why We Study Prophecy

1. Why does God present outlines of important events ahead of time in prophecy?

“To many people, history is a very confusing, uninteresting subject. Looking at the course of nations and people throughout time, all they can see is a chaotic jumble of unpredictable, unfortunate events. A random succession of famous men and women, kings and statesmen, classes, races and societies, tribes and religions seems to pass over the world’s stage. We can’t help noticing the many incidents of cruel wars, accident, betrayal, deceit and murder, as well as the heroic figures, the courageous, and the noble. These are the many threads with which the historical pattern is woven. And there definitely is a pattern....

“The Bible story illuminates the great battle between light and darkness, good and evil—the force which causes all misery, pain, suffering, injustice, war, and bloodshed, with their terrible results. Never can we blame a just and loving God for this. Yet in His all-knowing wisdom He carefully guides and carries out the plan of salvation. The thwarting plans of the evil one may become tools of destiny in the hand of the almighty God. That this has happened in the past is revealed in the Scriptures, and we can be confident that God still lives today and has not abandoned the earth in its last hours of agony.” *—Prophets Speak Out*, p. 2.

2. Where does Bible prophecy come from? 2 Peter 1:19-21.

“It is in the study of prophecy that we are permitted to lift the veil of mystery from past history and from the secrets of the future.... We may confidently rely upon what the prophets have said, because it was God Himself who spoke through them.” *—Prophets Speak Out*, p. 2.

3. To whom does God reveal His prophecies? Amos 3:7.

4. How can a true prophet be distinguished from a false one? Isaiah 8:20.
5. Why is it important for young people to study Bible prophecy?

True or false?

1. God is sometimes in control of the world. T/F
2. The plan of salvation is revealed in all that God does. T/F
3. Satan can be blamed for all war and bloodshed in this world. T/F
4. A true prophet is someone who tells what will happen in the future, and what he says comes true most of the time. T/F
5. Studying prophecy has no importance in life. T/F



2

The 7 Trumpets

“And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.” Revelation 8:2.

The seven trumpets present symbolically the principal political and warlike events that occurred during the periods covered by the seven seals and the seven churches. The number seven denotes perfection or completeness.

1. What is significant about a trumpet? What was it used for in Bible times?

“And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.” Revelation 8:6. This is a summons to war.

2. What altar does Revelation 8:3, 4 refer to? Exodus 30:1-10.
3. What does the burning of incense on the altar represent?
4. Where do the prayers of the saints go? Revelation 8:4.

Incense symbolizes the prayers of the saints ascending to God. The trumpets answered the prayers of the suffering saints, for God meted out judgment upon the persecutors of His people. We will see how God deals with those who trample upon His law and persecute those who uphold truth.

5. If someone does evil against a Christian, is he to fight back? Romans 12:14, 17, 19-21.
6. To whom does vengeance belong? Deuteronomy 32:35.

7. How did the Lord describe Himself to Moses? Exodus 34:6, 7.
8. If one continually refuses to listen to God and goes his own way, will God stay with him forever? Genesis 6:3.
9. Instead of incense, with what did the angel fill the censer? Revelation 8:5. What was the result?

This difference is important. God's judgments were cast upon the earth. The seven trumpets were symbolic of God's dealings with erring men. The punishment was meted out because people refused to heed the prophets and persecuted them instead.

9. Who sends judgments upon those who disobey the holy God and His law?

It is God who sent the seven judgments upon apostate Christians. Although the events of the seven trumpets are already in the history books, they are still important, for they show that God is in control of all the events that take place in the world. The first four trumpets dealt with the breaking up of Western Rome. The last three trumpets portrayed the overthrow of Eastern Rome and, ultimately, the world.



3

First Trumpet

“The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.” Revelation 8:7.

The first trumpet presented events at the close of the fourth century, when the Roman Empire was invaded by the Visigoths (Goths). Under Alaric, the Goths captured the famous cities and put many of the people in bondage. The city of Rome was destroyed by these barbarians in A.D. 410.



