

***“The Third Trumpet”***  
***Revelation 8:10-11***

**Introduction:**

1. Let's Head Back To:
  - Revelation 8 - Where:
    - We Have Been Looking At:
      - The Trumpet Judgments!
  - Which Are Unleashed:
    - After The Seven Seals:
      - Of The Heavenly Scroll:
        - Are Opened By The Lamb!
2. The First Four Trumpet Judgments:
  - Are Related In That:
    - They All Have A Major Impact:
      - On The World Of Nature!
        - Because - In John's Vision:
    - The First Trumpet Judgment:
      - Which We Find In 8:7:
        - Affects The Earth!
      - When A Storm Of Hail & Fire & Blood:
        - Burns Up A Third Part Of The Land & Trees - As Well As:
          - All Of The Green Grass That Would Be In Season!
      - 8:7 - “The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up!”
    - Then - The Second Trumpet Judgment:
      - Which We Looked At Last Week:
        - In 8:8-9 - Affects The Sea!
      - When Something Like A Burning Mountain:
        - Causes A Third Part Of The Sea To Become Blood:
          - And Destroys A Third Part Of All Sea Life & Even Ships!
      - 8:8-9 - “And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood; / And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed!”
    - But Then - When Third Trumpet Is Sounded:
      - By One Of The Seven Angels That We First Met In 8:2:
        - We Will Find That This Judgment:
          - Affects The Sources Of Fresh-Water:
            - On Which We All Rely For Life Itself!
      - 8:10-11 - “And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; / And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter!”
3. Now - Even Though:
  - There Is Some Important:
    - Biblical Background & Symbolic Significance Behind:
      - Each One Of These Judgments!
    - I Believe That There Can Still Be:
      - Some Real, Natural Counterparts:
        - To The Super-Natural Visions:
          - That John Is Seeing In These Verses!
  - And So - This Is The Basic Approach:
    - That We Are Taking:
      - When It Comes To These Trumpet Judgments!
    - But With The Understanding That:
      - **God Is Still Communicating Something:**
        - Through These Major Catastrophes:
          - That The World Has Yet To See!

- And So - As We Now
  - Turn Our Attention To:
    - The Third Trumpet Judgment:
      - As We've Done With The First Two:
        - We Are First Going To Look At:

### 1. ***The Main Component Of The Judgment:***

- Which - In This Case:
  - Consists Of - 8:10:
    - "A Great **Star** From Heaven!"
  - Now - There Are A Couple Of Things:
    - That We Can Consider:
      - When It Comes To This "Star!" First:
- The Significance Of The Star!
  - "Stars" Are Found In Revelation:
    - In 13 Verses!
  - And - In Just About Every Case:
    - They Are Clearly Used In:
      - **Some Symbolic Way!**
  - In Chapter 1 - When John Sees Jesus:
    - Holding 7 Stars In His Right Hand:
      - They Are Explained To Him In 1:20 As:
        - "The Seven Stars Are The Angels / Messengers Of The Seven Churches!"
    - So Stars Are Used:
      - To Represent The Leaders:
        - Of God's People - His Church!
  - In Chapter 9 - When The Fifth Angel Sounds His Trumpet:
    - We Are Told That:
      - John Saw - "A Star Fall From Heaven Unto The Earth: And To Him Was Given The Key Of The Bottomless Pit!"
        - Which "He" Then Used To "Open" It!
    - So A Star Is Used:
      - To Represent A Spiritual Personality:
        - Who May Even Be The "Angel Of The Bottomless Pit!"
  - In Chapter 22:16 - Jesus Even Describes Himself:
    - As - "The Root & The Offspring Of David, And The Bright And Morning Star!"
      - Which - Again - Is Used To Represent:
        - The Glory Of Jesus Christ Himself!
  - Elsewhere In The Bible:
    - "Stars" Are Also Frequently Used:
      - To Represent Some Kind Of:
        - Spiritual Being!
        - Including Saints (Daniel 8:10) & Angels (Job 38:7)!
  - So - What Are We To Make Of:
    - This "Star" - Here In The Third Trumpet?
      - Well - Because Of The Wide Use Of Stars In A Symbolic Way:
        - Many Have Come To See It Here As Well!
  - So - Some Have Taken This Star:
    - **To Represent The Devil:**
      - Who Jesus Described In Luke 10:18:
        - "I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven!"
    - Which In Many Ways:
      - Sounds Like The Rest Of 8:10:
        - "There Fell A Great Star From Heaven, Burning As It Were A Lamp!"
    - They Will Also See A Reference Here:
      - To The Fall Of Lucifer:
        - In Isaiah 14:12-14 - Who Is Called "Son Of The Morning!"
    - But - Instead Of Being An Agent Of God's Judgment:

