

Current Affairs #93 – The Dimming of Revelation
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In our continuing discussion of the seven trumpets of judgment, where God has authorized His angel to give answer to the earth on the basis of the prayers of the saints, seven trumpets are being sounded.¹ The first four trumpets are distinctly different from the latter three.

- As I said, the first of the trumpets harks back to the plagues of Egypt. It has to do with those people who belong to the Lord, yet in the earth, being set apart, being protected while the world is being shaken and the Kingdom is advancing at that very time.²
- The second of the trumpets was the destruction of one of the great systems.³ We identified that system that opposed the saints as commercial—the beginnings of the collapse of the global economy associated with the beast—that oppressed the saints, and that actually devoured the whole earth. So much so, that no one could buy or sell without acknowledging the hegemony of that global system.
- When the third angel sounded—and again, the third of the first four, which are distinct from the last three—information is corrupted. A third of the information is rendered so unreliable that men are literally dying, having imbibed this false information.⁴

Now when the fourth angel sounded, a third of the sun was struck. Later on, everything of this that is only destroyed now in thirds, will be destroyed.

Then the fourth angel sounded: And a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them were darkened. A third of the day did not shine, and likewise the night (Revelation 8:12 NKJV).

All Scripture quotations are from the NKJV Bible, unless otherwise noted.

¹ See Revelation 8:6: “So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.”

² See Revelation 8:7: “The first angel sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.”

³ See Revelation 8:8-9: “Then the second angel sounded: And *something* like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood. And a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.”

⁴ See Revelation 8:10-11: “Then the third angel sounded: And a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water. The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the water, because it was made bitter.”

Obviously, the reference to the sun, the moon, and the stars are references to the way that light was physically put in creation on the fourth day. But they were put in creation on the fourth day to memorialize, in the physical world, that which had been spoken on the first day. What was spoken at first was the intent of God for the thing that He was creating or for the thing that He was establishing. And what was that? Well,

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light (Genesis 1:1-3).

The purpose of creation was declared in God’s first command, “Let there be light.” Because until then, darkness was upon the surface of the deep. The deep is God Himself. Darkness was not in the deep; darkness was on the surface of the deep, much like a veil upon a face. So when God said, “Let there be light,” what is He telling us? He is saying, “In all that is to follow”—both the visible and the invisible realms, for at that time He created the heavens and the earth—“all that is to follow constitutes a lifting of the veil of My presence. My intent is to make Myself known to you.”

Whenever we live in creation in full acknowledgment of God’s true purposes for creation, we walk in the light. That is why the Lord Jesus Christ came as the complete expression of that which had begun in creation, to establish in the earth a new creation, which is to say, the final installment of what was started in creation. God said, “Let there be light,” and in everything that was established in the heavens and in the earth, light came into the created world—the light that was supposed to augment, to support the revealing of what was ultimately the true divine intentions of God. So when Jesus comes into the earth, He comes as light.⁵ Let me read to you how that light is described in the Scriptures. This is from the Book of 2 Corinthians, chapter 4.

⁵ See John 9:5: “As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, [Note the following phrasing. It is magnificent.] lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ... (2 Corinthians 4:1-4a)

Not the light of the glory of Christ, but the light of the good news, the gospel, of the glory of Christ. So, what is the gospel? The gospel is of the glory of Christ, and that is light. We will discuss that just momentarily.

...the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ who is [And this is the glory of Christ:] the image of [the invisible] God, (2 Corinthians 4:4b)

That is the term *charaktér*.⁶ He is the stamped image, the spendable currency of the Kingdom of Heaven (and you will recall that from earlier messages).

...the image of [the invisible] God, should shine on them. For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who commanded [Look at the language:] light to shine out of darkness [When did He do that? Genesis 1:3, "Let there be light."], who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of [the Lord] Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that

⁶ See *charaktér*, Strong's Greek 5481 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/5481.htm>

the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you.

And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day (2 Corinthians 1:4b-16).

