

Revelation 16 – The Wrath of God: The Last 7 Plagues

By Holly Effiom

Verse 1 was included in chapter 15's study because it was related to the view of events from the perspective of heaven; however, notice, it was in Rev 15:1 that we are first told of the angels holding the last seven plagues, which are the wrath of God. It isn't until Rev 16:1 that the angels are actually dispatched to pour out the vials of the wrath of God. So, what was Rev 15 about?

I propose that Rev 15 serves to assure us of the future of those that gain the victory over the beast – it confirms the notion of the rapture, and affirms the notion that the work of the church was completed, and that is why it's an angel flying through the air preaching the everlasting gospel. But, Rev 15 also gives the *hint* that the work of heaven, of God Almighty, has begun – heaven has gone to war against iniquity in the earth.

V2 – Vial #1

- What did the contents of this vial do?
- Who specifically was affected?
- Who else was in the earth at this time?
- What might this look like? Ex 9:8-11.

V3 – Vial #2

- Where are the contents of this vial poured out?
- What did it do?
- Is this the same event in Rev 8:8-9? How do you know?
- So, how is the second vial different from the first trumpet judgment?

VV4-7 – Vial #3

- Where was this vial poured?
- What was affected?
- How is the third vial of the wrath of God different from Rev 8:10-11?
- Why would the angel of the waters have anything to say?
- Why would the angel out of the altar have anything to say? Rev 6:9-11.
- What is it these angels say regarding God's judgments upon the earth?
- Could this mean that up to this point that the earth, maybe the whole *universe*, actually worked to *protect* mankind?

VV8-9 – Vial #4

- Where was this vial poured?
- How did this affect the men in the earth?
- What might this look like?
- How is this similar to Rev 8:12?
- How do you know that VV8-9 is a different event?
- Would you think that after the pouring out of each vial of the wrath of God, there will be some who bow their knee to God?
- Would you think that those who refuse to bow their knee are the most hardened among the wicked?

VV10-11 – Vial #5

- Where was this vial poured out?
- What did it do?

Revelation 16 – The Wrath of God: The Last 7 Plagues

By Holly Effiom

What would this “darkness” look like? What would it be like for it to cause such pain as to gnaw on one’s tongue? Ex 10:21; Dt 28:29.

How is this similar to Rev 9:2? How is it different?

Did the effects of the prior plagues stop with each new plague?

V12 – Vial #6

Where is this vial poured?

What does this affect?

How is this sixth vial related to the sixth trumpet judgment? Rev 9:14.

What information did we get from Rev 9:14?

Does it say that the Euphrates was dried up in that section of scripture also?

VV13-16

What was it that came out of the mouths of the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet? Were they literally “frogs”?

What does this mean? What do the frogs signify?

What are “unclean spirits”?

What is the goal of these unclean spirits? Are these spirits meaning good for mankind?

Which men, specifically, do they stir up?

How are these three “frogs” related to the 4 angels bound in the Euphrates?

What do the angels in the Euphrates do? What do the 3 “frogs” do?

Why is the warning in V15 issued? To whom is the warning issued?

V17 – Vial #7

Where is this vial poured out?

What happened when it poured out?

What is meant by the words “It is done”? From where did the voice come?

When was the temple in heaven closed?

VV18-21

What happened after the 7th vial of the wrath of God was poured out?

What great city was divided into 3 parts?

What happened to the other cities of the “nations”?

When the term “nations” is used here, what does it mean exactly?

Why would the fall of the “nations” bring Babylon the great to mind for God?

Was Babylon an afterthought for God? What would you say His feelings toward Babylon are?

What is significant about every island fleeing and the mountains missing? Why does God make this point in His word? Consider the words of Rev 6:14-17.

What happened once all the islands and mountains were moved out of the way?

What exactly was the 7th plague?

LESSON: Under the Law (Dt 17:2-7), at the testimony of two or three witnesses, one found to be committing idolatry is to be called out before the congregation and *stoned* to death. I would say that Rev 16:21 is the meting out of judgment for idolatry. Just as God bound Himself to act according to the Law, so too, will He mete out judgment against the wicked according to the Law.

Revelation 16 – The Wrath of God: The Last 7 Plagues

By Holly Effiom

This is such a fascinating and *comforting* section of the apocalypse:

1. Understand that by the time the wrath of God is being poured out, there's no let-up in the adversity that's being poured out on the disobedient. The earth, and indeed the whole universe, have worked faithfully to protect man from himself throughout time. God's actions are being taken with the approval and agreement of the angels of the waters and the altar (fulfillment of revenge).
2. Learn something about the disobedient – they would sooner sit with the pain of boils and open sores and have their home come down around their ears than bow their knee to the authority and position of Jesus Christ. If their hatred of God is so great, what *must* they feel toward the church?
3. And most importantly, learn something about Armageddon – it does not take place *during* the tribulation of the church, which is cut short for our own good – it takes place after the church is removed from the earth; hence, the importance of Rev 15. Hallelujah! Thank you, Jesus!! Armageddon takes place during the wrath of God. Those who have accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior are not *subject* to the wrath of God, except for those who do not accept Jesus until *after* the rapture. Only death will relieve these from the wrath of God (Rev 14:13).

HollyEffiom.com