

Signs and "Appointed" Times



REVELATION 58 – FOURTH TRUMPET: DIMINISHED VISION

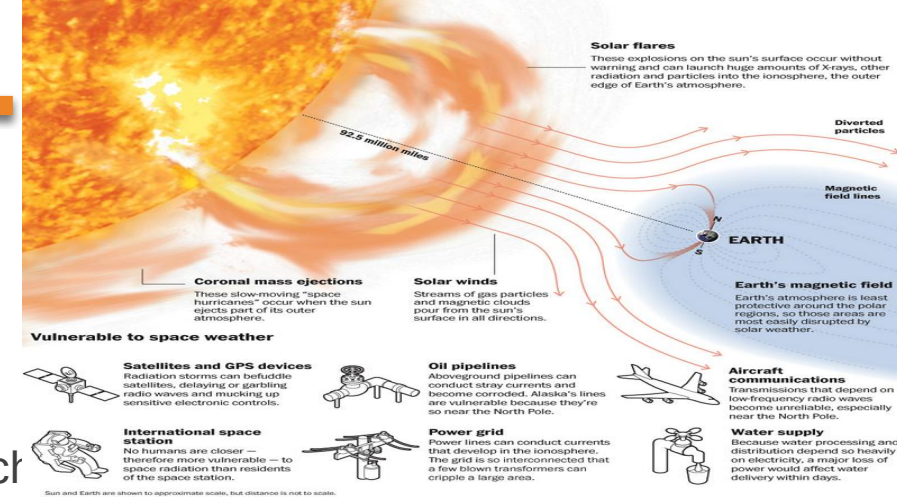
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REVELATION 8:12-13

FOUR TRUMPETS: ORDER MIRRORS CREATION – DAYS TWO THROUGH FOUR (GE 1:6-19)

- Addresses each category of ancient understanding of empirical, physical, creation
 - *Dry Land*: Includes vegetation
 - *Separated Waters*: Heaven {He. Duality} shows separation of waters and each addressed in the Trumpets; Sea {Lost} and Fresh {Saved}
 - *Firmament* and Heavens: Atmosphere or Air which is the medium of perception especially of *heavenly* bodies given for “signs and times”
 - *Fire*: Fire present in active form in the first three trumpets while in passive form in the fourth trumpet; i.e., we see the Sun
- Heavenly bodies presented in same order as Creation account (Ge 1:16-19)
 - Heavenly bodies given as markers of time: Day {Earth orbit marked in relationship to Sun}, Month {Lunar}, Year {Solar}
 - Heavenly bodies also function as markers of Cycles {Nile Floods; Sunspots; Solar Maximums-Minimums and other cyclic events}
 - Finally, Heavenly bodies denote biblical signs and *appointed* {prophetic} times {seasons}
 - Christ chastened people for knowing the *seasons* but not the spiritual appointed times; ignoring Bible like they still do today (Mt 16:1-3)

FOURTH TRUMPET: RESULT OF FIRST THREE TRUMPETS

- First Three Trumpets alert Man: Day of Atonement {Yom Kippur} approach
- Fourth Trumpet results from the physical effects of preceding trumpets and other events: Volcanoes; Earthquakes; Solar Micronova; CME impacts and decreasing Magnetosphere resulting in increasing galactic/solar wind events
 - Tremendous debris thrown into atmosphere; especially Stratosphere where it can linger for months to years
 - Dims light and reduces heat reaching Earth resulting in decreased temperatures, crop failures and dimming of lights; i.e., days
 - Increase in aurora borealis-type phenomenon also *lights up* the night skies
 - Decrease of 1/3 signals warning in line with trumpets alerting Man to repent as judgment approaches
- Decrease in physical light mirrors decrease in spiritual vision or awareness: Empirical revealing non-empirical Truth
 - Man walks in *partial* Darkness since Christ's stauros and Ascension (Mt 25:13; Jn 9:1-5)
 - Refusal to repent will bring complete Darkness with worse conditions: Christ *gives them up* to the consequences of their sin (Ro 1:18-28)



WARNING: WORST IS COMING – THREE WOES

- Man is warned that worse is coming in the form of Three Woes {הוי , hōy or אוי ' , ôy; οὐαί, ouai}
 - Woe is an Onomatopoeia, spelled like it sounds even in Hebrew and Greek: Verbalized sound of anguish
 - Three is number of completion: Complete anguish
 - Announcement given by flying **vulture**, carrion bird, foreshadowing end of those who refuse to repent; soaring bird signifies it overcomes physical barriers affecting all sinners everywhere: No escape – Transition from physical to spiritual, prophetic effects
 - While Man looks to the noon sun for life, he finds Vulture warning him that persistence in sin brings death, not hope
- This transitions from primarily physical effects to spiritual effects affecting Man and Earth (2Th 2:3-12)
 - Man *dabbles* in sin but has been protected from its full effects by Holy Spirit
 - Holy Spirit's restraining influence has been slowly diminished; however, at this time it dramatically diminishes
 - They *love* sin because, like children, they have been protected from majority of its full corrosive destructive effects

BIBLE HAS BEEN WARNING: DARKNESS AND WOE

- Old Testament had progressively warned Man of approaching Judgment; in its *appointed* time (Hab 2:2-3)
 - False Jews ignored its message culminating in choosing Christ as the Paschal Lamb with few applying His blood to their lives (Mt 26:63-68; 1Co 5:7)
- Darkness:
 - Day of the Lord is Darkness; unrepentant face accountability outwardly indicated by Creation being affected (Is 13:9-13; Ro 8:20-22)
 - Day of the Lord is Darkness; Man seeks refugee in that which is revealed to be treacherous; i.e., no hiding from Christ (Amos 5:18-20)
 - Day of the Lord is Darkness; It comes in its appointed time *filling one's cup with*: Destruction, Degradation and Violence (Zep 1:14-18)
- Woe:
 - Sinners bring judgment on themselves by ignoring Christ's offer of salvation (Is 3:8-11)
 - Sinners *lie* to themselves via empty Worldviews and vain philosophies building on *sand* rather than The Rock (Ez 13:3-16; Mt 7:24-27; 1Co 10:1-6)

END OF WARNINGS: BEGINNING OF REAPING

- Segues from warnings to reaping consequences of sin implied in this transition from the fourth to fifth trumpets
 - Hence, vulture rather than eagle announces the *Woes*; their bodies will be food for birds {carrion eaters} (Ez 39:17-24; Re 19:17-19)
 - Bible warns: Whatever one *sows* in life is what one will *reap* in life and eternity; believers should not despair (Ps 73; Ga 6:7-8)
 - Bible events written for us to understand that rejection of Christ results in eternal death (1Co 10:6-14; Re 20:11-15)
 - Henceforth, Revelation becomes much *darker* as Christ reveals magnitude of Man's stiff-necked sinfulness in refusing Christ's grace
- Believers are not exempt except by being clothed in Christ's Righteousness (1Co 6:9-11)
 - Believers must realize that in their strength they fail; but in their weakness, Christ is magnified: Grace (2Co 12:9-10; Ga 6:14-16)
 - Believers will *eat* the fruit of their deeds; be with Christ eternally in New Creation (Ez 13:3-16; 2Co 5:10)
 - Do not be deceived; these same influences swirl about us today as Christ calls Man to repent This Day before Death comes (He 4:11)