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| **Grant Street Baptist Church** | **Sermon Notes** |
| **Jeremy Beck** | **June 20, 2021** |

Title: *“Shock and Awe”*

Scripture: Revelation 8:1-13

Message: **1.** **Silence in Heaven** *(vs’ 1-5)*

1 When he opened the seventh seal (the beginning of the seven trumpets of judgment), there was silence in heaven (only recorded time of there being silence in Heaven as it’s always portrayed as a place of continual praise to God…Heaven was filled with shock and awe and suspense for what was about to happen in God’s final judgment upon earth) for about half an hour (only a brief period of time). 2And I saw the seven angels (known as archangels…arch = first, these angels are the first in access to the presence of God…they have a place of privilege and honor…we know two of them as Gabriel [Luke 1:19] & Michael [Jude 1:9]) who stand before God, and seven trumpets (trumpets were used in biblical days to get the attention of the people when an important event was about to take place) were given to them. 3Another angel (not an archangel), who had a golden censer (small shovel used to handle hot coals of the altar), came and stood at the altar (two altars in the Temple, two altars will also be in Heaven…one altar is the altar of sacrifice, second altar is the altar of incense). He was given much incense to offer (incense was burned in the Temple as a fragrant offering to the Lord), with the prayers of all God’s people (as incense was burned in the Temple, people also offered up prayers to the Lord), on the golden altar in front of the throne. 4The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of God’s people (these are the prayers of the saints, the martyrs “How long? – Revelation 6:10”…God’s about to answer that question as He commands the angels to sound the trumpets of judgment), went up before God from the angel’s hand. 5Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it on the earth (symbolic that the fiery judgment is about to come upon the earth); and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake (the judgment of God, the approaching storm with the added intensity of the earthquake is being poured out on the earth).

**2. The First Trumpet** *(vs’6-7)*

6Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to sound them (each angel waits for the command of the Lord to proceed with sounding their trumpet to begin God’s judgment). 7The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down on the earth (literal fire and hail will rain down on earth destroying much of the vegetation on earth…results in the famine and a lack of oxygen). A third of the earth (worldwide) was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.

**3. The Second Trumpet** *(vs’8-9)*

8The second angel sounded his trumpet, and something like a huge mountain, all ablaze (volcano), was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea turned into blood, 9a third of the living creatures in the sea died (furthers the famine that will sweep the earth), and a third of the ships were destroyed (profound economic effect intensifying the famine).

**4. The Third Trumpet** *(vs’ 10-11)*

10The third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky (great shower of meteorites that will fall to earth) on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water (judgment upon the fresh water making it undrinkable…this will be catastrophic, but only 1/3 will be affected)— 11the name of the star is Wormwood (means bitter and often poisonous). A third of the waters turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter.

**5. The Fourth Trumpet** *(vs’ 12-13)*

12The fourth angel sounded his trumpet, 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 turned dark (the hours of light will be reduced by one third). A third of the day was without light, and also a third of the night. 13As I watched, I heard an eagle that was flying in midair call out in a loud voice (cries out with a loud voice so that all can hear): “Woe! Woe! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the trumpet blasts about to be sounded by the other three angels!” (this angel is announcing that the judgment is progressively getting worse…as horrible and as terrifying as these judgments were, they are nothing compared to the three that remain)

Application:

* Shock and Awe
* Even Heaven will be amazed at the intensity of God’s wrath upon the rebellious earth that rejected Him
* James 2:19…we take God’s wrath so lightly that even the demons respect & fear God more than we do, His followers
* May we be forever reminded of what God is capable of:

-Every time we eat something that was grown may we be reminded that one day 1/3 of all vegetation will be destroyed

-Every time we observe God’s beauty through trees and grass may we be reminded that one day 1/3 of all of it will be destroyed

-Every time we enjoy the ocean may we be reminded that one day 1/3 of it will be turned to blood

-Every time we eat seafood may we be reminded that one day 1/3 of it will be destroyed

-Every time we drink water may we be reminded that one day 1/3 of it will be turned bitter and poisonous making it undrinkable

-Every time we enjoy a nice sunny day or enjoy a moonlit night may we be reminded that one day 1/3 of that light will disappear

- May we be forever reminded of what God is capable of and praise Him every day for what He has saved us from.