ALARIC,
KING OF THE GOTHIS

HAIL. The Bible is specific. It gives enough detail to let us know what happened. The invasions of the Goths were referred to as hail, because the invaders came from the north.

FIRE. Fire represents destruction by flames.

BLOOD. This refers to the terrible slaughter of the people of the Western Roman Empire.

Here is a summary of what happened during the time of the first trumpet:

“A furious tempest was excited among the nations of Germany; from the northern extremity of which the barbarians marched almost to the gates of Rome.... The pastures of Gaul, in which flocks and herds grazed, and the banks of the Rhine, which were covered with elegant houses and well-cultivated farms, formed a scene of peace and plenty, which was suddenly changed into a desert, distinguished from the solitude of nature only by smoking ruins. Many cities were cruelly oppressed, or destroyed. Many thousands were inhumanly massacred. The consuming flames of war spread over the greatest part of the seventeen provinces of Gaul.” *–Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 477. How terrible the punishment of God was upon sinners who had rejected His love!

Answer the questions

1. Who were the Goths, the invaders of the Roman Empire? (Look this up in an encyclopedia or dictionary.)

2. What does the word “barbarian” mean? What part did these barbarians play in the first trumpet?
3. In your own words, explain the meanings of hail, fire, and blood, as given in Revelation 8:7.
4. Why does the Bible give so much detail about historical events? 2 Peter 1:19-21.

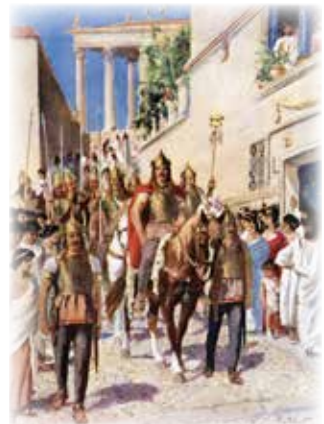
“In the Bible and the writings of the prophets of God we find understanding of the history of the world, as well as insight into the course of future events. Nowhere else do we find such reliable information. The Bible is not exactly a history book, even if it does contain a wealth of historical information. We can compare Bible prophecy very fittingly with a searchlight shining through a dark night. Only those objects that fall within the beam of light will be clearly revealed; all other objects falling outside its path will remain obscure.” –*Prophets Speak Out*, p. 2.

5. What part of the world did the Goths invade?

“The union of the Roman empire was dissolved; its genius was humbled in the dust; and armies of unknown barbarians, issuing from the frozen regions of the North, had established their victorious reign over the fairest provinces of Europe and Africa.” –*Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 478.

6. Why did God send the Goths to destroy the western part of the Roman Empire? Genesis 6:3.

The Goths invaded that part of the Roman Empire that rejected God and His love.



ALARIC
ENTERING
ATHENS, GREECE,
IN A.D. 395

4

Second Trumpet



GENSERIC,
KING OF THE VANDALS

“And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood; And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died: and the third part of the ships were destroyed.” Revelation 8:8, 9.

The barbarians invaded Rome and Africa. The first trumpet was fulfilled on the shores of the Baltic Sea. Now the scene changed to the coast of the Mediterranean, the borders of Africa. The Roman Empire was divided into three parts. This division was made after the death of Constantine, the Roman Emperor. He had made provision for the Empire to be divided among his three sons. Constantius received the East. Constantine II ruled over Britain, Gaul, and Spain—the West. Constans ruled mainly Africa and Italy.

The second trumpet related to the invasion of Africa and then later of Italy, the third part of the Roman Empire. These attacks were brought on by Genseric, king of the Vandals. These battles took place on the Mediterranean Sea, near Spain, again fulfilling prophecy. “As it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea.” Revelation 8:8. The leader, Genseric, had his main headquarters in Africa. “But he cast his eyes toward the sea; he resolved to create a naval power, and his bold resolution was executed with steady and active perseverance.” —*Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 479.

