



[DTGm Revelation Studies](#)

Episode 21 – Trumpet 3: Wormwood

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Interpreting the scriptures with your own eyes will poison the waters, leaving many to die from the bitterness.

Modified Transcript:

Scriptures are transcribed directly with notations. Refer to the KJV for verbatim wording.

Hi. I'm Scott Stanley with DTG Ministries, continuing to explore the deep things of God in the book of Revelation. To begin this podcast, we're looking at the trumpets. I have come to the third trumpet. But to explain this, we need to understand a principle being used in Revelation.

We know in Revelation, there are many sevens mentioned. What I've discovered in the sevens of Revelation, they're divided into four and three. There's a difference between the first four and the last three. For instance, looking at the seven churches in chapters 2 and 3, from Ephesus to Thyatira, these are different from Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea, the last three. What you're seeing in the seven churches (and this is something we haven't gotten into yet, but we will), when you first come to the Lord, you're in the apostasy.

This apostasy began in the days of the apostles and it lasts to the second coming. So when you come to the Lord, how can you not be in it? You're in this apostasy. Remember, 1 John chapter 2, they deny the Father and Son (1Jn 2:22). 1 John, chapter 4, they deny Christ came in the flesh (1Jn 4:2-3). So it's obvious we all begin our walk with God in that apostasy. Well, looking at the seven churches, it's to the church of Thyatira that Jesus reveals himself as the Son of God (Rev 2:18). That is the only time the words "Son of God" are in the book of Revelation. So that's the fourth church.

From Ephesus to Thyatira, there is a downward degradation in that apostasy. But once the Son of God message is given to Thyatira, there is an upward progression coming out of it. Looking at the seals, the first four seals have elders and horses, the last three do not. The first four seals show you from the beginning of your walk with Christ. You're on the white horse. It turns red, black, then pale (Rev 6:2-8). That's the first four, they're negative.

The last three are positive. You ask for help. The Lord steps in to change the way you see the sun, the moon, and the stars. Then you have that seventh seal that we've been looking at in Revelation 8, and this atonement. The things that happen are positive in the last three seals. Well, the trumpets are no different. You've got the first four trumpets and the last three. Now, there is a distinction made in Revelation chapter 8 after describing the fourth trumpet. He says in Revelation 8:13.

Rev 8:13 And I beheld, and heard a messenger flying in the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, yet to sound!

So he has divided the first four trumpets from the last three. The last three are negative. The first four are positive. That needs to be understood, so we can better understand the third trumpet. This is a positive thing.

When you read these trumpets, for instance, the first trumpet, all the green grass is burned up. A third of the trees are burned up. That's positive because you're talking to a person who is in the apostasy, and you, as the messenger, are expressing that you're following Christ in the regeneration. You're expressing radical concepts of the mind, radical concepts for the better. When you burn up the green grass, that's positive because you're taking away what they thought to be right and true, and you're giving them something from God. You're giving them a heavenly truth.

Now, if they're not listening to you, you can't burn up the grass. If they're not listening, you can't burn up the trees. If they're not listening, you can have no impact on them. So

that's why the first four trumpets are positive because you're seeing the impact of the first, second, third, and fourth trumpets. It's having a positive impact.

On the last three, he says, "*Woe be to you,*" because these are not positive. These will be negative to that person. So, what is positive about the third trumpet?

Rev 8:10 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;

Why a third part? Because Babylon is divided into thirds, and it's the third part you're in: Paganism, Catholicism, or apostate protesters. Whichever one of those groups you're in, this trumpet is going to impact that third for you.

Rev 8:11 This 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.

Why is this positive? Because the person is being made aware of the effect of this great star from heaven having fallen to the earth. You're seeing the impact of it. If they're not listening to you, they would never see that the star had fallen from heaven upon the waters and the fountains of waters. "Fountains of waters" are people.

Waters represent understanding. What is this star? The star that they recognize that has fallen from heaven is the Bible. The way they have been reading it and interpreting it is poisoning all of the water in their mind... all of their understanding. It becomes poisonous water coming out of their fountain.

Out of your belly will flow rivers of living water (Jhn 7:38). Well, they are speaking poison water, and that is what is being spelled out for them when this trumpet sounds. I want to show you a verse in Proverbs, chapter 5, and I want to focus on this chapter a little bit because this ties right into the third trumpet. In Proverbs, chapter 5, verse 1.

Pro 5:1 My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow your ear to my understanding:

Remember, every knee should bow to Christ (Php 2:10). Every tongue should confess to the glory of the Father (Rom 14:11). Well, that is the message being given. We've seen the gospel depicted in Revelation 14, and that is the message being given from God's church, sounding the trumpets. So, "*Attend to my wisdom,*" God is saying, "*Bow your ear to my understanding.*"

Pro 5:2 That you may regard discretion, and that your lips may keep knowledge.

Pro 5:3 For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil:

What in the world is he talking about? Does he mean a literal woman? God has used women and men as symbols throughout the Scriptures. Adam, or the man, is a symbol of the logical side of a person. Whether you're a literal man or a woman, you have a logical side, an Adam. Eve, as the woman, is the emotional side of a person. Your emotional side, to put it simply, is how you see a thing. How do you see yourself, and how do you see others? Your emotional side.

Pro 5:4 Her end is bitter as wormwood, and as sharp as a double-edged sword.