- This Spiritual Star Is Seen As:
  - The Object Of God's Judgment:
    - Who Will Then Lead Others Astray So That They Might Be Judged With Him!
  - Because - He Will "Poison The Streams Of Truth And Wells Of Salvation!" (Mauro)
- Others Have Taken This Star:
  - **To Represent Fallen Church Leaders:**
    - Who Have Turned From The Lord & The Truth - And In Doing So:
      - Have Led Others To Spiritual Decline & Death!
  - And This Is How Jude Describes:
    - False Teachers In His Little Letter:
      - Jude 13 - "Wandering Stars, To Whom Is Reserved The Blackness Of Darkness For Ever!"
- So - When It Comes To The Use Of "Stars" In The Bible:
  - There Is A Lot Of Symbolic Meaning:
    - Depending On The Context!
  - However - Is This The Only Way:
    - "Stars" Can Be Taken In Revelation?
      - Personally, I Don't Think So!
    - Because - In Just About Every Other Case:
      - The Symbolic Meaning Of The Stars Is Pretty Clear!
    - But Here - As In 6:13:
      - The Symbolic Meaning Is Not As Clear & Certain!
- Sometimes / Many Times A "Star" In The Bible:
  - **Can Simply Mean Some Real Heavenly Object:**
    - Created By God:
      - That Has A Bright Appearance In The Night Sky!
  - And - This Seems To Be The Case Here:
    - Because Of The Context Of:
      - These First 4 Trumpet Judgments:
        - All Having To Deal With Nature!
  - All The Components:
    - That We Have Seen So Far:
      - In These Judgments:
        - **Can Describe Real, Natural Components!**
  - And - All Of The Consequences:
    - That We Have Seen So Far:
      - In These Judgments:
        - **Can Describe Real, Natural Consequences!**
  - And - So Far - There Have Even Been:
    - Some Natural Disasters In History:
      - That Could Help Explain:
        - Some Of What We Find Going On In These Verses!
- And So - I Think That May Be:
  - The Primary Thing That John Has In Mind:
    - When He Tells Us More About:
- The Sight Of The Star!
  - **It Was - "A Great Star From Heaven, Burning As It Were A Lamp!"**
    - Once Again - We Have The Theme Of:
      - Fire & Burning Here:
        - To Show That The Ultimate Source Of This Judgment:
          - Is God!
    - Because - We Are Never Far From:
      - The Golden Censer Of 8:3-5:
        - That Was Filled With "Fire Of The Altar" & "Cast Into The Earth!"
      - Which Is A Summary Of:
        - All Seven Of The Trumpet Judgments!
      - "The trumpets . . . are the equivalent of the casting down of the censer in 8:5!" (Paulien)

