

Apocalypse Now (Revelation Revisited)

Session 12 / Wednesday

THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

1 For many weeks we have been studying the time between the Rapture of the Church and
2 Christ's Second Coming - two distinct events. That seven year period is commonly
3 referred to as The Tribulation. Tonight I want to wrap up the final set of three
4 judgments, the Bowl Judgments, and launch into the return of Christ.

5
6 You will remember that during the Tribulation God sends three sets of divine judgment to
7 the earth:

- 8 1. The Seal Judgments / Revelation 6 - 7
- 9 2. The Trumpet Judgments / Revelation 8 - 15
- 10 3. The Bowl (or Vial) Judgements Revelation 16

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12 Note that these judgments are sequential, not concurrent – one follows another.

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14 This last set of divine judgments (not man's inhumanity to man, but God's wrath upon
15 humanity) are fulfilled during the last 3 ½ years of the Tribulation - or the Great
16 Tribulation. This time culminates with Armageddon and the Return of Christ to this
17 Earth.

18
19 Rev. 16:1-21

20 **And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your**
21 **ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth. [2] And the first**
22 **went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous**
23 **sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which**
24 **worshipped his image. [3] And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea;**
25 **and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea. [4]**
26 **And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and**
27 **they became blood. [5] And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous,**
28 **O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. [6] For**
29 **they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to**
30 **drink; for they are worthy. [7] And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so,**
31 **Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments. [8] And the fourth angel**
32 **poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with**
33 **fire. [9] And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God,**
34 **which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory. [10]**

1 into wine in His first known miracle (in Cana of Galilee). Humanity cannot survive
2 without clean water.

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4 **The Fourth Bowl Judgment - Scorching Heat From the Sun Rev. 16:8-9**

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6 For thousands of years, the sun has been a consistent friend, rising in the morning, setting
7 in the evening, providing energy, heat and light to mankind. But during the last half of
8 the Tribulation, the sun will go berserk for a time. The heat will be life-taking.

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17 **The Fifth Bowl Judgment - Darkness (Rev. 16:10-11)**

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19 This judgment was predicted thousands of years ago by the Old Testament prophets:

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21 **Amos 5:18**

22 **Woe unto you that desire the day of the Lord! to what end is it for you? the day of**
23 **the Lord is darkness, and not light.**

