
REVELATION

GOD IS IN CONTROL OF ALL THINGS

FAMILY CONVERSATION GUIDE

THE THEME

God wants us to KNOW Him so that we can GO for Him.

APRIL MEMORY VERSE

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." **John 8:12 ESV**

APRIL CHALLENGE VERSE

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you... Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." **John 14:27 NIV**

APRIL 14 - LIFE APPLICATION

Jesus wants us to be a light in this world.

NOTE TO PARENTS

Scripture: **Revelation 8:6-13**

In the **Book of Revelation**, John, the disciple loved by Jesus, is given words and visions of heaven and Jesus, and prophecies about the End of Times. Remind your family that **God has a plan**, is over all things, knows all things, and He is with us through all things. Please read the scripture and listen to the sermon, in person or online, before discussing with your family.

In this week's message we will look at **Revelation 8:6-13**. Even though bad things will happen in the world during the End Times, and we are able to know about them, we will not have to worry. God has a plan to take us to heaven to be with Him before all of this even happens! It is called the Rapture. Therefore, Christians and their believing kids should never have to worry. **Please emphasize God's great love for us.** That's why Jesus came to the earth to save us! But he also wants us to know about the End Times and the signs before us.

REVIEW

Before discussing this week's scripture, go back to **verses 1- 5** for a quick review.

1. **How long was there silence in heaven?** (*For about half an hour after Jesus broke the seventh seal.*) **Then what happened?** (*Then seven angels were given seven trumpets - thus beginning what's called The Seven Trumpets Judgment.*)
2. **What happened when the seventh seal was broken and an angel poured the fire from the censer onto the earth?** (*There was thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake.*) **Can you think of any other times in the Bible where there was an earthquake?**
 - When Jesus was on the cross, there was an earthquake and the temple veil was torn. **What did Jesus say?** (*"It is finished."*) **What did the centurions who were watching Him say when this happened?** (*"Surely this is the Son of God!"*)
 - Before the angel rolled the stone away from the tomb there was an earthquake. Then the women who came to the tomb realized Jesus was gone - He was risen!

There are other times throughout scripture where God uses an earthquake to make an announcement and warning. It seems He is saying to us, "I'm about to do something very important." And, after the seventh seal was opened, there was

an earthquake. God wants everyone to know something important is getting ready to happen. After the Seven Seal Judgments, there will be the Seven Trumpet Judgments, given by seven angels. Let's go through **Revelation 8:6-13** to see the first four of these judgments.

DISCUSS

1. **Do you know why God will judge the world?** *(The people of the world have rebelled against Him and disobeyed Him - ignoring His great love for them and choosing evil over good.)*
2. Let's review what happens with the first four of the Seven Trumpet Judgments:
 - **The First Trumpet Judgment** - Fire, hail and blood falling to the earth. The trees and crops are destroyed. This means there will be a shortage of food, and a famine.
 - **The Second Trumpet Judgment** - A great fiery mountain is thrown into the sea. This could be a meteor entering the earth's atmosphere. One third of the sea becomes blood (sea creatures dying) and one third of the ships are destroyed.
 - **The Third Trumpet Judgment** - A great star from heaven (probably a comet) named "Wormwood" explodes and falls into the fresh waters and makes them bitter and poisonous to drink. Many would die because of this.
 - **The Fourth Trumpet Judgment** - One third of each of the heavenly bodies (sun, stars, moon, etc.) are darkened causing the world to become cold and dark.

With each judgment, God is hoping people will repent and come to faith in Jesus. Many will turn to God during the Great Tribulation. Others will refuse with their hard hearts.

After this, in verse 13, what did John look up and see? *(He saw an eagle crying out with a loud voice as it flew directly overhead, "Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, at the blasts of the other trumpets that the three angels are about to blow!")* The next three trumpet judgments will be worse than these!

How do you think God wants us to respond to knowing all of this? Does He want us to be afraid, stay inside, stay away from other people, hide? Or does He want us to repent of our sins? Reach out to others? Make sure we are serving

Jesus with more love and faithfulness? Discuss.

Main Point from our Pastor, David Chadwick:

1. Know that we can be at peace, because He came to this world to save us. These judgments are NOT for people who love and follow Jesus. Jesus took God's judgment (wrath) on Himself when He died on the cross for us.
2. Make sure you admit your sins and repent (turn away from them). Believe and trust in Jesus. Accept the gift of salvation He offers you!
3. Understand how important it is to tell others about Jesus, so that they will be saved.
4. **Be a light in the world:** Do good in Jesus' name - serving and helping others, fighting against evil, taking care of the beautiful world God made.

PRAYER

Jesus, we know You gave Your life to save us from the judgment that will happen because of the sin and evil in the world. Help us to take action to obey God, be a light to the world, and to help others know about You! In Your Name we pray, Amen

FAMILY CHALLENGE

The **Book of Revelation** gives us a lot to think about, but it's a good opportunity to help develop determination to serve the Lord in your family. **How can your family take action?** Parents, how can you help your kids develop hearts to care for others and to make a difference in this world? **How can they shine their lights for Jesus?** It's important for parents to take the time to model clearly what this looks like! Decide today to be a light in the world for Jesus, and take your kids along for the ride!