



SAVED TO SERVE
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THE SEVEN TRUMPETS:
THE SIXTH TRUMPET, SECOND WOE

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will study the sixth of the Seven Trumpets. The seven trumpets are divided into two groups: the first four are grouped together and the last three are grouped together. See Revelation 8:2, 12-13.
2. Read Revelation 9:12-14. What does an angel represent in Bible prophecy? Galatians 4:14; Acts 6:15

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3. **Note:** The four angels brought to view under the sixth trumpet, in one sense, represent four leaders of four armies of horsemen. See Revelation 9:14-16.
 4. Which countries primarily surround the great river Euphrates? What religion do they profess? **Answer: The countries that surround the great river Euphrates are Turkey, Syria, Iraq, and Iran. These countries profess the religion of Islam.**

Note the following words of church historian Alonzo T. Jones: "The four angels here mentioned, that were bound in the great river Euphrates and that were at this time to be loosed, refer to **the four great sultanies -- Bagdad, Damascus, Iconium, and Aleppo** -- of which at that time the Mohammedan power was composed. The command to loose these signifies, in short, the letting loose of all the elements of Mohammedanism for the final sweeping away of the last element of the Empire of Rome. {1901 Alonzo T. Jones, *Great Nations Today*, 72.2}

Note the following words of another church historian Uriah Smith: "When the sixth angel sounded, a voice was heard, saying, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. The river Euphrates must here be taken for a symbol of that kingdom of which it was the principal river, which was the Ottoman or Turkish Empire. The four angels are supposed to mean **the four chief Sultans of which that Empire was composed. These were Iconium, Aleppo, Damascus, and Bagdad.** They were loosed so that they should hereafter have not simply the power of tormenting, but of destroying." {1878 Uriah Smith, *The Biblical Institute*, 264.2}

"The Four Angels - These were the four principal sultans of which the Ottoman empire was composed, located in the country watered by the great river Euphrates. **These sultans were situated at Aleppo, Iconium, Damascus, and Bagdad.** Previously they had been restrained; but God commanded, and they were loosed." {1897 Uriah Smith, *Daniel and the Revelation*, 508.1}



5. How long were these Muslim warriors to terrorize the world? Revelation 9:14-15

6. How many literal years does this prophecy represent?

a) 1 year = _____ Bear in mind that there are 30 days in one biblical month. (compare Genesis 7:11, 24 and Genesis 8:3, 4). There are 12 months in one biblical year. See Esther 3:7, 13; Esther 8:12; Esther 9:1.

b) 1 month = _____

c) 1 day = _____

d) 1 hour = $(1/24 \times 360/1) =$ _____ (For another way to find the answer, refer back the chart given in the lesson entitled *The Seven Seals - The Seventh Seal*)

e) What is the total? _____

“The four angels were loosed for an hour, a day, a month, and a year, a to slay the third part of men. This period, during which Ottoman supremacy was to exist, amounts to three hundred ninety- one years and fifteen days. Thus: A prophetic year is three hundred and sixty prophetic days, or three hundred and sixty literal years; a prophetic month, thirty prophetic days, is thirty literal years; one prophetic day is one literal year; and an hour, or the twenty-fourth part of a prophetic day, would be a twenty-fourth part of a literal year, or fifteen days; the whole amounting to three hundred and ninety- one years and fifteen days.” {DAR1909 508.4}

7. In our last study based on Revelation 9:1-11, we discovered that the attacks of Papal Rome by the Mohammedans from Saudi Arabia came to an end on July 27, 1449 at the close of the five months or 150 literal year period. Taking July 27, 1449 as our starting date and going 391 years and 15 days in the future, what date do you come to, which was the date of the fall of Ottoman Empire? **Answer: August 11, 1840. On this date, the Second Woe came to an end.**

8. **Note:** “In the year 1840 another remarkable fulfillment of prophecy excited widespread interest. Two years before, Josiah Litch, one of the leading ministers preaching the second advent, published an exposition of Revelation 9, predicting the fall of the Ottoman Empire. According to his calculations, this power was to be overthrown ‘in A.D. 1840, sometime in the month of August;’ and only a few days previous to its accomplishment he wrote: ‘Allowing the first period, 150 years, to have been exactly fulfilled before Deacozes ascended the throne by permission of the Turks, and that the 391 years, fifteen days, commenced at the close of the first period, it will end on the 11th of August, 1840, when the Ottoman power in Constantinople may be expected to be broken. And this, I believe, will be found to be the case.’--Josiah Litch, in *Signs of the Times, and Expositor of Prophecy, Aug. 1, 1840.*” {GC 334.4}

“At the very time specified, Turkey, through her ambassadors, accepted the protection of the allied powers of Europe, and thus placed herself under the control of Christian nations. The event exactly fulfilled the prediction. When it became known, multitudes were convinced of the correctness of the principles of prophetic interpretation adopted by Miller and his associates, and a wonderful impetus was given to the advent movement. Men of learning and position united with Miller, both in preaching and in publishing his views, and from 1840 to 1844 the work rapidly extended.” {GC 335.1}

9. Read Revelation 9:17. How are the men riding the horses described?

“The first part of this description may have reference to the appearance of these horsemen. Fire, representing a color, stands for red, “as red as fire” being a frequent term of expression; jacinth, or hyacinth, for blue; and brimstone, for yellow. And these colors greatly predominated in the dress of these warriors; so that the description, according to this view, would be accurately met in the Turkish uniform, which was composed largely of red, or scarlet, blue, and yellow.” {DAR1909 510.2}

10. Read Revelation 9:17-18. What were the third part of men killed by, and what does this represent according to the historical record?

