

THE 3ABN RON DU PREEZ INTERVIEW ON THE SIXTH TRUMPET

Dr. Alberto R. Treiyer

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How I enjoyed watching a video on youtube that a friend of mine sent me, with the interview of 3ABN to Ron du Preez about the date for the sixth trumpet: <http://youtu.be/7ZYtUBg8E-U>. In a time when every inch of the ground is disputed on our prophetic legacy, testimonies like that of Ron show us that God did not forget His people. Once more we may see the ignorant prejudices in the accusations made in recent years to the testimony of E. G. White about the fifth and sixth trumpets, as having to do with a presumable historical mistake. This occurs in spite of the fact that she was a witness of those historical fulfillments. The Spirit of Prophecy warned us about certain crises that would come to our church for negligence in studying the truths that God has given us for this time. Only sincere and responsible research may solve those crises.

I also enjoyed hearing the statements of E. G. White introduced by the brothers in the interview, which affirm that nothing will be taken out from the truth by examining it again. This investigation on our distinctive messages is what I was also doing for years, as you may see in the several books that I have written about our prophetic mission. I may affirm that I was never disappointed in my research that confirms our faith, excepting the indifferent and irresponsible disdain found here and there that is simply based on ignorance. One of the most recent prejudices have been seen in the affirmation that our church never had an official position on the trumpets. I appreciated how du Preez proved the contrary, as I did in my most recent book *The Mystery of the Apocalyptic Trumpets Unraveled*.

Let me enumerate some additional remarks about the interview.

1. Since more than a quarter of a century ago our church grew up unilaterally in the study of our distinctive truths. The emphasis was put on exegesis more than on history. The resultant lack of historical foundation caused many to choose the easiest way that has to do with a spiritualization of the apocalyptic content. But thanks be given to God that there is an awakening in historical studies that are destined to bring a balance in our growth. We do not need to wander without a definite direction in prophetic matters.

2. Practically all the critical reactions that have been rising in these recent years against the Adventist interpretation on the prophetic dates of the fifth and sixth trumpets were also raised few after E. G. White died. Some of those criticisms required time to be answered by our church, which she was already doing along the years. But it was necessary to continue growing and, unfortunately, instead of continuing to grow, in certain matters like the first half of Revelation, we were decreasing. See in my web page, the paper that I prepared some months ago (February 2013), entitled, *The Dates for the Fifth and Sixth Trumpets of Revelation Challenged. A trend to depart from our Adventist Historicist Legacy*.
www.adventistdistinctivemessages.com

3. A significant part of the documentation offered by Ron du Preez in connection with the prophetic dates of the fifth and sixth trumpets may be obtained on the internet. In the past, our church resorted to that documentation to answer the criticism of people not well informed, and published it in several denominational magazines. Ron does well in offering now a more extensive and precise documentation. This is what I also did in my book *The Seals and the Trumpets*, which includes a vast secular and Muslim data in what has to do with the importance of the year 1840 for the Ottoman Empire that is relevant for our understanding of prophecy.

4. Ron du Preez focused his research in the value of the year 1840 for the prophetic fulfillment of the sixth trumpet. His book will be really useful for those who have doubts on this date, especially on what really happened on August 11 in that year. But he does not deal with other significant points of the

prophecy that may be complemented in the books that I wrote on the trumpets. Let me briefly answer here just two questions that Ron did not answer in his interview.

a) In the sixth trumpet we are warned that the Ottoman Turks would kill "the third part" of men. What is referred here by "the third part"?

Answer. Three powers disputed the control of the Mediterranean world during the Middle Ages. 1) The Holy Roman Empire in the West; 2) The Byzantine Empire in Constantinople; and 3) The Ottoman Empire. From these three powers, only one was totally annihilated, the Eastern Empire ("the third part").

b) Where does the seventh trumpet speak about the remnant church?

Answer. In Rev 10 and 11. There it is stated that in the days when the seventh trumpet would start to sound, the mystery of God would be accomplished. That revealed mystery would be preached to all the world. This brings us in connection with the universal mission that God gave our church based in the three angelic messages of Rev 14. In addition, the time for the seventh trumpet is projected within the frame of the investigative judgment and the door opened to the Most Holy Place of the heavenly sanctuary. This fact links the message of the seventh trumpet with the cleansing of the sanctuary predicted in Dan 8:14.

Ron, we expect eagerly the printing of your book, *Lift up the Trumpets*. I agree with your concerns and efforts for documenting well our faith, and also agree with your testimony on its value for the interpretation of that important section of prophecy.