24
25 **Nahum 1:6 and 8**

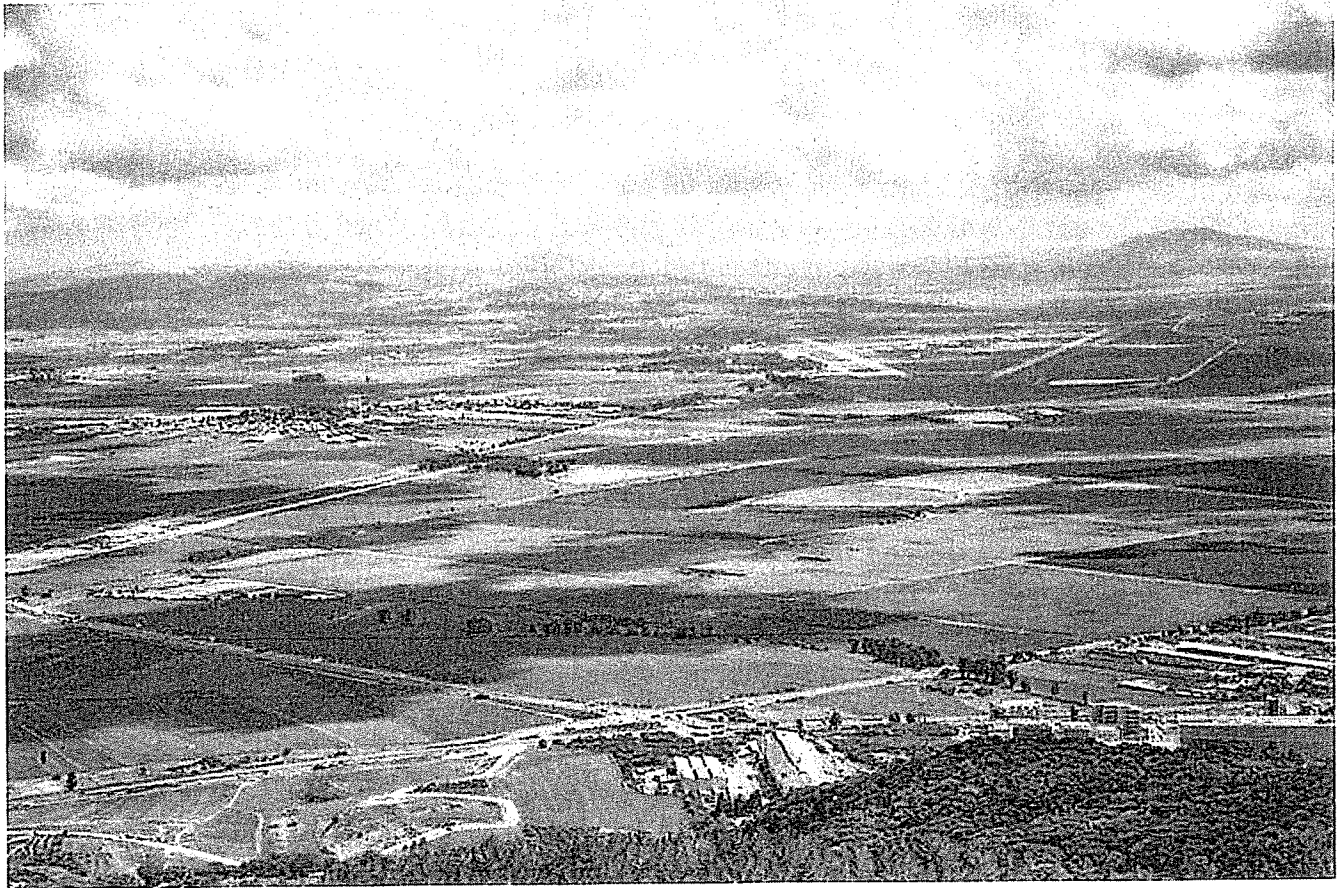
26 **Who can stand before his indignation? and who can abide in the fierceness of his**
27 **anger? his fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by him. [8]**
28 **But with an overrunning flood he will make an utter end of the place thereof, and**
29 **darkness shall pursue his enemies.**

30
31 **Zeph. 1:15**

32 **That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and**
33 **desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness,**

34
35 Around the north pole in the wintertime, there isn't much sunlight. It can grow dark by
36 2 or 3 in the afternoon after only four or five hours of partial sunlight. Suicide is a huge
37 problem in some parts of that area. Think what it would be like with NO light at all -
38 only terrible darkness.

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40 **The Sixth Bowl Judgment – The River Euphrates Dried Up Rev. 12-16**



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23 The Valley of Armageddon - picture taken from the summit of Mt. Carmel (looking north east) where
24 Elijah called down fire from Heaven against the prophets of Baal. The runways are active even today
25 for the Israeli airforce. The round-shaped mountain in the distance, left center, is Mount Tabor. To the
26 right is the mountain region where God through Gideon defeated the Midianites with only 300 men.
27 Nazareth would be tucked away just off the left side of the picture on the distant horizon.
28

29 The Seventh Bowl Judgment - The Wrath of God Rev. 16:17-21
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31 As the final judgment is poured out on Earth, from the Temple of God before the divine
32 throne comes a thundering voice, **IT IS DONE!** What is that final judgment? The worst
33 earthquake in the history of humanity. It will split Babylon, which at that time will be
34 the seat of Antichrist's rule. Entire cities will disappear. Islands will vanish. Peter
35 was told of this by the Holy Spirit and he wrote: **2 Peter 3:10 But the day of the Lord**
36 **will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a**
37 **great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the**
38 **works that are therein shall be burned up. Massive hailstones, some weighing 135**
39 **pounds each, will pound down from the skies. We will read more of this when we come**
40 **to Revelation 18 and 19. Still men's hearts will be frozen in rejection of God. Only the**
41 **coming of Messiah, the King of Kings, can bring any hope to the earth.**

1 made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is
2 she made desolate. [20] Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and
3 prophets; for God hath avenged you on her. [21] And a mighty angel took up a stone
4 like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that
5 great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all. [22] And the
6 voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no
7 more at all in thee; and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft he be, shall be found any
8 more in thee; and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee; [23]
9 And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the
10 bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants
11 were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived. [24]
12 And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain
13 upon the earth.

