Rev230 - True and Just Judgement - Revelation 16:1-21

- In our <u>last msg</u> <u>Rev Ch 15</u> We were put on <u>High Alert</u> for <u>what</u> we are going to <u>see today</u>
- In <u>Ch 15</u> The <u>7 Angels</u> were <u>Given</u> the <u>Final 7 Bowl Judgments</u>
 That will be <u>poured out</u> on the <u>earth</u>
- & we <u>saw those</u> who had <u>overcome the Beast</u> (& been Martyred) <u>Standing</u> on a <u>Red Sea of Glass</u> around the <u>Throne</u> of <u>God</u>
- & <u>they</u> were <u>Praising God</u> for His <u>JUSTICE</u> & His <u>RIGHTEOUSNESS</u>

Have you noticed - that the Book of Revelation

is **more** on **FOCUSED** on - the **JUSTICE**, **RIGHTEOUSNESS**, & **HOLINESS** of **God**

Than it is on <u>ALL</u> the <u>DETAILS</u> of these <u>events</u>
That <u>we</u> would be <u>CURIOUS</u> <u>ABOUT</u>?

Here's WHY - speculation on the what the details might be Will NOT save you

But - Looking in the FACE - of God's Righteous Judgment that MUST Fall upon Sin - Prayerfully WILL Save you

Let's Pray

<u>Today</u> - as we <u>see ALL 7</u> of the <u>Final Bowl Judgments</u> <u>One</u> right after <u>the other</u>

ALL POURED OUT - on the Sin of this World & the Enemies Of Hell

We **Have to Remember** the **quote** we read in our **Last Msg**

H.A. Ironside:

God has given us these revelations out of kindness to us, that we may be warned thereby to avoid what lies ahead for this guilty world

These <u>Final 7 Bowl Judgments</u> are clearly "Setting Up" The 2nd Coming of Christ

This is the FINAL SET of Judgments upon the Sin of the World

& when new get to Rev 16:17 - we will read, "IT IS OVER (Done)"

We <u>ended Ch 15</u> with the <u>7 Angels</u> standing "<u>At The Ready</u>" <u>Just outside</u> the <u>Temple</u> in <u>Heaven</u>

& Revelation 16:1 starts off (NLT)

1 Then I heard a mighty voice from the Temple say to the seven angels, "Go your ways and pour out on the earth the seven bowls containing God's wrath."

This "<u>Mighty Voice</u>" - Is Most <u>probably</u> the <u>Voice</u> of <u>God Himself</u>

& God tells the 7 Angels we met last msg - "Go your ways and pour out on the earth the seven bowls containing God's wrath."

& <u>so begins</u> - the <u>Final Judgment</u> on <u>SIN</u> - & ON the <u>Enemies of God</u> on <u>Earth</u>

& AS God's **FINAL JUDGMENT** this earth **Begins**

We **see** a very **CLEAR distinction** of **JUDGMENT** in the **Very First Bowl**

Revelation 16:2 (NLT)

2 So the first angel left the Temple and poured out his bowl on the earth, and horrible, malignant sores broke out on everyone who <u>had</u> the <u>mark of the beast</u> and who <u>worshiped his statue</u>.

The 1st Bowl Judgment is SPECIFICALLY poured out on those

Who have Chosen to TAKE the Mark of the Anti-Christ & Chosen to Worship his Image

horrible, malignant sores that broke out on everyone who had the mark of the beast & worshipped him

they will ultimately WISH - that THIS was the full extent of the Consequences or their Decision (but it is not)

& then - the 2nd Bowl - Revelation 16:3 (NLT)

3 Then the second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became <u>like the blood of a corpse</u>. And everything in the sea died.

In the **2nd Trumpet Judgment God** turned **1/3 of the Sea** into **Blood**

Now - <u>God Turns</u> the <u>Entire Sea</u> into <u>Blood</u>
Which <u>turns</u> the <u>Entire World</u> into a <u>Cesspool of DEATH</u>

& the 3rd BOWL extends the Water-into-Blood Judgment to include the FRESH Water of the World

The 3rd Bowl - Revelation 16:4 (NLT)

4 Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs, and they became blood.

