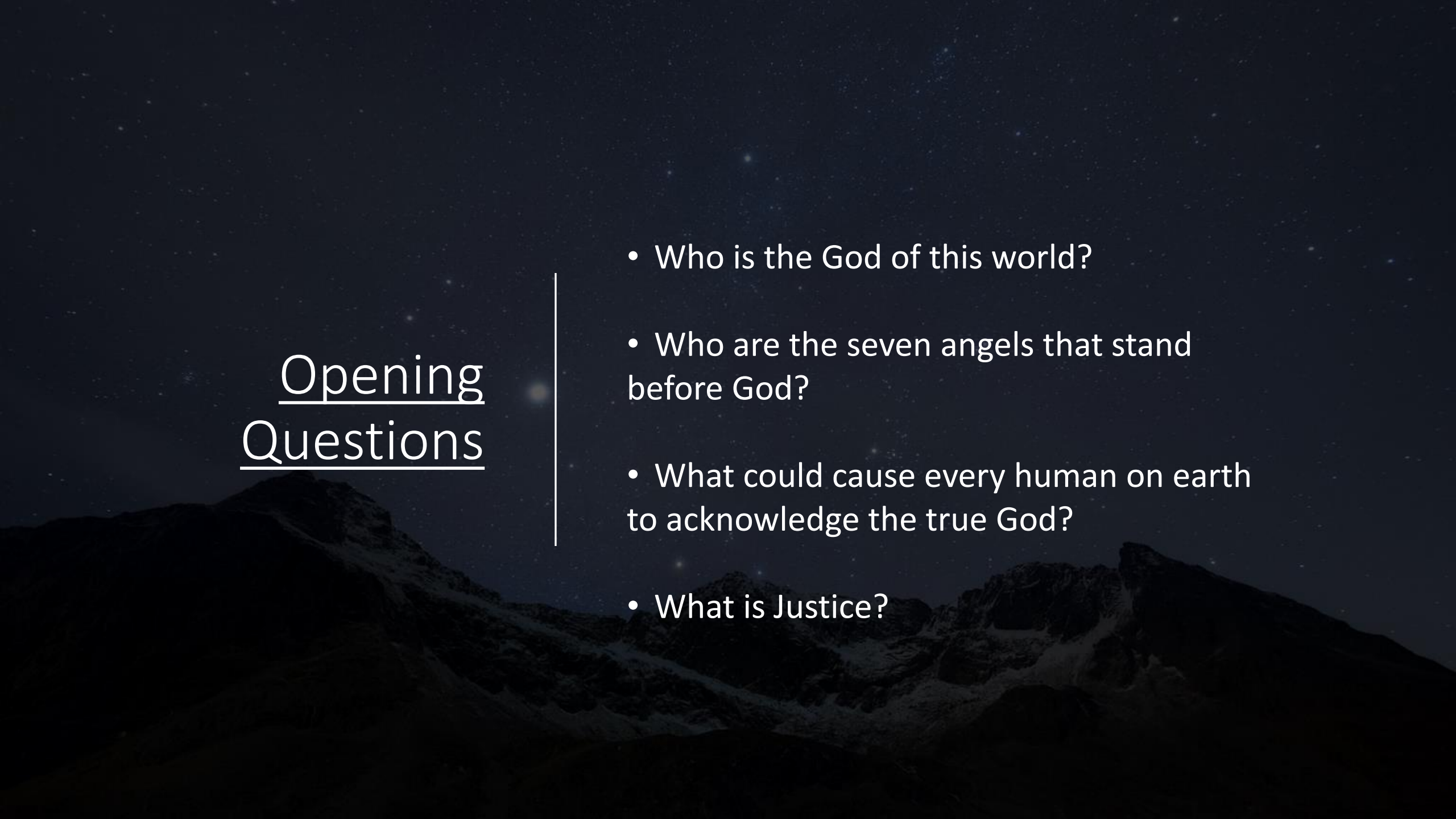


A rolled-up scroll, likely representing the Book of Revelation, is shown diagonally across the frame. The scroll is made of parchment and features several red wax seals tied with dark cords. The Hebrew text on the scroll is written in a traditional script. The background is a solid dark gray.

Revelation 8

No More Messing Around



Opening Questions

- Who is the God of this world?
- Who are the seven angels that stand before God?
- What could cause every human on earth to acknowledge the true God?
- What is Justice?

