

## Chapter 16

This chapter involves a third and final set of plagues:



- Exodus 7-12 The 10 plagues of Egypt – Egypt only (Maybe 40 days?)
- Revelation 8-11 The Seven Trumpet Judgments – A third of the world (A few years)
- Revelation 16 The Seven Bowl Judgments- Worldwide (Immediately and quickly- Maybe days? Man cannot exist for an extended time under these conditions- no water, boils, unbearable heat, darkness, etc.)

## Chapter 16

**Verse 1-** *Then I heard a loud voice from the temple, saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out on the earth the seven bowls of the wrath of God."*

*a loud voice-* 20x in the book. This is the voice of God. This begins the final undoing of the earth as we know it.

*seven angels-* These angels were introduced in 15:1 and now they are given final plagues.

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**Verse 2-** *So the first angel went and poured out his bowl on the earth; and a harmful and painful sore afflicted the people who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped his image.*

*painful sore-* (helkos) Festering (running) wound, ulcer, boil

Exodus 9:9 (6<sup>th</sup> Plague)- *Then it will become fine dust over all the land of Egypt, and will turn into **boils breaking out with sores** on every person and animal through all the land of Egypt.”*

Luke 16:20-21 *And a poor man named Lazarus was laid at his gate, covered with **sores**, and longing to be fed from the scraps which fell from the rich man’s table; not only that, the dogs also were coming and licking his **sores**.*

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**Verse 2-** *So the first angel went and poured out his bowl on the earth; and a harmful and painful sore afflicted the people who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped his image.*

*people who had the mark of the beast-* Those who worship the Lamb and bear his seal are not affected. It is clear that all people must serve either the Lamb or the beast, and that the latter comes with disastrous results (20:15; 21:8; 22:15).

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**Verse 3-** *The second angel poured out his bowl into the sea, and it became blood like that of a dead man; and every living thing in the sea died.*

Exodus 7:20-21- *So Moses and Aaron did just as the Lord had commanded. And he lifted up the staff and struck the water that was in the Nile in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants; and all the water that was in the Nile was **turned into blood**. 21 Then **the fish that were in the Nile died**, and the Nile stank, so that the Egyptians could not drink water from the Nile. And the blood was through all the land of Egypt.*

Red tide?- phytoplankton (dinoflagellates), algae that kill sea life and is red in color. Billions of sea life will die and pollute the oceans.



Red tide in San Diego, CA. Photo: Kai Schumann

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**Verse 4-** *Then the third angel poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of waters; and they became blood.*

*rivers and the springs of waters-* now all freshwater is contaminated.

- 71 percent of the earth is covered with water
- 97 percent of all water is saltwater
- 3 percent is freshwater
- 2 percent of fresh water is in glaciers, ice caps, and snowy mountain ranges, not available to drink
- 1 percent of the water on the earth is accessible to drink

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*rivers and the springs of waters-* now all freshwater is contaminated.

- Humans are 60 percent water
- Usually, people cannot live past three days without water
- How long can they last with water they have stored?

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**Verse 4-** *Then the third angel poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of waters; and they became blood.*

This is the completion of what began in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> trumpet judgments. The remaining two-thirds of water on earth becomes blood:

2<sup>nd</sup> Trumpet Judgment

Revelation 8:8-9 *The second angel sounded, and something like a great mountain burning with fire was hurled into the sea; and a **third of the sea became blood**, and **a third of the creatures which were in the sea and had life, died**; and **a third of the ships were destroyed**.*

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**Verse 4-** *Then the third angel poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of waters; and they became blood.*

This is the completion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> trumpet judgments. The remaining two-thirds of water on earth becomes blood:

3<sup>rd</sup> Trumpet Judgment

Revelation 8:10-11 *The third angel sounded, and a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of waters. The star is named Wormwood; and **a third of the waters became wormwood**, and many people died from the waters because they were made bitter.*

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**Verse 5-** *And I heard the angel of the waters saying, "Righteous are You, the One who is and who was, O Holy One, because You judged these things;*

*Righteous are You-* This is a proper response as God pours out His wrath on the rebels who have taken the mark of the beast. If He didn't judge, He wouldn't be righteous.

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**Verse 6-** *for they poured out the blood of **saints** and prophets, and You have given them blood to drink. They deserve it."*

When the 5<sup>th</sup> seal on the scroll was broken in chapter 6, martyrs cried out to God. The followers of the devil have been killing saints for a long time. God's justice demands His wrath.

Revelation 6:9- *When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the **souls of those who had been killed because of the word of God**, and because of the testimony which they had maintained;*

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**Verse 6-** *for they poured out the blood of **saints** and prophets, and You have given them blood to drink. They deserve it.”*

A whole multitude who came out of the tribulation washed their garments before entering heaven.