This will CLEARLY BE a Divine Judgment
There will be NO other explanation

BUT - We DO NOT See ANYONE - turning to the Lord in Repentance - & seeking His forgiveness

In fact - we will see the people of the world
get Harder & Harder in their COMPLETE REJECTION of God

BUT - there are two Angels at the Altar of God in Heaven Who KNOW the Correct Response to God's Judgment

& they turn TOWARD God & AFFIRM for all of heaven that God's Judgments are JUST

The First Angel is in Revelation 16:5-6 (NLT)

5 And I heard the angel who had authority over all water saying, "You are just, O Holy One, who is and who always was, because you have sent these judgments.

6 Since they shed the blood of your holy people and your prophets, you have given them blood to drink. <u>It is their just reward</u>."

Back in **Rev Ch 6** - we **saw** the believers who **had been MARTYRED** in the **tribulation**

& Revelation 6:10 says (NLT)

10 They shouted to the Lord and said, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you judge the people who belong to this world and avenge our blood for what they have done to us?"

God's ANSWER to that question

Is **HERE** in **Ch 16** - - & the **answer** is - **THIS LONG** !!

So Now - ALL The Waters of the Earth are RUNNING RED Like the blood of a Corpse

As a **World-Wide Testimony** - That God **WILL AVENGE**His **Martyred Saints** - **AS they prayed he would**

AND - It IS what they Deserve

But ... YOU & I Deserve the SAME Judgment - for OUR Sin

But - The Bible is CLEAR - If you have received

Jesus Christ by FAITH - AS is your Savior today

that Judgment has already been poured out & Paid in Full - ON your BEHALF

When it was poured out on Jesus Christ - IN your Place

But - on THIS Day - God's Judgment - Is being poured out

on those who have Rejected God's Offer of Salvation in Christ

& chosen instead - to wage war against God

& then - the 'Righteousness' of God's Judgment upon Sin Is Proclaimed from the VERY ALTAR in Heaven

Revelation 16:7 (NLT)

7 And I heard a voice from the altar, saying, "Yes, O Lord God, the Almighty, your judgments are true and just."

<u>Like</u> the <u>First Angel</u> - a <u>Voice FROM</u> the <u>Altar in Heaven</u> <u>Confirms</u> - The *judgments of God are true and just* If <u>we'd be honest</u> - we <u>Might NOT</u> really <u>LIKE</u> that the <u>Judgments of God</u> are <u>True & Just</u>

We Might prefer for God to JUDGE - MORE like US (as in): "I'm a pretty good guy, I think I should be forgiven"

But - OUR Judgment is - NOT True & Just God's Judgement - IS True & Just

& <u>we</u> are <u>Seeing God's FINAL</u>

<u>True & Just Judgement - here in Rev</u>

4th Bowl - Revelation 16:8 (NLT)

8 Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, causing it to scorch everyone with its fire.

This makes me think of Solar Flares

Which <u>create</u> such <u>incredible</u> <u>force & heat</u> that we <u>have</u> a <u>hard time</u> even <u>measuring</u> them

They are <u>Several Hundred Million Degrees</u>
& they <u>leave</u> the Sun at up to <u>7 Million Miles an Hour</u>

& Just Like Water - the Sun is LIFE for this Planet

But in these FINAL DAYS

God Will USE - What He CREATED To bring His Final Judgment on the Sin of this Earth

But <u>THAT</u> - is <u>NOT</u> what is <u>most incredible</u> what IS most incredible - is the people's <u>RESPONSE</u>

Revelation 16:9 (NLT)

9 Everyone was burned by this blast of heat, <u>and they cursed the</u> <u>name of God</u>, who had control over all these plagues. <u>They did</u> <u>not repent</u> of their <u>sins</u> and turn to God and give him glory.

THREE TIMES in this Ch

we **see** that **those** under **God's Judgment Continue** to **CURSE God** - & **BLASPHEME**

& we see NO SIGNS here - of Repentance & Salvation

As One Commentator Said - "If a man rejects the kindness and love of God, then what makes us think that the judgment of God will change his heart?"

Romans 2:4–5 (NLT)

- 4 Don't you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see <u>that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin</u>?
- 5 But because you are <u>stubborn</u> and <u>refuse to turn</u> from your <u>sin</u>, you are <u>storing up terrible punishment</u> for yourself. For <u>a day of</u> anger is coming, when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

THAT Day - is HERE - In Rev Ch 16

5th Bowl - Revelation 16:10 (NLT)

10 Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom was plunged into darkness. His subjects ground their teeth in anguish,

From Being BURNED by the Sun
God then plunges the Enemy's Kingdom - into Darkness

