

# The Revelation of Jesus Christ

## Revelation 15

Revelation 15: Praise to the Lamb the Victors Sing

Dr. Mark Alan Langner



## Revelation Rhymes

Revelation Chapter 1: A Picture of the Eternal Son  
Revelation Chapter 2: Work of the Church to Do  
Revelation Chapter 3: Where Should Our Church Be?  
Revelation Chapter 4: God Worshiped By 24 and More  
Revelation Chapter 5: Jesus the Lamb Alive  
Revelation Chapter 6: Judgment and Seals Mix  
Revelation Chapter 7: Two Great Multitudes (One in Heaven)  
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## Songs of the Apocalypse

The Anthem of the Triune God 4:8

The Creation Hymn 4:11

The New Song of Redemption 5:9-10

The Angels' Chorale 5:12

The Crescendo of the Universe 5:13-14

The Martyrs' Canticle 6:10

The Song of Salvation 7:10

The Antiphonal Amen 7:12

The Kingdom Carol 11:15

The Psalm of Judgment 11:17-18

The Shout of the Overcomers 12:10-12

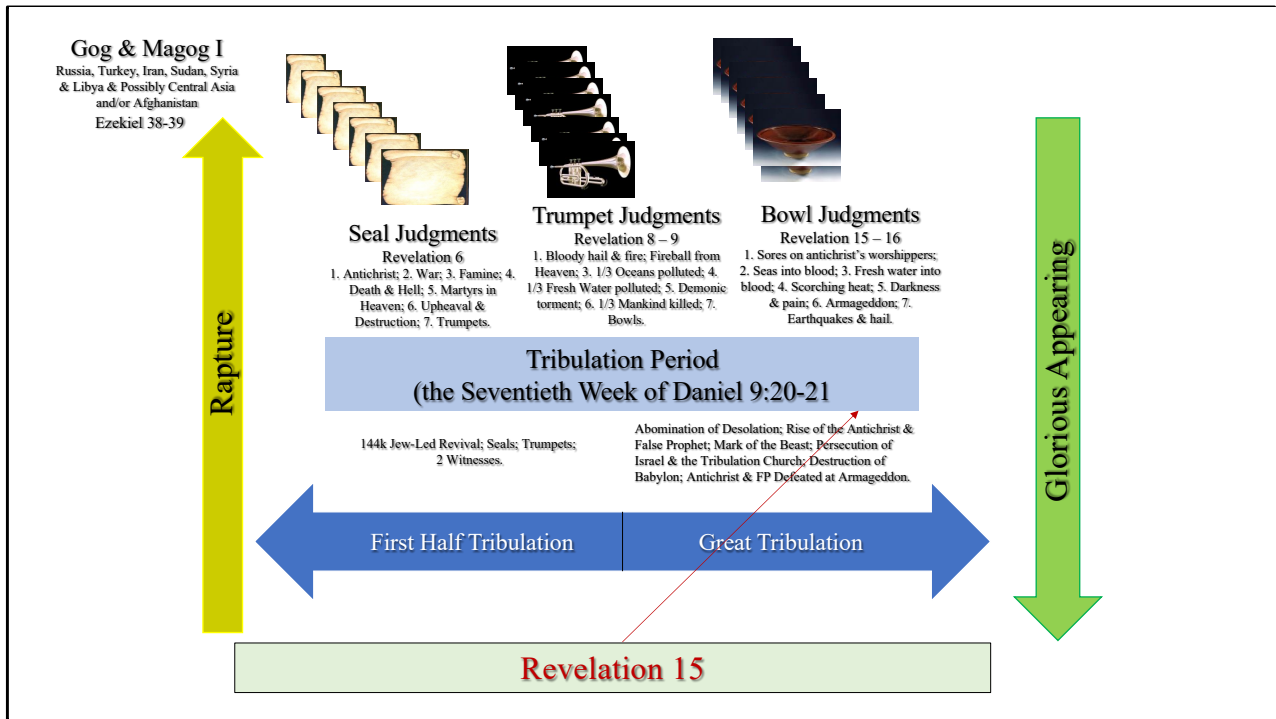
The Song of Moses and the Lamb 15:3-4

The Hallelujah Chorus 19:1-4

The Symphony of the Marriage Feast 19:6-7

-Robert Coleman as related by Ed Hindson







### Preparation for the Bowl Judgments

**15** Then I saw another great and awe-inspiring sign in heaven: seven angels with the seven last plagues; for with them God's wrath will be completed. **2** I also saw something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had won the victory over the beast, its image, and the number of its name, were standing on the sea of glass with harps from God.

