

SERMON NOTES - Revelation 15-16 - The 7 Bowls

We have seen the end several times and now we are going back again to restate or further describe some aspects...the final 7 bowls of God's wrath.

Revelation 15:1-8 - 1 Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete. 2 And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast (cf Rev 7:14 - *those redeemed from the tribulation*), over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. 3 They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints! 4 Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. For all nations shall come and worship before You, For Your judgments have been manifested." 5 After these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened. 6 And out of the temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands. 7 Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God who lives forever and ever. 8 The temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power, and no one was able to enter the temple till the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.

Revelation 16:1-21 - 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."

FIRST BOWL - 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.

SECOND BOWL - 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.

THIRD BOWL - 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."

FOURTH BOWL - 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.

FIFTH BOWL - 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.

SIXTH BOWL - 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. 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**.

SEVENTH BOWL - 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.

THEMES, TERMS AND "MARKERS" THAT REPEAT IN REVELATION:

1) ARMAGEDDON IS REPEATED IN THE VARIOUS SCENARIOS AND VIEWS:

- **Rev 9:13 -6th Trumpet** - 200 Million army at the Euphrates that kill 1/3 mankind
- **Rev 14:14-20** after cosmic battle and the beast
- Here above - "It is done" - **Rev 16:12, 17** the **bowls**
- Last perspective - **Rev 17-19** - Babylon, marriage of lamb and **Rev 19:17-21**

2) THE BEAST

- Rev 11:7 - "7 When they (2 Witnesses) finish their testimony (the very end), the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them."
- Rev 13:1-10 - described in detail
- Rev 13:11-18 - false prophet / 2nd beast
- Rev 17:7-18 - more detail about 7 Heads (mountains/kingdoms) & 10 Horns (kings not yet in power). 7 Heads & 10 horns same as dragon (Rev 12:3)
- Thrown into the lake of fire - Rev 19:18-20

3) BABYLON

- Rev 14:8 - one of the 3 Angels' Proclamations. "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."
- Here - Rev 16:19 final destruction after armageddon
- More detail & Overthrow x 2 - Rev 17-19

4) The "**Great Tribulation**" - the second half of the 7 years after the abomination of desolation as per Jesus' words - **Matt 24:21** - "21 "For then there will be **great** tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be."

5) The "**wrath of God**" -

- the 6th Seal - cosmic disturbances - **Rev 6:17** - "17 "For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?""
- Therefore the 7th seal (all 7 trumpets) are also part of it?
- Armageddon is part of it - **Rev 14:19 & 19:15** - "14:19 So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God."
- The last 7 bowls are part of it - **Rev 15:1** - "1 Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete."

STILL TO COME:- **Babylon** - **Rev 17-19** → **Marriage of Lamb & Christians judged** - **Rev 19:1-10** → **Armageddon** - **Rev 19:11-21** → **Millenium** - **Rev 20:1-6** → **Judgement day** - **Rev 20:7-15** → **Heaven** - **Rev 21, 22**

REVELATION OVERVIEW

INTRO Rev 1-5

7 Churches
Rev 1-3

Heaven & the Scroll
Rev 4-5

THE TRIBULATION - 7 SEALS, TRUMPETS & BOWLS Rev 6-11 & Rev 15-16



FINAL SCENES Rev 20-22

Millenium
Rev 20:1-10

Judgement
Rev 20:11-15

Heaven Forever
Rev 21-22

PAUSE 1 Rev 12-14

Recap of the above + extra detail

- Overview of the Cosmic Battle - Rev 12
- The Beast & his helper - Rev 13
- The 144,000 with Christ on Earth, the 3 Angels, Armageddon war - Rev 14

PAUSE 2 Rev 17-19

Recap of the above + extra detail

- Babylon and her fall - Rev 17-18
- Marriage of the Lamb - Rev 19
- Armageddon - Rev 19

TIMELINE OF REVELATION 6-19 - DANIEL'S 70th WEEK

3 1/2 YEARS



THE BEAST & BABYLON

BEAST IS KILLED & RESURRECTED

HALF WAY THROUGH THE 7 YEAR PERIOD

- ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION
- BEAST'S WAR ON GOD'S PEOPLE STARTS
- BABYLON OVERTHROWN
- JERUSALEM INVADDED/JEWS FLEE
- 2 WITNESSES BEGIN MINISTRY

3 1/2 YEARS



MARK OF BEAST & PERSECUTION

RAPTURE & 144,000

THE FINAL 7 TRUMPETS & 7 BOWLS - Rev 8,9,11,16

Increasingly Calamitous
Plagues, War, Heavenly Events
Huge Hail, Earth Changing Earthquake

Concludes in Israel's salvation, Christ's Return, Armageddon & Judgment



Small group discussion guidelines

Remember that the aim of the small group is to foster discussion and community, rather than for the leader or one individual to preach to everyone.

1 - Often an **Icebreaker question** is a great way to start discussion. You could ask a question like:

- What were the highs or lows of your week?
- What is your earliest memory?
- If you had to describe yourself as one animal, what would it be and why?
- What is your favourite type of holiday destination?

2 - Next, **read the passage**. You can ask various people in the group to help by each reading a portion of the passage.

3 - These are the **main questions** to ask to understand the passage:

- What is the main message of this talk / passage?
Allow discussion and even diverging from the main topic if it is helpful.
- What did you find particularly helpful or challenging?
- What did you not fully understand?
- What can we do PRACTICALLY in response to this teaching?

4 - Close by offering **prayer** for each person.

- Ask, "how can we pray for you / each other now?"
- Ask each person to pray or you, as leader, pray for each person's need

The blessing and opportunity in Small Groups is the possibility for...

- Each person to contribute and/or ask questions,
- People to pray for each other and to ask for prayer,
- People to learn to use and grow in their gifts,
- Community, friendship and intimacy in relationships.

God Bless you in this very important ministry.