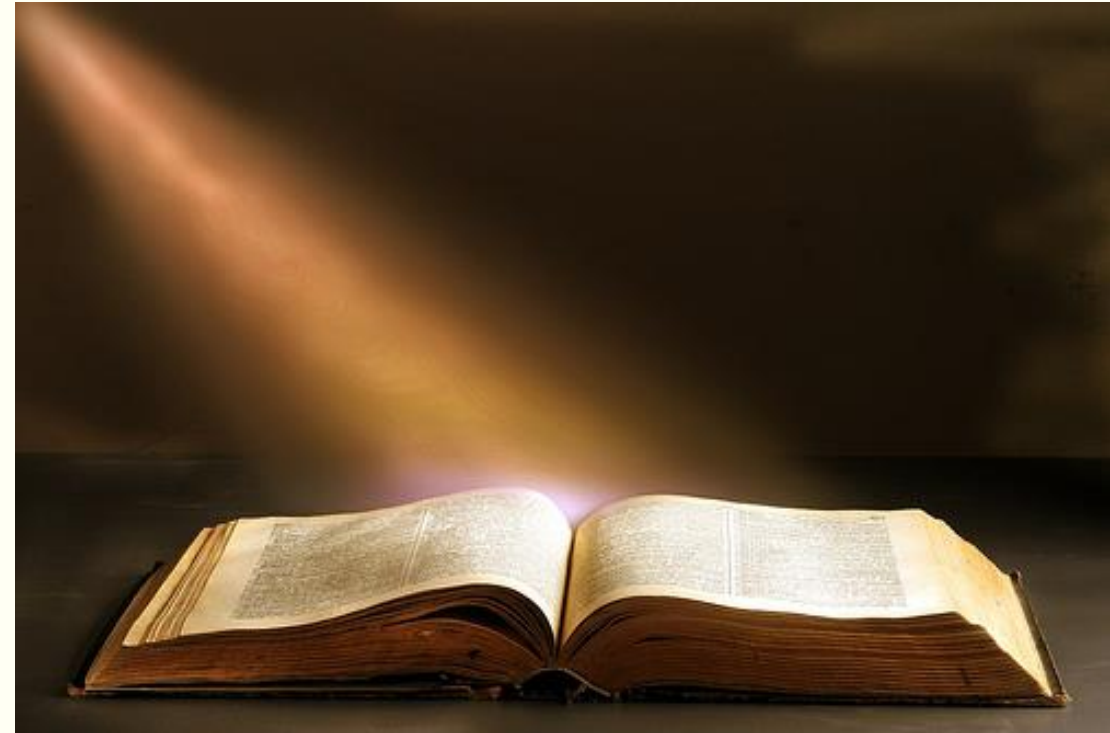




Exploring the Book of Revelation: Verse by Verse

Chapter 16





CHAPTER 16

The Seven Last Plagues

Chapter 16



Primary purpose of our Bible study is to understand Jesus' message to His church AND its personal application for us today

Loathsome Sores

Sea turns to Blood

Waters turn to Blood

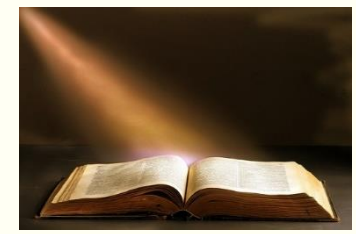
The Scorching sun

Total Darkness

Euphrates Dries up

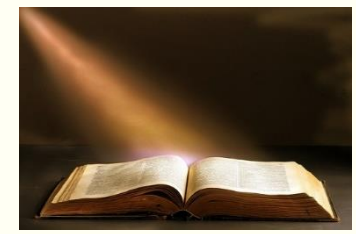
Earth is devastated

Revelation 16:1-7



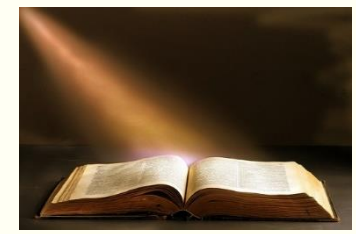
1 Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, “Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth.”
2 So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. 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.”

