



Vision 5: The Bowls of Wrath

Rev 15-16

The Seven Angels

Rev 15:1

1. Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and amazing
 - a. Rev 12:1 – And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.
 - b. Rev 12:3 – And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems.
2. Seven angels with seven plagues (Rev 15:6: 16:1; 17:1; 21:9)
3. Which are the last, for with them the wrath of God is finished (finished = fulfilled)
Rev 10:7 – but that in the days of the trumpet call to be sounded by the seventh angel, the mystery of God would be fulfilled, just as he announced to his servants the prophets.

Rev 15:2

1. And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mingled with fire
Rev 4:6a – and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal
2. And also those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name, standing beside the sea of glass
Rev 13:14-18 – It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in front of people, 14 and by the signs that it is allowed to work in the presence of the beast it deceives those who dwell on earth, telling them to make an image for the beast that was wounded by the sword and yet lived. 15 And it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast might even speak and might cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be slain. 16 Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, 17 so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. 18 This calls for wisdom: let the one who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man, and his number is 666.
3. With harps of God in their hands (2 Chr 29:25; Ps 33:2; 71:22; 92:3; 98:5; 147:7; 149:3; 150:3; Rev 5:8; 14:2)

Rev 15:3

1. And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God (Ex 15)
2. Great and amazing are your deeds



- a. Ps 111:2 – Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.
 - b. Ps 139:14 – I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.
3. Just and true are your ways
- a. Ps 145:17 – The Lord is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works.
 - b. Ps 119:137 – Righteous are you, O Lord, and right are your rules.

Rev 15:4

1. Who will not fear, O Lord
 - a. Jer 10:7 – Who would not fear you, O King of the nations? For this is your due; for among all the wise ones of the nations and in all their kingdoms there is none like you.
 - b. Jer 5:22a – Do you not fear me? declares the Lord. Do you not tremble before me?
2. All nations will come and worship you
 - a. Ps 86:9 – All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.
 - b. Jer 16:19-20 – O Lord, my strength and my stronghold, my refuge in the day of trouble, to you shall the nations come from the ends of the earth and say: “Our fathers have inherited nothing but lies, worthless things in which there is no profit. 20 Can man make for himself gods? Such are not gods!”
 - c. Is 66:23 – From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the Lord.
3. For your righteous acts have been revealed
 - a. Ps 98:2 – The Lord has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.
 - b. Rom 3:25-26 – whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Rev 15:5

1. After this I looked (Rev 4:1; 7:1, 9; 18:1)
2. And the sanctuary of the tent of witness in heaven was opened
 - a. Rev 11:19 – Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple. There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail.
 - b. Matt 27:51 – And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split.
 - c. Acts 7:44 – Our fathers had the tent of witness in the wilderness, just as he who spoke to Moses directed him to make it, according to the pattern that he had seen.

Rev 15:6

1. Seven angels with the seven plagues (Rev 15:1; 16:1; 17:1; 21:9)
2. Clothed in pure, bright linen, with golden sashes around their chests



- a. Dan 10:5 – I lifted up my eyes and looked, and behold, a man clothed in linen, with a belt of fine gold from Uphaz around his waist.
- b. Rev 1:13 – and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest.

Rev 15:7

1. Four living creatures (Rev 4:6-8; 5:8; 6:1-8)
2. Seven golden bowls (Rev 5:8; 6:9-10; Ex 25:29)
3. Who lives for ever and ever (Rev 4:9, 10; 10:6; Dan 4:34)

Rev 15:8 – Filled with smoke

1. Is 6:4 – And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke.
2. Ps 18:8 – Smoke went up from his nostrils, and devouring fire from his mouth; glowing coals flamed forth from him.

The bowls of wrath have similarity to some of the Egyptian plagues.

1. First bowl – sores (Ex 9:10)
2. Third bowl – water into blood (Ex 7:19)
3. Fifth bowl – darkness (Ex 10:22)
4. Sixth bowl – evil spirits appearing as frogs (Ex 8:6)
5. Seventh bowl – hailstones (Ex 9:23-24)

There are parallels between the seven trumpets and the seven bowls of wrath in chapter 16. (Kistemaker, 2001)

Trumpets	Bowls
Earth (8:7)	Earth (16:2)
Sea (8:8-9)	Sea (16:3)
Rivers, springs (8:10-11)	Rivers, springs (16:4-5)
Sun, moon, stars (8:12)	Sun (16:8)
Shaft of the Abyss (9:1)	Throne of the beast (16:10)
River Euphrates (9:14)	River Euphrates (16:12)
Lighting, hail (11:19)	Lightning, hail (16:18, 21)

The basic difference between the trumpets and the bowls is generally one of an increase in intensity.