- Now - Since We Have Here:
  - A Third Trumpet Judgment:
    - I Think Its Safe To Say That:
      - Each Judgment Is Meant To Stand On Its Own - And:
        - To Be Different From The Others!
- However - Some See What Happens:
  - In This Judgment - As The Same Thing:
    - That Happens In The Others!
  - So - Its Just Another Description Of:
    - “Divinely Sent Disasters!” (Grant Osborne)
  - However - They Are Still:
    - Different & Distinct From Each Other!
- So - The Burning Star:
  - Of 8:10-11 (Third Trumpet) - Is Intended To Be:
    - **Different Than The Burning Mountain:**
      - Of 8:8-9 (Second Trumpet)!
  - And - Even Though:
    - All Of These Elements Of Judgment:
      - Can Be & Are Certainly Seen By John As Supernatural In Their Source!
  - Its Quite Possible That God Can Use:
    - Natural Counterparts To Bring About:
      - Altogether Different Natural Disasters That We Read About In These Verses!
- So - From Our Modern Understanding:
  - Of Astronomy:
    - The Burning Object Like A Mountain:
      - In 8:8 - Could Be Something Like A Large Meteor Or Asteroid:
        - Striking A Significant Part Of The Ocean!
    - Whereas - Here In 8:10:
      - The Burning Star Could Be:
        - Some Other Heavenly Object **Like A Large Comet:**
          - Which Can Melt On Impact & Pollute A Significant Part Of The Sources Of Fresh-Water For The World!
  - Though We Can't Be Certain That:
    - This Is What God Will Use To Bring About:
      - His Judgment Under The Third Trumpet:
        - In John's Day - A Comet Would Have Been Classified As:
          - A Type Of A Star - A Wandering Star!
    - But Then - We Are Told About:
- **The Strike Of The Star:**
  - In 8:10b - What Did It Impact When It Fell?
    - “And It Fell Upon The Third Part Of The Rivers, And Upon The Fountains Of Waters!”
      - These Two Places That Are Mentioned:
        - Are The Two Of The Most Significant Sources Of Fresh-Water On Earth!
      - However:
  - **The Rivers Are:**
    - The Smallest Source!
      - Which - If You Include Lakes & Rivers:
        - Only Make Up About 1.5% Of All The Fresh-Water Available To Us! But:
  - **The Fountains Of Waters:**
    - Which Refers To Ground-Water:
      - Is The Greatest Source!
        - Which Makes Up About 30% Of Available Fresh-Water!
  - The Other 68.5% Of Fresh-Water:
    - **Is Actually In The Form Of Ice:**
      - In The North & South Poles & In Mountain Glaciers!
- And If You Look At:
  - All The Available & Accessible Fresh-Water:
    - In The World - Which Is About:
      - 2.5 Million Cubic Miles!

- One Third Of This Would Be:
  - 850 Thousand Cubic Miles!
- When You Look At The Continent:
  - **Of South America - Not Only Does It Have:**
    - The World's Longest River & World's Biggest Watershed:
      - With The Amazon River!
      - It Also Has Right At 1/3 Of The Volume Of Fresh-Water In The World!
- So - Once Again:
  - We See A Disaster Of:
    - Continental Proportions!
    - But - This Then Leads Us To:

## 2. **The Consequences Of The Judgment:**

- Which We Find In 8:11:
  - Where - We Find That This Particular Star:
    - Is Given:
      - **A Name!**
        - 8:11 - "And The Name Of The Star Is Called Wormwood!"
          - Now - We're Not Told:
            - Who Gave The Star This Name!
          - But - As With Most Names:
            - In The Bible - The Name:
              - Reveals The Nature Of Someone Or Something!
  - The Underlying Word For "Wormwood" Is:
    - **"αμνιθος"** - Which In English Is:
      - Absinthe - Which Is A Plant Known For Its Extreme Bitter Taste:
        - That Was Used In The Past For Medicine & Is Even Used Now In An Alcoholic Drink! (Medicine: Digestive Aid / Anti-Parasitic / Fever Reduction / Anti-Septic - Topical Use)
          - However, It Can Also Be Toxic If Consumed In Large Doses!
  - This Is The Only Place In The New Testament:
    - Where "Wormwood" Is Found - But:
      - It Points Back To Several Places In The Old Testament:
        - Where It Is Found!
    - And - The Bitterness Of The Plant:
      - Became A Symbol Of:
        - The Bitterness Of Sin & The Bitter Judgment That It Brings!
  - **In Amos 5:7 - Wormwood Is Used:**
    - To Describe The Bitterness Of **Sin:**
      - "Ye who turn judgment to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in the earth!"
  - And - In Deuteronomy 29:18:
    - "Wormwood" Became Part Of:
      - The "Curse Of The Covenant" If:
        - God's People Went The Way Of The World To Worship & Serve Idols!
      - So - It Became A Powerful Symbol:
        - **Of God's Bitter Judgment On Sin!**
          - "Lest there should be among you man, or woman, or family, or tribe, whose heart turneth away this day from the LORD our God, to go [and] serve the gods of these nations; lest there should be among you a root that beareth gall and wormwood!"
    - So - There Was A Strong Connection:
      - Between The Bitterness Of Wormwood:
        - As A Symbol Of Judgment:
          - **And The Sin Of Idolatry!**
      - Can See This Also In:
        - Jeremiah 9:13-15 - "And the LORD saith, Because they have forsaken my law which I set before them, and have not obeyed my voice, neither walked therein; / But have walked after the imagination of their own heart, and after Baalim, which their fathers taught them: / Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will feed them,