Revelation 7:9- *After these things I looked, and behold, **a great multitude which no one could count**, from every nation and all the tribes, peoples, and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands;*

## Chapter 16

**Verse 6-** *for they poured out the blood of saints and **prophets**, and You have given them blood to drink. They deserve it.”*

A whole multitude who came out of the tribulation washed their garments before entering heaven.

Revelation 11:7- (The Two Witnesses) *When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and **overcome them and kill them**. And their dead bodies will lie on the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified.*



## Chapter 16

**Verse 6-** *for they poured out the blood of **saints** and **prophets**, and You have given them blood to drink. They deserve it."*

A whole multitude who came out of the tribulation washed their garments before entering heaven.

Revelation 17:6- *And I saw the woman (Babylon- the world system) drunk with the blood of the **saints**, and with the blood of the **witnesses** of Jesus.*

Matthew 24:22- And if those days had not been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.

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**Verse 6-** *for they poured out the blood of **saints** and **prophets**, and You have given them blood to drink. They deserve it."*

In essence, God is pouring the blood of saints and prophets on the ones following the beast. They murdered Christians (children of God) and the Father now takes revenge because they deserve it.

Romans 12:19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the **wrath of God**, for it is written: "**Vengeance is Mine**, I will repay," says the Lord. (From the Song of Moses, Deut. 32:35- '**Vengeance is Mine**, and retribution; In due time their foot will slip. **For the day of their disaster is near**, And the impending things are hurrying to them.'

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**Verse 7-** *And I heard the altar saying, “Yes, Lord God, the Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments.”*

*the altar saying-* The altar in the heavenly temple is personified and supports what the angel says. It could be from the souls of the martyrs under the altar.

God doesn't live up to a righteous standard- He is the righteous standard. He is being true to His own nature.

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**Verse 8-** *And the fourth angel poured out his bowl upon the sun, and it was given power to scorch people with fire.*

The sun is 93 million miles from earth and its core is about 27 million degrees Fahrenheit and is filled with helium.

Henry Morris (the “Father of Modern Creation Science”), wrote *The Revelation Record*.

If the sun is super-heated, it would melt the ice caps and glaciers and the sea would rise 200 feet and flood the earth. It could also eliminate the protective ozone layer.

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**Verse 9-** *And the people were scorched with fierce heat; and they blasphemed the name of God who has the power over these plagues, and they did not repent so as to give Him glory.*

*they blasphemed the name of God-* Neither grace nor wrath will change their minds. They have set themselves against God permanently.

*“The same sun which melts wax hardens clay. And the same Gospel which melts some persons to repentance hardens others in their sins.” – Spurgeon*

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**Verse 10-** *And the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became darkened; and they gnawed their tongues because of pain,*

*throne of the beast-* The first four plagues were poured out on God’s creation: the earth, the sea, the rivers, and the sun. But the fifth plague affects the throne of the beast and his followers.

*became darkened-* This reminds us of the ninth plague of Egypt: Exodus 10:22-23- *So Moses reached out with his hand toward the sky, and there was **thick darkness** in all the land of Egypt for three days. They did not see one another, nor did anyone rise from his place for three days, but all the sons of Israel had light in their dwellings.*

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**Verse 10-** *And the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became darkened; and they gnawed their tongues because of pain,*

*became darkened-* This reminds us also of the fourth trumpet judgment.

Revelation 8:12- *The fourth angel sounded, and a third of the sun, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars were struck, so that **a third of them would be darkened** and the day would not shine for a third of it, and the night in the same way.*

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**Verse 10-** *And the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became darkened; and they gnawed their tongues because of pain,*

*gnawed their tongues-* The people bite (literally, gnaw) their tongues to keep control of their mental and physical functions.

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**Verse 11-** *and they blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pain and their sores; and they did not repent of their deeds.*

*blasphemed the God of heaven-* Taking the mark of the beast is the unpardonable sin. It is a transition from saying “no” to God to saying “never” to God and Him saying “never” to those with the mark. They are now beyond the limits of God’s grace and mercy. This is the last reference of their defiance against God. They are past the point of no return.

Cursing God’s name is blasphemy to God. “What’s down in the well (your heart and mind) comes up in the bucket (your mouth).”

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**Verse 12-** *The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river, the Euphrates; and its water was dried up, so that the way would be prepared for the kings from the east.*

*The fifth and sixth bowl judgments are connected to the Battle of Armageddon.*

*“Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet, Till Earth and Sky stand presently at God's great Judgment Seat.”*

*(Rudyard Kipling- “The Ballad of East and West”)*

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**Verse 12-** *The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river, the Euphrates; and its water was dried up, so that the way would be prepared for the kings from the east.*

*Euphrates-* 1800 miles long. It begins at the foot of Mt. Ararat and flows down to the Persian Gulf.

