

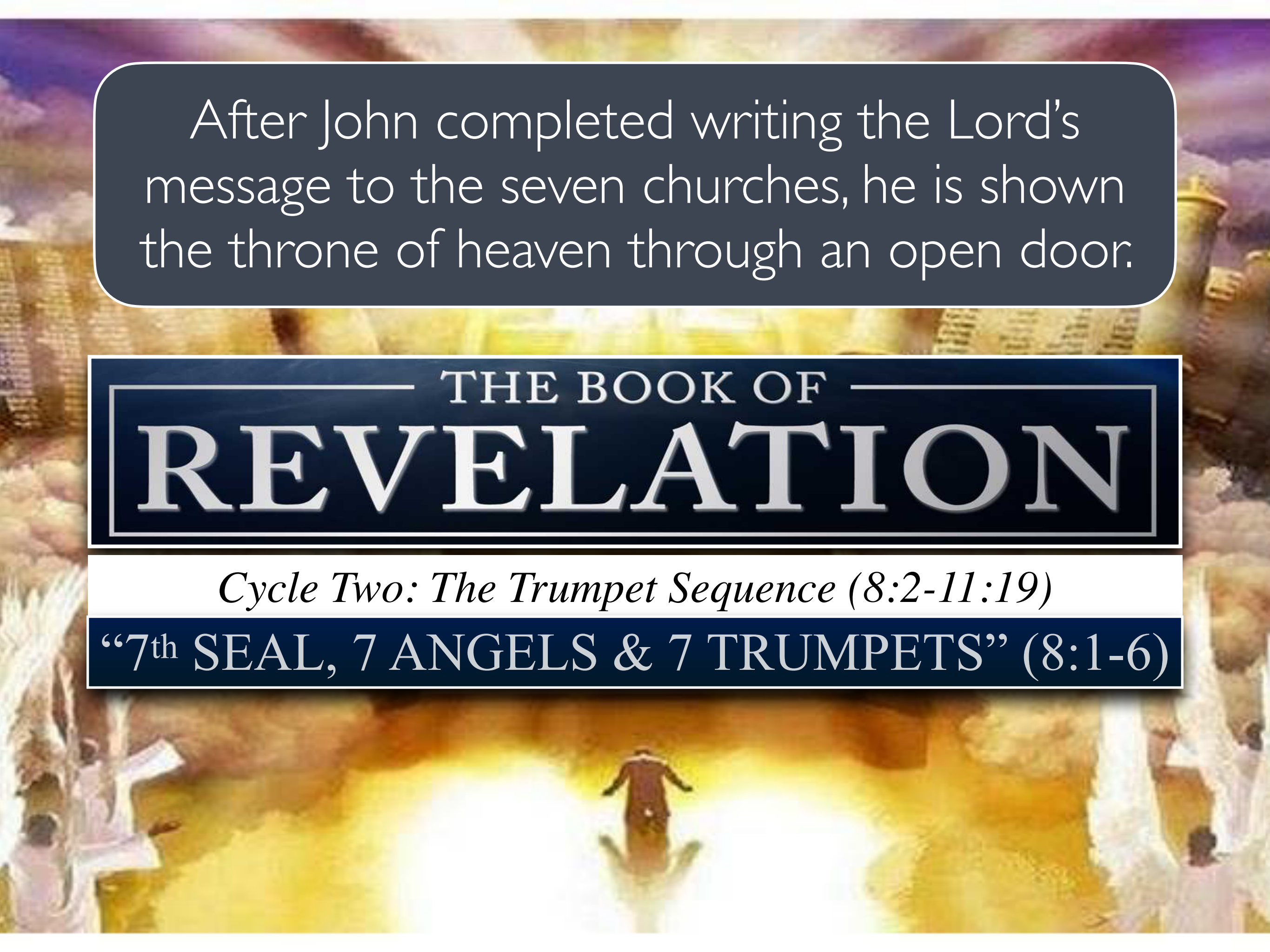
³ Blessed *is* he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time *is* near. —
Revelation 1:3 (NKJV)

