

Wednesday in the Word  
Digging Deeper  
August 24, 2022  
Little Sparrows

Revelation 8:1-5 KJVS

[1] And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. [2] And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets. [3] And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. [4] And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand. [5] And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.

Looking back to chapter 7 there is an angelic order for a pause before the four angels in control of the earth's winds can begin to commence with the Wrath of God. Revelation 6:17. The pause allows for the Holy Spirit Sealing of the 144,000 faithful Jews who will represent their Messiah as the Righteous Terror begins. 7:4. We are also privileged to join John as he witnesses the multitude of worshippers redeemed through Great Tribulation. 7:9-14. Now in 8:1 the pause is expanded into a solemn silence as John watches his Lord open the seventh and final seal on the Great Scroll of the End of Days. No one seems to order this stillness. There are times of intense gravity when everyone present holds their breath unable to utter a sound. Six prior seals that locked the Scroll brought unimaginable horror to the earth. This final seal would now permit the unfurling of the Scroll and what it contained could only be the most horrible of destinies. Awestruck silence and seriousness result. As movement is reestablished seven attending angels before God's Throne are handed trumpets. These trumpets will sound the alarms which bring judgement upon the earth, its waters, its skies, the cosmos and the very pits of hell. Torments will follow to judge the inhabitants of the earth. But the pause continues. The trumpets remain silent as another angel symbolically fills a golden censor with incense and offers it upon the golden alter. This is a representation of the prayers of the saints as it's smoke rises before the Lord God. Exodus 30:1-10, Leviticus 3:5, Philippians 4:18-19, Ephesians 5:2, Genesis 8:20-21. God loves our prayers and joyfully receives them as do we. Something about a wonderful smell helps us relate to what God loves. Just think of the bacon we smell as we come together for breakfast fellowship. The smiles we share can tell us of what the Lord senses when we pray. Thinking this ought to show us why we should pray. Our Heavenly Father loves us so dearly that when we turn to Him to communicate He receives us like this sweet smelling savor. Pray because He loves it when you do. You are His precious child bought with our Brother's Blood. The prayers offered by this angel are likely the prayers for vindication that have long been cried out by loyal martyrs who have waited for God to act. Revelation 6:9-11. We can determine this because of today's verse 5. "And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into a the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake." This is the direct result of those prayers. When we agonize in prayer over injustices, hurts and sufferings we are not calling out to a deaf, uncaring God.

We are longing for the Day that He has long ago planned to make things right. We cannot fully understand God's timing but in faith we can believe in His love. No prayer goes unanswered. He will surely reply in His Good Time. Our faith waits faithfully, patiently and unselfishly. Matthew 5:3-10. Why would we not believe His Word? God knows what you're going through and has a definite plan if we can only trust Him to act in His own time and way. Matthew 10:29-33. Fear not little sparrows. Confess Him before men and trust Him with your worries.