Again and again, Genseric attacked the Roman Empire by way of the sea. To defend itself, Rome made great preparations over many years. Genseric completely destroyed the Roman fleet of 1,113 ships and over 100,000 men in one night’s battle in. There were great explosions in the water. Revelation 8:8. After this great battle, Genseric invaded Italy, Greece, and Asia. Before he died, “he beheld the final extinction of the Empire of the West.” —*Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 481.

Answer the following questions

1. Look up the word “vandal.” How does it apply to the second trumpet?

“And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.” Revelation 8:10, 11.



The third important series of events that aided in the destruction of the Roman Empire was given in this verse. This trumpet referred to the attacks made by Attila, king of the Huns. His personal appearance fit the description of the star given in Revelation 8:10: “In the manner of his appearance, he strongly resembled a brilliant meteor flashing in the sky. He came down from the East gathering his Huns, and poured them down ... with the rapidity of a flashing meteor, suddenly on the empire. He regarded himself also as devoted to Mars, the god of war, and was accustomed to array himself in a peculiarly brilliant manner, so that his appearance, in the language of his flatterers, was such as to dazzle the eyes of beholders.” –*Daniel and the Revelation*, pp. 483, 484.

Rivers and Streams. Verse 10 said that this star fell upon the rivers and fountains of waters. This referred to that part of the Roman Empire that had many waterways and river sources. The main attacks of Attila and the Huns were in the Alps, which is a mountain system in Southern Europe. This was the part of the empire where the rivers flow down into Italy.

Wormwood. The word “wormwood” referred to the leader of the Huns, Attila. His brutal attacks terrorized the Roman Empire. “It was the boast of Attila that the grass never grew on the spot which his horse had trod. ‘The scourge of God’ was a name that he appropriated to himself.... He was ‘the scourge of his enemies and the terror of the world.’” –*Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 485.

Answer the questions

1. Look up the word “Hun.” How does it apply to the third trumpet?

2. In what sense did Attila resemble a star?
3. What area of the Roman Empire was the source of many streams and rivers?
4. Find the meaning of the word “wormwood,” and explain how it applied to the words of Attila.
5. So far, the Goths, Vandals, and Huns have been considered. What did these three barbarian tribes have in common?



6

Fourth Trumpet

“And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise.” Revelation 8:12.

The fourth trumpet “symbolizes the career of Odoacer, the first barbarian ruler of Italy, who was so intimately connected with the downfall of Western Rome. The symbols sun, moon and stars ... evidently denote the great luminaries [famous people] of the Roman government, its emperors, senators, and consuls.”
–*Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 485.

Emperor. Ruler of the empire–sun.

Senator. Member of the highest council of state in ancient Rome–moon.

Consul. One who seeks advice from the senate to look after the citizens of his country–stars.

The last emperor of Western Rome was Romulus, better known as Augustulus. When this emperor resigned, those who ranked under him, the senators and consuls, took over, only to fall themselves in A.D. 476.

Here is a summary of what happened during the fourth trumpet: “The power and the glory of Rome as bearing rule over any nations, became extinct.... Every token of royalty disappeared from the imperial city. She who had ruled over the nations sat in the dust, like a second Babylon....

“The “third part of the sun” was smitten till it emitted no longer the faintest rays....

“But though the third part of the sun was smitten,... yet the moon and the stars still shone or glimmered for a little longer in the Western Hemisphere (empire).... The consulship and the senate [“the moon and the stars”] were not abolished by Theodoric [the new conqueror of Italy]....

“But in their prophetic order, the consulship and the senate of Rome met their fate.” –*Daniel and the Revelation*, pp. 486, 487.

