

Passage: Revelation 16:1-21

Title: The 7 Bowls of the Wrath of God

Summary: We are now coming to the sweeping final climax of the Tribulation Period as these bowls are poured out. Yet in every bowl then, God has a message for His church today, that can bring us into a place of victorious Christian living.

Revelation 16 (NKJV) ¹ Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth." ² So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. ³ Then the second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood as of a dead *man*; and every living creature in the sea died. ⁴ Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. ⁵ And I heard the angel of the waters saying: "You are righteous, O Lord, The One who is and who was and who is to be, Because You have judged these things." ⁶ For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, And You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due." ⁷ And I heard another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous *are* Your judgments." ⁸ Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. ⁹ And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory. ¹⁰ Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. ¹¹ They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds. ¹² Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared. ¹³ And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *coming* out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. ¹⁴ For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, *which* go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. ¹⁵ "Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed *is* he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame." ¹⁶ And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon. ¹⁷ Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!" ¹⁸ And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. ¹⁹ Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath. ²⁰ Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. ²¹ And great hail from heaven fell upon men, *each hailstone* about the weight of a talent. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great.

Blessing / John on Patmos

The only book that comes with a promised blessing for those who read it:

(Revelation 1:3 NKJV) Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

John on Patmos / John wrote 5 Books / Believe – Eternal Life – Be Ready

John on the Island of Patmos receives this revelation of Jesus Christ. The Apostle John wrote 4 other books to the church. The Gospel of John, and 1,2,3 John, and this fifth book, Revelation. In the Gospel of John he wrote that we might believe, he uses the word believe some 60 times:

(John 20:31 NKJV) but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

He wrote us in 1,2,3 John so that we might know that we have eternal life:

(1 John 5:13 NKJV) These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

So he wrote that we might believe, then that we might know, and now he writes Revelation so that we might be ready:

(Revelation 2:7 NKJV) "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

Before Glorified Christ / Write these Things / All Things Coming Before Throne

John is now before the glorified Christ, and Jesus says John now write these things so that they might be ready, for this book is all about man coming before the Holy God, the flow of all humanity is flowing to the throne of God whether man realizes it or not, John writes so that all of man might be ready:

(Ephesians 1:10 NKJV) that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth; in Him.

Book of Revelation Outline

- The Things Which You Have Seen - (Chapter 1).
- The Things Which Are - (Chapters 2-3).

- The Things Which Will Take Place After This - (Chapters 4-22).

(Revelation 1:19 NKJV) "Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this."

Recap Outline

- Chapter 1 is the revelation of the glorified Christ.
- Chapters 2-3 are the 7 churches, the current church period, this period known as the dispensation of grace. The church period ends with the Rapture as God takes us, His Bride, out of here for a 7 year honeymoon with Him. We can see from the signs around us that the rapture is very soon.
- Chapters 4-5 are the scene around the throne of God, before the dispensation of grace ends, and God pours His wrath out on a Christ rejecting world.
- Chapters 6-19, known as the 7 year Tribulation Period.
- Chapter 20, at the end of the Tribulation Period Satan is cast into the bottomless pit, and the saints will rule and reign with Christ for 1,000 yrs (Millennial Kingdom) over those that survived the Tribulation. Then at the end of the thousand years Satan will be loosed, believe it or not, people will chose to follow him, then Jesus will say enough and cast Satan all those who follow him into the Lake of Fire.
- Chapter 21-22, then will come the new heaven, and the new earth, and we shall live happily ever after – but there will be no end as we will spend all of eternity beholding Him, and fellowship with each other.

Recap / Seals & Trumpets

7 Seals

Seal 1 – White Horse – the Anti-christ is Revealed. (6:1-2)

Seal 2 – Red Horse – War on the Earth. (6:3-4)

Seal 3 – Black Horse – Famine upon the Earth (days wage for loaf of bread). (6:5-6)

Seal 4 – Pale Horse – Pestilence and Death (1/4 world dies). (6:7-8)

Seal 5 – The Martyred Saints of the Tribulation. (6:9-11)

Seal 6 – Earthquakes & Upheavals upon the Earth. (6:12-17)

Seal 7 – The 7 Trumpets of God

Trumpet 1 – 1/3 of Trees and Grass burned up. (8:7)

Trumpet 2 – 1/3 of Sea turned to blood. (8:8-9)

Trumpet 3 – 1/3 of Water becomes undrinkable. (8:10-11)

Trumpet 4 – 1/3 of the Sun is blocked out. (8:12)

Trumpet 5 – Key to Bottomless Pit – Demons Released. (9:1-12)