Revelation 16:8-14



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.

Revelation 16:15-21



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.

1st Plague - Loathsome Sores

In response to the anger of the nations against His faithful people, God's divine wrath is now turned on those who have made the decision to give their allegiance to the beast

In the pouring of the last seven plagues, the command is given from the throne room of God to execute the fullness of the wrath of God on His enemies who remain in rebellion

Severe and malignant sore or boil (Greek – helkos) as the first plague is also used in the Septuagint (Greek translation of the Old Testament) in the following passages:

“So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and struck Job with **painful boils** from the **sole of his foot to the crown of his head**. And he took for himself a potsherd with which to scrape himself while he sat in the midst of the ashes.” – Job 2:7-8

The seven plagues only affect those who received the mark of the beast and worshipped the image of the beast. The demarcation between the saved and unsaved will be visible.

“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. 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.” 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. And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils, for **the boils were on the magicians and on all the Egyptians.**” – Exodus 9:8-11

“The Lord will strike you in the knees and on the legs with **severe boils which cannot be healed, and from the sole of your foot to the top of your head.**” – Deut 28:35



The false healing power of the beast and the false prophet is exposed. **Only Jesus can provide true healing of the body and the soul**

1st Plague - Loathsome Sores

God shows mankind that He is indeed the **Creator of heaven, earth, sea and the springs of waters**. Each plague affects all four dimensions which mankind has worshipped.

The plagues are God's strange act. "For the Lord will rise up as at Mount Perazim, He will be angry as in the Valley of Gibeon - That He may do His work, His awesome work, And bring to pass His act, His unusual act." – Isa 28:21

"They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds." – Rev 16:11

These ulcers are so severe and continue beyond even to the fifth plague. All pain-killers, medical remedies, and healing potions will be useless. Nothing will bring relief.

"When Christ ceases His intercession in the sanctuary, the unmingled wrath threatened against those who worship the beast and his image and receive his mark will be poured out. The plagues upon Egypt when God was about to deliver Israel were similar in character to those more terrible and extensive judgments which are to fall upon the world just before the final deliverance of God's people. Says the revelator, in describing those terrific scourges: "There fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshiped his image. **These plagues are not universal, or the inhabitants of the earth would be wholly cut off. Yet they will be the most awful scourges that have ever been known to mortals.** All the judgments upon men, prior to the close of probation, have been mingled with mercy. The pleading blood of Christ has shielded the sinner from receiving the full measure of his guilt; but in the final judgment, wrath is poured out unmixed with mercy.



The false healing power of the beast and the false prophet is exposed. **Only Jesus can provide true healing of the body and the soul**

2nd Plague - Sea turns to Blood

The second plague is targeted on the sea, which cripple and bankrupt global commerce and trading along the ocean and sea routes

It will kill every aquatic life in the world's oceans and seas making them poisonous, putrid and deadly. The air will be polluted.

“Dead sea creatures by the multiplied billions will be washed ashore, layer upon layer will lie along the coasts and clog the estuaries. Not only will the harbors, river mouths, and beaches be strewn with rotting sea life, but the overpowering stench will pollute the air and making breathing a misery.”

“Such occurrence have continued to occur on small scales in coastal regions. Off the coast of Florida, as reported by the United States Admiralty and published by the Australian Associated Press (AAP), the “**red tide**” is caused by most well-known harmful algal blooms which produce potent neurotoxins, discolor the water and cause widespread mortality of marine animals. The toxins are suspended in the air near beaches and cause human respiratory illnesses. Fishes and sea life are strewn along the beaches, dead. The water has the appearance of blood. One fisherman was reported to be rendered unconscious by the toxic fumes.”



