



**Romans 8:20-23**

- The marring of Creation is not an outcome of ordinary nature, but a divine pronouncement of **GOD** against sin (Romans 5:12, Genesis 2:17).
- The disorder and decay of this planet is meant by God to awaken remorse for sin and to magnify the hope of redemption in Christ.

**-- Big Idea: Through the perils of our planet, God is calling our hearts to repentance.**

- Revelation is presented in seven sets of seven: (1) Seven Letters to Seven Churches (1:9-3:22) • (2) Seven Seals (4:1-8:5) • (3) Seven Trumpets (8:6-11:19) • (4) Seven Visions (12:1-15:4) • (5) Seven Bowls of Judgment (15:5-16:21) • (6) Seven Judgments on Babylon (17:1-19:10) • (7) Seven Last Things (19:11-21:8)

Pattern of the Seven Sets of Seven				
	Parts 1-4	Part 5	Part 6	Part 7
<b>Pattern</b>	Partial judgments taking place now	Transition from present to future	The beginning of the very end	The end has arrived.

- This **RECURRING** pattern of human history starts over as the seven seals end and the seven trumpets begin.

-- The fraction 1/3 is Revelation's way of telling us that the judgments it describes are not absolute but **RESTRAINED**

-- The judgments in today's text draw significantly upon the ten **PLAGUES** that fell upon Egypt in the time of Moses.

-- v. 7 – **The 1<sup>st</sup> Trumpet** – This is a picture of great **SCARCITY** (Exodus 9:23-26).

-- v. 8-9 – **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Trumpet** – This is a depiction of **CALAMITY** that takes lives and devastates commerce (Exodus 7:20-21).

-- v. 10-11 – **The 3<sup>rd</sup> Trumpet** – This judgment is a picture of sickness and **DISEASE** (Exodus 7:20-21).

-- v. 12 – **The 4<sup>th</sup> Trumpet** – This is a picture of a spiritual ignorance due to widespread **DECEPTION** (Exodus 10:21, John 3:19, 8:12)

-- In these first four trumpets, each trumpet blast depicts this cursed creation shouting out a **WARNING** that judgment is coming.

-- *Do the calamities of this life help you see the depth of your sin and the immediacy of your need for forgiveness?*

-- Even though God has made the curse of sin clear through the corruption of creation, far too many people hear these trumpets blow, and yet **CONTINUE** in their sin (Revelation 9:20).

-- *Do you hear the call of creation? Are the warnings getting through? How will you respond today?*