Trumpets 6 – 200 million man Army – 1/3 Earth Killed (total now 1/2). (9:13-19)

Trumpet 7 – The 7 Bowls of God's Wrath

Sin must be Judged – His Holiness / Sin Destroys / Sin must be Judged – One way or Other

What we have in this Tribulation Period (7 year period) is God's Wrath against a Christ rejecting sinful world. Sin must be judged. God would not be a Holy God (as we saw in the Everlasting Gospel – Revelation 14:6-7) if He would wink at sin, and ignore it. Nor would God be a loving God if He allowed sin to go unchecked, for sin destroys. Sin must be dealt with, one way or the other; either judged there upon the cross, or for those who reject His offer, here in the Tribulation.

(Revelation 6:16 NKJV) and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!"

(Revelation 6:17 NKJV) "For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

God has Withdrawn / No Pleasure in Death of Wicked / That it has Come to This

As we saw in the last study, God has withdrawn Himself into the temple to brood with a broken heart that it has come to this. No one can enter the temple until it the seven bowls have been poured out, for as we had studied last week, God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked.

(Ezekiel 33:11 NKJV) "Say to them: 'As I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?'"

(2 Peter 3:9 NKJV) The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

The 7th Trumpet / 7 Bowls of Wrath (Revelation 16)

- Bowl 1 – Loathsome Sores (16:1-2)
- Bowl 2 – The Seas turn to Blood (16:3)
- Bowl 3 – The Fresh waters turn to Blood (16:4-7)
- Bowl 4 – The Sun Scorches the Earth (16:8-9)
- Bowl 5 – Darkness Upon the Earth (16:10-11)
- Bowl 6 – The River Euphrates is Dried Up (16:12-16)
- Bowl 7 – The Great Earthquake (16:17-21)

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need

Bowl 1 – Loathsome Sores (16:1-2)

(Revelation 16:1 NKJV) Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth."

Quick Succession

These 7-Bowls will most likely come in a rapid succession; days not weeks, not months.

Twenty-one judgments are in the book of Revelation. In Chapter 6, seven seals get broken. In Chapters 8-9 seven trumpets blast. Now in Chapter 15-16, seven bowls or basins brimming with judgment are emptied. There are Bible commentators who try to fit these 21 plagues into a nice chronological order. I'm not so sure. I think there's plenty of overlap. Especially, the closer you get to the end of the seven years of Tribulation. Remember in Matthew 24, the Olivet Discourse, Jesus said, "Unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved..." The judgment will become so severe it won't be able to last forever. That's what we see here. These bowls cripple the Earth to the point where the planet can no longer sustain human life.

Sandy Adams

As my friend Pastor Sandy Adams says - If you've ever been to a hockey game you've seen a fight break out. And when hockey players get into a fist-a-cuffs the first thing they do is pull off their gloves. If you want to inflict pain the padded gloves have to go. Well, Revelation 15-16 could be titled, "When God's Gloves Come Off." From this point onward God is no longer cushioning His blows. He lands a final flurry of combination punches. God is going for the knockout! By Chapter 15 God has a rebellious planet on the ropes. Seven bowls are what drops it to the canvas

(Revelation 16:2 NKJV) So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.

Loathsome Sores – Running / Plague 6 in Exodus

Loathsome sore, means it is a running sore. We saw this same plague as we studied in Exodus 9:8-12, as this was the 6th plague the Lord leveled upon Egypt. We will see many parallels of the Bowls in revelation and the Plagues in Exodus.

Exodus 9:8–12 (NKJV) ⁸ So the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Take for yourselves handfuls of ashes from a furnace, and let Moses scatter it toward the heavens in the sight of Pharaoh. ⁹ And it will become fine dust in all the land of Egypt, and it will cause boils that break out in sores on man and beast throughout all the land of Egypt." ¹⁰ Then they took ashes from the furnace and stood before Pharaoh, and Moses scattered them toward heaven. And they caused boils that break out in sores on man and beast. ¹¹ And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils, for the boils were on the magicians and on all the Egyptians. ¹² But the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh; and he did not heed them, just as the LORD had spoken to Moses.

"Sores" are usually an outward sign of an inward problem or corruption (Matt 23:27-28).

In the beginning and throughout the Bible, God warns, again and again, not to worship false images. He told Moses to warn his people to have "no graven image"; not to worship the hosts of heaven; or any kind of Devil worship in the House of God (Deut 4:19; 17:2-3; 2 Kings 17:9-11, 16-17; Ex 8:17-18; 9:1).