The false power of the beast to guarantee financial prosperity is exposed. **Only Jesus can provide true financial prosperity and abundant life**

An Enduring Vision, page 529

<https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/hazards/hab/gulf-mexico.html>

3rd Plague - Water turns to Blood

“Then the Lord spoke to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Take your rod and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their streams, over their rivers, over their ponds, and over all their pools of water, that they may become blood. And there shall be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in buckets of wood and pitchers of stone.’ ” And Moses and Aaron did so, just as the Lord commanded. So he lifted up the rod and struck the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants. And **all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood. The fish that were in the river died, the river stank,** and the Egyptians could not drink the water of the river. So there was blood throughout all the land of Egypt.” – Ex 7:19-21

The third plague is targeted on the rivers, and all the **drinking water of the world becomes blood and undrinkable.** Not only can people not get enough clean water to drink or wash, but the agricultural and dairy industry will also be severely devastated with inadequate water for irrigation of crops and animals. This will cause a health and economic crisis, impact sanitation and result in global water-borne diseases. Food prices worldwide will skyrocket from food shortages and power generation from water will be impacted.

“He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and **that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast,** or the number of his name.” – Rev 13: 16-17

The experience of God’s faithful people who were prohibited from buying and selling because they refused to compromise is now the experience of the rebellious. The tables are turned, and their economic ability is limited in the global water crisis.



The false power of the beast to guarantee the essentials of life is exposed. **Only Jesus can provide our physical and spiritual sustenance.**

3rd Plague - Water turns to Blood

But the bread and water of the righteous is guaranteed!

“He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly, he will dwell on high; his place of defense will be the fortress of rocks; bread will be given him, **his water will be sure.**”
Isa 33:15-16

“The poor and needy seek water, but there is none, their tongues fail for thirst. I, the Lord, will hear them; **I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them.** I will open rivers in desolate heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; **I will make the wilderness a pool of water,** and the dry land springs of water.” – Isa 41:17-18

The second and third plagues parallel the second and third trumpets, which only affected a third of every living thing. In the plagues, the judgment of God is intensified on rebellious humanity.

The angels have been faithful witnesses in the Great Controversy and declares like the redeemed, the fairness and justice of God’s judgment. Those who live by the sword will die by the sword. Those who shed innocent blood are given blood to drink.

And they cried with a loud voice, saying, “How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?” - Rev 6:10

The voice from the altar affirm the prayers of God’s faithful martyrs are finally answered in the plagues



The false power of the beast to guarantee the essentials of life is exposed. **Only Jesus can provide our physical and spiritual sustenance.**

4th Plague - The Scorching Sun

Egyptians had over 2000 gods of any civilization in the ancient world. Ra was the god of the sun. Osiris was the god of the Nile, whom they relied on for agricultural fertility. Isis was the goddess of magic and Anubis was the god of the dead. Horus was the god of war. Heket was the goddess of fertility represented as a frog, and Amon was the god of air. Hapi (Apis) was a bull deity, a sacred animal to the Egyptians.

Just as the plagues of Egypt were targeted at these gods to show that they were powerless, the seven last plagues are targeted to expose the beast power.

The fourth and fifth plagues are focused on the heavenly bodies. Men refused to worship the Creator and instead chose astrolatry (the worship of the heavenly bodies - sun, moon and stars) and the worship of Mother Earth and Nature (Pantheism). Now their god tortures and scorches them with fire.

There will be forest fires and massive heat waves, drought and famine worldwide. Each plague exacerbates the previous one. The rebellious are in agony and torture.