This area was the cradle of life and will one day be its grave.

The fifth and sixth bowl judgments are connected to the Battle of Armageddon.

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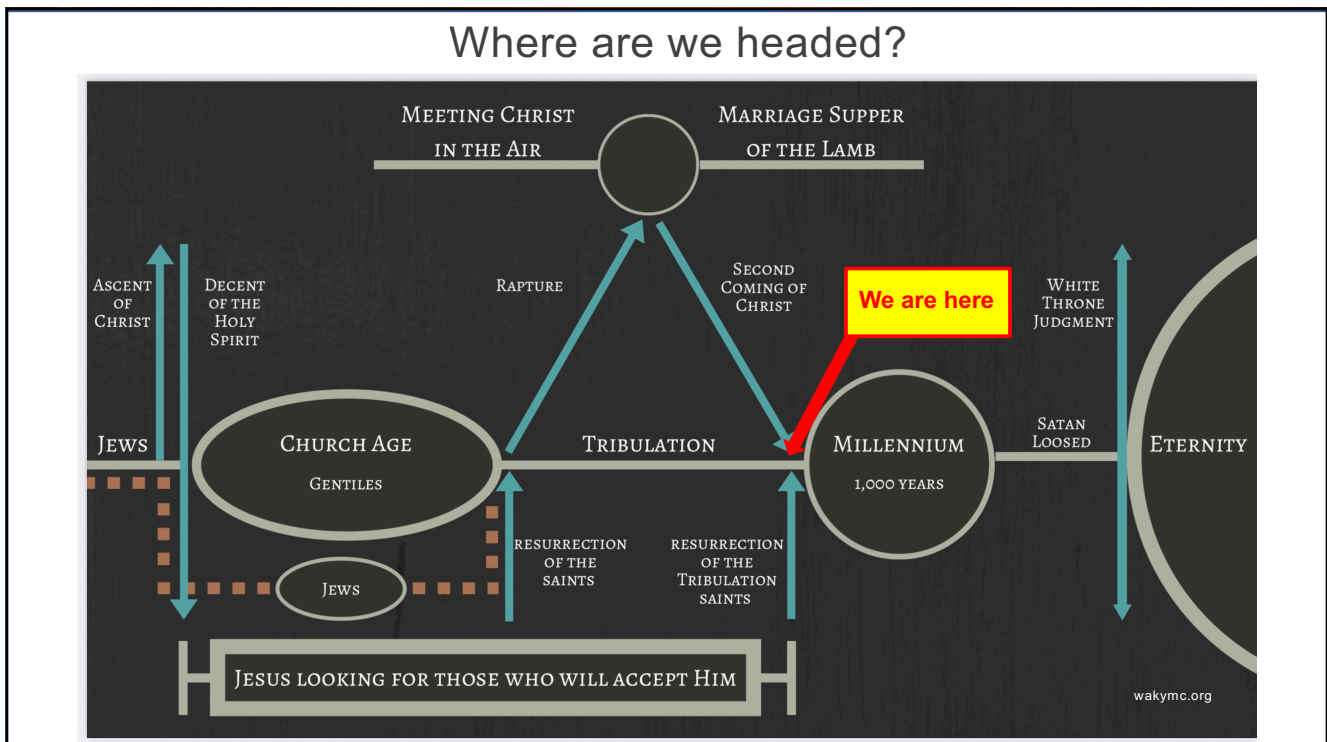
**Verse 12-** *The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river, the Euphrates; and its water was dried up, so that the way would be prepared for the kings from the east.*

*was dried up-* This will allow armies from the east to amass on the plain of Megiddo.

*kings from the east-* Literally, “kings of the rising of the sun.” China, Japan, India, etc. This is a global army coming to fight God and his people. He is finalizing the destruction of the physical earth dramatically and they are forced to fight Him and His people.

## Major Battles Fought at Megiddo

- Thutmose III vs. the Canaanites in ca. 1472 BC
- Deborah & Barak vs. Sisera (Judges 5)
- Saul vs. the Philistines (1 Sam 31)
- Solomon vs. Pharaoh Shishak (2 Chr. 12:3-4)
- Josiah vs. Pharaoh Necho (2 Kings 23:29)
- Four battles between Saladin and the Crusaders in the 12<sup>th</sup> century
- Egyptian Mamlouks vs. Mongols in 14th century
- Napoleon Bonaparte vs. Ottomans in 1799
- General George Allenby vs. Ottoman Turks in 1918
- Kibbutz Mishmar Halemek vs. Arab Liberation Army in 1948



**Next week...**

Chapter 16-  
“Armageddon and  
The Seventh Bowl”