Angles Proclaimed / 144K / Most will not Heed

"Don't take the mark of the Beast!" the angels will cry as they fly across the sky. "Don't take his number," the 144,000 sealed Jewish believers will be telling others no doubt. But most will not heed the message. And their refusal to do so will bring about its own pain.

Strong Medicine – Those who took Mark / Mark seemed so Logical / Same today – World's Logic

The first bowl of strong medicine poured out upon the earth results in "grievous sores" upon those who take the mark of the Beast. Initially, taking the mark of the Beast would seem to be so logical, so technologically sophisticated, so wise. I mean, why deal with credit cards that can be stolen, checks that can be forged, or cash that can be lost when you can enter into a brand-new economic order where you can buy and sell with simply a number? Same today, there are things of this world that seem so logical, yet they fly in the face of the Word of God, and at some point, those things will bring sores into our life.

The Way with Sin / God not Pushing – it is Our Sin - Backsliding

That's always the way it is with sin. "The reason you have so many problems and pains and difficulties is because of your own sin. It's not Me punishing you," says God. "It's the result of your own backsliding" (*Jeremiah 2:19 NKJV*) *Your own wickedness will correct you, And your backslidings will rebuke you. Know therefore and see that it is an evil and bitter thing That you have forsaken the LORD your God, And the fear of Me is not in you," Says the Lord GOD of hosts.*

Still a Witness

To those who have not taken the mark because they can look and see what the result is and use someone she can go everyone with the mark has these sores we without the mark do not have these swords let the logic tie this together and let me get away from the destruction of this mark. I say that with hope because I'm the ultimate optimist and hopefulness but I I look around at people and was such myself otherwise say OK so this guy who abuses this alcohol or abuses these drugs they seemed to have sores all over their lives as in their marriages I'm not good they lose their jobs they don't have financial security maybe I should look at that and say I should steer clear of that. I think we can look even closer in the church go here man here's a woman dedicated to the things of the Lord men and women of prayer men and women of the word men and women of fellowship men and women of selfless serving and I look and logically I go are they strong in the Lord and that is why they do it or do they do it and that is what makes them strong in the Lord; to which I would say it's the latter you reap what you sow.

Galatians 6:7–10 (NKJV) ⁷ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. ⁸ For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. ⁹ And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Bowl 2 – The Seas turn to Blood (16:3)

(Revelation 16:3 NKJV) Then the second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood as of a dead man; and every living creature in the sea died.

Clear Greek Structure / Blood is Blood / 1st Plague in Exodus

The Greek structure is clear, the water becomes blood, not becomes like blood. We have seen this when Moses turned the Nile to blood as parts of God's plague upon Egypt. That was plague #1, (see Exodus 7:14:25).

Exodus 7:17–18 (NKJV)¹⁷ Thus says the LORD: "By this you shall know that I am the LORD. Behold, I will strike the waters which are in the river with the rod that is in my hand, and they shall be turned to blood. ¹⁸ And the fish that are in the river shall die, the river shall stink, and the Egyptians will loathe to drink the water of the river." "

Some think it is Red Tide / But seen it in Exodus

Some think this an abnormal multiplication of plankton causes not only a depletion of the oxygen supply in the surrounding water, but ushers in a phenomenon known as "red tide"—wherein the phosphorous in the plankton causes the water to turn red as blood. I believe it is actual blood, because the structure of the sentence and because we have seen this before, back in Egypt some 3500 years ago.

Blood kill Plankton / 20% / Billions Dead Sea Creatures

The blood will kill the plankton in the sea which lowers the oxygen content in the air and men will be gasping for air (and they already are struggling for air because of all 1/3 of the trees being destroyed – Trumpet 1). And the second Trumpet 1/3 sea life killed and waters became blood. Now 20% of our oxygen we breathe is produced by the plankton in the sea. The blood will also kill all the sea creatures, resulting in more famine upon the Earth. Imagine billion of dead sea creatures washing ashore, imagine that stench upon the earth.

Revelation 8:7 (NKJV)⁷ The first angel sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.

Revelation 8:8–9 (NKJV)⁸ Then the second angel sounded: And something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood. ⁹ And a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

Bowl 3 – The Fresh waters turn to Blood (16:4-7)

(Revelation 16:4 NKJV) Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood.

Fresh water / 2 Witnesses – 3rd Trumpet / Only water left is Polar ice – Bottled Water

Fresh water was already in short supply because of the prolonged drought of the 2 Witnesses (Rev 11:6), and the 3rd Trumpet (Rev 8:10), now all the fresh water is turned to blood, so take all the above and make it global. The only drinking water left on the planet will be what has been bottled or stored in the water towers. Man will be heading to the Polar regions to get snow and ice to melt for drinking water, but that won't last either as we will see shortly.