“Alas for the day! For the day of the Lord is at hand; **It shall come as destruction from the Almighty.** Is not the food cut off before our eyes...The seed shrivels under the clods, Storehouses are in shambles; Barns are broken down, for the grain has withered. How the animals groan! The herds of cattle are restless, because they have no pasture; Even the flocks of sheep suffer punishment. For **fire has devoured the open pastures**, and a flame has burned all the trees of the field. The beasts of the field also cry out to You, for **the water brooks are dried up, and fire has devoured the open pastures.**” – Joel 1:15-20



The blasphemy of the beast (Satan) to set himself as a god and demand worship is exposed. **Only Jesus is worthy of our worship and allegiance.**

It is important to understand that these plagues were all literal; there was nothing symbolic about them. Each plague pointed to a greater meaning than the event itself, but they really happened. This guides our understanding about the plagues in the Book of Revelation; there is no reason to see them as merely symbolic either. The plagues God brought against Egypt had a definite strategy and purpose. Each of them confronts and attacks a prized Egyptian deity. Not only did they bring punishment against Egypt, the plagues also answered Pharaoh's original question: Who is the LORD, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? (Exodus 5:2) The plagues show the LORD God to be greater than any of the deities of Egypt. Specifically, this first plague was directed against the numerous Egyptian river deities. The Nile itself was virtually worshipped as a god by the Egyptians, and the LORD God shows that He has complete power over the Nile, not some river god. Each plague was as if God were to strike or beat a deity worshipped by the Egyptians. The Egyptian god Khnum was said to be the guardian of the Nile, and this showed he was unable to protect his territory. The god Hapi was said to be the spirit of the Nile and was brought low by this plague. The great god Osiris was thought to have the Nile as his bloodstream; in this plague he truly bled. The Nile itself was worshipped as a god, and there are papyri recording hymns sung in praise of the river. There is a significant mention of something like this in a papyrus from this general period known as the Ipuwer Papyrus. It actually says (Ipuwer 2.10) that the Nile was blood and undrinkable. The same papyrus repeatedly mentions that servants left their masters.

DAVID GUZIK, BIBLE COMMENTARY

4th Plague - The Scorching Sun

In contrast to the fourth trumpet when the intensity of the sun was decreased bringing about partial darkness, in the fourth plague, the intensity of the sun is significantly increased bringing about **global warming as has never occurred since man's creation**

“And when Pharaoh saw that the rain, the hail, and the thunder had ceased, he sinned yet more; and he hardened his heart, he and his servants. So the heart of Pharaoh was hard.” Exodus 9:34-35

“Because, **although they knew God**, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.” – Rom 1:21

Rather than repent and give God glory, the rebellious blaspheme God's name like the beast. Though they recognize His control of the plagues, like Pharaoh, their hearts are hardened. They blame God for the consequences of their choices.

“The last generation of mankind will have been given more opportunities, light, privileges and truth than any other generation in history. Therefore, their rejection of the gospel and persecution of God's faithful people will make them most deserving of divine punishment than any generation in all of history.”

An Enduring Vision, page 531

Heavenly angels will sustain and protect God's people during this time of trouble. However, the world will blame for the plagues and the death decree will follow. But the ungodly will not only witness the care of God for His people, but also their deliverance.



The blasphemy of the beast (Satan) to set himself as a god and demand worship is exposed. **Only Jesus is worthy of our worship and allegiance.**

The people of God will not be free from suffering; but while persecuted and distressed, while they endure privation and suffer for want of food they will not be left to perish. That God who cared for Elijah will not pass by one of His self-sacrificing children. He who numbers the hairs of their head will care for them, and in time of famine they shall be satisfied. While the wicked are dying from hunger and pestilence, angels will shield the righteous and supply their wants. To him that "walketh righteously" is the promise: "Bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure." "When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the Lord will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them." Isaiah 33:15, 16; 41:17.

"The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: He shall preserve thy soul." "He shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with His feathers, and under His wings shalt thou trust: His truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the Most High, thy habitation; there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling." Psalm 121:5-7; 91:3-10

5th Plague - Total Darkness

The fifth plague strikes the throne of the beast – **the control center** of Babylon. It is the first of the three challenges to the feigned authority of the beast. The plagues will undermine the beast's control of the earth.

“Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. **The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.**” – Rev 13:2

Even the seat of Satan's authority (the parody of God the Father) cannot withstand the force of the plagues from heaven. The plagues bring chaos, darkness and humiliation on the kingdom of the beast.

“Then the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, **darkness which may even be felt.**” So Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven, and there was **thick darkness in all the land of Egypt** three days. They did not see one another; nor did anyone rise from his place for three days. **But all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.**” – Exodus 10:21-23

The awful pain of the first plague continues to be unbearable coupled with the deep depression from the darkness. The blasphemy of the unsaved confirms their unwillingness to seek repent as they persistently rejected the pleadings of the Spirit.

The beast kingdom which is now worldwide becomes full of darkness as the world rejects the light of the Lamb. Like the preceding plagues, the darkness is also literal! The entire world will be covered with darkness like the blackness of the darkest night.



The beast suffers great humiliation, and the impotence of the false trinity is exposed. Only Jesus, the Omnipotent, is the True Light of the world.

5th Plague - Total Darkness

“The great day of the Lord is near; it is near and hastens quickly. The noise of the day of the Lord is bitter; there the mighty men shall cry out. That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of devastation and desolation, **a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness.**” – Zep 1: 14-15

The Papacy has kept the world in darkness, and replaced the truth of Jesus with its apostate systems, so darkness is now their portion

The last two plagues of Egypt strikes at Ra, the sun god, rendering him powerless, and at the seat of Pharaoh, the son of Ra, with the death of the crown prince

In the original Greek, the darkness is not short, but prolonged and so intense. Nothing will be able to penetrate it. Nature will seem to be acting in extremes!

“In contrast to the previous plague where there was extreme heat and hunger and thirst, now there is extreme cold accompanying the hunger and thirst amid the terrifying impenetrable darkness. With the sun's rays no longer evident, and with the resultant cold, the unsaved will experience terrible misery. All heating systems and power supplies will have failed, and in the concentrated cold, the deep ulcerated sores that cover the bodies of the wicked will be so painful that they will ‘gnaw their tongues’ in agony.

- An Enduring Vision, page 533

“Therefore, **her plagues will come in one day**—death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her.” Rev 18:8

One prophetic day = One literal year



The beast suffers great humiliation, and the impotence of the false trinity is exposed. **Only Jesus, the Omnipotent, is the True Light of the world.**

6th Plague - Euphrates dries up

The sixth plague is poured on the powers who have supported Babylon

While the first four plagues falls upon the apostate world, the last three plagues falls upon the leadership of Babylon. These are the kings, world rulers and spiritual leaders who have supported the beast to deceive the world into giving her worship. They are represented by the great river Euphrates. Now their support is drying up!

In the OT, the Euphrates was the boundary that separated God's people from their enemies, Assyria and Babylon. The Euphrates flowed through the ancient city of Babylon, nurturing the crops and providing water for the inhabitants, without which Babylon could not survive.

Prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah prophesied that the collapse of Babylon would be a result of the drying up of the Euphrates River

“A sword is against the Chaldeans,” says the Lord, “Against the inhabitants of **Babylon**, and against her princes and her wise men. **A drought is against her waters, and they will be dried up.** For it is the land of carved images, and they are insane with their idols.” – Jer 50:35, 38

“Therefore, thus says the Lord: “Behold, I will plead your case and take vengeance for you. I will **dry up her sea** and make her springs dry. **Babylon** shall become a heap, a dwelling place for jackals, an astonishment and a hissing, without an inhabitant.” – Jer 51:36, 37

“Who says to the deep, ‘Be dry! and I will **dry up your rivers**’; Who says of Cyrus, ‘He is My shepherd, and he shall perform all My pleasure.’” – Isa 44:27



The beast loses worldwide support as her falsehood is exposed. **Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life**

