Revelation 8:6-13

The Second 7-fold Vision

1. The First Four Trumpets: chaos in nature
   1. First Trumpet: verse 7
      1. Hail and fire mixed with blood.
         1. Exodus 9:13-33 records the plague of hail striking the land of Egypt.
            1. It was accompanied by lightning and thunder.
         2. There is a phenomenon in nature known as blood rain.
      2. 1/3 destruction
         1. At any moment of time parts of the earth are being destroyed through natural events.
            1. While it is true that human beings have some affect on nature, there are things beyond our control.
   2. Second Trumpet: verses 8 and 9
      1. Similar imagery is found in Exodus 7:14-24 with the plague of blood.
      2. The fiery mountain that John sees symbolizes events that strike earth’s seas, like volcanic eruptions.
         1. 1/3 of the sea turning to blood may symbolize death and destruction to aquatic life as well as commercial activity among the seas.
   3. Third Trumpet: verses 10 and 11
      1. A falling star from heaven
         1. God is involved in the sending of these plagues.
            1. This was certainly the case with the plagues of Egypt (Ex. 9:1-3; 11:1).
            2. As we wait for Jesus to return, a portion of water will be so polluted as to be impossible to safely consume.
         2. Wormwood
            1. In the Old Testament we see that wormwood represents sorrow and bitterness in the human heart.

Lamentations 3:19; Proverbs 5:3,4

In Jeremiah 3:19 God gives His people wormwood to eat and bitter poison water because they have sinned against Him.

* + - 1. 1/3 of the waters
         1. God’s will permits as well as limits the extent of this plague.
  1. Fourth Trumpet: verse 12
     1. 1/3 of the heavenly bodies are struck
        1. The ninth plague in Exodus story is when God struck Egypt with total darkness for three days (Ex. 10:1-23).
        2. Here in Revelation 8 there is a partial darkness (1/3) for an unspecified amount of time.
           1. Possible causes of darkness: clouds, smog, eclipses, smoke from fires.
        3. Darkness as a metaphor in the Bible for sin and judgment
           1. John 1:5,9; 1 John 2:2, 8-11
           2. Throughout the time of Revelation nature is physically affected and humans will suffer.

These are the visible signs to repent before it’s too late. See Revelation 9:20,21.

* 1. The Eagle’s Cry: verse 13
     1. This cry marks a transition:
        1. The previous trumpet angels announced natural disasters. The following angels announce demonic woes.
           1. The following “woes” affects those who do not belong to God.
        2. The natural plagues up to this point have been bad enough, but now things will go from bad to worse.