Answer the questions

1. What did the sun, moon, and stars represent in the fourth trumpet?
2. Who was closely connected with the downfall of Western Rome?
3. (Review Question) Explain the main events leading up to the destruction of Western Rome. (Refer to Lessons 3, 4, and 5).
4. What does the Bible call the last three trumpets? Revelation 8:13. Why?

Western Rome through the invasions of the barbarians. These invasions were light compared to the disasters that were to follow. The last three trumpets are called woes.

“And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!” Revelation 8:13.

This angel is another heavenly messenger who announced that the three remaining trumpets would be woes, because of the terrible events to take place. Therefore, the fifth trumpet is the first woe, the sixth trumpet is the second woe, and the seventh trumpet is the third woe.

*ODOACER, FIRST,
BARBARIAN
KING OF ITALY*



“And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.” Revelation 9:1.

This verse introduces the rise of the Moslem world. The Saracens (Arabs) and the Turks (Mohammedans who lived in Turkey) were the instruments through which this false religion arose. Mahomet (Mohammed), the prophet of Islam born in Mecca, fought ferociously against the remnants of the Roman Empire. This star did not fall on a single spot but on the whole earth. We will look at its effects.

The term “bottomless pit,” derived from the Greek, means “deep, bottomless, profound,” and can refer to waste or desolate land. This pit refers to the great, vast land of the Arabian desert. The fall of Chosroes II, the Persian king, is represented as the key to the bottomless pit. This prepared the way for the followers of Mohammed to propagate their false doctrines all over the Eastern Roman Empire.

“And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.” Revelation 9:2.

Mohammedanism spread its false doctrines like a plague. It “spread as widely as smoke arising out of the pit, the smoke of a great furnace.” —*Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 497. The gospel of Jesus is compared to light, whereas Mohammedanism is like darkness, smoke from the bottomless pit.

“And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.” Revelation 9:3.

This is an accurate description of Mohammedanism’s attacks against the Roman Empire. Locusts represent the invasion of the Saracens (Arabs), who overspread the earth from east to west throughout the Roman Empire. The Arabs “came as destroyers, propagating a new doctrine, and stirred up to rapine and violence by motives of interest and religion.” —*Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 497. They were like scorpions, with swift, deadly attacks.

"And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads." Revelation 9:4.

Abubekr came into command in A.D. 632 after the death of Mohammed. He instructed the army, in fulfillment of God's word: "Let not your victory be stained with the blood of women or children. Destroy no palm trees, nor burn any fields of corn. Cut down no fruit trees, nor do any mischief to cattle.... As you go on, you will find some religious persons who live retired in monasteries and propose to themselves to serve God that way; let them alone, and neither kill them nor destroy their monasteries: and you will find another sort of people that belong to the synagogue of Satan, who will have shaven crowns; be sure you cleave their skulls, and give them no quarter till they either turn Mohammedans or pay tribute." *–Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 498. Those who had shaven heads were undoubtedly monks, or some other order of the Roman Catholic Church.

Seal of God in their foreheads. The seal of God is the Sabbath of the Lord. Throughout history there have been people keeping the fourth commandment, so this verse refers to those people who did not keep the Sabbath day holy. "In fulfillment, we have the strange spectacle of an army of invaders sparing those things which armies usually destroy, the face and productions of nature." *–Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 499. They hurt those men who did not keep the Sabbath but who belonged to the "synagogue of Satan."

Answer the questions from the above reading

1. In comparison to the gospel light, why is the Moslem religion considered darkness? John 8:12; Acts 26:18.
2. What are those who love the light considered in God's eyes? 1 Peter 2:9.
3. Where else in the Bible is the bottomless pit mentioned? Genesis 1:2; Jeremiah 4:23; Revelation 20:3.

4. The Bible uses nature to describe things more fully. When Jesus spoke to the people while He was on earth, He often used examples from nature, such as flowers and birds. Here in Revelation, locusts and scorpions are used to illustrate the invasions of the Mohammedans against the Roman Empire. Find out more about the locusts and scorpions, and tell how they apply to the events described in this lesson.