John continues the vision ("Then I saw"). This is a new transition, and he has now moved from the sea (13:1), to the earth (13:11), to Mount Zion (14:1), to the middle heaven (14:6), to a white cloud (14:14), to heaven (15:1).

Seven angels may be new group and appear repeatedly (15:1, 6-8; 16:1; 17:1; 21:9).

This wrath is of God Himself (Joel 1; Zephaniah 1; Malachi 4; Matthew 24; 1 Thessalonians 5; 2 Thessalonians 2). It is fixed. It is guaranteed. It is complete.



The "sea of glass" is repeated, this time mixed with fire: perhaps it is reflective of holiness, and it is now mixed with judgment, i.e., fire (Revelation 1:14, 2:18, 3:18, 4:5, 8:5, 7-8, 9:17-18, 10:1, 11:5, 14:10, 18). Theologians debate the ability for salvation at this point; that is, some may interpret "complete" to mean that there will be no more salvations during the Great Tribulation Period, while others suggest salvation is still possible for those who have not received the Mark of the Beast. Notes Thomas, "...even though the last seven plagues indicate the end of God's wrath, God's desire for the repentance of humankind has not yet come to an end."

Harps are the only instruments (other than trumpets) mentioned in the Revelation (although singing and worship are repeatedly noted).



“They sang the song of God’s servant Moses and the song of the Lamb: Great and awe-inspiring are your works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are your ways, King of the nations.”

Genesis 1-2; 3:15; John 1:1-18; 5:30-34; 14:6; 1 John 1:9; Revelation 1:1:4-8; 22:12-16, 20



Song of Moses: See Exodus 15:1-18.

Note that the focus of verses 3-4 are rightfully stating worship of our Great God: HE alone should be the focus of worship!

**<sup>4</sup>Lord, who will not fear  
and glorify your name?  
For you alone are holy.  
All the nations will come  
and worship before you  
because your righteous acts  
have been revealed.**

As completely as Verse 3 reflects God the Creator (His works), His justice, and his Trueness (more than truthfulness – He IS Truth!), Verse 4 manifests His glorious name, His holiness; His universal worship; and His righteous (and revealed) acts. The Song of Moses is that of deliverance for the Jews; the Song of the Lamb is the song of ultimate deliverance for all nations (Exodus 15:1-8; Revelation 5:8-14).  
Note the contrast between Revelation 13:4 and Revelation 15:3-4 and the emphatic answer of God in His holiness, justice, and judgment.

Verse 3

Exodus 14:32; Deuteronomy 34:5; Joshua 1:1, 15, 8:31, 9:24; 1 Kings 8:53, 56; 2 Kings 18:13, 21:8; 2 Chronicles 24:9; Nehemiah 1:8; Psalm 105:26; Malachi 4:4 (Moses the Servant)

Exodus 15:11; Psalm 6:3; Isaiah 40:25; Micah 7:8 (Songs of God)

Verse 4

Exodus 15:11; Psalm 92:5, 98:1-2, 111:1-2, 118:1, 139:14; 1 Chronicles 16:9 (Salvation Works)  
John 4:34, 5:20, 36, 6:29, 7:3, 21, 9:3-4, 10:25, 32-33, 37-38, 14:10-12, 15:24, 17:4 (Jesus's Works "designed to result in belief" [6:29])  
Amos 5:8, 9:6, Hosea 12:5, Amos 5:14-15, 9:15 (Restoration)



Jesus IS the Truth:

“Jesus told him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him’” (John 14:6-7).

God’s WORD is True:

“Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth” (John 17:17).

The Holy Spirit IS and CONFIRMS Truth:

“When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth. For he will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears. He will also declare to you what is to come. He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you. Everything the Father has is mine. This is why I told you that he takes from what is mine and will declare it to you” (John 16:13-15).