“The historical fulfillment of these prophecies was later recorded by the famous Greek historian, Herodotus and confirmed in modern times by the Cyrus Cylinder. According to Herodotus, Cyrus the Persian captured Babylon by drying up the Euphrates River which flowed through the city, When he approached Babylon, he discovered that the walls and defenses were too strong, and that the city had supplies for many years to come. Cyrus used a section of his soldiers to divert the incoming water flow of the river, when it was low, into a lake. According to Daniel 5, it was that night when Babylon was having a drinking celebration that the Persians entered the city on the dry riverbed underneath the city walls in a surprise attack, conquering the overconfident defenders of Babylon. Later Cyrus issued the decree allowing Israel to return to their homeland and rebuild Jerusalem and the temple. It seems clear that John used the real historical scene in order to symbolically portray God’s final judgment on end-time Babylon which would initiate the deliverance of God’s end-time people from their oppressors.”

6th Plague - Euphrates dries up

Just like God enabled Cyrus the Persian (God's messiah and shepherd) in 539 BC to divert the river Euphrates to bring about the collapse of end-time Babylon and bring deliverance to God's people in exile, so the symbolic drying up of the Euphrates will bring deliverance to God's people as the Anointed One, Jesus the Messiah of Israel comes to rescue His people at the end of earth's history

Drying of the Euphrates River on which end-time Babylon dwells symbolizes the withdrawal of the support of secular, religious and national powers of the world from the Papacy.

Revelation Chapter 17 and 18 gives more details on the withdrawal of the allegiance of the disillusioned nations which turns to hostility to Babylon's destruction

Many will withdraw their support from false religious leaders and turn against them. They will realize that these leaders have deluded and used them for their ambitious ends. Rather than crying to God for relief or mercy, the true conditions of their hearts are revealed in blasphemy against God because of the consequences of their choice.

“Make the arrows bright! Gather the shields! The Lord has raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes. For His plan is against Babylon to destroy it, because it is the vengeance of the Lord, the vengeance for His temple.” – Jer 51:11

“Rising of the sun” references the East where Cyrus was raised to come from (Isa 41:2) Cyrus was the commander in chief of the allied forces of the kings of Media and Persia



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6th Plague - Euphrates dries up

“And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.” Rev 17:15

Babylon's loss of political support prepares the way for the coming of Jesus from the East

“Afterward he brought me to the gate, even the gate that looketh toward the east: And, behold, **the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east:** and his voice was like a noise of many waters: and the earth shined with his glory.” Eze 43:1-2

“For as the lightning comes **from the east** and flashes to the west, so also will the **coming of the Son of Man be.**” – Matt 24:27

“And **the armies in heaven**, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.**” – Rev 19:14, 16

The opposing army in the final conflict of the battle of Armageddon is the satanic trinity with the beast, the kings of the earth and their armies. It reaches its climax before the 2nd coming

“[Babylon] has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!” – Rev 18:2

Unholy and unclean spirits (Greek – pneuma) which proceeds from the mouth of the unholy satanic trinity: the dragon, the beast and the false prophet (earth beast) represented by unclean frogs are intent on deceiving the world. This emphasizes the intense demonic activities which would prevail at the closing days of earth's history.



The beast loses worldwide support as her falsehood is exposed. **Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life**

6th Plague - Euphrates dries up

The frog plague of Egypt was the last plague Pharaoh's magicians were able to counterfeit of the miracles of Moses through their deceptive artistry

Spiritualism will be a key player in Satan's final deception to mankind

The three frog-like demons of the sixth plague is Satan's last attempt to deceive the world as they appear as a counterfeit of the three angels' message with persuasive and overwhelming miraculous deception if possible, to deceive the very elect and persuade the kings of the earth to gather them for battle against the Lamb and the saints

The climax of the conflict is symbolically called the battle of "Armageddon".