Revelation 8:10–11 (NKJV)¹⁰ Then the third angel sounded: And a great star fell from heaven, burning 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 men died from the water, because it was made bitter.

Revelation 11:4–6 (NKJV)⁴ These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. ⁵ And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. ⁶ These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

Water to Wash Sores

Consider also, there will be no fresh water to clean and seek relief from the sores upon the body.

(Revelation 16:5 NKJV) And I heard the angel of the waters saying: "You are righteous, O Lord, The One who is and who was and who is to be, Because You have judged these things.

(Revelation 16:6 NKJV) For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, And You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due."

(Revelation 16:7 NKJV) And I heard another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments."

Interlude – God is Just / Dispensation of Grace is Over / Eye-for Eye / Blood-for-Blood

Verses sand 6 are an interlude to remind all, God is just and fair and passing out this judgment and wrath. The dispensation of grace is over in Matthew 5, the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said it is not an eye for an eye, but Jesus said to turn the other cheek. But here in Revelation 16:6, it is blood for blood. Those that have shed the blood of the Saints, will now have blood to drink. The dispensation of grace is over.

(Matthew 5:38 NKJV) "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'

(Matthew 5:39 NKJV) "But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.

(Matthew 5:40 NKJV) "If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also.

(Matthew 5:41 NKJV) "And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.

ONLY ONE OPINION COUNTS

An umpire named Babe Pinelli once called Babe Ruth out on strikes. When the crowd booed with disapproval, the legendary Ruth turned to the umpire and said, "How could you call that a strike? There are 40,000 people here who are of the opinion that the last pitch was a ball!"

The cool headed umpire replied, "That may be true, but my opinion is the only one that counts. Take a seat."

One of the things we learn in Revelation is that God's opinion is the one that counts. The one who created the world and redeemed the world has the right to END the world if we do not repent! Revelation 16:7 says "Yes, Lord God Almighty, true and just are your judgments."

God is Just – Spoken from Heaven / More time in Heaven – Less Time Questioning

These statements we read about Him be Just and True, we have read repeatedly that they come from the heavenlies, from there around the throne. Listen Christian, the more time you spend in the heavenlies, the less you will question why God is doing what He is doing in this world, and in your life.

Bowl 4 – The Sun Scorches the Earth (16:8-9)

(Revelation 16:8 NKJV) Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire.

(Revelation 16:9 NKJV) And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.

Polar Ice Melts – Drinking Water / Raise Sea Level 200 Feet – Major Floods – Cities Destroyed

The scorching sun will melt the polar icecaps into the blood ocean, so there goes the rest of the drinking water source – now man totally left to what they were able to bottle. Scientist have estimated that if the polar ice all melted that would raise the sea level 200 feet, which in turn would wipe out many coastline cites such as New Orleans, Florida, California, even here in Maryland on the Chesapeake. Imagine 200 feet rise in New York City.

Light and Warmth – Deadly Killer / Turned back on SON – Burned by SUN

The Sun that normally provides light, warmth, and energy will become a deadly killer. Because men turned their backs on the Son (S-O-N), they will experience the burning of the sun (S-U-N).

Message of Gospel is Love / Depth of Holiness – depth of Love / God not using Fear

The message of the gospel is a message of love, not fear. Jesus never tried or tries to bring someone into a personnel relationship with Him based on fear, but He draws people with love. The depth of that love cannot be see apart from His Holiness, that He is a perfect and pure God.

It's a message of love with the back drop of holiness to amplify his love. Could you imagine me telling Renee you have to marry me because if you don't you may end up marrying some loser and be bankrupt and poor and not treat you well. Imagine that is my convincing for her to marry me which she would have said no thanks I'll take my chances. We'll give her a message marry me so I can spend the rest of my life loving you and serving you and giving myself for you because I think you're priceless precious and I don't want to live my life without you. That's the gospel that Jesus extends a message of love.

Can't Imagine more Fearful Time – Yet Refuse to Repent / Give me a Sign

I can't imagine a more fearful time on earth, yet men still refuses to repent. People say give me a sign and I'll believe, no they wont, we see it here. What more of a sign do you need. Jesus said the only sign I'll give you is 3 days and 3 nights the son of Man will spend in the tomb after being crucified, but will rise again. There is nothing more to say, for the cross says it at The message of love to the world has been spoken loud and clear, not just with words but with actions, and that action was filled with passion.