The two-edged sword applies to the Bible, and here is the wormwood, the poison. If you allow your emotional side to interpret the Bible, it becomes poison, and it's a double-edged sword. You'll take that meaning of whatever you think it is, whether it's Trinity or you name the doctrinal name, and you're reading it from the Bible, but you're seeing it the way you want to see it, not how God wants you to see it. You're seeing it the way you want to see it. Well, now it will kill you because you're getting it from the Bible. You think you're serving God, and he is saying, *"You're a worker of iniquity"* (Mat 7:23). The way you're interpreting the Bible is iniquity.

On the cross, before Christ died, as he was depicting humanity, he said, *"Into your hands I commend my spirit."* That is your prayer to God, too. You give him your spirit. What do you mean? *"I promise that I will see things the way you see them, Father. Into your hands I commend my spirit."* So I will see God and see humanity; I will see the Bible the way he does.

If I don't, this strange woman or my emotional side will say and think the things I want to think. Her mouth is like a honeycomb. The lips of this woman are like a honeycomb. Her mouth is smoother than oil because it is your own emotional side interpreting the Bible the way you want to see it. You're not following Christ in the regeneration when you do that. Her end is as bitter as wormwood, as sharp as a two-edged sword.

Now, let me keep reading this because this is a warning about not allowing yourself to interpret the book according to your definition. After all, you want your denomination to be true; you want your pastor to be right. So you're going to read this and give it your own interpretation, and let your pastor put his interpretation on it. What you don't realize is you're killing yourself. You've poisoned all the water.

Pro 5:5 Her feet go down to death (Away from God. See, she's going away from God); her steps take hold on the grave.

Pro 5:6 Lest you should ponder (or weigh) the path of life, her ways are unstable, you can't know them.

It's unstable. You'll pick up that book depending on who you're talking to and what you're trying to prove, and you'll make it say whatever you want and rejoice because you found a verse that says there's a Trinity God. He's paying my sin debt.

Yet somebody who knows what the Bible means can sit you down and show you, "Well, that isn't even in there. That doesn't even say that." So are you going to stand with Christ or stand in the apostasy?

Pro 5:7 Hear me now therefore, O you children, and depart not from the words of my mouth.

Pro 5:8 Remove your way far from your emotional side, and don't come nigh the door of her house:

Pro 5:9 Lest thou give your honour unto others, and your years unto the cruel:

Pro 5:10 Lest strangers (people who don't know God) be filled with your wealth; and your labours be in the house of a stranger;

Pro 5:11 And you mourn at last, when your flesh and body are consumed,

Pro 5:12 And you say, How have I hated God's instruction, my heart despised reproof;

Pro 5:13 I have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined my ear to them that instructed me!

Pro 5:14 I was almost in all evil in the midst of the congregation and assembly. (I'm sitting in evil in my church because my waters are poisoned.)

Well, in this third trumpet, what has been happening is recognized. That is why this trumpet is so positive. This trumpet is like a burning lamp. You see in Revelation, chapter 4, verse 5,

Rev 4:5 Out of the throne (which is the conscience), proceeded light (light flashing), thunder (rebuke), and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

Spirit, seven... seven is a fullness. It doesn't mean perfect. It's the fullness. It's the Holy Spirit. It's the truth. There was a fullness of spirit burning before the throne like a lamp of fire. It's burning. So, what do you see in the third trumpet? The Bible is recognized to have fallen to the earth, and it was looked upon as a burning lamp... a burning lamp that can bring salvation. A burning lamp that can help you.

But instead, it wasn't helping. It was killing and poisoning. It was poisoning everybody. When we understand an explanation of things coming from God, we can recognize the message being given: *"Fear God. Give glory to him. The hour of his judgment is come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea, and the fountains of waters"* (Rev 14:7).

The second angel is *"Babylon has fallen."* The next angel's message is, *"If you continue to worship the beast, you'll die the second death."* If, when those messages are given, you do not see the mistake you have been making, then woe be unto you. That mistake of interpreting the Bible yourself is the abomination that leaves you empty. It is 666 with the Table of Shewbread having the two persons, the two sixes. When you put your interpretation to it, you too are sitting on the side of the north. In Isaiah 14, as he describes that, you too are exalting yourself above the stars of God (Isa 14:13). It is the abomination that leaves you empty (Mat 24:15; Mar 13:14).

It is your emotional side interpreting the Bible for you. You've got to remember, when you give your heart to the Lord, you may think, "I'm giving him my soul." Well, you're giving him your spirit, and he will heal your soul. But you have to give him your spirit. You've got to look at life the way God looks at it. You've got to look at the people around you the way God looks at them. When you start to do whatever you start to do, you have to recognize "What would God have me do. How does God see this?"

Because if you're a Christian, you've committed your spirit to him, and that is what matters... healing that problem. Recognizing that you haven't realized what the spirit is and the fact that you're giving him your spirit, he gives you Holy Spirit. He gives you a definition of the cross and how he sees himself, his Son, and humanity... giving you the tools needed to overcome all iniquity and walk in harmony with Christ repeatedly, and to never fall from that truth.

Heavenly Father, we need you desperately. We need you. I pray for your help in this study. I pray that hearts be open to receive truth and that you be glorified in Jesus' name. Amen