- In the first trumpet scene, the earth is affected but not the people, but in the scene of the first bowl, the people suffer from festering boils.
- The second trumpet involves only a third of the sea and its creatures whereas the second bowl causes death for every living thing in the sea.
- The third trumpet is a warning, while the third bowl is God's judgment.
- The fourth trumpet ushers in partial darkness, but the result of pouring out the fourth bowl is that the sun scorches the people.
- The fifth trumpet releases the hordes of evil angels that torture those people who do not have God's seal on their foreheads, and the fifth bowl causes darkness in Satan's kingdom and suffering on the people who curse God.



- The sixth trumpet brings about the death of one-third of the human race in warfare, while in the scene of the sixth bowl this warfare engages the kings of the whole world.
- The seventh trumpet and the seventh bowl are almost identical except that in the bowl scene the words *It is done* sound forth from the throne to indicate finality.

The First Bowl

Rev 16:1 – Then I heard a loud voice from the temple

Is 66:6 – The sound of an uproar from the city! A sound from the temple! The sound of the Lord, rendering recompense to his enemies!

Rev 16:2

1. Poured out his bowl on the earth. The Greek literally reads that the angel “poured out his bowl *into* the earth.”
 - a. Ex 9:10-11 – It shall become fine dust over all the land of Egypt, and become boils breaking out in sores on man and beast throughout all the land of Egypt.” 10 So they took soot from the kiln and stood before Pharaoh. And Moses threw it in the air, and it became boils breaking out in sores on man and beast.
 - b. Dt 28:27 – The Lord will strike you with the boils of Egypt, and with tumors and scabs and itch, of which you cannot be healed.
2. The people who bore the mark of the beast and worshiped its image (Rev 13:15-16)

The Second Bowl

Rev 16:3 – Poured out his bowl into the sea.

Ex 7:17-21 – Thus says the Lord, “By this you shall know that I am the Lord: behold, with the staff that is in my hand I will strike the water that is in the Nile, and it shall turn into blood. 18 The fish in the Nile shall die, and the Nile will stink, and the Egyptians will grow weary of drinking water from the Nile.”” 19 And the Lord said to Moses, “Say to Aaron, “Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their rivers, their canals, and their ponds, and all their pools of water, so that they may become blood, and there shall be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, even in vessels of wood and in vessels of stone.”” 20 Moses and Aaron did as the Lord commanded. In the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants he lifted up the staff and struck the water in the Nile, and all the water in the Nile turned into blood. 21 And the fish in the Nile died, and the Nile stank, so that the Egyptians could not drink water from the Nile. There was blood throughout all the land of Egypt.

The Third Bowl

Rev 16:4 – Poured out his bowl into the rivers and springs of living waters.

Ps 78:44 – He turned their rivers to blood, so that they could not drink of their streams.



Rev 16:5

1. Just are you, O Holy One,... for you brought these judgments
 - a. Dt 32:4 – The Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is he.
 - b. Ps 119:137 – Righteous are you, O Lord, and right are your rules.
 - c. Ps 145:17 – The Lord is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works.
 - d. Rev 15:3b – Just and true are your ways, O King of the nations!
2. Who is and who was (Rev 11:17)

Rev 16:6 – Given them blood to drink

1. Is 49:26 – I will make your oppressors eat their own flesh, and they shall be drunk with their own blood as with wine. Then all flesh shall know that I am the Lord your Savior, and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.
2. John 6:53-55 – So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. 54 Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. 55 For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.

Rev 16:7

1. And I heard the altar saying (Rev 6:9-10; 8:3-5; 14:18)
2. True and just are your judgments (Rev 15:3; 19:2; Dt 32:4)

The Fourth Bowl

Rev 16:8 – It was allowed to scorch people with fire

1. Dt 28:22 – The Lord will strike you with wasting disease and with fever, inflammation and fiery heat, and with drought and with blight and with mildew. They shall pursue you until you perish.
2. Is 49:10 – they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them.
3. Ps 121:6 – The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
4. Rev 7:16 – They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

Rev 16:9

1. They cursed the name of God
 - a. Is 52:5 – “Now therefore what have I here,” declares the Lord, “seeing that my people are taken away for nothing? Their rulers wail,” declares the Lord, “and continually all the day my name is despised.”
 - b. Rev 13:6 – It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven.
 - c. Rev 16:11a – and cursed the God of heaven for their pain and sores
2. They did not repent and give him glory (Rev 9:20-21; 16:11b)