(Matthew 12:38 NKJV) Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You."

(Matthew 12:39 NKJV) But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah."

(Matthew 12:40 NKJV) "For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

(Matthew 12:41 NKJV) "The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here."

Every time I share / Not scaring into Heaven – Crying to Escape hell

Every time I share the gospel I am dumbfounded that a person doesn't jump at His offer of love and marriage. God isn't trying to scare people into heaven, but in love crying out for them to escape hell.

Bowl 5 – Darkness Upon the Earth (16:10-11)

(Revelation 16:10 NKJV) Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain.

(Revelation 16:11 NKJV) They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.

Note: In the first three bowls, men are dwelling on the earth. In the last four, men are linked with Babylon. The seat, or throne, of the Beast is where all of God's wrath is being directed.

They move from the scorching sun in the darkness. Yet they still won't repent but it's what the Lord said men love darkness rather than light at least their deeds be exposed.

John 3:16–21 (NKJV)¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. ¹⁸ "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹ But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

Exodus 10 – Plague 9 / Josephus – Hard to Breath

We saw this plague in Exodus 10:21-29, plague number 9. The Jewish Historian Josephus said of that darkness that it was so dark, it was hard to breath. Don't know how long this darkness will last, but we do see that it will be painful. Interesting that darkness could be painful, but it will, and men will only pause from gnawing on their tongue long enough to curse God.

This seems unimaginable. How could they not repent? Why not tap out?... Why not give up, and yield to God?... 2 Thessalonians 2 answers this question. There Paul writes of the end times, "The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

2 Thessalonians 2:9–12 (NKJV)⁹ The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹ And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, ¹² that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

The Antichrist will capture people's allegiance. He'll be persuasive even working miracles. Paul calls them "lying wonders." And to execute His judgment in an expeditious way God will seal their rebellion by casting upon them "a strong delusion." The inhabitants of this earth will end up believing not just "a lie," but Paul calls it "the lie."

"Recall what happened at the tower of Babel. The world came under the sway of a charismatic leader. Nimrod convinced mankind that God was the bad guy, and he was the good guy. Rather than hold people

accountable for their sin, Nimrod taught them to ignore their sin and blame God for its consequences. Big bad God was responsible for the global flood. Why else would people gather afterwards in a desert to build a tower coated with pitch, a water-proof tower to heaven. Nimrod convinced people that God was against them and wouldn't keep His rainbow promise. Nimrod sold the idea it was up to him to protect humanity from God.

And I believe this is "the lie" - "the strong delusion" - that hardens the rebellion of the last days. It's the age-old lie: God is bad, man is good. It's how Satan tempted Eve in the garden. He told her God was out to stunt her growth. Satan said, "Eat of the fruit and your eyes will open, you'll be enlightened, as smart as God." He tried to convince Eve God wanted to deprive her. Hold her back. She should break free of His restraints.

And this is the spirit of our day. Biblical Christianity is depicted as repressive, intolerant, and responsible for 2000 years of war, hatred, oppression, and prejudice. Satan is still selling the lie, "Open your eyes! Reject the God revealed in Scripture. Find the god that's within you. Shed the shackles of Christianity..." And all that's left, is for the Devil to introduce the Beast...

Seat of Anti-Christ Gov't is Babylon / Tower of Babel / Tongues Affected Again / Curse God

The seat of Antichrist's government is Babylon—the city constructed on the same site as the tower of Babel. "We don't need God. We'll build a tower, study the stars, and let our horoscopes run our lives," declared Nimrod and his fellow inhabitants of Babel. At the tower of Babel, men's tongues were affected in that they no longer spoke the same language. In the city of Babylon, men's tongues will again be affected when they are gnawed as a result of pain. Even though they can barely speak due to the pain that overwhelms them, men still find it in their hearts to blaspheme God.

Bowl 6 – The River Euphrates is Dried Up (16:12-16)

(Revelation 16:12 NKJV) Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared.

Euphrates

- The cradle (and apparently the grave) of man's civilization (Zech 10:11; Isa 11:15-16)
- Eastern boundary of Israel (Gen 15:18) and the Roman Empire
- The river Euphrates is mentioned twenty-five times in the Bible. It is 1,800 miles long; 300-1200 yards wide; and 10-30 feet deep.

Genesis 15:17–21 (NKJV)¹⁷ And it came to pass, when the sun went down and it was dark, that behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those pieces. ¹⁸ On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates—¹⁹ the Kenites, the Kenezites, the Kadmonites, ²⁰ the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, ²¹ the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites."