“But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth...” (see 1 John 2:20-23). *All truth points to Jesus as the Christ.*





**Psalm 11**  
**Refuge in the LORD**  
**For the choir director. Of David.**

<sup>1</sup>I have taken refuge in the LORD.  
How can you say to me,  
“Escape to the mountains like a bird!”  
<sup>2</sup>For look, the wicked string bows;  
they put their arrows on bowstrings  
to shoot from the shadows at the upright in heart.  
<sup>3</sup>When the foundations are destroyed,  
what can the righteous do?”  
<sup>4</sup>The LORD is in his holy temple;  
the LORD—his throne is in heaven.  
His eyes watch;  
his gaze examines everyone.  
<sup>5</sup>The LORD examines the righteous,  
but he hates the wicked  
and those who love violence.  
<sup>6</sup>Let him rain burning coals and sulfur on the wicked;  
let a scorching wind be the portion in their cup.  
<sup>7</sup>For the LORD is righteous; he loves righteous deeds.  
The upright will see his face.



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## Revelation 16

Revelation 16: Bowls of Judgment to Be Gleaned

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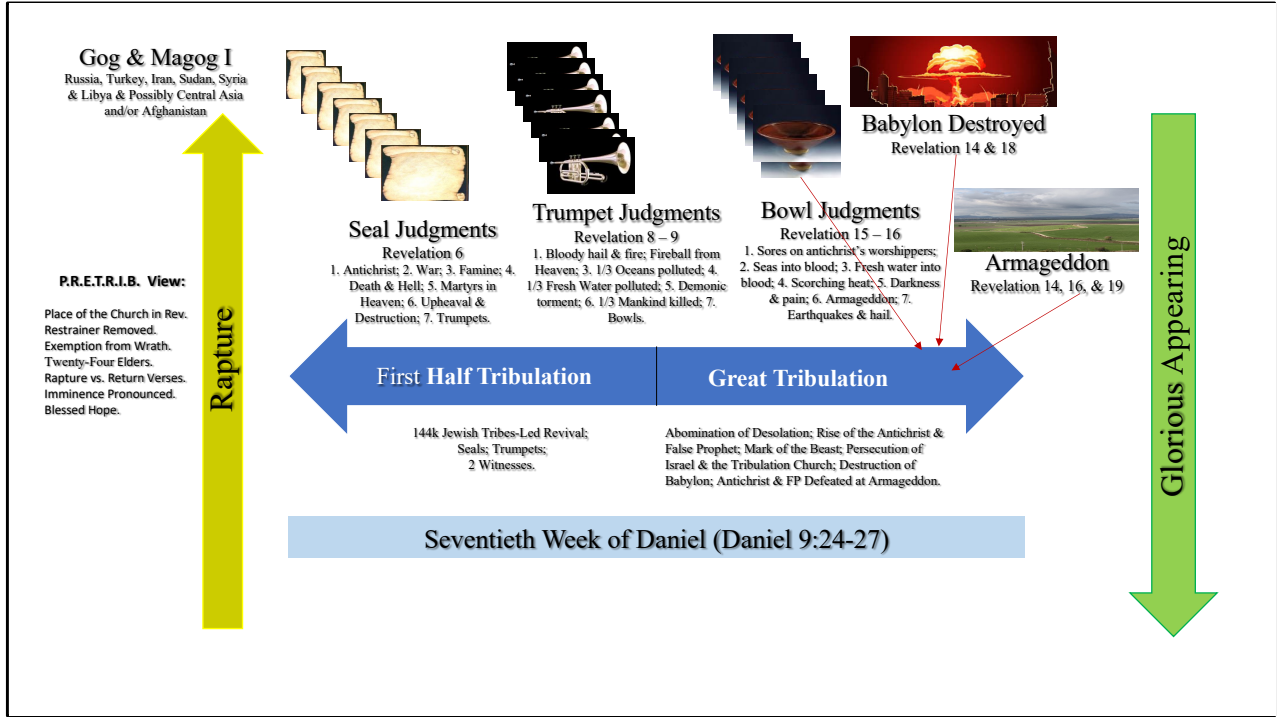




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Revelation Chapter 16: Bowls of Judgment to Be Gleaned





### **The First Bowl**

**16** Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, “Go and pour out the seven bowls of God’s wrath on the earth.” <sup>2</sup> The first went and poured out his bowl on the earth, and severely painful sores broke out on the people who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped its image.

#### Bowl 1

Sores and Wounds  
on Humans with  
the Mark and/or  
those who  
worshipped the  
Beast.

Isaiah 6:6  
Jeremiah 7:20, 10:25, 14:16  
Ezekiel 9:8, 14:19  
Psalm 79:3-6  
Lamentations 2:4

The voice going out from the temple seems to be personally that of the Lord, indicated by apparent divine authority; the fact that no one else has been able to enter the temple at this point; that the command to “go” is declarative; and the pouring out is reminiscent of Old Testament contexts (Thomas). Again, these seven angels appear to be reserved for their purpose in the end times. There is no doubt here – this is the very wrath of the righteous, holy, omnipotent God.

