

# BELPRES CHURCH

## GOOD NEWS

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<sup>7</sup> The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.

<sup>8</sup> The second angel sounded his trumpet, and something like a huge mountain, all ablaze, was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea turned into blood, <sup>9</sup> a third of the living creatures in the sea died, <sup>10</sup> The third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and the springs of water turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter.

<sup>12</sup> The fourth angel sounded his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars. The fifth angel sounded his trumpet, and out of the smoke locusts came down on the earth and were given power like that of scorpions of the earth.

<sup>4</sup> They were not allowed to kill them but only to torment them for five months.

<sup>7</sup> The locusts looked like horses prepared for battle

<sup>9</sup> They had breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the thundering of many horses and chariots rushing into battle.

<sup>20</sup> The rest of mankind who were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the work of their hands; they did not stop worshiping demons, and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone and wood—idols that cannot see or hear or walk. <sup>21</sup> Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts.

Revelation 8:7-10, 12; 9:4, 7, 9, 20, 21

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**Discussion Questions:** Please read all of Revelation 8 and 9

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1. Why do you think there is silence in heaven in Rev 8:1?
2. What do the trumpets signify? Triumph? Doom? Life or death? What else?
3. What parallels or repeated patterns do you see between the opening of the seals (6&7) and the sounding of the trumpets? Are these two different scenes, or different sides of the same coin? Does it matter? Explain.
4. If you stand back and look at Revelation 8 and 9 as a whole (as opposed to trying to interpret each individual symbol), how would you paraphrase its message?
5. Is Revelation chapters 6-9 good news or bad news? For whom? Explain.