

A Glimpse of the Future, Part 3 Revelation 15-16, Seven Bowls

Scriptures

- Rev 15:1, “I saw in heaven another great and marvelous sign: seven angels with the seven last plagues — last, because with them God’s wrath is completed.”
 - “plague” (Gk, *plege*): (1) hitting, beating, flogging for punishment; (2) wound, result of a beating; (3) plague, a pandemic disease; (4) distress, great suffering
- Rev 15:2, “And I saw what looked like a sea of glass mixed with fire and, standing beside the sea, those who had been victorious over the beast and his image and over the number of his name.”
 - Rev 4:6 (describing God’s throne in heaven), “Also before the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal.”
- Rev 15:8, “And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power, and no one could enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.”
 - What is the significance of the temple in heaven?
 - What do you think it means, “no one could enter the temple”?
- Rev 16:2, “The first angel went and poured out his bowl on the land, and ugly and painful sores broke out on the people who had the mark of the beast and worshiped his image.”
- Rev 16:3, “The second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it turned into blood like that of a dead man, and every living thing in the sea died.”
- Rev 16:4-6, ⁴ “The third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. ⁵ Then I heard the angel in charge of the waters say:

‘You are just in these judgments,
you who are and who were, the Holy One,
because you have so judged;
⁶ for they have shed the blood of your saints and
prophets,
and you have given them blood to drink as they
deserve.’”

- What does this suggest about the angel’s responsibilities?

- Rev 16:8-9, ⁸ “The fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and the sun was given power to scorch people with fire. ⁹ They were seared by the intense heat and they cursed the name of God, who had control over these plagues, but they refused to repent and glorify him.”
 - “sun” (Gk, *helios*): the sun
- Rev 16:10-11, ¹⁰ “The fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom was plunged into darkness. Men gnawed their tongues in agony ¹¹ and cursed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, but they refused to repent of what they had done.”
- Rev 16:12-14, ¹² “The sixth angel 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. ¹³ Then I saw three evil spirits that looked like frogs; they came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet. ¹⁴ They are spirits of demons performing miraculous signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the great day of God Almighty.”
 - Does this correspond to 6th trumpet (Rev 9:13), 200 million troops?
- Rev 16:15, “Behold, I come like a thief! Blessed is he who stays awake and keeps his clothes with him, so that he may not go naked and be shamefully exposed.”
 - 1 Th 5:2, “. . . you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.”
 - 1 Th 5:4, “But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief.”
 - 2 Ptr 3:10, “But the day of the Lord will come like a thief.”
 - Rev 3:3 (Jesus speaking to one of 7 churches), “But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.”
- Rev 16:16, “Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.”
 - Joel 2
 - 2:28, God will pour out his Spirit on all people (quoted in Acts, Pentecost fulfilled it)
 - 2:30, describes the Day of the Lord, wonders in the heavens, sun darkened
 - 2:32, deliverance on Mt Zion in Jerusalem

- Joel 3:1-2
 - ¹ In those days and at that time,
when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem,
 - ² I will gather all nations
and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat.
There I will enter into judgment against them
concerning my inheritance, my people Israel,
for they scattered my people among the nations
and divided up my land.

- The “battle of Armageddon” actually occurs at
Jerusalem!
- Rev 16:17-21, ¹⁷ “The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and out of the temple came a loud voice from the throne, saying, ‘It is done!’ ¹⁸ Then there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder and a severe earthquake. No earthquake like it has ever occurred since man has been on earth, so tremendous was the quake. ¹⁹ The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations collapsed. God remembered Babylon the Great and gave her the cup filled with the wine of the fury of his wrath. ²⁰ Every island fled away and the mountains could not be found. ²¹ From the sky huge hailstones of about a hundred pounds each fell upon men. And they cursed God on account of the plague of hail, because the plague was so terrible.”

Closing

- The worst we’ll ever experience in the end-times will not overwhelm us if our trust is in God, because he’ll give us whatever we need to thrive despite our circumstances.
- 2 Co 4:17, “For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.”
- Rev 22:7, “Behold, I am coming soon! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy in this book.”
- Rev 22:12-13, ¹² “Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”
- Rev 22:16, “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.”
- Rev 22:20, “Yes, I am coming soon.”