While the Trumpet Judgments were limited (Revelation 8:7-12), the Bowl Judgments are much less so. Again, it should be noted that if God did not limit the time of judgment, no one would survive the Great Tribulation.

Anyone possessing the Mark of the Beast, and anyone who worshiped the image of the Beast, experiences this horrific plague of sores. Some compare the sores to that of biblical leprosy, an educated guess certainly within the realm of possibility.

### The Second Bowl

<sup>3</sup>The second poured out his bowl into the sea. It turned to blood like that of a dead person, and all life in the sea died.

#### Bowl 2

Seas turn to blood;  
sea life dies.

Leviticus 17:1  
Exodus 7:14-25

The waters of the sea will be turned to blood, reminiscent of the Egyptian plague of old. Some theologians claim this blood will only affect the Mediterranean Sea, but such an observation seems contextually unlikely given the worldwide wrath described in Revelation 16. Instead, this will result in a massive loss of life, both humans and animals alike.

“Blood like that of a dead person” is a very interesting statement, i.e., the blood of a dead person breaks apart which results in a sedimental, gravity-driven sinking of the cells.

Anyone who has ever experienced a red tide never forgets it; the color of the sea, loss of sea life, and the stench are overwhelming. This plague will be incredibly far beyond a “normal” red tide.



The ten plagues of Egypt (Exodus 7-12) are:

1. Plague of Blood
2. Plague of Frogs
3. Plague of Gnats
4. Plague of Flies
5. Plague on Livestock
6. Plague of Boils
7. Plague of Hail
8. Plague of Locusts
9. Plague of Darkness
10. Plague on the Firstborn

### **The Third Bowl**

<sup>4</sup>The third poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of water, and they became blood. <sup>5</sup>I heard the angel of the waters say,

You are just,  
the Holy One, who is and who was,  
because you have passed judgment on these things.

<sup>6</sup>Because they poured out  
the blood of the saints and the prophets,  
you have given them blood to drink;  
they deserve it!

<sup>7</sup>I heard the altar say,  
Yes, Lord God, the Almighty,  
true and just are your judgments

Bowl 3

Rivers and fountains  
turn to blood.

Psalm 119:9, 119:37  
Romans 7:13  
John 3:19  
Hebrews 1:9, 11:1-40  
Genesis 4:10-12

It seems that drinking water will become scarce during this phase of judgment, and that many people will likely die.

According to the CDC, 785 million people do not have access to “basic water services” and more than 884 million do not have safe water to drink. This plague will result from the people’s sin, and because of the blood of the prophets and saints.

God is holy (Nehemiah 9:33; Psalm 7:11; Jeremiah 46:26; Daniel 9:14; Revelation 15:3-4).

### **The Fourth Bowl**

**8** The fourth poured out his bowl on the sun. It was allowed to scorch people with fire, **9** and people were scorched by the intense heat. So they blasphemed the name of God, who has the power over these plagues, and they did not repent and give him glory.

#### Bowl 4

Scorching heat of  
the sun.

Isaiah 24:6  
Malachi 4:1  
Matthew 3:10-12  
Amos 9:5, 6:1-14  
Exodus 7:13, 7:22, 8:15, 8:19,  
8:32, 9:7, 9:12, 9:34-35, 10:1,  
10:20, 11:9-10, 14:4  
Revelation 9:20-21  
2 Thessalonians 2:10

Fire is often associated with judgment in Scripture, and here the people who have refused God will experience extreme temperatures and burns. Yet, still, they refuse to repent or give God the glory He deserves. Pride and rebellion yield horrible consequences.





### **The Fifth Bowl**

<sup>10</sup> The fifth poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom was plunged into darkness. People gnawed their tongues because of their pain <sup>11</sup> and blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, but they did not repent of their works.

#### Bowl 5

Absolute darkness.

Exodus 10:21-23  
Isaiah 60:2  
Joel 2:2  
Nahum 1:8  
Mark 13:24-25

Darkness is judgment mentioned numerous times in Scripture, including during the plagues Egypt experienced prior to the Exodus. This darkness in Revelation is so severe that Antichrist's kingdom is temporarily stopped, and people therefore cannot find any relief from their pain. Additionally, some scholars posit the possibility of extreme cold due to the darkness.

