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Valley Church

February 8 & 11, 2024
Week 15: The Seventh Seal (Rev. 8)

Introduction:

Revelation 8:1-13 Notes

Handling the Heaviness

1. God continues to offer _____ in the midst of judgment.

2. The _____ of God's judgment is to bring repentance and salvation.

   See Romans 1:18-25

3. God's children are _____ to be kept from God's direct judgment (Rom. 5:9, 1 Thess. 5:9, Rev. 3:10, etc.)

Three Purposes for the Tribulation

- ➢ To judge those who willfully reject the gospel
- ➢ To restore the nation of unbelieving Israel
- ➢ To offer the unbelieving world a final chance to repent

QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

Personal Life:

1. Thus far in our series on Revelation, we have studied the Introduction in chapter 1, followed by the letters to the seven churches (ch. 2-3), followed by the scene of the heavenly throne (ch. 4-5), the opening of the seals
(ch. 6), the interlude of 144K witnesses along with the martyred saints in heaven. As you reflect on this journey so far, what parts have you enjoyed the most and the least, and why?

Ponderings:

2. Revelation 8:1 mentions a half-hour of silence in heaven. Why do you think there was silence at that moment before the first four trumpets were blasted by the angels?

3. Discuss the events caused by the blowing of the first four trumpets (Rev. 8:7-12). How do these judgments affect the natural world, and why is environmental disaster during the Tribulation so impactful to read about?

4. Considering the warnings and judgments of Revelation 8, how does this passage influence the way we live today? Are there attitudes, behaviors or values that this chapter challenges you to change or adopt? Discuss…

5. Even in the midst of judgment, Revelation points to hope and redemption. Where do you see hints of hope in chapter 8? Discuss…

Promptings:

6. In light of Revelation 8, how can we pray for our world, our church, our neighbors and ourselves? (Consider themes like repentance, readiness and reliance upon God…).