

Associate Pastor Timothy Ong
Title : Silence in Heaven
Text : Revelation 8:1-6 (MKJV)

- 1 And when He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in Heaven for about half an hour.
- 2 And I saw the seven angels who stood before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.
- 3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer. And many incenses were given to him, so that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all saints on the golden altar before the throne.
- 4 And the smoke of the incense *which came* with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God from the angel's hand.
- 5 And the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar, and cast *it* into the earth. And voices and thunderings and lightnings and an earthquake occurred.
- 6 And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

Intro

The church need to prepare itself for what God has in store for us.

God is speaking to the church and He is making His statement in the world.
And that is God has an eternal plan for this world that we life in.

The church should be the one that will speak to the nation and proclaim what is God saying concerning our present world system and our own national state of affairs.

1. The Seventh Seal Brought Silence in Heaven

The seventh seal is different from the first six seals.

There is no harm and hurt to the earth. Nor was there violence in the heavens.

The first 6 seals brought destruction on earth, persecution, and shaking of the heavens.

2. Why was there Silence?

- It is as if there is a divine hand preparing the stage for the next scene.

Many heavenly agencies are working in coordination, setting the stage for the next scene.

- But there seems to be a divine order in that half hour silence.

There is a sense of divine control.
It seems to be saturated with divine authority.

There is a parallel in the Old Testament, where the heavens stay still while there was battle on earth. Joshua was fighting the Amorites.

- The silence also mean the last action is to flow naturally into the next one. It is not totally abrupt. But it could very well be an increase in intensity.

3. What happens after the half hour of silence?

An important personality is about to take the stage.
The curtain has been drawn back a little.

There were 7 angels that stood before God.
Each was given a trumpet.
Then another angelic being who came into the scene.
He stood before the golden altar. This altar is before the throne of God.

Who is this angelic being?

Leviticus 16:11-13

11 And Aaron shall bring the young bull of the sin offering which is for himself, and shall atone for himself and for his house, and shall kill the young bull of the sin offering which is for himself.

12 And he shall take a censer full of coals of fire from off the altar before Jehovah, and his hands full of fragrant perfumes beaten small, and bring *it* within the veil.

13 And he shall put the incense on the fire before Jehovah. And the cloud of the incense shall cover the mercy-seat that is on the Testimony. And he shall not die.

This angelic being is none other than the Great High Priest
of the heavenly Tabernacle, Jesus the Son of God.

Heb. 4:14

“Since then we have a great High Priest who has passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* profession.”

Rev. 8:4

“And the smoke of the incense *which came* with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God from the angel's hand.”

Heb. 7:25

“Therefore He is able also to save to the uttermost those who come unto God by Him, *since He* ever lives to make intercession for them.”

Church.

We need to take prayers seriously.

God hears every prayer.

And He answers every prayer.

And this is because Jesus takes our prayer and He presents it before the Father in heaven.

Conclusion

Revelation 8:5-6

“5 And the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar, and cast *it* into the earth. And voices and thunders and lightnings and an earthquake occurred.

6 And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.”

We can know what it is if we are to pray and seek God earnestly, and when we are willing to obey.