14
15 Revelation 17 deals with the destruction of the false world religious system (Babylon)
16 that has been led by the False Prophet. While many prophecy books declare this church
17 or that church to be the false religion I have personally always believed the false religious
18 system is Islam. And, further, as I presented some months ago on a Wednesday night, I
19 believe the Antichrist could very well be the Mahdi - the 12th Imam for whom Muslims
20 around the world await. In this study tonight I will deal only with the destruction of the
21 commercial and governmental systems at the end of the Tribulation period. But note
22 this: while the religious system (also known as Babylon in Revelation) will be destroyed
23 by the world's rulers in the last half of the Tribulation, the Babylon of chapter 18 -
24 government and commercial - will be destroyed by terrible judgments from God.

25
26 It is possible that the ancient city of Babylon will be rebuilt and will be the seat of Satan's
27 government during the Tribulation. Quite a few worthy Bible scholars subscribe to that
28 possibility. There was much more acceptance of that theory while Saddam Hussein was
29 still living and who publicly proclaimed that he would rebuild Babylon. However, his
30 execution a few years ago and the subsequent chaos in Iraq have cast suspicion on the
31 theory.

32
33 Wherever, the seat of political Babylon will be, the entire system will be destroyed by
34 God very quickly. Verse 17 declares it happens in an hour of time. God warns the
35 Tribulation saints not to be occupied with investments or making wealth for themselves.
36 Look at these two verses: Rev. 18:4-5 And I heard another voice from heaven,
37 saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye
38 receive not of her plagues. [5] For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath
39 remembered her iniquities.
40

1 So Joseph's options were these concerning his beloved fiancé: divorce her; accuse her
2 before the town elders after which she would be stoned for adultery; or quietly marry her.

3
4 When you and I are saved, born again, redeemed by Christ's blood, we are in fact
5 agreeing to eternal union between us and Jesus. We are engaged to Him!

6
7 With a couple in Jesus' time, when it came time for the actual marriage, the groom would
8 take his bride to his father's house for an official presentation. That correlates to the
9 Rapture, in our case, in which Jesus present us, the Church, as His Bride to God the
10 Father.

11
12 Then would come the great marriage feast - which was not really for the bride at all, but
13 rather in honor of the groom. At the Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Jesus is the Lamb of
14 God), the event will not be in our honor, but Christ's honor.

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16

Therefore, we saints of God (before entering the Marriage Supper chamber) will go through what Paul called the Judgment Seat of Christ (I Corinthians 3) where it will be determined what we wear and what we take into the Marriage Feast. **WE WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO WEAR ANY GARMENT OR TAKE ANY THING INTO THAT HOLY CHAMBER THAT DETRACTS ANYONE'S ATTENTION FROM JESUS!** Only those things we have done for Christ in this life (not our own enjoyment or benefit) will be allowed inside. 1 Cor. 3:11-15 **For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. [12] Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; [13] Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. [14] If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. [15] If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.**

17
18 Down on Earth, the inhabitants are suffering through the terrible throes of the Tribulation.
19 That seven year horror will culminate at Armageddon, as we have already seen. But
20 before the battle can commence, the King returns!

21
22 Rev. 19:11-16

23 **And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him**
24 **was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.**
25 **[12] His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had**
26 **a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. [13] And he was clothed with a**

1 the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east
2 and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain
3 shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. [5] And ye shall flee
4 to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal:
5 yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah
6 king of Judah: and the Lord my God shall come, and all the saints with thee.
7

8 The question might be asked, "So....on the earth, the armies are gearing for a global war
9 between Antichrist's forces (the West) vs the Kings of the East. Do we have to fight
10 when Jesus returns?" No! With a word from His mouth, all hostilities cease. He will
11 put down all before Him and every person will be in subjection to Him for a thousand
12 years. Jesus is the Righteous Judge, Who knows the end from the beginning. Verse 12
13 declares that ON HIS HEAD ARE MANY CROWNS. That means He will have
14 authority over all nations, all tribes, all people.
15

16 This is the day for which we saints of God long! Jesus will reign and we with Him.
17 Earth will be revolutionized in that time. We will study the Millennium and Jesus' reign
18 next week.
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