

REVELATION – CHAPTER 16
THE BOWL JUDGMENTS

Vs 1 The Command to Pour

Note: This chapter contains many “great” things
(same Greek word in all)

1. vs 17 tells us the voice being heard was great (loud)
2. vs 9 great heat (fierce)
3. vs 12 great river, the Euphrates
4. vs 14 great day of God, the Almighty
5. vs 18 great earthquake...so great an earthquake
6. vs 19 great city...Babylon the Great
7. vs 21 great (huge) hailstones
8. vs 21 the plague of the hail...was extremely great (severe)

This chapter of the Bible includes many great things.
We are at the end; every action and every participant is at its maximum.

Vs 2 The First Bowl – loathsome and malignant sores

The word “sore” is the same Greek word found in the LXX for the boils inflicted on the Egyptians in Ex 9:9-11.
(The judgments inflicted on the Egyptians must have been very severe.)

Those affected by this plague are many. Rev13:8
Every lost person alive on earth.

Vs 3 The Second Bowl – sea becomes blood and every living thing in it dies

With the Second Trumpet – Rev 8:8-9 – one third were affected.
With the Second Bowl – it is universal.

Vs 4-7 The Third Bowl – the Second plague’s effects are extended to the rivers and springs of water.

The “angel of the waters” affirms the righteousness of God for this judgment.

The bloodletting during the Great Tribulation of believers will be without parallel in the history of mankind. Matt 24:21

When the Creator was mocked, beaten, and spat upon, He did not defend Himself or hurt His enemies. Not so with His children.

In verse 7 some manuscripts add “another out of”, which is probably reflective of the meaning of what is being said. The utterance would come from a Being, rather than from the altar itself.

Vs 8-9 The Fourth Bowl – parallels the Fourth Trumpet – Rev 8:12

Again, one third versus universal judgment...

With this Bowl Judgment the sun increases its intensity and burns mankind with its heat.

The Tribulation is almost over and the reality of God is obvious, yet, lost man’s response to God is to blaspheme Him. Spiritually dead men do not repent.

Vs 10-11 The Fifth Bowl – judgment directed at the Beast, and his subjects

The throne of the beast focuses on the authority which the beast has taken up.

The wicked in their suffering are said to gnaw their tongues for pain. Still no repentance.

This is the last reference to their failure to repent.

Rev 2:21; 9:20-21; 16:9

Vs 12-16 The Sixth Bowl – the drying up of the great river Euphrates, in preparation for the conclusion of Armageddon

Vs 12 The river Euphrates formed the Eastern boundary of the ancient Roman Empire. It is also the Eastern boundary of the land which God promised to the seed of Abraham.

Gen 15:18; Deut 1:7; 11:24; Joshua 1:4

The kings of the East are the rulers of the Orient who will descend upon the Middle East for the Final World Battle.

Vs 13-14 John experiences an additional vision which is a commentary on the Sixth Bowl.

He sees three demons who appear as frogs coming out of the mouths of the satanic trinity.

The demon indwelling the false prophet is probably the power behind the miracles worked by the false prophet.

Rev 13:12-15

These demons are involved in the gathering of the forces of the

world in the beautiful land for the final battle. Dan 11:40-45

- Vs 15 1 Thes 5:2,4; 2 Pet 3:10; Rev 3:3
The third beatitude found in the Book of Revelation...
- Vs 16 Mount of Megiddo outside of Jerusalem
- Vs 17-21 The Seventh Bowl – the final act of God prior to the Return of Christ
A voice coming from the Temple again...It is done.
Lightening and thunder are experienced.
An earthquake unlike any ever experienced takes place.
- Vs 19 The great city Babylon is divided and destroyed. Rev 18:1-24
Every one of her sins is remembered by God.
- Vs 20 Destruction of the planet is experienced everywhere.
- Vs 21 Hailstones come down and men blaspheme God.
Note: Salvation remains beyond lost humanity, apart from the drawing power of God!