The Euphrates river was the boundary of Israel not the Jordan river and we can see how far short Israel fell on taking all the land that God had promised them. And yet too many times I look at myself and I think we can all be honest with ourselves how far short we fall of all the land and territory that the Lord desires us to take and how often we're just content to be where we're at not calling out and pushing onward for the high calling of God to take more ground for his glory and I mean that from a spiritual sense and also I mean that from a world sense of saving the lost. Ohh the beautiful prayer of Jabez as we studied a few weeks ago Lord that you would expand my territory

Philippians 3:12–14 (NKJV)¹² Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. ¹³ Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴ I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

1 Chronicles 4:10 (NKJV)¹⁰ And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, "Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!" So God granted him what he requested.

Talk more of this in Rev 19

We will talk more about this in Revelation 19. We will cover the whole Battle of Armageddon in one study; of what is happening, what brought the events together, and what is Satan's purpose, and what is God's purpose.

Now from this point on, the stage is being set for a final battle, called, "the battle of Armageddon." It'll be a clash between the armies of this world and the army of Jesus. And one of the major players in this battle to end all battles is "the kings of the east." Daniel 11 is another prophecy that sees this same event. The Antichrist will invade Israel, and he'll be attacked by Syria from the north, and Egypt from the south, but to no avail. The only hindrance to the plans of the Beast is news of armies approaching from the East. Is this the Chinese?... A confederacy of nations?

All we're told is how they reach the battlefield... They march into the plain of Meggido through a dried up river bed. Traditionally, the Euphrates River is the boundary between East and West. It's 1800 miles long. In places it's 2/3rds of a mile wide and 30 feet deep. This river bed will be the highway to Hell. Here's the road the eastern armies will take to Armageddon.

In 1990 Turkey finished a dam whereby they can now shut off the headwaters that fill up the Euphrates. The Ataturk Dam has diminished the water level in the Euphrates by a third. It's caused tremendous tension with Turkey's downstream neighbors, Syria and Iraq. This dam might one day aid the kings of the east. Again, as we mentioned previously. Everything in this section is leading to the final battle of Armageddon

Today's Study / Melt Snow on Mount Ararat – Expose Noah's Ark

For our purposes of today's study, to dry up the Euphrates River would mean you would have to stop up the source. The source is the snow glaciers of Mount Ararat so the Sun will scorch and melt the glacier until there is no more snow to melt. What makes that so interesting to me is that when the snow is melted upon 'Ararat, then Noah's Ark will be exposed, a testimony of the last time God judged the earth, and yet men still won't repent and give God glory. Give me a sign God and I'll believe, no you won't, 3 days and 3 nights, that is the only sign you need.

(Revelation 16:13 NKJV) And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

Satan's Counterfeit Trinity

This is Satan's counterfeit of the Trinity. His is an unholy trinity; Satan, the Anti-Christi and the False prophet.

(Revelation 16:14 NKJV) For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

Kings are Pawns

These kings will be pawns of Satan, and be energized to come to this place for the final battle. The Kings of the East will come with 200,000 million men just in their army alone.

Why does Satan draw these two armies to war and I believe it is because the Antichrist leads these army under his control to put down an uprising that's coming from the east because at some point the kings of the east have had enough and they're not taking it anymore. Something that Satan knows that Jesus is coming back and therefore he's drawing the armies together so that they can unite to fight against Jesus. It's possible but I don't think so because they're coming not to join forces but to destroy each other. And Satan hates anyone who's a threat to his Kingdom that's why he'll rather than try to unite and broke her some type of political oneness to make a greater force he will go to destroy because he will not allow anyone anything that is a threat to his Kingdom and his power and his glory. That's why he hates you he considers you a threat because of your witness and so he comes to steal kill and destroy you because you are a threat to his Kingdom his power and his glory

If you have war in your heart especially towards another Christian another brother or sister in the Lord recognize the seriousness what it is that's in your heart and recognize the need for it to change as I was reading Romans 15 the apostle Paul and he says I won't speak anything which Christ has not accomplished in my life I find that a great reminder for myself and for all of us we should not speak anything thank God has not done in our life until he has done it in our life. If I don't have love if I don't have joy if I don't have peace I shouldn't be going around quoting those scriptures until those scriptures become my living testimony. And if I don't have these things because I personally have not experienced these things then I should stop seek the Lord and asking why have I not experienced this and I'm not leaving until I do because if you promised them then they should be true and I should be able to take them right here and right now.

