

INTRODUCTION

1. Challenge: what John writes & how John writes. Rv 8

2. Review: comparison of seals & trmpts - literary structure of cycles while moving toward Final Judgment.
 - i. OT background for trmpts - Rv 6:10 martyr's prayer - Egyptian plagues
 - ii. Challenge of literal or symbolic interpretation: actual environmental disruptions - angelic/demonic activity. 9:1. Star is a *him* - an angel?

3. Challenging! Rv 1:3 - blessed. Rv 1:19 - both/and; already/not yet.
 - i. Cycles: all occurring simultaneously yet moving to FJ.
 - ii. Jdgmnt is intensifying - last 3 trmpts: 8:13.

1st: A Comparison of the First Four and the Last Three Trumpets

1. Difference: number of verses devoted to each trmpt:
 - i. 1st 4 trmpts - total of 6 verses
 - ii. 1st *woe* [8:13] then 5th -7th trmpts - total of 49 vss + 2nd *woe* 9:12 & 3rd *woe* - 11:14
 - iii. Final 3 trmpts - grtr detail & complexity, esp'ly 6th trmpt [chpts 10-11]

2. The 1st 4 trmpts concern the *earth*; final 3 trmpts concern *earth-dwellers*
 - i. Recall 2 Ages & 2 Seeds. Here earth-dwellers & Church; Egypt & Goshen - Church is sealed & sustained.

3. Rv 8:13 Cf. Eze 16:23-24 - apostasy. *Woes warn the Church against apostasy while earth-dwellers are visited w/ jdgmnt.*
 - i. *woes*: Isa 5 [apostate Israel]; Hab 2 [Bab]; Mt 23 [Phars]
 - ii. Prophetic denunciations of impending jdgmnt; damnation; wrath of God

2nd: The Significance of an Eagle

1. Parable of soils: same sun - Rocky, Fruitful.
 - i. Same situation/experience -> different responses. Recall *test/temptation* same term translated differently often depending on the response
 - ii. *Eagle* is similar: same Grk term can be translated *eagle* or *vulture*

2. Eagle [birds of prey] in OT used as cov curse:
 - i. Apostasy - Dt 28:26 - Jer 7:33; 16:4; 19:7; 34:20
 - ii. Invasion Hab 1:8 - Dt 28:49; Jer 4:13; 48:40; 49:22; Lam 4:19; Hos 8:1

3. Eagle/vulture in NT used as cov curse
 - i. Lk 17:37 *vultures* hover over bodies
 - ii. Rv 19:17-18 *birds fly in midheaven*
 - iii. Rv 8:13 - *eagle/vulture flying midheaven* - same picture of jdgmnt

4. Eagle also connotes deliverance - in OT - Exo 19:4; Isa 40:31

5. Eagle in NT as agent of deliverance: Rv 4:7; 14:6; 12:14 - Deut 32:11.

6. There's a bird in the sky! What to make of it? Eagle or vulture?

3rd: Those Who Experience the Things that Occur When the Trumpets Blow

1. Rv 8:13 - interp as curse: eagle/vulture hovering over prey: earth-dwellers.

Woe, Woe, Woe! - Rv 8:13

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2. 1st 4 trpmts target the earth - also demonic activity: *star that fell to earth*. Final 3 trpmts, jdgmnts are more demonic - Egyptian plagues prominent

3. How did Egyptians [Pharaoh] respond? hardening - Rv 9:20-21
 - i. theme that develops: reach a point of no return, a settled stance of heart
 - ii. Rv 22:10-11 prophecy ends - men's responses are settled.
 - iii. The essence of jdgmnt is division: wicked from righteous & the distinction becomes more evident as trpmts blow - the test/temptations

4. Does Church hear trpmts? Yes - test faith. Recall struggles of 7 churches:
 - i. *He who has an ear let him hear what HS says - He who is of God hears the words of God* [Jn 8:47]
 - ii. Does Church hear the words of God?

5. Summary and urgency: Hb 10:19-25 - AMEN