The Fifth Bowl

Rev 16:10

1. Throne of the beast
 - a. Rev 2:13a – I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is.
 - b. Rev 13:2 – And the beast that I saw was like a leopard; its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And to it the dragon gave his power and his throne and great authority.
2. Its kingdom was plunged into darkness
 - a. Ex 10:22-23 – So Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven, and there was pitch darkness in all the land of Egypt three days. 23 They did not see one another, nor did anyone rise from his place for three days, but all the people of Israel had light where they lived.
 - b. Matt 8:11-12 – I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, 12 while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
 - c. Matt 22:13 – Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Rev 16:11

1. They cursed the God of heaven (Is 52:5, Rev 13:6; 16:9a)
2. They did not repent of their deeds (Rev 9:20-21; 16:9b)
Rom 1:32 – Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

The Sixth Bowl

Rev 16:12 – The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up

1. Is 44:27-28 – who says to the deep, 'Be dry; I will dry up your rivers'; 28 who says of Cyrus, 'He is my shepherd, and he shall fulfill all my purpose'; saying of Jerusalem, 'She shall be built,' and of the temple, 'Your foundation shall be laid.'"
2. Jer 50:38 – A drought against her waters, that they may be dried up! For it is a land of images, and they are mad over idols.
3. Jer 51:36 – Therefore thus says the Lord: "Behold, I will plead your cause and take vengeance for you. I will dry up her sea and make her fountain dry

Rev 16:13

1. Three unclean spirits like frogs
 - a. Ex 8:2-6 – Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go in to Pharaoh and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord, "Let my people go, that they may serve me. 2 But if you refuse to let them go, behold, I will plague all your country with frogs. 3 The Nile shall swarm with frogs that shall come up into your house and into your



bedroom and on your bed and into the houses of your servants and your people, and into your ovens and your kneading bowls. 4 The frogs shall come up on you and on your people and on all your servants.”” 5 And the Lord said to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Stretch out your hand with your staff over the rivers, over the canals and over the pools, and make frogs come up on the land of Egypt!’” 6 So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs came up and covered the land of Egypt.

- b. Lev 11:10 – But anything in the seas or the rivers that does not have fins and scales, of the swarming creatures in the waters and of the living creatures that are in the waters, is detestable to you.
2. Dragon...beast...false prophet (Rev 12:3; 13:1, 2, 11; 19:20; 20:10)

Rev 16:14

1. For they are demonic spirits, performing signs
 - a. Rev 13:13 – It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in front of people
 - b. Matt 24:24 – For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.
2. Go abroad to the kings of the whole world (Rev 1:5; 6:15; 17:2, 18; 18:3, 9; 19:19; 21:24)
 - 1 Ki 22:19-23 – And Micaiah said, “Therefore hear the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing beside him on his right hand and on his left; 20 and the Lord said, ‘Who will entice Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?’ And one said one thing, and another said another. 21 Then a spirit came forward and stood before the Lord, saying, ‘I will entice him.’ 22 And the Lord said to him, ‘By what means?’ And he said, ‘I will go out, and will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.’ And he said, ‘You are to entice him, and you shall succeed; go out and do so.’ 23 Now therefore behold, the Lord has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets; the Lord has declared disaster for you.”
3. Battle – note that the Greek has “*the* battle.”
 - a. Rev 19:19 – And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to make (Greek has *the*) war against him who was sitting on the horse and against his army.
 - b. Rev 20:7-8 – And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison 8 and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for (Greek has *the*) battle; their number is like the sand of the sea.
 - c. Few English version accurately reflect the presence of the definite article before “war” (*ho polemos*) in Rev 19:19 (NASB: “assembled to make war”) and 20:8 (NASB [correctly here]: “to gather them together for the war”). Nevertheless the presence of the definite article signals that a specific war or battle, the war first introduced in 16:14 with the fuller title, “the war of the great day of God, the Almighty,” is in view in both passages – there is one last battle, not two. The presence of the article in 19:19 and 20:8 is noteworthy, since Revelation often uses *polemos* (“war”) without the article when referring to warfare generically (9:7, 9; 11:7; 12:7, 17; 13:7). (Johnson, 2001)



4. On the great day of God the Almighty
 - a. Acts 2:20 – the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.
 - b. 2 Pet 3:11-12 – Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, 12 waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!

