

Revelation 16:1-12
Rootwork
The Righteous Wrath of God

(Everyday) Before you begin your study time - spend time in prayer, preparing your heart and surrendering your will to the Spirit of God! Allow Him to have full access by not withholding anything He wants to do in and then do through you!!

(Everyday)Remember, the enemy is going to try to keep you from being in the Word, he hates when we worship our God- Worship breaks his bondages over believers, so resist him and he will flee!!

(Everyday) Spend time in adoration and worship daily after you have cleansed your heart and before you dive into the scriptures!! Proclaiming who God is and adoring Him lifts our eyes up and keeps our focus on what really matters...putting God in His rightful place and putting us in ours!

BONUS- (If you have not done this already) if you were at the "Digging Deeper" conference and you would like to structure these scriptures, Copy and paste Revelation 16 into a word/pages document or write it out verse by verse, following the structuring handouts you received!

Review Rev. 15 from the last Bible study and refresh your memory on where we are in scripture and where we are on the timeline of events! Jot down anything you want to take note of that was significant to you during this study!

Read the whole of chapter 16 to get an overview and to observe the scripture in context! Then go back and look up any words in your blue letter Bible app! Just select the verse, select interlinear concordance and select the word! So much insight is given looking up these words! Let me know if you have any questions!

Read verse 1, what does John hear and from where is He hearing it?
What is significant about this place?

Who is speaking here and how do you know? How many times is this phrase used?

Who is this voice speaking to?

Notice how this is a command! What is this voice commanding?

Look at verse 2, here we see the first angel with the first bowl. What was that bowl? (Be sure to look up any word you want more understanding on from this verse) what does loathsome and malignant sores look like?

Compare this to Exodus 9:8-11, what do you see?

What was God trying to do there in Exodus as well as here in Revelation?

Has the Lord used anything in your life to get your attention, to turn back to Him or to remove an idol from your heart? What did He use and do you think you would have listened if He used any other means? How great it is for us to really know and understand that our God does whatever it takes to get our attention and to bring us back into His loving arms!! What a comfort for us - and a comfort for those we are praying for!

Looking back at verse 2, who is this bowl poured out on? Look how God makes a distinction, it is on those who have rejected Him! God's judgment is not irrational or out of order. He is not like us, He does not snap, or lose His temper- we serve a very intentional God! What a blessing that is!! Write this in your "Who is God" journal!

Does this judgment remind you of anything else in the Bible? If so where and what happened?

Read verse 3, we have the second angel with the second bowl, what is it?

Compare and contrast with Exodus 7:19 and Rev. 8:8-9! How much of the earth is covered in sea? Can you imagine what this will be like?

Read verse 4, here we have the third angel with the third bowl, it is similar to the second but now it is all water! Every time we see water turned to blood as we did as a foreshadow from the OT - a foreshadow of the blood that would wash us white as snow- And just like with the Vine Jesus became and was rejected by them, the cup of wrath He drank so we would not have to - He was rejected by them, the wine press He went through so we would not go through it- He was denied by them- here is the blood of His sacrifice He offered and once again - they refused to turn! What a heartbreaking thought...after every thing He did and still...So when asked- how can a God of love have such fierce judgment and wrath- you tell me...what else could He do?

Look up Romans 8:32 and spend some time here worshipping and thanking the Lord for the blood poured out for you, the blood that has washed you white as snow as a child of God when you ACCEPTED the gift that Jesus gave by taking on the fierce judgment and wrath of God so you would not have to!! Wow!! Do you understand what has been done for you?

Read verse 5, see if you can find anywhere else in the Bible where there is an angel specifically over the waters? If so, record what you find!

What did this angel say? Look up each attribute the angel is declaring and record it!

In the middle of the wrath of God being poured out, we are reminded of who God is!! Who is God? (Record in your journal)

What we think about God is the most important thing about us! As we discussed in Bible study, If our view of God is wrong- not true- our lives will reflect that- one of fear, worry, control and lack of peace - If our view of God is correct, it will be one of joy, worship and a peace that surpasses understanding!

As you look over your own walk with the Lord, what have you used to define God? Your experience? Your emotions? Your intellect? Write honestly! What does your walk reflect what you believe about God?

Read verse 6, the angel is continuing on and in the middle of worship God for being right and true in His judgements, he also declares why they are being judged with blood. What is that reason?

Be sure to look up “Deserve” and record what it says! What does this remind you about yourself and what you deserve? How are you different? How grateful should we be?! Does your life reflect gratefulness to God for not giving you what you deserve? Be honest and spend some time here! Write a prayer response to the Lord!

Read verse 7, what happens again? This time from who? Look up all the attributes of our God and record in your journal! Praise Him with the angels in heaven!!

Read Romans 5:8 and record in light of what you are studying!

This worship is coming from the alter- the alter of sacrifice- it is only through the alter we see clearly! This is the lense we must look through at every situation and every trial we face!! Notice how right after the blood was poured out onto the earth- the worship comes from the alter! Christ’s blood was poured out for all of mankind- all who would repent and believe!! What a beautiful love story and a beautiful SAVIOR!!

What do Genesis 18:25 and Psalm 19:9 say about God’s judgments? What other verses can you find that tell us about the judgments of

God? If you have time do some digging here!! You just might end up worshiping all over again!!

Read verse 8, here we see the fourth angel and the fourth bowl, what is it?