[even] this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink!” (Jeremiah 23:15)

- And - Even If We Don't Have A Particular:
  - God Or Goddess Of Water:
    - Like The Ancient Egyptians Did!
    - Hapi - God Of The Nile!
  - When You Rely More On:
    - The Creation Than The Creator:
    - Then You Become An Idolater!
  - And So - As God Changed:
    - The Waters Of Egypt In Exodus 7:
    - He Will Do So Again:
      - To Get The World's Attention!
- So - Even If This Is A:
  - Natural & Literal Catastrophe:
    - There Is Deeper Meaning To It!
  - **So That The Bitterness Of Man's Sin:**
    - **Results** In The Bitterness Of God's Judgment!
    - And The Punishment Will Fit The Crime!
- And So - The Name Of The Star Reflects:
  - **Its Nature!**
    - So That - 8:11b - “And The Third Part Of The Waters Became Wormwood!”
      - So - The Bitter Nature Of The Star:
        - Tainted & Polluted All The Water:
          - Where It Struck!
        - And - It Must Have Had:
          - Such A Strong & Poisonous Effect:
            - That It Led To:
      - 8:11c - “And **Many** Men Died Of The Waters, Because They Were Made Bitter!”
        - So - As It Used To Be Said By Sailors:
          - Water, Water, Everywhere, But Not A Drop To Drink!”
        - And Yet - Many Men Will Drink:
          - Because Of Their Great Thirst!
            - They Need Water!
            - But They Will Die From It!
  - But - Once Again:
    - We See That This Judgment Is Limited As Well!
    - And So - When It Comes To:

### 3. **The Call Of The Judgment:**

- When “The Third Angel Sounded” - Or:
  - Trumpeted His Trumpet!
    - Its Still A Call Of **Mercy** & Warning:
      - To Those Who Live In:
        - The Rest Of The Earth!
  - To Give Them Even:
    - More Time & Space:
      - To Repent!

### **Conclusion:**

1. Now - There May Also Be Some More Background:
  - To This Trumpet Judgment:
    - In Exodus 15 - When The Children Of Israel:
      - **Came To A Place Called Marah:**
        - But - 15:23 - “Could Not Drink Of The Waters Of Marah, For They Were Bitter!”
    - But What Did God Have Moses Do?
      - 15:25 - “The Lord Shewed Him A Tree, Which When He Had Cast Into The Waters, The Waters Were Made Sweet!”
  - Now - Obviously - What God Did In Exodus:

- Is The Opposite Of What He Is Doing Here!
  - But - I Think The Point Is The Same:
    - **The Blessings God Gives, He Can & Will Take Away!**
  - And Even Turn Them Into A Curse!
    - When Those Blessings Become The Object Of Hope & Help Instead Of The One Who Gives Those Blessings!
- And - One Of The Biggest Blessings:
  - Which, I Think, Even We Can Take For Granted Sometimes:
    - Is Cool, Clean, Fresh Water!
  - But - We Need To Always Remember:
    - As One Pastor Put It:
      - **"Every Drink Of Clean Water Is *Mercy!*" (Jim Hamilton)**
      - **IE: Fill The Well!**

**Grace Baptist Church**  
**Stephen Elmer, Pastor**  
**4245 North 200 West**  
**Greenfield, Indiana 46140**  
**317-326-2362**  
**[www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace](http://www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace)**  
**[www.growatgrace.org](http://www.growatgrace.org)**  
**[pastor-elmer@hotmail.com](mailto:pastor-elmer@hotmail.com)**