CHAPTER XXII

THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES

We begin with Revelation 16:1; it reads: "And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth. To pour out his wrath means to empty the fullness of the wrath of God upon the earth by seven vials, which of course is the fullness of it in this life, on this side of the grave. Now I will show you that the movement of God in fulfilling his word of divine prophecy is on the order of the sunshine. At first only a faint, red glow can be seen in the east, but by mid-day the sun – having reached its full power by gradually picking up light and heat as it goes along – grows greater until it reaches high noon. This is its full strength and so too is the order of the fulfillment of divine prophecy.

Even now the wrath of God is falling lightly on the earth and hardly noticeable by the world, yet, it is true the wrath of God is now falling on the earth seen in the present calamities coming through the elements of nature all around you. The Lord has said that calamities shall come upon the earth in quick succession, one after the other. Then a turning point will be reached under the seven seals to the worse. From the first trumpet to the fifth, the plagues will come against the earth with only one third (1/3) power. Then another turning point will be reached beginning at the fifth trumpet, which brings on the three "woe" plagues. A great step-up in the power of the wrath of God at this point is made. Here seven plagues with one third killing power have been dosed to the earth, now under the seventh trumpet within the same seal. Seven vials of the wrath of God are emptied upon the earth in the matter of seven last plagues, having full destructive power. All through these plagues we see that God has used the elements of nature – that were once good for the earth and Man to supply life and health to all living (man, beast, water and trees) – is now turned into a weapon of complete destruction.

Next your attention is called to the first vial found in Revelation 16:2; it reads: "AND THE FIRST WENT, AND POURED OUT HIS VIAL UPON THE EARTH; AND THERE FELL A NOISOME AND GRIEVOUS SORE UPON THE MEN WHICH HAD THE MARK OF THE BEAST, AND UPON THEM WHICH WORSHIPPED HIS IMAGE." So that we might understand these sores, let us notice the record of Egypt when God brought boils against the Egyptians (Exodus 9:8-9 [see appendix]). And now under the first vial of the last plagues this is repeated. Here is a cancer, most painful and grievous; a skin disease is upon both Man and beast. We continue with verse 3 reading: "AND THE SECOND ANGEL POURED OUT HIS VIAL UPON THE SEA; AND IT BECAME AS THE BLOOD OF A DEAD MAN: AND EVERY LIVING SOUL DIED IN THE SEA." Already the history of Egypt shows blood of the river and under the second trumpet, one third of the waters turned to blood. And now under the second vial, all of the waters of the sea have become blood of a dead man, which is dark red in color, killing all fish and creatures of the waters and the smell of them will be great in the land.

Verse 4 of the chapter reads: "AND THE THIRD ANGEL POURED OUT HIS VIAL UPON THE RIVERS AND FOUNTAINS OF WATERS; AND THEY BECAME BLOOD." Now at this point all waters, both of the sea and in the ground, are blood. The wells in the ground will issue blood for water. In all of the homes there will be blood for water. In verses five through 7 (5-7), the angels administering the wrath of God acknowledge divine justice in his judgment, for the angels having administered unto the saints of the Lord in all ages have seen them killed without

mercy. They have seen them killed by every means that a wicked man can event. In sorrow they have carried the reports of the cruel treatment of the saints to heaven because they have shed the blood of the saints. They were blood-thirsty, now the Lord is giving them plenty of blood to drink for water for their killing of saints, from righteous Abel, even to the last men killed. These are the two last prophets that were killed by the Beast, which cometh up out of the bottomless pit under the "Man of Sin". This of course covers all times in the earth.

Verse 8 continues, reading: "AND THE FOURTH ANGEL POURED OUT HIS VIAL UPON THE SUN; AND POWER WAS GIVEN UNTO HIM TO SCORCH MEN WITH FIRE." At this point, the world under the plagues has reached a terrible state of affairs. Now the sun is burning Man with fire and all he has to quench his thirst is blood, and the only movement of wind (which is a cooling agent) is now a hot one and very smelly at that. Verse 9 reads: "AND MEN WERE SCORCHED WITH GREAT HEAT, AND BLASPEMED THE NAME OF GOD, WHICH HAST POWER OVER THESE PLAGUES; AND THEY REPENTED NOT TO GIVE HIM GLORY." This shows the real attitude of Man towards God. They never loved their creator who did everything to save them and greatly blessed the unjust in the earth – in the matter of worldly goods – more than he did the righteous. Christ died for him (the wicked man), but he had his choice between good and evil. They chose evil, for it can be seen in this life and it seemed good to them. They had killed the prophets and killed the saints who would gladly have given them the living word of God that would have saved them from this hour. They chose sin...and the wages of sin is death.

We notice verse 10 reading: "AND THE FIFTH ANGEL POURED OUT HIS VIAL UPON THE SEAT OF THE BEAST; AND HIS KINGDOM WAS FULL OF DARKNESS; AND THEY GNAWED THEIR TONGUES FOR PAIN," Under the fifth vial we see that a painful darkness shall fall upon the capital city of the Beast such as never was; yet we have history of darkness against Egypt (Exodus 10:21-22 [see appendix]). Not only will the darkness under this vial will be able to be felt, it is also painful. Up to this point, we see that the Beast, the "Man of Sin", having deceived the whole world by miracles and lying wonders that he was able to do, have caused all of the world to turn to him instead of to God. Where is his power now?? The plagues are striking him and there is nothing he can do about it. Neither the devil himself can do anything. The Beast never did any real wonders, or worked real miracles, but wrought lying wonders through enchantment of the Devil; the same as the magicians of Pharaoh against Moses. The Beast and the entire world are not sending up prayers to God, but blasphemy against him, as seen in verse 11; it reads: "AND BLASPHEMED THE GOD OF HEAVEN BECAUSE OF THEIR PAINS AND THEIR SORES, AND REPENTED NOT OF THEIR DEEDS."