

<p>Re 羔羊揭開第七印的時候、天上寂靜約 8:1 有二刻。</p>	<p>1When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.</p>
<p>“寂靜約有二刻”是一種愕然、驚懼、敬畏的表示；就像暴風雨來臨前的寂靜那樣，令人預感將有極可怕的災難快要來臨it is the lull before the storm, as a few moments of calm precede the most devastating destruction。 第七印打開是下一組災難審判 - 七號之災。</p>	
<p>Re 我看見那站在 神面前的七位天使、 8:2 有七枝號賜給他們。</p>	<p>2And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets.</p>
<p>「號筒」是舊約時代神常吩咐百姓使用的器皿，用來傳達祂給百姓的一些特別命令 announce God's working (民10：2、9)；吹號或吹角也用於招聚會眾起行、備戰、特別的禁食、trumpets assembled the Israelites for war, journeys, and special feasts (民10：1-10)，也用於宣佈以色列的新年(吹角節) announced the new year in Israel (民29：1)、和以色列的節期慶典trumpets were part of Israel's ceremonial processions (書6：13-16)。新約論到末世的事，也常提到用「號筒」來表達主基督的再來時warned of the coming day of the Lord (太24：31，林前15：52，帖前4：16)。這「七枝號筒」賜給七位天使，表示他們要把審判(災難)的信息宣佈出去announce divine judgment in the day of the Lord，是有關神最末後要成就的旨意。 「賜給」指各天使都在有限的的能力範圍內(或職責範圍內)盡他們的本分。</p>	
<p>Re 另有一位天使拿著金香爐、來站在祭壇 8:3 旁邊。有許多香賜給他、要和眾聖徒的祈禱一同獻在寶座前的金壇上。</p>	<p>3Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all the saints, on the golden altar before the throne.</p>
<p>“另有一位天使”是指七位吹號的天使以外的另一位，不是主基督。這位天使有類似祭司(acting as a priest)的職份，將香的煙(聖徒的禱告)獻在神面前。</p>	
<p>Re 那香的煙、和眾聖徒的祈禱、從天使 8:4 的手中一同升到 神面前。</p>	<p>4The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of the saints, went up before God from the angel's hand.</p>
<p>“升到 神面前”象徵只有神才能接納眾聖徒的禱告His receiving the prayers of His people。</p>	
<p>Re 天使拿著香爐、盛滿了壇上的火、倒 8:5 在地上。隨有雷轟、大聲、閃電、地震</p>	<p>5Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake.</p>
<p>天使把香倒在地上是出於神的旨意。當天使將眾聖徒求神伸冤的禱告獻上，神的震怒已表露無遺，祂就要施行審判，替的百姓伸冤了。於是地上就有「雷轟、大聲、閃電、地震」hurling of these coals of fire became a symbolic instrument of judgment in response to prayers of the saints。</p>	
<p>Re 拿著七枝號的七位天使、就豫備要 8:6 吹。</p>	<p>6Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to sound them.</p>
<p>Re 第一位天使吹號、就有雹子與火攪著血</p>	<p>7The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down</p>

<p>8:7 丟在地上。地的三分之一和樹的三分之一被燒了、一切的青草也被燒了。</p>	<p>upon the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.</p>
<p>“電子與火攙著血丟在地上”是異乎尋常的天災，我們無法理解推測這景象，但可能是與火有關。有說這災是約翰綜合了出埃及記9：23-25的第七災和約珥書2：30的預言。 “三分之一”比第四印的“四分之一”傷害程度更劇烈，但地上仍有三分之二未被災難審判所傷害，神仍給地上的人有機會悔改，這顯出神的公義和恩慈。</p>	
<p>Re 第二位天使吹號、就有彷彿火燒著的 8:8 大山扔在海中。海的三分之一變成血。</p>	<p>8The second angel sounded his trumpet, and something like a huge mountain, all ablaze, was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea turned into blood,</p>
<p>“彷彿火燒著的大山扔在海中”有人指這是火山爆發，也有人指這是衝入地球的殞石。但無論那一說法，這話隱藏某種巨大能力，足以把帶火的大山（或石）扔出去。</p>	
<p>Re 海中的活物死了三分之一。船隻也壞 8:9 了三分之一。</p>	<p>9a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.</p>
<p>Re 第三位天使吹號、就有燒著的大星、 8:10 好像火把從天上落下來、落在江河的三分之一、和眾水的泉源上。</p>	<p>10The third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water—</p>
<p>“燒著的大星”有人指這是彗星或大殞石。但無論那一說法，這災難審判擊打江河和眾水的泉源，直接污染人和動物每日不可缺少的食水供應。</p>	
<p>Re 這星名叫茵陳。眾水的三分之一變為 8:11 茵陳。因水變苦、就死了許多人。</p>	<p>11the name of the star is Wormwood.^[a] A third of the waters turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter.</p>
<p>“茵陳”是苦的意思。</p>	
<p>Re 第四位天使吹號、日頭的三分之一、 8:12 月亮的三分之一、星晨的三分之一、都被擊打。以致日月星的三分之一黑暗了、白晝的三分之一沒有光、黑夜也是這樣。</p>	<p>12The fourth angel sounded his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them turned dark. A third of the day was without light, and also a third of the night.</p>
<p>“日”、“月”、“星”是神創造宇宙萬物時用以使宇宙節令規律化的，這災難審判使“日”、“月”、“星”的三分之一黑暗了，不單是地球上的災禍，也是宇宙的星辰運轉起了極大的變化。這災難的結果可能引致地球上許多氣候、潮水、光暗等各種生物、化學、物理的改變，使人類和某些動植物無法迅速適應而不能生存下去。這三分之一的黑暗也意表恐懼的來臨。</p>	
<p>Re 我又看見一個鷹飛在空中、並聽見他 8:13 大聲說、三位天使要吹那其餘的號、你們住在地上的民、禍哉、禍哉、禍哉。</p>	<p>13As I watched, I heard an eagle that was flying in midair call out in a loud voice: "Woe! Woe! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the trumpet blasts about to be sounded by the other three angels!"</p>

舊約時神曾用驢開口向巴蘭發出警告（彼後 2：15-16），哈巴谷先知也曾預言迦勒底人如鷹一樣快速地臨到吞吃（哈 1：8）。這裡神沒叫天使發出這災禍的警告，卻用鷹發出警告。這樣改用禽鳥向人發出警告，似為使人更知自省。

這三次宣告“禍哉”，似特別強調下文第五、六、七號更嚴重的災禍審判。