5. When the Lord prophesies something in the Bible, everything is fulfilled exactly. How is this seen in Revelation 9:4? Explain the events that took place.

“In every age there were witnesses for God—men who cherished faith in Christ as the only mediator between God and men, who held the Bible as the only rule of life. and who hallowed the true Sabbath.” –*The Great Controversy*, p. 61.

6. Read the rest of pages 61-78 in *The Great Controversy*, and write down the names of groups of people who remained faithful to the Lord in truth even when they were severely persecuted.



SARACEN WARRIORS

So far, these lessons considered the rise of the Moslem world and how it persecuted those who were from “the synagogue of Satan.” The false doctrines of Mohammedanism spread like smoke from a burning furnace.

The terrible things that happened were not heeded by the people, so more troubles came, thus fulfilling the prophecies. The second half of the fifth trumpet is given in more detail. “And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.” “And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months.” Revelation 9:5, 10.

The Greek division, which was a third of the Roman Empire, was to be tormented for five months. On July 27, 1299, Othman I, the founder of the Ottoman Empire (the Turks), made his first attack on the Greek division of the Roman Empire and continued those attacks. They caused great torture in southern Europe. One hundred fifty years later, the Greek division was still not conquered. During that entire period, the Turks carried on continual war with the Greeks.

Answer the questions

1. According to the Bible’s way of reckoning, what does one day in prophetic time equal? Numbers 14:34; Ezekiel 4:6.

“They should be tormented 5 months.” Revelation 9:5. There are 30 days in a month, so five months = $5 \times 30 = 150$. Using the information given in question 1, the time period is 150 years.

2. The war between the Turks and the Greek division lasted for 150 years. Because it was so long, what did men at that time want to do? Revelation 9:6.

“Men were weary of life, when life was spared only for a renewal of woe.” –*Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 500.

3. Describe the locusts (Turks of Arabia). Revelation 9:7.

The locusts (Arabs at that time) were known for their skill in horsemanship. The Arabian horse is one of the finest in the world. The Arabs wore turbans on their heads that resembled crowns of gold. These tormentors were human beings; thus they had the “faces of men.”

4. Describe the hair and teeth of these warriors. Revelation 9:8.

The women’s hair was usually long. The Arabs had very long hair. It was their custom not to cut it. They had teeth like lions. This is a symbol of their great strength and power to destroy.

“And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle.” Revelation 9:9.

The breastplate was in use among the Arabs in those days, and they used horses in battle. “With a touch of the hand the Arab horses dart away with the swiftness of the wind.” –*Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 502.



OTTOMAN HORSEMEN

Fill in the blanks with the answers to the 7 questions below

1. _____ L _____
2. _____ O _____
3. _____ C _____
4. _____ U _____
5. _____ S _____
6. _____ T _____
7. _____ S _____

1. What was typical of the hair of the Arabs? Revelation 9:8.
2. What empire had a long battle against the Greek division of the Roman Empire?
3. What did the turbans worn by the Arabs resemble?
4. What is the meaning of the Hebrew word “Abaddon”?
5. What defense did the warriors use in battle? Revelation 9:9.
6. How does the Bible describe the Arabs’ strength? Revelation 9:8.
7. What else did the warriors use in battle? Revelation 9:9.

5. Who was the leader of the Arabs? Revelation 9:11.

The king over the Arabs was Othman I (1299-1326). He was the founder of the Ottoman Empire (Turkish Empire). He had two names, one in Hebrew and one in Greek. These names denote the character of this king. Abaddon means “destruction,” and Appolyon means “one who destroys.”

9

Sixth Trumpet, Part 1

1. What woe was the sixth trumpet? Where did it take place? Revelation 9:12.

Under the second woe, the Lord used the Turks to punish the apostate Christian world.

We find here an identifying geographical setting. It was the Ottoman Empire of the Turks, or, in other words, the Turkish Empire.

