

Popular culture, in the form of films, has continuously weighed in on the afterlife with movies such as “Stairway to Heaven” (1947) that depicts an escalator ride to heaven, “Defending Your Life” (1991) which posits that the newly dead can enter the pearly gates if it can be proved that they overcame fear when on earth, and the recent Pixar movie “Soul” (2020) which, coincidentally, also shows an escalator ride to the Great Beyond. Though charming, “Soul” is unconcerned with theology. You can watch a movie showing angels in tuxedos, heaven as a ballroom, and heaven as the city of Paris.

The Bible has a different view, of course, which is where we turn our attention today. Pastor Doug’s sermon will share the truth of the judgment that awaits us all though Scripture, and this presentation will be a dose of Christianity straight-up, not the watered-down feel-good notions of who gets saved and who does not, fed to us not only in pop culture but, sometimes, by writers and speakers who insist they are concerned with theology.

Today we will be implored to heed a warning about God’s wrath and righteous judgment. May we do so as if our lives depend on it, because they do. We cannot miss this searing message, yet we cannot wallow in our fear and trembling. Let us remember that part of the answer to the ninetieth question in *The Westminster Larger Catechism* about what will happen to the righteous on the day of judgment is that they shall be “filled with inconceivable joys” and that the great Puritan minister Jonathan Edwards in his straight-up, not watered-down sermon “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God” (with its frightening vision of damnation) pivots towards the end with a reminder that “Christ has thrown the door of mercy wide open.”

Let us learn today how we may someday walk through that door and praise our Lord for his mercy!

**Organ Prelude:** *God Himself Is with Us* Burkhardt/Cherwien

**Welcome and Call to Worship // \*Hymn of Worship:** *Give to Our God Immortal Praise* I. Watts, J. Hatton

**Prayer of Praise and Intercession**

Bereavement  
For family and friends of George Brogan.

**Opportunities to Connect, Grow and Serve**

**\*Hymn of Preparation:** *God Himself Is with Us* G. Tersteegen, J. Neander

**Scripture Lesson:** Revelation 8:1-13  
Leader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

**A Message for Living:** *“Ignoring the Warning?”* Dr. Doug Rumford, Lead Pastor  
Future Proof: Strengthening Faith in Chaotic Times #14 (see Sermon Notes on back)

**Prayer of Confession**

**\*Declaration of Forgiveness and Unison Confession of Faith:**

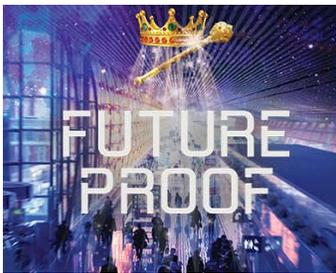
This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand,  
and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures,  
that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day,  
and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve,  
and then appeared to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.  
He is our Savior and Redeemer, and our hope is in him alone. Amen.

**\*Congregational Song of Redemption:** *How Can It Be?* J. Ingram, et al

**Sacrament of Communion // Song of Devotion** (soloists and congregation): *You Are My King* J. B. Foote

**\*Prayer of Gratitude // \*Closing Words, Charge and Benediction**  
→ (Give online at [trinityconnection.com](http://trinityconnection.com), thru the eTrinity app, or text 714-831-5358.)

**Organ Postlude:** *God Himself Is with Us* E. F. Riemerdes



# “IGNORING THE WARNING?”

Revelation 8:1-13

Doug Rumford

SERMON NOTES

JANUARY 10, 2021

1. The silence of the seventh seal creates awe and anticipation (Revelation 8:1-2; Habakkuk 2:20).
2. The prayers that rise up to God are poured out on the earth (Revelation 8:3-5).
3. The trumpets call people to repent (Revelation 8:6; Ezekiel 33:1-5).
4. The six devastating plagues foreshadow the horrors of judgment, preparing for the New Exodus (Revelation 8:7-9:19).
5. Like Pharaoh long ago, the people do not repent, but harden their hearts toward God (Revelation 9:20-21; Exodus 9:34).
6. Application: Let those who have ears to hear, heed the warning, and seek God’s grace and mercy.

*For sermon reflection questions to use in small groups or personal study, visit ([trinityconnection.com/small-groups](http://trinityconnection.com/small-groups))*

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**Emily Wagner** Pulpit Assistant

**Katrina Liao** Bass/Vocals/Director  
**Natalie Martinez, Caleb Hocking** Vocals  
**Phil Pacier** Guitar  
**Chris Somogyi** Piano  
**Dan Meland** Drums

**Hanan Yaqub** Minister of Worship and Music  
**Frances Johnston** Organist/Worship Associate  
**David Blaney, Zach Eubanks** Sound Technicians  
**Don Isbell** Graphics Technician  
**Rey Kroona, Adam Hemingway, Sarah Licata, James Lindfors** Filming Team  
**Dave Kaniski** Lighting/Staging