A man with a long, grey beard and hair, wearing a simple, light-colored robe, is seated in a rocky, arid landscape. He is holding a scroll in his left hand and a quill pen in his right, writing on it. The scroll has some text written on it, including the words "KANA" and "TENT". The background shows rolling hills and a clear sky.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)

The background of the slide is a soft-focus illustration of a heavenly scene. At the top, a golden throne is visible against a backdrop of purple and gold clouds. Below the throne, a bright, glowing path leads down towards the bottom of the frame. In the center of this path, a figure in a brown robe is seen from behind, walking away from the viewer. On the left side of the path, there are several figures in white robes, some of whom appear to be holding long, white banners or scrolls. The overall atmosphere is one of divine light and celestial grandeur.

After John completed writing the Lord's message to the seven churches, he is shown the throne of heaven through an open door.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)

Chapters four and five present the sovereignty of God who is on his throne and whose righteous rule is vindicated by the work of Christ.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)

Though it may some-times appear that the wicked rule, all things are actually controlled by God & He will hold the wicked accountable!

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)

Revelation 8:1–6 (NKJV)

¹ When He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ² And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets. ³ Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. ⁴ And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand. ⁵ Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw *it* to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake. ⁶ So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)



- The **imagery** and **symbols** in Revelation are necessary in comprehending the **BIG PICTURE** - but if we focus too much on the imagery and symbols we can easily **MISS** the **BIG PICTURE**.
- The **BIG PICTURE** in chapters 6-8:1 is clearly **GOD WILL TAKE VENGEANCE** upon those who persecute His people.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)



- A series of three “7’s” — 7 seals (6:1-8:5); 7 trumpets (8:6-9:21); and 7 bowls of wrath (15:1-16:21).
- These run parallel to each other in a recapitulation pattern with God’s judgments being increased in intensity.
- John describes them one after the other by revealing from different viewpoints the judging and restraining action of God.