2. Who were involved in the sixth trumpet? Revelation 9:14.

The Turkish Empire was composed of four main sultanies, each governed by a sultan, located in Aleppo, Iconium, Damascus, and Baghdad. The angels were bound to the River Euphrates, meaning that they were held back from doing their work until the sixth trumpet.

3. How long would the supremacy of the Turkish Empire last? Revelation 9:15.

The period of Turkish supremacy amounted to 391 years and fifteen days, as shown here:

| | | |
|---------------------|---|---|
| One prophetic year | = | 360 years |
| One prophetic month | = | 30 years |
| One prophetic day | = | 1 year |
| One prophetic hour | = | 15 days (One twenty-fourth part of a prophetic year equals 15 days) |

Adding all these figures, the sum is 391 years and 15 days. With the starting point of July 27, 1449 (the end of the 150 years), this time period reached to August 11, 1840.

“At the very time specified, Turkey, through her ambassadors, accepted the protection of the allied powers of Europe, and thus

placed herself under the control of Christian nations.” –*The Great Controversy*, p. 335. This was how the Turkish Empire lost its independence, thus fulfilling the prophecy.

4. Who was instrumental in figuring out when the Turkish Empire would fall—lose its independence? How did the correct calculation affect the Advent Movement?

In 1838, “Josiah Litch, one of the leading ministers preaching the second advent, published an exposition of Revelation 9, predicting the fall of the Ottoman Empire. According to his calculations, this power was to be overthrown ‘in A.D. 1840, sometime in the month of August;’...

“When it became known, multitudes were convinced of the correctness of the principles of prophetic interpretation adopted by Miller and his associates, and a wonderful impetus was given to the advent movement. Men of learning and position united with Miller, both in preaching and in publishing his views, and from 1840 to 1844 the work rapidly extended.” –*The Great Controversy*, pp. 335, 336.

True or false?

1. The beginning of the supremacy of the Turkish Empire was July 27, 1299. T/F
2. The four angels of Revelation 9:14 represent four sultanies. T/F
3. One prophetic hour is equal to 12 literal days. T/F
4. The supremacy of the Turkish Empire will last until Jesus comes. T/F
5. When the Turkish Empire lost its independence, the time period of 391 years and 15 days was over. T/F

Lesson 9 showed the fulfillment of the dominance of the Ottoman Empire over the apostate Christian world. This lesson tells about the armies that invaded the fallen Christian world.

“And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.” Revelation 9:16.

Army of horsemen. The Turks were famous for their great armies of horsemen.

Two hundred thousand thousand. No one really knows for sure how many horsemen there were. This figure shows that it was a huge army.

Answer the questions

1. Describe the riders and horses that were part of this great battle. Revelation 9:17.

The riders were dressed in colors that resembled fire. Fire represented the color red; jacinth, blue; and brimstone, yellow. These were the primary colors of the clothing worn by the Turkish warriors—red, blue, and yellow.

“The heads of the horses were in appearance as the heads of lions, to denote their strength, courage and fierceness; while the last part of the verse undoubtedly has reference to the use of gunpowder and firearms for purposes of war, which were then but recently introduced. As the Turks discharged their firearms on horseback, it would appear to the distant beholder that the fire, smoke, and brimstone issued out of the horses’ mouths.” *–Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 509.

2. What part of the Roman Empire was destroyed by armies using gunpowder and firearms? Revelation 9:18.

The third part mentioned here is the eastern part of the Roman Empire, Constantinople, which was finally given over to the Turks.

3. It can be understood that the riders' firing weapons was like power from the horses' mouths. What other part of a horse symbolized its power? Revelation 9:19.

The power was also in their tails. The horse's tail is a well-known Turkish symbol of authority. Also, the horsemen were carrying banners that could also have the appearance of horses' tails.