James 4:1-3 (NKJV) ¹ *Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members?* ² *You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.* ³ *You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.*

Romans 15:18 (NKJV) ¹⁸ For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me, in word and deed, to make the Gentiles obedient—

Philippians 3:12-14 (NKJV) ¹² *Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.* ¹³ *Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,* ¹⁴ *I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

1 Chronicles 4:10 (NKJV) ¹⁰ And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, "Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep *me* from evil, that I may not cause pain!" So God granted him what he requested.

(Revelation 16:15 NKJV) "Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame."

Written to Us – John's Congregation / We are to be Watchful – Lest you Walk Naked

This verse was written for the reader of that day, John on the Island of Patmos, the saints who were going through tribulation of their own at the time of this writing (the Apostle John's congregation), it is written to us today. It is not written to the people we are reading about for these people for they have already rejected the Lord. It is written to us to persevere, to be watchful. Be watchful and keep your garments, lest you walk naked. In the time of this writing military soldiers were to watch and be alert while on duty. If they were watching a prisoner and the prisoner escaped the whole unit would be killed. So what they would do if a fellow soldier fell asleep, they would light his robe on fire, that will get your attention. The soldiers would walk in shame, partially naked, and all would know you failed on your calling, your duty. The Lord speaks to all of us today, do not let your garments be burned, don not be put to shame, be watchful and faithful to your calling.

I Come

I think the Lord speaks something wonderful here to those who missed the rapture for he surely not talking to the unrepentant because it doesn't matter to them their eternal destiny has been sealed by taking the mark and now they are reaping what they've sown. But the Lord speaks to the church who should be waiting as he sent that to the Church of sardis I come as a thief in the night but he's speaking now on the other side of the rapture and he's speaking to those who missed it but have not taken the mark who have committed their life to Christ and he's bringing this beautiful promise to them there is a second chance and you are not a second rate citizen of heaven because you missed the rapture but it gives them a word hold fast before I come

(Revelation 16:16 NKJV) **And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.**

Megiddo

- Jabin and 900 chariots were overwhelmed
- Gideon's 300 defeated the Midianites, Amalekites and children of the east
- Samson triumphed over the Philistines
- Barak and Deborah defeated Sisera

- Saul was slain by Philistines
- Ahaziah slain by arrows of Jehu
- Pharaoh Necho slew King Josiah
- The Saracens, Christian crusaders, Egyptians, Persians, Druses,
- Turks, Arabs, and others all had battles there

60 Miles North / Napoleon

This is the place of the final battle, which really is a war. This valley of Megiddo where this final battle will be fought is 60 north of Jerusalem. When Napoleon stood overlooking this valley he said it was the greatest battlefield he had ever saw, and wished he could wage war there. Hundreds of million of men will come to war here, and the blood will flow 180 miles, 3 to 4 feet high. That is unimaginable
(Revelation 14:20 NKJV) And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs.

Bowl 7 – The Great Earthquake (16:17-21)

(Revelation 16:17 NKJV) Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!"

This is Voice of God

The voice is the voice of God, for He is the only one in the Temple.

Remember who the Bible refers to as “the prince of the power of the air?” Ephesians 2:2 coins this term as a title for Satan. This is why Satan has such an influence on broadcast media, and now wi-fi, and the cloud. So much of His filth is spread through “the air.” And apparently, this seventh and final bowl judgment is aimed at Satan himself and his vast domain. God is going to defeat the devil at the pinnacle of his power.

“And a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!" Or “It is finished.” The wording harkens back to the cross of Christ. On the cross Jesus redeemed the creation. He bought it back. But here He finally takes possession. With this final bowl of judgment, Jesus evicts the squatters. He is finally securing for Himself what belongs to Him.

(Revelation 16:18 NKJV) And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth.

(Revelation 16:19 NKJV) Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.

Whole Earth Shake

Isaiah says the whole earth shall wobble, not just a localized earthquake:

(Isaiah 24:19 NKJV) The earth is violently broken, The earth is split open, The earth is shaken exceedingly.

(Isaiah 24:20 NKJV) The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, And shall totter like a hut; Its transgression shall be heavy upon it, And it will fall, and not rise again.

(Isaiah 24:21 NKJV) It shall come to pass in that day That the LORD will punish on high the host of exalted ones, And on the earth the kings of the earth.

(Isaiah 24:22 NKJV) They will be gathered together, As prisoners are gathered in the pit, And will be shut up in the prison; After many days they will be punished.

(Isaiah 24:23 NKJV) Then the moon will be disgraced And the sun ashamed; For the LORD of hosts will reign On Mount Zion and in Jerusalem And before His elders, gloriously.

