I. SILENCE OF HEAVEN—8:1

A. Silence is a **powerful** thing.

B. This brief time of silence may represent the “lull before the storm.”—Habakkuk 2:20.

C. The silence may also represent the importance God puts on hearing prayers.

II. SUPPLICATION IN HEAVEN.

A. Preparations for **service**—8:2.

1. Seven angels are prepared to **serve** God.

2. Seven trumpets will be used to announce God’s next **judgments**.

3. Trumpets are a part of **Israel’s** past.

4. Christians should also be listening for trumpets—1 Thess. 4:16-17 and 1 Cor. 15:51-52.

B. **Prayers** of supplication—8:3-4.

1. This may be symbolic of the altar of **incense** just outside the curtain leading into the holy of holies in the Tabernacle and Temple

2. This reminds us that our prayers are kept by God.

3. This also symbolizes that our prayers are **answered** by God. In this case the prayers of 6:10-11 are being answered.

4. Our prayers for God’s “**Kingdom Come**” will be answered at that time too—Matt. 6:9-10.

C. **Premonition** of judgment sounded in heaven—8:5 and Ezek. 10:2.
III. SUFFERING ON EARTH.

A. The Trumpet of “Devastation”--8:6-7.
   1. Perhaps describes volcanic eruptions.
   2. Food supplies will be impacted.

   1. Perhaps describes a meteor shower.
   2. Resulting tidal waves may sink ships.
   3. Blood imagery may be from Joel 2:10.

C. The Trumpet of “Death”---8:10-11
   1. Perhaps describes a comet.

D. The Trumpet of “Darkness”---8:12.
   1. Perhaps describes the effects of ash and soot from the previous judgments.

E. The Testimony of Doom---8:13.
   1. Eagle may symbolize an angel.
   2. Its bad now, but it will get worse.