4. Did the men who were not killed in the fighting repent? What did they do instead? Revelation 9:20, 21.

"God designs that men shall make a note of His judgments, and receive the lessons He thereby designs to convey. But how slow they are to learn, and how blind to the indications of providence! The events that occurred under the sixth trumpet constituted the second woe, yet these judgments led to no improvement in the manners and morals of men. Those who escaped them learned nothing by their manifestation in the earth. The hordes of Saracens and Turks were let loose as a scourge and punishment upon apostate Christendom. Men suffered the punishment, but learned no lesson from it." —*Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 517.

5. Give examples from the Old Testament in which God gave people a chance to repent, but they did not heed His words.



11

Seventh Trumpet, Part 1

"The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly." Revelation 11:14.

The second woe ended with the fall of Turkey on August 11, 1840. The third woe did indeed come quickly. It began to sound in the world-shaking "judgment hour message" of 1844. The Bible describes the seventh trumpet in Revelation 11:15-19 after giving the events between the sixth and seventh trumpets.

Read Revelation 11:15-17. Here the prophet described the time when the kingdom of God will be fully established. Although the seventh trumpet has already begun to sound, the establishment of God's kingdom is still in the future. We are waiting for that grand and glorious event. The twenty-four elders who were redeemed from this earth praise God for gaining the victory over Satan and the powers of darkness.

Answer the questions

1. What is the Christian's hope? Titus 2:13.

"By the people of God a voice, clear and melodious, is heard, saying, 'Look up,' and lifting their eyes to the heavens, they behold the bow of promise. The black, angry clouds that covered the firmament are parted, and like Stephen they look up steadfastly into heaven and see the glory of God and the Son of man seated upon His throne." –*The Great Controversy*, p. 636.

2. How will Christ come? Psalm 50:3, 4.

"The King of kings descends upon the clouds, wrapped in flaming fire. The heavens are rolled together as a scroll, the earth trembles before Him, and every mountain and island is moved out of its place." –*The Great Controversy*, pp. 641, 642.

3. What will happen when He returns? 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17.

“Amid the reeling of the earth, the flash of lightning, and the roar of thunder, the voice of the Son of God calls forth the sleeping saints. He looks upon the graves of the righteous, then, raising His hands to heaven, He cries: ‘Awake, awake, awake, ye that sleep in the dust, and arise!’ Throughout the length and breadth of the earth the dead shall hear that voice, and they that hear shall live.... From the prison house of death they come, clothed with immortal glory, crying: ‘O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?’ 1 Corinthians 15:55. And the living righteous and the risen saints unite their voices in a long, glad shout of victory.” –*The Great Controversy*, p. 644.

4. What will then happen to the earth? Revelation 16:18.

“Signs and wonders follow in quick succession.... Everything in nature seems turned out of its course. The streams cease to flow. Dark, heavy clouds come up and clash against each other....

“There is a mighty earthquake.... The mountains shake like a reed in the wind, and ragged rocks are scattered on every side.” –*The Great Controversy*, pp. 636, 637.

5. What will the wicked do? Revelation 6:15-17.

“The proudest cities of the earth are laid low. The lordly palaces, upon which the world’s great men have lavished their wealth in order to glorify themselves, are crumbling to ruin before their eyes.” –*The Great Controversy*, p. 637.

6. What has the Lord prepared for the redeemed? Isaiah 32:18; 1 Corinthians 2:9; John 14:1-3.

“There are ever-flowing streams, clear as crystal, and beside them waving trees cast their shadows upon the paths prepared for the ransomed of the Lord. There the wide-spreading plains swell into hills of beauty, and the mountains of God rear their lofty summits. On those peaceful plains, beside those living streams, God’s people, so long pilgrims and wanderers, shall find a home.” –*The Great Controversy*, p. 675.

7. Who will be able to enter that blessed, holy kingdom? Revelation 21:7; Matthew 5:48.

“In order to inherit all things, we must resist and overcome sin.” –*The Great Controversy*, p. 540.