7 TRUMPETS - Rev. 8, 9
God's Call To Repentance



7 SEALS - Rev. 6-8:1
God's Judgment Is Coming



7 BOWLS - Rev. 16
God's Wrath Is Full



THE WICKED

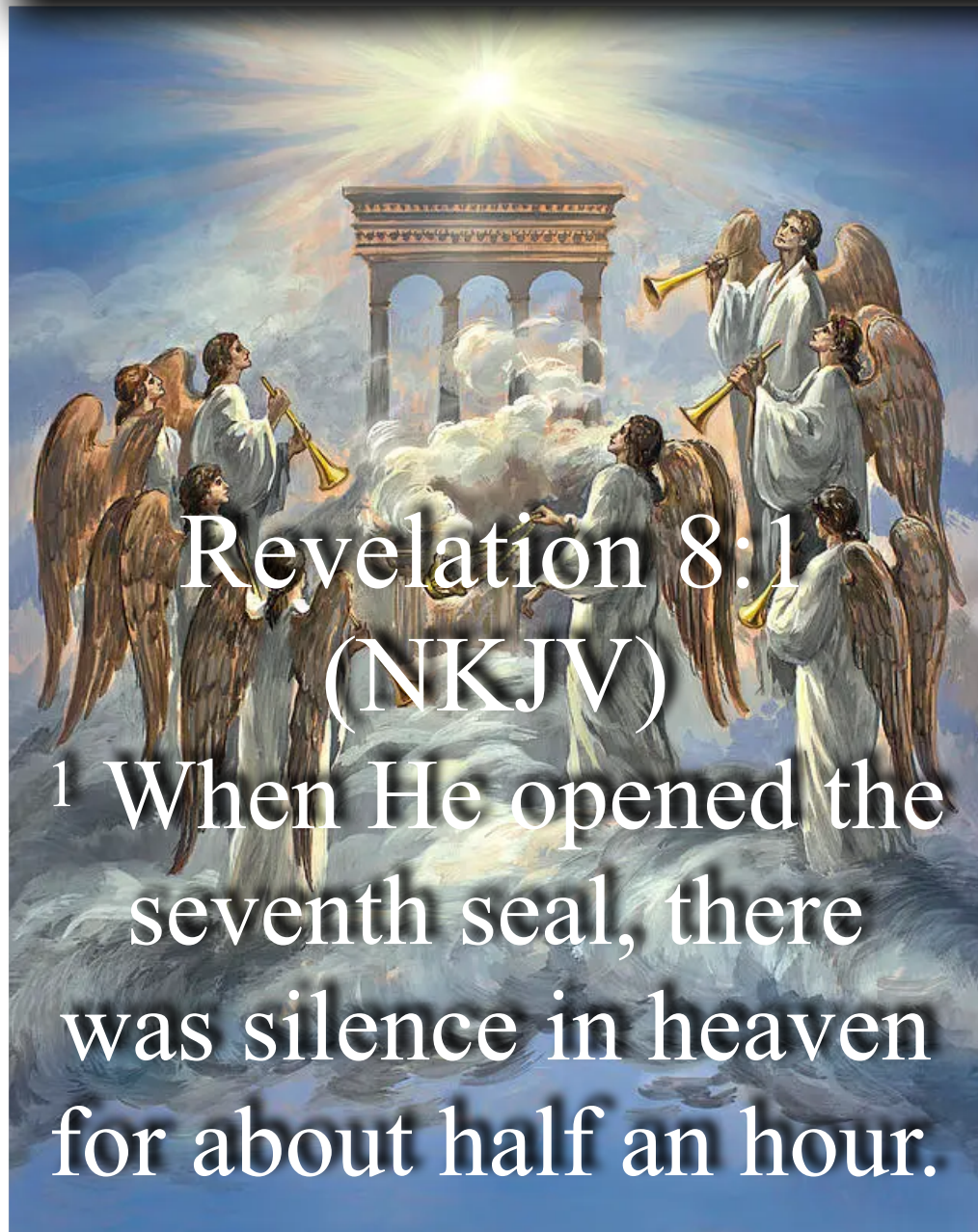


All three series of sevens are simultaneous, although the trumpets and the bowls of wrath are more limited in time as they deal only with the “things which must shortly come to pass” (1:1).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)



■ THE 7th SEAL OPENED (8:1)

- ▶ When the 7th seal is opened, a great hush settles over the worshipping hosts of heaven - a “dramatic pause.”
- ▶ A literary device for deepening the suspense for what is coming next.
- ▶ “The Lord is in his holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before Him” (Hag. 2:20; cf. Zep. 1:7-8; Zech. 2:13).
- ▶ A dramatic transition to the next cycle of divine judgments.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)



■ 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS (8:2-6)

- ▶ In the O.T., 3 passages speak of 7 trumpeters who formed a ceremonial procession - 2 mention the Ark (Josh. 6; 1 Chron. 15:24; Neh. 12:41).
- ▶ Trumpets also proclaimed accession of a king (1 Kings. 1:34, 39; 2 Kings. 9:13), the reign of God (Psa. 47:5; 98:6; Num. 23:21; Zech. 9:14; cf. 11:15), alarm of divine judgment, calling for repentance (cf. Jer. 4:5; 6:1, 17 Ezek. 33:3ff.; Isa. 8:1; Joel 2:1, 15).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)



■ 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS (8:2-6)

- ▶ Trumpets were also sounded at all of the Jewish feasts, on the first day of each month, and at the daily sacrifice “for remembrance before your God” (Num. 10:10).
- ▶ The prayers of God’s suffering saints have not gone unheard.
- ▶ God intends to visit painful judgment on the wicked for the sake of His praying people.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)

Revelation 8:3

(NKJV)

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

■ 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS (8:2-6)

- ▶ Twice daily the priests would burn incense on the altar in the temple while the people stood outside praying (Luke 1:8-10).
- ▶ This scene preceding the sounding of the first trumpet symbolizes the prayers of the saints ascending like incense unto God (Ps. 141:2; Rev. 5:8).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)



■ 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS (8:2-6)

- ▶ The urgent pleas and prayers of the saints have not gone unheard (cf. 6:10).
- ▶ This vision is letting those who prayed so intensely for help in their distress know that God was indeed listening - it would be their prayers that initiate divine judgment.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)



- 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS (8:2-6)
 - ▶ God continually hears the prayers of his people (Exod. 2:23-24; 1 Pet. 3:12).
 - ▶ What follows in the remainder of this vision is a portrait of the various aspects of the Lord's vengeance against their enemies.
 - ▶ What an assurance for the saints!