The Hebrew (Har-mageddon) means mountain of Megiddo. Megiddo (means cut off or slaughter) was a place where numerous decisive battles were fought between Israel and her enemies (e.g., Deborah & Barak vs the king of Canaan). Armageddon symbolizes the coming decisive battle between good and evil where God's faithful will be threatened with death

Garments represent spiritual robe of Jesus righteousness (godly character and life), and uncompromising loyalty and faithfulness. Nakedness denotes compromise and falling away from the truth of Christ into everlasting shame

"For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore, let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober." - 1 Thess 5:2,4-6

Like Cyrus unexpected victory over ancient Babylon, Jesus coming will be unexpected as well as His victory over end-time Babylon. Therefore, God's people are called to be spiritually alert, to stay watchful and ready so they are not deceived or lost (Mark 13:35-37)



The beast loses worldwide support as her falsehood is exposed. **Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life**

Fearful sights of a supernatural character will soon be revealed in the heavens, in token of the power of miracle-working demons. The spirits of devils will go forth to the kings of the earth and to the whole world, to fasten them in deception, and urge them on to unite with Satan in his last struggle against the government of heaven. By these agencies, rulers and subjects will be alike deceived. Persons will arise pretending to be Christ Himself and claiming the title and worship which belong to the world's Redeemer. They will perform wonderful miracles of healing and will profess to have revelations from heaven contradicting the testimony of the Scriptures. **As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ.** The church has long professed to look to the Savior's advent as the consummation of her hopes. Now the great deceiver will make it appear that Christ has come. **In different parts of the earth, Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness,** resembling the description of the Son of God given by John in the Revelation. Revelation 1:13-15. The glory that surrounds him is unsurpassed by anything that mortal eyes have yet beheld. The shout of triumph rings out upon the air: "Christ has come! Christ has come!" The people prostrate themselves in adoration before him, while he lifts up his hands and pronounces a blessing upon them, as Christ blessed His disciples when He was upon the earth. His voice is soft and subdued, yet full of melody. In gentle, compassionate tones he presents some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which the Savior uttered; he heals the diseases of the people, and then, in his assumed character of Christ, he claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday, and commands all to hallow the day which he has blessed. He declares that those who persist in keeping holy the seventh day are blaspheming his name by refusing to listen to his angels sent to them with light and truth. **This is the strong, almost overmastering delusion.** Like the Samaritans who were deceived by Simon Magus, the multitudes, from the least to the greatest, give heed to these sorceries, saying: This is "the great power of God." Acts 8:10. **But the people of God will not be misled.** The teachings of this false Christ are not in accordance with the Scriptures. His blessing is pronounced upon the worshipers of the beast and his image, the very class upon whom the Bible declares that God's unmingled wrath shall be poured out.

GREAT CONTROVERSY, PAGE 624 - 625

7th Plague – Earth is devastated

As Jesus cried out, “It is finished” on the cross as the decisive victory over Satan was won, the voice of God is heard from the throne room, “It is done”! The satanic trinity of Babylon disintegrates.

“Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail, Which I have reserved against the time of trouble, **against the day of battle and war?**” – Job 38:22-23

“Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and **every mountain and island was moved out of its place.** And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, 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! For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?” Rev 6:14-17

The weight of a talent ~ 75 pounds (34 kg). Huge blocks of hail will deface the earth’s topography. Edifices and skyscrapers will be destroyed, and the earth becomes desolate

The promises of Psalms 46 brings peace and hope to the people of God

The greatest earthquake in history will destroy life on planet earth, and the shifting of the islands and mountains completely ends the rebellion as Jesus comes to take His saints

“And it will be said in that day: “Behold, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for Him; we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation.” – Isa 25:9

Revelation chapters 17 and 18 elaborates on the 6th and 7th plagues



End-time Babylon now drinks the cup of the wine of the fierceness of God’s wrath. **Jesus has triumphed as King of kings and Lord of lords.**

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