12

Seventh Trumpet, Part 2

The seventh trumpet reaches to Jesus' second coming, the 1,000 years, and the establishment of the new earth.

1. What did the prophecy say would happen when the seventh trumpet sounded? Revelation 11:18.



The nations were angry. This refers to the revolutions that began in Europe in 1848. The strife between nations increased, as was shown especially in the wars of the twentieth century. "Here are the exact words of a Harvard professor: 'The twentieth century, so far, has been the bloodiest period and one of the most turbulent periods—and therefore one of the cruelest and

least humanitarian—in the history of Western civilization and perhaps in the chronicles of mankind in general.'" —*Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 545.

2. Do God's faithful people believe in fighting on the side of earthly governments? Exodus 20:13.
3. When will the Lord's wrath against evil be poured out? Revelation 15:1.
4. Who will judge the wicked dead? 1 Corinthians 6:2, first part.

After the plagues are poured out and the wicked are slain by the brightness of Jesus' coming, the wicked will sleep in their graves while a work of judgment is done in heaven by the saints during the millennium, or 1,000 years. The purpose of the judgment is to determine the punishment that each will receive in the lake of fire.

5. When will the faithful believers receive their reward? Revelation 22:12.

Those who are faithful will receive their reward at Jesus' second coming. Their complete reward will be given when they inherit the new earth. This will take place after the 1,000 years.

6. How and when will the wicked be destroyed? Revelation 21:8.

After the 1,000 years, the wicked are raised from the dead to take part in the second death. This is when all the wicked, including Satan and his angels, are destroyed forever in the lake of fire. This fire will purify the earth.

7. What was seen in heaven at the end of the seventh trumpet? Revelation 11:19.

"Our attention is called back once more in the verse now under notice, to the close of the priesthood of Christ, the last scene in the work of mercy for a guilty world.

"The temple is opened, and the second apartment of the sanctuary is entered. We know it is the holy of holies that is here opened, for the ark is seen; and in that apartment alone the ark was deposited.... Since 1844, the people of God have seen by faith the open door in heaven, and the ark of God's testament within. They are endeavoring to keep every precept of the holy law written upon the tables deposited there....

"The drama will soon close with the lightnings, thunderings, voices, the earthquake, and great hail, which will constitute nature's last convulsion before all things are made new at the close of the thousand years." —*Daniel and the Revelation*, pp. 546, 547.

Today we are living on borrowed time. Very soon the mystery of God (Revelation 10:7) will come to a close. The seven last plagues will be poured out, and then Jesus will come. Will you be ready?



1. Why is it important especially for young people to study the prophecy of the seven trumpets?
2. Why did the Lord send the judgments of the seven trumpets? Genesis 6:3.
3. In the first trumpet, what do hail, fire, and blood represent? Revelation 8:7.
4. Who was Genseric, and what did he do to help fulfill the prophecy of Revelation 8:10, 11?
5. Who was the leader of the Huns? Why was he referred to as Wormwood in Revelation 8:10, 11?
6. What do the symbols of the “sun, moon, and stars” represent in Revelation 8:12?
7. What area of Rome did the first four trumpets have to do with?
8. Why were the last three trumpets referred to as “woes”?
9. The fifth trumpet prophesied about the Moslem world. What is the Moslem religion compared to? Revelation 9:2.

10. What is God's seal? Exodus 20:8-11.
11. What does five months in prophetic time equal in actual time?
12. Describe the Turks of Arabia. Revelation 9:7.
13. What happened on August 11, 1840?
14. Who was instrumental in calculating ahead of time from Bible prophecy when the Turkish Empire would fall?
15. Describe the riders and horses in the armies that carried out God's judgment against the apostate Christian world. Revelation 9:17.
16. What future events are part of the prophecy of the seventh trumpet?
1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17; 1 Corinthians 6:2, first part.