Rev 16:15

1. Behold, I am coming like a thief!
 - a. Matt 24:42-44 – Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. 43 But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. 44 Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.
 - b. Rev 3:3 – Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.
 - c. 1 Thes 5:1-3 – Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.
 - d. 2 Pet 3:10 – But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.
2. Blessed is the one who stays awake, keeping his garments on, that he may not go about naked and be seen exposed! (See also Matt 25:1-13.) We must be clothed in the righteousness of Christ or we are naked (2 Cor 5:21).
 - a. Luke 12:35-40 – “Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, 36 and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. 37 Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. 38 If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! 39 But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. 40 You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”
 - b. Rom 13:11 – Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.
 - c. 1 Pet 5:8 – Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.



- d. Rev 3:18 – I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see.
- e. Heb 4:13 – And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Rev 16:16 – And they assembled them at the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon. (Judges 4-5; 2 Kings 23:29)

In order to arrive at the correct interpretation of this battle, let us begin by briefly reviewing the Old Testament story in which this symbol is probably rooted. We find it in Judges 4, 5. Israel is in misery again. This time, King Jabin, the Canaanite, is the oppressor. The spoilers go out to ravage the fields and plunder the crops of the Israelites. So numerous are these spoilers that the Israelites go in hiding and are afraid to appear on the highways (Judges 5:6). But can they not wage war and drive out these Canaanites? No, King Jabin and General Sisera are strong, for they have nine hundred chariots of iron. Israel has not even a spear or a shield (Judges 5:8). Must the people perish?

In the highlands of Ephraim lives Deborah who one day tells Barak the judge, “Up, for this is the day in which Jehovah is to deliver Sisera into your power. Is it not Jehovah who has gone forth in front of you?” A battle is fought a Megiddo and Israel’s enemy is routed. It was Jehovah Himself who had defeated them. “From heaven fought the stars; from their courses they fought against Sisera” (Judges 5:20).

For this cause, Armageddon is the symbol of every battle in which, when the need is greatest and believers are oppressed, the Lord suddenly reveals His power in the interest of His distressed people and defeats the enemy. When Sennacherib’s 185,000 are slain by the angel of Jehovah, that is a shadow of the final Armageddon. When God grants a little handful of Macabees a glorious victory over an enemy that far outnumbers it, that is a type of Armageddon.

But the real, the great, the final Armageddon coincides with the time of Satan’s little season (see Rev 11:7-11; 19:19; 20:7-10; 2 Thes 2:3-8). When the world, under the leadership of Satan, antichristian government and antichristian religion – the dragon, the beast and the false prophet – is gathered against the Church for the final battle, and the need is greatest; when God’s children, oppressed on every side, cry for help; then suddenly, dramatically, Christ will appear to deliver His people. That final tribulation and that appearance of Christ on clouds of glory to deliver His people, that is Armageddon. It is for this reason that Armageddon is the sixth bowl. The seventh is the judgment day. As we have indicated, this sixth bowl, as well as the preceding ones, is evident again and again in history. Yet, like the other bowls, it reaches its final and most complete realization just before and in connection with the last day. (Hendriksen, 1967)

The Seventh Bowl

Rev 16:17

1. The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air (Eph 2:2)
2. It is done



- a. John 19:30 – When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.
- b. Rev 21:6 – And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.
- c. Rev 10:7 – but that in the days of the trumpet call to be sounded by the seventh angel, the mystery of God would be fulfilled, just as he announced to his servants the prophets.
- d. “It is done” will again punctuate God’s announcement that he is renewing all things, creating a new heaven and earth, for then the first heaven and earth will have passed away (21:5-6, cf. v. 1). (Johnson, 2001)

Rev 16:18 – Flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, and a great earthquake

1. Rev 4:5 – From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God
2. Rev 6:12-13 – When he opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, 13 and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. 14 The sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place.
3. Rev 8:5 – Then the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and threw it on the earth, and there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake.
4. Rev 11:19 – Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple. There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail.
5. Rev 20:11 – Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them.
6. Heb 12:25-29 – See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. 26 At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” 27 This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. 28 Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, 29 for our God is a consuming fire.

Rev 16:19

1. The great city...Babylon the great (Rev 17:18; 18:10, 18, 21)
2. To make her drain the cup of the wine of the fury of his wrath
 - a. Rev 14:9-10 – And another angel, a third, followed them, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, 10 he also will drink the wine of God’s wrath, poured full strength into the cup of his anger, and he will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.