The Great City

“Now the great city was divided into three parts...” “The great city” is probably Jerusalem. Today, Jerusalem is a divided city... East Jerusalem is largely Arab. West Jerusalem is Jewish. But you think Jerusalem is divide now, here God splits it into three...

All the Great Cities Fall

All the cities fell, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Tokyo, London, Moscow, all the great cities shall fall.

John also mentions the impact of this strike on another city. "And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath." Jerusalem has always been God's capitol on Earth - while Babylon is Satan's city. And here Babylon is made to gulp down a cup of the fierceness of God's wrath. She tastes His judgment.

(Revelation 16:20 NKJV) Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.

Verse 20, "Then every island fled away..." The heat from the fourth bowl melts the polar ice caps. Scientists say when that happens the sea level will rise 200 feet. Coastal cities and beach towns will disappear. Tidal waves and tsunamis will occur when the earth is assaulted from space and the continental plates shift.

(Revelation 16:21 NKJV) And great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great.

Storehouse of Hail

In Job-God says have you seen the storehouses of snow and hail that I have reserved for the last days. *(Job 38:22 NKJV) "Have you entered the treasury of snow, Or have you seen the treasury of hail, (Job 38:23 NKJV) Which I have reserved for the time of trouble, For the day of battle and war?"*

Penalty for Blaspheming the Lord - Stoning

The penalty for blaspheming God was death by stoning. The Valley of Meggido will have 180 miles of soldiers packed side-by-side, and then this hail will come, there will be no place to Run, no place to hide. The scene will be horrific; *(Leviticus 24:16 NKJV) 'And whoever blasphemes the name of the LORD shall surely be put to death. All the congregation shall certainly stone him, the stranger as well as him who is born in the land. When he blasphemes the name of the Lord, he shall be put to death.'*

Talent in Hebrew & Greek

A talent in the Hebrew weighs 114 pound, and a Greek talent weighs 96 pound. If you get hit with one, it really won't matter whether it is Greek or Hebrew talent.

When I was 12 years old growing up in western Pennsylvania I was golfing with my brother and a friend at a par three and I teed off my shot and I went to pick up my tee but my brother was not following proper golf etiquette and he already had his golf ball teed up behind me and so he looks down at his ball to hit it not seeing me still on the green box in front of him and he Tees off and from six feet away he drives a golf ball off of my head at about 100 miles an hour I'm sure, and down I went in three days in the hospital I was with nausea and brain concussion

So I'm sure many of you are starting to put it together now it makes sense why he is not all there together sometimes

I think what was more humiliating was my mother had my father bring me a hard hat home from the steel mill and I was told I have to wear the hard hat every time I went golfing so of course as soon as they dropped us off I tip my hard hat as a wave and soon as I got out of sight I tossed it in the weeds and then picked it up on the way back before they would pick us up quite embarrassing

But it was just a golf ball and I can't tell you the pain and suffering three days in the hospital, now imagine close to 100 pounds impacting a head, for hail falls down from above the head.

Scene on Earth – In Heaven

I do have good news today. While this horrific scene is going on down here on earth, there is another scene going on in heaven, and it is a marriage supper, it is for all those that have overcome:

(Revelation 2:7 NKJV) "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

They Overcame

And how did they overcome, through the blood of the Lamb:

(Revelation 12:11 NKJV) "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death."

White as Snow / Freedom Death Can't Touch / The Stone has Been Rolled Away

Oh precious is the flow, that makes me white as snow, no other fount I know, nothing but the Blood of Jesus. We have been freed, inside and out, a freedom that not even death could take away. The stone has been rolled away, He is not there, for He has risen. So too He would say to us today, the stone has been rolled away, go live, enjoy your freedom, enjoy your forgiveness. I pray today that you enjoy the greatest love story ever told, it is a love story about you, and the God who loves you so much that He can't stop thinking about, from before the foundations of the world, every pound of the nail through His body there upon the cross, and today every nail He pounds as He prepares a place for you in heaven, thinking of you, ah someday my Bride will be here, I can't wait.

The 7th Trumpet / 7 Bowls of Wrath

- Bowl 1 – Loathsome Sores
- Bowl 2 – The Seas turn to Blood
- Bowl 3 – The Fresh waters turn to Blood
- Bowl 4 – The Sun Scorches the Earth
- Bowl 5 – Darkness Upon the Earth
- Bowl 6 – The River Euphrates is Dried Up
- Bowl 7 – The Great Earthquake

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need