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)



■ 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS (8:2-6)

- ▶ The same censer that offered the incense to God is filled with fire taken from the altar.
- ▶ When this fire strikes the earth, it causes peals of thunder, lightnings, and an earthquake, all symbolical of God's response.
- ▶ The fervent petitions by his afflicted people have been heard by God and justice will be carried forth.

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“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)



■ 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS (8:2-6)

- ▶ The purpose of the Trumpet Judgments are to lead men to repentance (Ezekiel 33), they warn of impending danger.
- ▶ When Joel gave his warning to Israel about the coming locust plague, he spoke also of the coming of the day of the Lord: “Blow the trumpet in Zion! Sound the alarm ...” (Joel 2:1).
- ▶ They are directed against a world that is adamant in its hostility toward God.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)



Revelation 8:6
(NKJV)

⁶ So the seven angels
who had the seven
trumpets prepared
themselves to sound.

■ 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS (8:2-6)

- ▶ The first 4 trumpets initiate natural calamities and are reminiscent of the plagues upon Egypt: hail (Exod. 9:23-25); water to blood (Exod. 7:20-21); darkness (Exod. 10:21-23); and locusts (Exod. 10:4-15).
- ▶ As the intensity of the judgments increases, so also does the vehemence with which evil men refuse to repent (cf. also 9:20-21; 16:9, 11, 21).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)



Revelation 8:6
(NKJV)

⁶ So the seven angels
who had the seven
trumpets prepared
themselves to sound.

■ 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS (8:2-6)

- ▶ We may think ourselves self-sufficient, but we are constantly reminded by storms and natural disasters that we are not in control of our world.
- ▶ When earthquakes, hurricanes, and tornados disrupt the physical world, affected human beings should be sufficiently reminded of their limitations and frailties, and turn to Almighty God who created and sustains the universe.

This world has repeatedly brought suffering to the people of God, but the day will come when God will avenge His saints, and glorify His people.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)

Mercy is still greater than judgment since a longsuffering God extends every opportunity for men to return to God. (2 Peter 3:9)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)

2 Peter 3:5–13 (NKJV)

⁵ For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, ⁶ by which the world *that* then existed perished, being flooded with water. ⁷ But the heavens and the earth *which* are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. ⁸ But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day *is* as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:5–13 (NKJV)

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

¹¹ Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, ¹² looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? ¹³ Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

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“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)

**HEAVENS DOOR HAS BEEN OPENED
FOR YOU - WILL YOU ENTER?**

Believe — John 3:16;

Repent — Acts 17:30;

Confess — Romans 10:9,10;

Be baptized — Acts 2:38;

Endure by faith — I Corinthians 15:58

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle Two: The Trumpet Sequence (8:2-11:19)

“7th SEAL, 7 ANGELS & 7 TRUMPETS” (8:1-6)

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Joshua 6:1–6 (NKJV)

¹ Now Jericho was securely shut up because of the children of Israel; none went out, and none came in. ² And the Lord said to Joshua: “See! I have given Jericho into your hand, its king, *and* the mighty men of valor. ³ You shall march around the city, all *you* men of war; you shall go all around the city once. This you shall do six days. ⁴ And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the ark. But the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets.

Joshua 6:1–6 (NKJV)

⁵ It shall come to pass, when they make a long *blast* with the ram's horn, *and* when you hear the sound of the trumpet, that all the people shall shout with a great shout; then the wall of the city will fall down flat. And the people shall go up every man straight before him.” ⁶ Then Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, “Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the Lord.”