This was the condition of the saints: they are the light of the world. Jesus said it this way, “For I am the light of the world.”⁷ And then He said, “And you are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Men do not light a candle and put it under a bushel, but in a candlestick so that it gives light to all that are in the house” (cf. Matthew 5:14-15). All of that was implied when God said, “Let there be light.” This is what was implied: the light of the glory of God that was to be seen in the face of Jesus Christ, who is the image of God, who should shine on them. “For it is God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”

Why did God say, “Let there be light”? Ultimately, He meant to reveal who He is in the face of Jesus Christ. Now, whose face does Jesus wear today? “For you died and your life,” in Colossians it is said, “is now hidden with God in Christ. So when Christ who is your life appears, you will appear with Him in the glory of His appearing.”⁸ Today, that is how the presence of Christ is carried in the earth.

⁷ See John 8:12: “Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.’ ”; see also John 9:5.

⁸ See Colossians 3:3-4: “For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ *who is our life* appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.”

But to go back and to frame this whole matter fully, when God established creation, He did so with the express purpose of revealing Himself. That is why He said, “Let there be light.” He was not talking primarily about the sun, the moon, and the stars. Why? Because light was so; it was so from that moment. But it was not until the fourth day that He established the sun, the moon, and the stars. And this is what He said about them: Then God made two great lights: a greater light to rule the day, and a lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also. God set them—the sun, the moon, and the stars—in the heavens not only for the day and for the night (so that you will have light in the day, and light at night when the sun goes down), but they were also for ‘signs, and for seasons, and for days, and for years’ (cf. Genesis 1:14-19).

But the knowledge of the signs and seasons was never meant to be distributed through the practice of astrology, which is to try to understand prophecy by a reference to the constellations. Instead, the wise men will see the star when it appears and, knowing the ways of God, will understand that it pointed to the arrival of the King, the One who was the Desire of the Ages appearing as a star in the constellation Virgo, indicating that the sign in the heavens is that, on the earth, a virgin has brought forth the Desire of the Ages. These were meant to be understood that way. The physical world was meant to be understood by the leading and the knowledge of the things brought by the Holy Spirit. God did set light in the heavens to tell us about divine things. When Christ came, He is the fulfillment of that which was set up as a type and shadow in the sun, the moon, and the stars. The physical world bears testimony of the invisible world, so the things that are not seen are clearly understood by the things that have been created. That is why men have no excuse.⁹

So, what happens when the fourth angel sounds? “And a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon was struck, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them were darkened. A third of the day did not shine, and likewise a third of the night” (cf. Revelation 8:12). We talked about the word before, when we saw wormwood falling upon the springs of water and rivers. This is a qualitative order of difference. This is about the light of revelation of the person of Christ.

⁹ See Romans 1:20: “For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,”

It was said of Israel, in the 3rd chapter of the Book of 1 Samuel, that in the days of Eli—the high priest at the time of Samuel; Eli was such a corrupt high priest, and the evidence of it was the corruption of his sons—that there were ‘not many visions and the voice of God was seldom heard in Israel.’¹⁰ And so, men were walking in darkness, not knowing the times and the seasons. Do you understand how terrible it is to live at any time, not knowing what God is doing? That is a darkness that is beyond an external darkness. That is a darkness that pervades the human being. It is darkness that seeps into your bones.

What are these times, then? They are times of profound despair, where you do not know. People do not understand what happens when you reject the truth. Because as long as the truth remains amongst mankind, walking around in the form of the Body of Christ, God maintains an environment for their well-being. In that capacity, He lets the rain fall on the just and the unjust, because He is letting the rain fall on the just. He lets the light and the glory of the knowledge of Christ Jesus remain, so that we are not walking in darkness. For His word is as a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.¹¹ It explains what is next and how we are to live.

Can you imagine, right now, how we who walk with God, what a condition of distress there would be amongst us and upon us if we did not have any idea that God was in the midst of all of this? If we did not know what God was doing, how would we get up and face the day? The unbelievers are already facing that, and a church walking in darkness is becoming increasingly hysterical. You cannot watch the behavior of certain leaders of the Evangelical Church and conclude anything other than a level of delusion has set in that has produced hysteria. But it is not nearly what it is going to be. But for those who walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus continuously cleanses us and presents us with a good conscience to God.¹²

¹⁰ See 1 Samuel 3:1 NIV: “The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions.”