- In <u>Mat 25:30</u> Jesus described <u>God's Eternal judgment</u> as "Outer Darkness" where there will be "Weeping & Gnashing of Teeth"
- & we <u>HAVE to Remember</u> <u>THIS</u> is the <u>Judgment</u> that <u>Jesus</u> Christ <u>TOOK</u> On <u>OUR Behalf</u>

<u>During</u> the <u>Final 3 Hours</u> on <u>the Cross</u> - <u>Jesus Experienced</u>
<u>THIS Darkness</u> & <u>Torment</u> - <u>on OUR Behalf</u>

SO THAT We could **Escape** it - **Thru FAITH** in Him

But <u>Those</u> on the <u>earth</u>
Only <u>INCREASE</u> their <u>CURSING</u> & <u>BLASPHEME</u> of God

Revelation 16:11 (NLT)

11 and they cursed the God of heaven for their pains and sores. But they did not repent of their evil deeds and turn to God.

Over & Over again - we see

THIS is the Response of those who have rejected God

& <u>now</u> - <u>in</u> the <u>6th Bowl Judgment</u> we have <u>The Preparation</u> - For the <u>Final Battle of this World</u>

Revelation 16:12 (NLT)

12 Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great Euphrates River, and it dried up so that the kings from the east could march their armies toward the west without hindrance.

The Euphrates River originally flowed
Out of the Garden of Eden

It's <u>still today - it FORMS</u> a <u>Natural Boundary</u> between <u>Israel</u> & the <u>Nations of the East</u>

& Back in Rev Ch 9
We saw a Demonically Driven Army of 200 Million

& <u>we said</u> - the only way for a <u>200 Million Man Army</u>
To <u>Get</u> from <u>the EAST</u> - <u>to ISRAEL</u>

Would be for the Euphrates River to be dried up

& now **HERE in Rev 16** - We are **About** to **SEE**

- a <u>Massive</u> <u>World-Wide Army</u> gathered together for the final Battle against Jesus Christ
- & to prepare the WAY for that Battle the Great Euphrates River is Dried up by God

In <u>order</u> to <u>DRAW</u> the <u>World's Armies</u> <u>into the Valley</u> where <u>GOD</u> is going to <u>MEET them</u>

Here's HOW it happens

Revelation 16:13-14 (NLT)

13 And I saw three evil spirits that looked like frogs <u>leap from the mouths</u> of the <u>dragon</u>, the <u>beast</u>, and the <u>false prophet</u>.

14 They are <u>demonic spirits</u> who work <u>miracles</u> and go out to all the rulers of the world to <u>gather them for battle</u> against the Lord on that great judgment day of God the Almighty.

Satan, Antichrist & False Prophet - send out Demonic Spirits

to <u>gather</u> the <u>Armies of the World</u> together for one <u>Final Battle</u> Against <u>God</u>

Satan is going to 'Demonically' Gather
the Nations of the Whole World - to FIGHT against God

Now - We're going to HOLD OFF on V.15 - & Come BACK to it

So, The **Demonic Spirits Go Out** to **gather** the **Armies of the World**

& God dries up the Euphrates River - to DRAW them in

& in Revelation 16:16 (NLT) - we see where they're going 16 And the demonic spirits gathered all the rulers and their armies to a place with the Hebrew name Armageddon.

This is The SITE of the Final Battle

between the Armies of the World
& Jesus Christ Himself at His Second Coming

The word **Armageddon** comes from **two Hebrew words**

<u>HAR</u> - meaning <u>Mount</u> (Hill) - & <u>MEGIDDO</u> - which is <u>the Name</u> of this Valley (*Jezreel Valley*)

HAR-MEGGIDO - The Hill of Megiddo - is one of the most FOUGHT OVER Hills in all history

It's at a <u>Major Crossroads</u> of <u>Trade Routes</u> - & it's a <u>Natural Divide between</u> the <u>North</u> & the <u>South</u>

A DOZEN Battles were fought here - JUST in Biblical Times

When Napoleon saw this exact place - He said it was the Greatest & Most natural Battlefield on Earth

& it is here - in Rev 19 - Jesus Christ - with US in tow

Will conquer the Armies of the World - Once & For All

This is one of the MOST AWESOME places to stand - in all of Israel -

because of What is going to happen here

& <u>finally</u> - we <u>reach</u> the <u>7th Bowl Judgment</u> - Where <u>God says</u> <u>the Judgments</u> on Earth - <u>ARE FINISHED</u>

Revelation 16:17 (NLT)

17 Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air. And a mighty shout came from the throne in the Temple, saying, "It is finished!" (more literally - it is OVER, DONE)

