Revelation 8v6,7 **The First Trumpet** 28th May 2026

"*And the seven angels having the seven trumpets prepared themselves that they might sound. And the first angel sounded and there was hail and fire which had been mingled with blood, and it was cast into the earth: and the third part of the earth and the third part of the trees was consumed, and every green blade was burned up*."

The sections to read from Eureka are Preparing for Sounding page 382 Blue copy, Blowing of the Four Winds page 407, The First Four Trumpets page 408, First Wind Trumpet, Symbols explained page 413 -420.

The historic period for this first Wind trumpet is from 363 AD to 395 AD for the preparation during the reigns of Jovian, who restored Catholicism to the Empire after the death of Julian the Apostate, to Theodosius. The other Emperors during this period were Valentinian, Valens and Gatian. After that Alaric the leader of the Goths arose from 395 – 410 AD.

The Popes who presided over this period were: Damasus 1, Siricius, Anastasius 1 and Innocent 1.

The seven angels had a period of preparation before the trumpets were to sound. This means that the political currents that weaved their way around the Roman world were in embryonic form during this period. It is therefore a very important period as the four wind trumpets and the three Woe trumpets speak of centuries of development and activity covering the longest section of the Apocalypse.

The four winds trumpets represent the Divine judgments not against Pagan Rome which had already been delivered in the time of the sixth seal under Constantine the Great, but against the decaying Western Empire of Christian Rome.

First Wind Trumpet	Alaric the Goths	395 – 410
Second Wind Trumpet	Genseric the Vandals	429 – 455
Third Wind Trumpet	Attila the Huns	450 – 453
Fourth Wind Trumpet	Odoacer the Ostrogoths	476 – 628

It is more straight forward to see how the closing period of the fourth century brought to birth the Barbarian hordes and their incursions into the Western part of the Empire.

Thirds are mentioned in the divine drama. The Roman Empire ad become too large for one man to successfully rule over its vast territories. After Constantine took over sole control for a time, his children struggled to replicate his control, and the Empire split up again, this time not into four, as under the seals, but thirds.

These thirds were the Latin West, the Hellenic East, and the Hellenised South. This fractionalisation meant that when the Hellenised South including North Africa and the Levant were subsequently to be taken over by a foreign power there was less incentive to sail to their rescue. The Latin and Hellenic regions also were the boundaries of the Great schism, the division of the One Universal or Catholic church into Latin West and Orthodox Greek speaking East.

The three Woe Trumpets represent the divine judgments against the Papal Roman World as it is during the period of the fourth Wind Trumpet that the Pope becomes more significant in the so called Christian church, but was rather an apostacy because of the many heresies which they adopted and despite their proud boast of Tempus Semper – Always the Same - continues to evolve like a cancerous organism.

First Woe Trumpet	623 – 1062	Arabs rise of Islam against Eastern Rome
Second Woe Trumpet	1062 – 1794	Turks rise against Western Papal Rome
Third Woe Trumpet	1794 – 2026+	The modern era post French Revolution against the False Prophet of Rome

Is it accurate to say that this period of history was influential in seeding the future of the next one thousand two hundred years? This is the divine perspective, and God regards these developments as inevitable and, in a sense, had already happened, so sure He was of the as yet unlived future. He works on a different narrative than we do. The end before the beginning. It is because God can work on this sort of time scale and control that He endures the negativity of the long centuries of gentile darkness and madness as the glorious future is worth the wait and is necessary to call out the additional saints during the long centuries of the sealing out as we considered in the exposition of Chapter Seven.

The detail of the First Wind Trumpet is also part of our brief for this week's class. Alaric was the great bane of the Roman West. He first attacked the east but finding the defences of Constantinople too strong turned away and ravaged all before him. At first Roman generals were able to check his advances, but the weak sons of the now dead Emperor Theodosius executed their best generals probably through a mixture of fear and jealousy, so the city of Rome was besieged for the first time in over six hundred years. Folly comes easy to leaders; a strong successful leader is actually very rare. Rome was not blessed with such at this time. Weak nations breed weak leaders; Rome was in terminal decline.

The third part of the trees were burnt up symbolises the nations of the Western third. Trees represent nations or countries. Rome was an Empire constituting many nations not just one great nation. The trees of Rome were ravaged by famine and war. Egypt the breadbasket of Rome was under a blight and "all the green grass was burnt up" so the famine was not restricted to the Western third.

The earth speaks of the Roman world or kosmos. In the Greek it is the word "gen" not kosmos but it was not Roman society that was afflicted but the very land itself.

At the end of this period the strain placed upon the Empire meant that areas in the outskirts like the Island of Britain were abandoned and the troops returned to the motherland to defend their core territories. The great Catholic philosopher Augustine of Hippo also lived at this time and wrote many books including Confessions, The City of God, On Christian Doctrine and On the Trinity. False doctrine was becoming entrenched.