¹¹ See Psalm 119:105: “Your word *is* a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

¹² See 1 John 1:7

In the days of these things, full darkness will not come until later. But as it begins to be judged, it is a third; a third of the revelation of things will have come. As a consequence of that, if you look in the Book of Amos, the 8th chapter, verse 9, here is what he says, speaking of a time of darkness upon Israel just prior to the Babylonian captivity.

“And it shall come to pass in that day,” says the Lord GOD, “That I will make the sun go down at noon, And I will darken the earth in broad daylight; I will turn your feasts into mourning, And all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on every waist, And baldness on every head; I will make it like mourning for an only son, And its end like a bitter day” (Amos 8:9-10).

What did God promise? He promised that the sun would go down at noon on a clear day, and He will darken the earth. Now, to Israel was this promise given, and it did happen. In fact, do you want to know something fascinating? On that day, do you know what day it was when the sun went down at noon on a clear day? It was the day when Jesus was crucified. What happened to Israel right after that? This was prophesying, not the Babylonian captivity; it was prophesying the Roman captivity. It is the longest of the captivities of Israel. They were in Egypt for 430 years. They were in Babylon for 70 years. But they were in Roman captivity for nigh unto 2,000 years. In 1948 they began to come back. It is not a good thing when revelation is taken from the earth. Amos also describes this time as a time when there will be a famine, not as for bread, but a famine for the word of God.¹³

When a third is struck and darkness comes, hopelessness comes upon mankind. But you note again, it is a third. For the light of the glory of the presence of God will remain among and remain with the believers. Verse 13,

And I looked, and I heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, “Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!”

¹³ See Amos 8:11: “ ‘Behold, the days are coming,’ says the Lord GOD, ‘That I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine of bread, Nor a thirst for water, But of hearing the words of the LORD.’ ”

Then the fifth angel sounded: And I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit, and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace (Revelation 8:13-9:2a).

Because we are running out of time now, let me tell you what is about to happen when the three remaining angels sound their trumpets. In the first four, it is all about the earth being changed: systems collapsing; information collapsing; wisdom, knowledge, understanding collapsing. When the last three sound, that which is in the second heavens, the demonic, opens out upon the earth, and these judgments of the earth will be the fierce judgments of unconscionable beings. It will begin to reveal how God intends to encapsulate and conclude the age.

Do you think it is important that we know these things ahead of time? Do you think it is important that we revisit the Scriptures now, and be ready? Inasmuch as, we are not going to be raptured. This is about preparing people, preparing God's people, so they do not wander in the darkness, in the powerlessness, and being handed over to the rule of the demonic. These are all the things that have been going on amongst mankind all this time, and that is why God, in bringing judgments, is giving to man, giving to human beings, that which has been in their hearts. "I, the Lord, I search the hearts to give to every man according to his thoughts, according to his deeds."¹⁴ And whereas individual mankind may not have had these particular things in their hearts, collectively, mankind has depended upon the *kosmos*¹⁵ and thumbed his nose at God, and this is a day when the wrath of God has come. But it is pouring out upon mankind the very thing that they poured out upon the saints, being motivated in their doings by the opponent and enemy of God and man. When the times of these judgments come, they will reflect the fierce wrath of God.

I am not speaking these things to the world. They are foolish things to those who are perishing. I am calling the people of God back to the understanding of the things that have been written. I am calling us back out of the waywardness of unbelief, having abandoned the truth in favor of the lust

¹⁴ See Jeremiah 17:10 NIV: "I the LORD search the heart and examine the mind, to reward each person according to their conduct, according to what their deeds deserve."

¹⁵ See *kosmos*, Strong's Greek 2889 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/2889.htm>

of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. I am calling a people back to the standards of divine righteousness so that they might live in the protection and care of the living God, which He designed and has implemented in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose. While, for every pretender, every fool who has thought to make a mockery out of God by thinking that he could align himself or herself with words, and appear to be righteous, having a form of godliness but never submitting, never having their heads cut off, never having a renewed mind, there will be that time of separation. Not because I want it to be so, but because the living God has decreed that it is going to be so. I am merely a messenger of these things to disabuse you that walking in darkness grants you any lasting benefit, and to invite you to come back to your great estate from which you may have once fallen, and to be renewed according to the divine purposes of God.

I am Sam Soleyn. We continue to plow through the Book of Revelation for the times of the disclosures of these things has come. Amen.