& I like that the Holy Spirit uses a Different Greek Word Here than is Used for the Famous Word of Jesus on the Cross

On the Cross Jesus Cried - TETELESTAI - It is FINISHED

Because he had FINISHED the Work of Salvation for all who would believe

& <u>Here</u> - <u>God calls out</u> from the <u>throne room</u> in <u>Heaven</u>

GINOMAI - It is OVER (done) - Meaning God's Judgment the Sin & Rebellion of this Earth - is OVER

& this <u>Final Judgment</u> - <u>Poured into the Air</u>
Brings some <u>Final</u> & <u>Complete Devastation</u> - to <u>The Earth</u>

<u>Revelation 16:18–21 (NLT)</u>

18 Then the thunder crashed and rolled, and lightning flashed. And a great earthquake struck—the worst since people were placed on the earth.

19 The great city of Babylon split into three sections, and the cities of many nations fell into heaps of rubble. So God

remembered all of Babylon's sins, and he made her drink the cup that was filled with the wine of his fierce wrath.

20 And every island disappeared, and all the mountains were leveled.

21 There was a terrible hailstorm, and hailstones weighing as much as seventy-five pounds fell from the sky onto the people below. They cursed God because of the terrible plague of the hailstorm.

<u>Unprecedented Judgments</u> - <u>Poured Out</u> on a **World** that is **AT WAR** with God

A <u>World-Wide Earthquake</u> - like the earth has never seen
The <u>Great City of Babylon Splits</u> into <u>3 Parts</u>
The <u>Cities of Many Nations</u> (Gentile Nations) <u>FALL in Heaps</u>
<u>Islands Disappear</u>, & <u>Mountains</u> are <u>Leveled</u>
<u>& Great 75 LB Hailstones</u> fall onto the <u>people</u> of the <u>Earth</u>

(It's interesting) - In the <u>Law of Moses</u>

<u>The Judgment</u> for <u>Blaspheming God</u> - was <u>Stoning</u>

- & <u>here</u> the <u>Blaspheming World</u> is <u>LITERALLY</u> <u>Judged by Stoning</u> - as <u>75 lb hailstones</u> Fall from <u>Heaven</u>
- & <u>Still</u> <u>those</u> who are <u>Set Against God</u> <u>Continue</u> to <u>Curse God</u> - - <u>hardened beyond repentance</u>

& so - we have 1 vs to finish - It's the Vs we skipped

Rev 16:15 - Jesus speaking - right in the Middle of these Final Judgments coming upon the earth

Revelation 16:15 (NLT)

15 "Look, I will come as unexpectedly as a thief! Blessed are all who are watching for me, who keep their clothing ready so they will not have to walk around naked and ashamed."

It feels to me - like this vs's is written

more for those who are <u>READING Revelation</u>
than for those who are <u>LIVING IN IT</u>

Can you Imagine - the Ltr of Rev - being READ in N.T. churches

& <u>in the Middle</u> of us <u>READING</u>

<u>About</u> these <u>unimaginable</u>, <u>overwhelming Judgements</u>

Jesus Calls out to a World that is heading over
The Cliff of Eternal Judgment

Just like - Jesus calls out to EACH ONE of us a Warning that SIN MUST BE JUDGED

& <u>Jesus</u> says - Look, I will come as unexpectedly as a thief!

When you <u>least Expect</u> it - You will <u>Suddenly</u> be <u>face-to-face</u> with <u>Jesus Christ</u> - <u>AS THE JUDGE</u> of this <u>Earth</u>

- & Blessed are all who are watching & waiting for me
- & <u>BLESSED</u> are <u>those</u> who have <u>PUT-ON</u> the <u>Righteousness of Christ</u>

which is often referred to as Clothing

Jesus is calling out - to a World that is under the JUST & REQUIRED - Judgment of God

& <u>Jesus</u> says <u>LOOK TO ME</u> - Put your FAITH in ME

CLOTHE Yourself in the Righteous of God that comes ONLY thru your Faith in Jesus Christ

YOU can PUT ON that Righteousness of Christ today

& <u>Jesus</u> Christ <u>WILL SAVE YOU</u> from - The Wrath that MUST come - upon the Sin of this world

WATCH for Jesus - Be LOOKING for HIM as your Savior

& BY FAITH - BE CLOTHED in His Righteousness

KNOWING that the Time of His Return - Could be VERY NEAR

Let's Pray