- b. Ps 75:8 – For in the hand of the Lord there is a cup with foaming wine, well mixed, and he pours out from it, and all the wicked of the earth shall drain it down to the dregs.
- c. Is 51:17 – Wake yourself, wake yourself, stand up, O Jerusalem, you who have drunk from the hand of the Lord the cup of his wrath, who have drunk to the dregs the bowl, the cup of staggering.
- d. Is 51:21-23 – Therefore hear this, you who are afflicted, who are drunk, but not with wine: 22 Thus says your Lord, the Lord, your God who pleads the cause of his people: “Behold, I have taken from your hand the cup of staggering; the bowl of my wrath you shall drink no more; 23 and I will put it into the hand of your tormentors, who have said to you, ‘Bow down, that we may pass over’; and you have made your back like the ground and like the street for them to pass over.”
- e. Jer 25:15-16 – Thus the Lord, the God of Israel, said to me: “Take from my hand this cup of the wine of wrath, and make all the nations to whom I send you drink it. 16 They shall drink and stagger and be crazed because of the sword that I am sending among them.”

Rev 16:20 – And every island fled away, and no mountains were to be found.

1. Rev 6:14 – The sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place.
2. Rev 20:11 – Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them.
3. Ez 38:20 – The fish of the sea and the birds of the heavens and the beasts of the field and all creeping things that creep on the ground, and all the people who are on the face of the earth, shall quake at my presence. And the mountains shall be thrown down, and the cliffs shall fall, and every wall shall tumble to the ground.
4. Nahum 1:5 – The mountains quake before him; the hills melt; the earth heaves before him, the world and all who dwell in it.
5. Is 54:10 – For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed,” says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

Rev 16:21

1. Great hailstones
 - a. Ex 9:22-26 – Then the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand toward heaven, so that there may be hail in all the land of Egypt, on man and beast and every plant of the field, in the land of Egypt.” 23 Then Moses stretched out his staff toward heaven, and the Lord sent thunder and hail, and fire ran down to the earth. And the Lord rained hail upon the land of Egypt. 24 There was hail and fire flashing continually in the midst of the hail, very heavy hail, such as had never been in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation. 25 The hail struck down everything that was in the field in all the land of Egypt, both man and beast. And the hail struck down every plant of the field and broke every tree of the field. 26 Only in the land of Goshen, where the people of Israel were, was there no hail.
 - b. Jos 10:11 – And as they fled before Israel, while they were going down the ascent of Beth-horon, the Lord threw down large stones from heaven on



them as far as Azekah, and they died. There were more who died because of the hailstones than the sons of Israel killed with the sword.

- c. Is 32:19 – And it will hail when the forest falls down, and the city will be utterly laid low.
 - d. Ez 13:10-13 – Precisely because they have misled my people, saying, ‘Peace,’ when there is no peace, and because, when the people build a wall, these prophets smear it with whitewash, 11 say to those who smear it with whitewash that it shall fall! There will be a deluge of rain, and you, O great hailstones, will fall, and a stormy wind break out. 12 And when the wall falls, will it not be said to you, ‘Where is the coating with which you smeared it?’ 13 Therefore thus says the Lord God: I will make a stormy wind break out in my wrath, and there shall be a deluge of rain in my anger, and great hailstones in wrath to make a full end.
 - e. Ez 38:22 – With pestilence and bloodshed I will enter into judgment with him, and I will rain upon him and his hordes and the many peoples who are with him torrential rains and hailstones, fire and sulfur.
2. They cursed God
- a. Is 52:5 – Now therefore what have I here,” declares the Lord, “seeing that my people are taken away for nothing? Their rulers wail,” declares the Lord, “and continually all the day my name is despised.”
 - b. Rev 13:6 – It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven.
 - c. Rev 16:9-11 – They were scorched by the fierce heat, and they cursed the name of God who had power over these plagues. They did not repent and give him glory. 10 The fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom was plunged into darkness. People gnawed their tongues in anguish 11 and cursed the God of heaven for their pain and sores. They did not repent of their deeds.
3. Still human hearts are hard. Even as the fragile falsehoods in which they have trusted shatter around them, still “men blasphemed God because of the plague of hail,” their petrified hearts incapable of repentance (Rev 16:21). Neither the backwash of sin’s bitter aftertaste nor the first fruits of its lethal harvest can soften hearts of stone. Only God’s Spirit, applying the gospel of grace, can turn stony hearts into hearts of tender flesh, but the bowls show us a moment in time when the Spirit’s gentle and irresistible wooing is complete, the Son’s sheep have been gathered, and the Father’s patience has waited long enough. (Johnson, 2001)