

Chapter 8:

Jesus opens the seventh seal. There was silence in Heaven for about a half an hour. “This half an hour” is likely a literal meaning. It could, however, represent something else, but I have not found anything that would lead me to believe it does. Keep in mind we previously saw a Great Multitude before the throne, we also have the angels, twenty-four Elders and four Living Creatures that have been worshipping consistently. Something that would silence everyone all at once, must be quite awesome.

Seven angels stood before God and are given the seven trumpets. As the angels sound the trumpets, we see events unfold that are horrific. Some people believe there is figurative meanings to what is described. Some people believe these are literal. Don't forget that in Exodus, some similar events occurred. I believe John explains the events the best he can with his knowledge and understanding of “reality” at that time, so the truth might be more in the middle. Whatever happens, it will be terrible.

The first angel sounded and we have hail and fire mixed with blood. This could be meteorites. Because of moisture in the air, perhaps the color turns red for the rain and makes it look like blood. Perhaps it is really blood. There are some beliefs that this hail is figurative and it is actually missiles or something of that nature. I personally lean more towards the meteorites. A third of the earth, trees, and grass will be burned up. The fires will be incredibly consuming. The amount of oxygen that will be used by these fires, and the smoke and carbon dioxide in the air, is going to make it terrible to witness and live through.

A second angel sounded and something like a huge mountain, on fire, is tossed into the sea. This sounds like a huge asteroid that is on fire as it comes through the atmosphere. A third of the living creatures in the sea will die, and a third of the ships are destroyed. This represents a large amount of food for the world.

A third angel sounded and a great star, that is on fire, falls upon the fresh water systems of the world. This star has a specific name: Wormwood. Wormwood means bitter. How can one star touch all the waters, you might be asking? I'm asking it too. I don't know if this is another asteroid, or how this will work. It is interesting that this star has a name. Dr. Van Impe in “Revelation Reveled”, states in the Ukraine Bible that Chernobyl is a word for Wormwood. It is reasonable that radiation could affect a third of the fresh waters of the world if a nuclear bomb exploded somewhere. I believe this could symbolize something other than an asteroid, but we won't know till it happens. What we know is that one-third of the fresh water of the earth will become undrinkable and many people will die from trying to drink it.

A fourth angel sounded and the sun, moon, and one-third of the stars are struck. These stellar objects may be physically struck by something or they may be “struck”, or affected by, something we don't know or understand. Either way, something impacts or affects them and they do not provide light during 1/3 of their cycles. The darkness upon the Earth at this time is going to be great.

That will also impact everything that is dependent upon sunlight: eco-system, power generation, etc.

As John was watching all of this unfold, he heard an eagle that was flying in midair call out in a loud voice, three-fold “Woes” to the inhabitants of the earth because of the three trumpets that have yet to be sounded. The four that just occurred are terrible, imagine the three that is yet to come. Whether this is really an eagle, an angel, or something else, will remain to be seen.

This chapter shows God bringing judgement on His creation using His creation to do it. I believe the significance to the one-third of nature being destroyed is representative of the Holy Trinity. Jesus represents one-third of that Trinity. Therefore, one-third of nature is being destroyed for rejecting and murdering His Son. I also believe this continues to show the mercy of God. Although one-third of His creation is being destroyed, two-thirds is remaining, to be rebuilt.