Note that pain itself was not enough to cause people to repent, even though they will know that God in heaven is allowing His judgment to fall upon them.

### The Sixth Bowl

<sup>12</sup> The sixth poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the east. <sup>13</sup> Then I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming from the dragon's mouth, from the beast's mouth, and from the mouth of the false prophet. <sup>14</sup> For they are demonic spirits performing signs, who travel to the kings of the whole world to assemble them for the battle on the great day of God, the Almighty. <sup>15</sup> "Look, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who is alert and remains clothed so that he may not go around naked and people see his shame." <sup>16</sup> So they assembled the kings at the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.

#### Bowl 6

Euphrates River dries up;  
Kings of the East rise;  
Valley of Megiddo.

Genesis 2:14, 15:18  
Isaiah 11:15, 42:15  
Zechariah 10:11  
Revelation 9:14-16  
Revelation 12:9, 13:1-3, 13:11-17  
Exodus 8:2-13  
Psalm 105:30  
Matthew 24:24, 24:43-44  
Revelation 3:3, 3:17-18  
2 Thessalonians 2:8-10  
Revelation 6:12-17, 16:16  
Daniel 10:13, 20  
Revelation 12:7-10

Although portions of the Euphrates have dried up on occasion, this is the first time that the entire river would do so. The Euphrates, a border for God's people initially mentioned in Genesis in reference to the Garden of Eden, will become an open road for the forces of the antichrist.

Contrast the deception of the false trinity to the holiness of the One with the sword in His mouth (Revelation 1:16).

Armageddon will be discussed in Chapter 19. However, note that preparations for war are well underway.

Allegorists believe this section to be a symbolism of the battle of good and evil.

Regarding verse 15, recall similar words from the LORD in Matthew 24:42-44:  
"Therefore be alert, since you don't know what day your lord is coming. But know this: If the homeowner had known what time the thief was coming, he would have stayed alert and not let his house be broken into. This is why you are also to be ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

### The Seventh Bowl

<sup>17</sup> Then the seventh poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne, saying, "It is done!" <sup>18</sup> There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, and peals of thunder. And a severe earthquake occurred like no other since people have been on the earth, so great was the quake. <sup>19</sup> The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Babylon the Great was remembered in God's presence; he gave her the cup filled with the wine of his fierce anger. <sup>20</sup> Every island fled, and the mountains disappeared. <sup>21</sup> Enormous hailstones, each weighing about a hundred pounds, fell from the sky on people, and they blasphemed God for the plague of hail because that plague was extremely severe.

#### Bowl 7

#### Earthquake and hail stones.

1 Kings 18  
Daniel 4:18  
Genesis 11:1-9  
Isaiah 13:13  
Haggai 2:6-7  
Zechariah 14:4-5  
Revelation 11:8-10  
Revelation 11:19  
Joshua 10:11

The "loud voice" seems to be that of the Lord, given that it is from the temple and indicates completeness of the three-tiered judgments (Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls). "It is done" (*gegonen*) is contrasted with "It is finished" (*tetelestai*; John 19:30); that is the, "done" here indicates the end of the judgments; the "finished" of Jesus indicates the glorious atonement, the finished works, and the available (and free for us) gift of grace from and of Jesus Christ.

Some believe the "great city" here is Babylon (which we will discuss in future chapters). The primary point seems that God's wrath has been poured out on the Antichrist's system of government, and on the people who continue to follow their chosen father-substitute, Satan (rather than The Father (Jehovah) who created them). Note again that God is Lord of His own creation, with the elements, skies, and the earth bending in obedience to His wrath and His will. Numerous theologians posit the "great city" noted here is Jerusalem (certainly a possibility given the centrality of Jerusalem, along with the Jewish emphasis in the Revelation).

## Revelation 16: The Bowl Judgments



Bowl 1

Sores and Wounds on Humans with the Mark and/or those who worshipped the Beast.

Bowl 2

Seas turn to blood; sea life dies.

Bowl 3

Rivers and fountains turn to blood.

Bowl 4

Scorching heat of the sun.

Bowl 5

Absolute darkness.

Bowl 6

Euphrates River dries up; Kings of the East rise; Valley of Megiddo.

Bowl 7

Earthquake and hail stones.

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

1. Why will no one be able to accuse God of being unfair when they receive His judgment?
2. How do these chapters give hope and encouragement to God's people?
3. Why are the glory of God and the judgment of God so often seen together? How do these two aspects of His character relate?