“...The heads of the horses were in appearance as the heads of lions to denote their their strength, courage, and fierceness; while the last part of the verse undoubtedly has reference to the use of gunpowder and firearms for purposes of war, which were then but recently introduced. As the Turks discharged their firearms on horseback, it would appear to the distant beholder that the fire, smoke, and brimstone issued out of the horses’ mouths, as illustrated by the accompanying plate.” {DAR1909 510.2}

“It well deserves remark, how Gibbon, always the unconscious commentator on the Apocalyptic prophecy, puts this new instrumentality of war into the foreground of his picture, in his eloquent and striking narrative of the final catastrophe of the Greek empire. In preparation for it, he gives the history of the recent invention of gunpowder, ‘that mixture of saltpeter, sulphur, and charcoal;’ tells of its earlier use by the Sultan Amurath, and also, as before said, of Mahomet’s foundry of larger cannon at Adrianople; then, in the progress of the seige itself, describes how ‘the volleys of lances and arrows were accompanied with the smoke, the sound, and the fire of the musketry and cannon...’ {DAR1909 512.1}

11. Read Revelation 9:20-21. What is the meaning of “the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands?” Revelation 2:21; 16:9, 11

“God designs that men shall make a note of his judgments, and receive the lessons he thereby designs to convey. But how slow are they to learn! and how blind to the indications of providence! The events that transpired under the sixth trumpet constituted the second woe; yet these judgments led to no improvement in the manners and morals of men. Those who escaped them learned nothing by their manifestation in the earth. The worship of devils(demons, dead men deified) and of idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, may find a fulfilment in the saint worship and image worship of the Roman Catholic Church; while of murders, sorceries, (pretended miracles through the agency of departed saints), fornications, and thefts in countries where the Roman religion has prevailed, there has been no lack.” {DAR1909 517.2}

“The hordes of Saracens and Turks were let loose as a scourge and punishment upon apostate Christendom. Men suffered the punishment, but learned therefrom no lesson.” {DAR1909 517.3}

12. Was August 11, 1840 the final terrorizing of the world by Muslim warriors? **Answer: No. Under the sixth trumpet, the second woe, the power of Muslim warriors was loosed to terrorize the nations. They will reemerge to terrorize the world under the seventh trumpet, the third woe.**
13. Let us read Revelation 9:13. Who is seen offering up incense at the golden altar? Revelation 8:3

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14. Who is this angel or messenger that intercedes for humanity in the Heavenly Sanctuary? Acts 7:30-32; Isaiah 63:9; Hebrews 7:22, 25

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15. **Note:** The golden altar or the altar of incense is in the Holy Place of the Heavenly Sanctuary. The earthly sanctuary was a type of the Heavenly Sanctuary. Compare Exodus 30:1, 3, 6 with Exodus 26:33. During the time period of the sixth trumpet, the second woe, Jesus was indeed officiating in the Holy Place of the Heavenly Sanctuary. Since October 22, 1844, Jesus moved into the Most Holy Place of the Heavenly Sanctuary to begin the work of cleansing it. See Daniel 8:14.
 16. What did Jesus pour out while He was officiating in the Holy Place that He will pour out again just before He closes His mediatorial work in the Most Holy Place? Revelation 8:3-5

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17. Who is the fire a symbol of? Acts 2:1-4; Matthew 3:11 _____

18. What was the experience of the disciples in the Upper Room, before they could receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit? Acts 1:14-16; 2:1

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19. What must be our experience in order to receive the Refreshing, which is a symbol of the Holy Spirit? Acts 3:19, 20

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20. Meditate upon the following quotations.

“All should copy the Pattern as closely as possible. While they cannot possess the consciousness of power which Jesus had, they can so connect with the Source of strength that Jesus can abide in them and they in Him, and so His spirit and His power will be revealed in them.” {5T 254.1}

“You cannot equal the copy; but you can resemble it and, according to your ability, do likewise.” {2T 169.4}

“We cannot equal the pattern; but we shall not be approved of God if we do not copy it and, according to the ability which God has given, resemble it.” {2T 549.1}

“We cannot gain and possess the influence that He had; but why should we not educate ourselves to come just as near to the Pattern as it is possible for us to do, that we may have the greatest possible influence upon the people? Our words, our actions, our deportment, our dress, everything, should preach.” {2T 618}