

trumpet	Events revealed	Possible interpretations	Questions
1	Hail fire and blood hurled to the earth. 1/3 of earth, trees destroyed and all grass	The first two are major environmental disruption to the earth itself as a means of God cleansing. He promised not to flood it again, but further drastic action is needed to rid the world of evil. It does not necessarily need to be literal but symbolic of God's firm and decisive action. Some of these mirror the plagues of Egypt.	How literal are these events? How should we interpret these events?
2	A mountain ablaze thrown into the sea. 1/3 of sea turns to blood. 1/3 sea life killed. 1/3 shipping destroyed.		
3	A star falls from heaven on to rivers and springs. "wormwood" (bitterness). Many people die.		
4	1/3 of the sun, moon and stars turn black. 1/3 of day and night without light.		
5. Woe	A star(angel) opens the abyss, smoke as from a furnace. Super-locusts appear with scorpion like power. They are dressed for battle. Do not damage the earth nor harm those sealed by God. 5 months of torture, people being stung with scorpion-like stings. Craving death but cannot die. Controlled by Apollyon/Abaddon (destroyer /destruction)	Just like a star heralded the arrival of the Messiah, so a Star (angel) heralds the beginning of the end. How are we to interpret this? Literal? Probably not, so what do these locusts represent? Are these nations or economies that devour resources? Is this an image of extreme capitalism or political ideologies? The abyss was the traditional place of demons. The 5 months might just represent a limited time scale. (life cycle of a locust)	Where in the world are we seeing similar events described? Could we or should we try to pin down these kind of visions to world events now?
6. Woe	A voice from the altar of God calls to release 4 special angels whose purpose is to kill 1/3 of humans. They lead an army of 200 million. 1/3 of mankind is killed by their plagues of fire, smoke and sulphur. Remainder of mankind refuses to repent. Angel and a little scroll. Scroll revealed to John but he is told not to write it down but eat it. It is bitter-sweet It is the mystery of God's purposes. John is asked to measure the temple but not the outer courts as they have been given to the Gentiles who will trample on the Holy	These four angels could be empires or ideologies that sweep across the known world. The imagery is powerful. Is John seeing modern armies and weapons? The angel and little scroll seem to be an image of God's protection and final plan to rescue his people. Prophecy comes from "consuming" the word of God and preaching and teaching it. Sometimes tasty, sometimes bitter and challenging. There was a period of Temple desolation 168-165BC -3 years. Israel suffered under Syrian rule. Other OT references in Dan 9:27 speak of dividing time periods	

	<p>city for 3 1/2 years. Two witnesses are given power to prophesy and cause plagues. They will be killed and their bodies left in the street. World will gloat over them. God will raise them and take them to heaven. There is an earthquake. Seven thousand die. World recognises God's glory.</p>	<p>in half to signify limited periods of God's activity, 1260 days is an example of this. A fixed time period. The witnesses could be individual Christians or symbols of the faithful church or images of OT/NT believers. The testimony of the church in the final days will be very powerful. There will be a time when it looks like the church has been overrun by Satan. To leave a body on the street is to show total contempt.</p>	
<p>7. Woe</p>	<p>The announcement of God's rule on earth, the power of God is revealed at the opening of the heavenly temple. The woman and the dragon. The dragon tries to snatch her child (Jesus) once it is born, but it is taken to heaven. The woman flees to the desert for 1260 days. War in heaven. Angels defeat Satan and his demons. Satan is hurled to earth. Satan pursues the woman but she is given protection from him for a period of time. Satan tries to destroy her but the earth protects her. Satan goes after her "offspring" – believers. Beast from the sea. Ten horns, seven heads, crowns</p>	<p>The woman is a 'sign' or symbol not a literal woman. Maybe she represents Israel and /or Eve. It is Eve's descendant who will crush the serpent (Gen 3). The Dragon is clearly Satan trying to thwart God's purposes. The wilderness is an allusion to the Exodus. Israel was safe there away from the enemy. Is this the original battle in Heaven where Satan is thrown down or is this an image of the continual spiritual warfare that goes on around us... (Eph 6:12) The beast probably represents Rome or another empire. Or symbol of oppression.</p>	