How is this one different than the previous bowls?

Read verse 9, what did the men do when they were scorched with heat? Look up what it means in detail, look up the definition of the meanings and write these too! Then spend some time asking God to show you your heart, is there any area where it resembles any of these words? Take time to repent and turn from those things! That may mean you have to take time and evaluate who has the most influence in your life..it may mean your circles have to get smaller, it may mean you can't hang out with that friend after work, or spend less time with that family member! Whatever it is the Lord shows you, do not hesitate to lay that down! Nothing is worth having anything in our lives that hurts the heart of God and hinders our walk with Him! The most beautiful thing about a church family is that we get to sharpen one another and remind each other to LOOK UP!! There is no greater friend/family than that!

Look back over verse 9, how sad is this? One, because the wrath has to be so intense, two, that they still will not turn, and three, how similar our fleshly, natural minds go! When bad things happen in your life, do you turn to God? Or blame God? Be honest here! What is the most tragic and hard thing you have ever had to walk through.....did you turn to God or blame Him? This will tell you what your view is of Him and why we do our "who is God" journal so that His attributes are so ingrained that we learn to cling to Him when we literally have nothing else to cling to!!

Look up the word "repent" and record!

To change your mind (thoughts, feelings and actions) is to change your direction and your life!! It is absolutely impossible to repent and live as if repentance never happened! I shared the story of when the Lord graciously brought me to a place of surrendering my sweet husband! I had no idea how hard I was holding onto him nor how wrong it was until God led me to repentance in surrendering him off the throne of my heart where God was only to be! What freedom I found through that and I was never ever the same! That is what repentance does! It changes us as we give all of our lives to the Lord! Is there something or someone that you are clinging to so tightly and need to surrender to the Lord? This person or this thing is an idol and it will not only suffocate the ones you "worship" but it will make you not able to love them well! Right now is the time to go there- write down who or what that is, and then go there with the Lord: what if I lose that person or thing? Then what would you do? Then what? Then what? And write out all the possible scenarios of what you would do, then answer again, then what? Until you have nothing else - no other things to write- and no other options and then answer....would you still serve God? Would you still follow Him? Would you still love Him? And LET GO!!! He is enough and He does all things SO WELL! Trust Him and rely on Him knowing that He is going to hold you up and He is ENOUGH!!! (Do not move on from this until you have fully walked this out! It is too important to halfheartedly do or skip!!)

Then at the bottom of verse 9, what does it say that they did not do? This is what we are to do with our lives! Give God Glory!!!!!!! That is our purpose! Would that define your life right now? Does your life give God glory? Does it make Him look good, give Him honor, and point others to Him? What a beautiful God we serve that He leaves hot messes like us to give Him glory and be used for His kingdom!! What unfair grace!!

Read verse 10, we see the fifth angel pouring out the fifth bowl, what is it?

Compare with Exodus 10:21-29 and record!

What did they do in light of the fifth bowl?

Notice it is their ability to speak that God deals with, just like with the Tower of Babel...what happened there? What did God do? In the middle of their blasphemous speech- God deals with the tongue! Read James 3 slowly, and record what he says about the tongue! Allow the Lord to speak to your heart about any area where He wants to cleanse and rid from your life! What a beautiful thing conviction is- the God of all creation wants to redeem and clean a wretch like me, forbid I resist any conviction He brings into my heart! Praise Him after you have walked through all of chapter 3! (Take your time here)

Then do a search on the tongue in scripture! Go through each one you find, record and read in context! If you take time here, you will find that you have embarked on a gold mine of beautiful, truth treasures that have the ability to change your whole world! Please take the time!

Read verse 11, what did they do? Finally repent?

They used their gnawed tongues to curse God even more and they chose not to repent! This is the final time we are told that mankind would not repent. The day of grace is at an end. God's deadline is now past. Neither mercy nor judgment changed the heart of these sinful people. They loved their idols too much. They loved their sin more than the Savior who would have set them free from their bondage and slavery. What a horrible reality this will be! Can you imagine the heart of God? He has been so patient, not wanting any to suffer, not wanting any to be separated from Him for all eternity! Take time here, and with a sober heart..ask God to bring to your memory all you know who have not surrendered their lives to Jesus Christ and dedicate time to pray for each one's salvation!! The Spirit of God will be unleashed in their lives!! Also, come Wednesday night service and add them to the names in the jar!

Read verse 12, we see the sixth angel poured out the sixth bowl, what is it?

Why is the great river of Euphrates so important, do a search on it and record!

What happened to it and what does it say it was for? We see this is making a way for war- the battle of Armageddon!

So looking at the trumpets, seals and the first 6 bowls of God's wrath...what does this tell you about God? Do you know anything more about His character? Do you know anything more about His patience? His long suffering? His heart?

We see so many similarities between the "earth dwellers" here in the tribulation to evil kings, and evil hearts throughout all of the scriptures...those that no matter what will not turn and repent! A hardened heart...this we have to be so very careful of in our own lives, not hardening our hearts when God speaks, when He warns and when He convicts! It is a privilege and a miracle to hear the voice of God, we as believers need to rejoice in the beauty of conviction and an opportunity to repent!

Finish your time this week reading Psalm 95 and record you thoughts and worship...then keep your hearts soft and moldable in the hands of the Lord until we see Him face to face!!