1 When He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. 2 And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets. 3 Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. 4 And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand. 5 Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake.

6 So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

Q: Why does heaven go silent at the opening of the 7th seal?

- All present will now see the contents of the scroll. They see what is about to happen.

Q: Who are the 7 angels that stand before God?

- Angel is a job description. the passage seems to indicate these "presence angels" always, or at least for a significant time, stand before God.
- Ranks of angels include cherubim, seraphim, archangels, thrones, dominions, rulers, authorities, powers, and these presence angels.

Q: Why does the blowing of the trumpets wait until the offering of incense and prayers?

- If only we understood how important our prayers are to God!

Q: What is the significance of taking the fire from the altar?

- This is the same altar that our prayers are offered up from. Our prayers play a necessary part of ushering in God's judgement. We play a larger part in God's plans than we might realize.

7 The first angel blew his trumpet, and there followed hail and fire, mixed with blood, and these were thrown upon the earth. And a third of the earth was burned up, and a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.

8 The second angel blew his trumpet, and something like a great mountain, burning with fire, was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood. 9 A third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

10 The third angel blew his trumpet, and a great star fell from heaven, blazing like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water.

11 The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many people died from the water, because it had been made bitter.

12 The fourth angel blew his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, and a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of their light might be darkened, and a third of the day might be kept from shining, and likewise a third of the night.

13 Then I looked, and I heard an eagle crying with a loud voice as it flew directly overhead, "Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, at the blasts of the other trumpets that the three angels are about to blow!"

Q: The first four trumpet judgements happen in quick succession. Some people believe these judgments have already occurred. Do you believe that is possible?

- Never in recorded history has a third of the earth been burned up, nor a third of the sea becoming red, nor a third of the sea creatures dead, nor a third of all ships destroyed, nor an asteroid or comet contaminating a third of the rivers and lakes on earth, nor a third of the sun, stars and moon blanked out.

Q: These events will be absolutely catastrophic, however even harsher judgments are coming. Could these events be natural, supernatural, or both?

- These events are likely both. God may use natural elements coupled with supernatural elements to accomplish His perfect plan. For example, think of 1/3 of the stars disappearing from the sky. These events have been predicted from thousands of years ago. For example:
- Isaiah 34:4 All the host of heaven shall rot away,
- and the skies roll up like a scroll. All their host shall fall, as leaves fall from the vine, like leaves falling from the fig tree.

1st

Green grass and 1/3 of the trees are burned up.

Rev. 8:7

2nd

1/3 of sea becomes blood; 1/3 of ships and sea life destroyed.

Rev. 8:8-9

3rd

1/3 of waters turn bitter.

Rev. 8:1-11

4th

1/3 of sun, moon, and stars do not shine.

Rev. 8:12

5th

"Locusts" wield the Beast's military power.

Rev. 9:1-12

6th

200-million-man army; a third of mankind killed.

Rev. 9:13-21

7th

The Kingdom of God is declared.

Rev. 11:15-19

THE JUSTICE OF GOD – PSALM 5

1 Give ear to my words, O LORD,

Consider my meditation.

2 Give heed to the voice of my cry,

My King and my God,
For to You I will pray.

3 My voice You shall hear in the morning, O LORD;

In the morning I will direct it to You,

And I will look up.

4 For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness,

Nor shall evil dwell with You.

5 The boastful shall not stand in Your sight;

You hate all workers of iniquity.

6 You shall destroy those who speak falsehood;

The LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

7 But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy;

In fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple.

8 Lead me, O LORD, in Your righteousness because of my enemies;

Make Your way straight before my face.

9 For there is no faithfulness in their mouth;

Their inward part is destruction;
Their throat is an open tomb;
They flatter with their tongue.

10 Pronounce them guilty, O God!
Let them fall by their own counsels;
Cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions,

For they have rebelled against You.

11 But let all those rejoice who put their trust in You;

Let them ever shout for joy, because You defend them;

Let those also who love Your name
Be joyful in You.

12 For You, O LORD, will bless the righteous;

With favor You will surround him as with a shield.

Resurrection

This is popular belief
about the unsaved is
not biblical



Next Up

Chap 9 – The Last
Trumpets

