

The book of Revelation

Chapter 16

1. *The Lord declares the bowls of wrath to be poured out (16:1)*

-The Lord calls forth for the bowls of wrath to be dumped out on the nations. "John now hears the voice of the Almighty. It was a loud voice for the Lord is filled with _____ because of the impenitence of Satan's followers." (178)

-There are similarities between the judgements here mentioned and the ten plagues that the Lord inflicted upon wicked Egypt during the time of the Moses. "These plagues recorded in Exodus 7-11 _____ all the manifestations of God's wrath upon the wicked." (178)

-The bowls of wrath are full to the brim (15:7). This is a picture that there comes a time when the wickedness of men (individually or nationally) reaches its _____ which brings then the devastating wrath of God down upon them (Gen. 15:16). "God will fill believers' cup of blessing to overflowing only when the wicked have filled their bowl of cursing to overflowing." (Johnson, 222)

2. *Bowl 1 (16:2)*

-This plague is similar to plague six that was inflicted upon the rebellious Egyptians. The Lord will afflict the _____ of the wicked as a form of judgment. "At times our Lord uses vicious and incurable ulcers or any other incurable disease to hurl the wicked into hell. These come from the first bowl. Think of Herod (Acts 12:23), and remember that throughout this entire dispensation our Lord is constantly doing this very thing." (178)

-Remember that the wrath of the Lord is poured out on the wicked (those who have the mark of the beast) and never on the _____. For the saints there is no wrath left since our Savior took the wrath of God for us on the cross of Calvary.

3. *Bowl 2 & 3 (16:3-7)*

-Bowls 2 & 3 remind us of the first plague on the Egyptians as the waters are turned to _____. "Sometimes the sea is used as the instrument of destruction...Just as maritime calamities constitute warnings for the wicked, so also by means of some of these disasters the impenitent are hurled into hell. This happens again and again throughout history." (179)

-The angles praise God for His just judgments at this point. His punishments are _____ for the sins that were committed. There is no evil or wrongdoing in the judgments of the Lord for "true and just" are His judgements.

4. *Bowl 4 (16:8-9)*

-The fourth bowl of judgment comes from God using the sun as a force for destruction (this bowl does not have a counterpart in the Egyptian plagues). The wicked suffer under these judgments and continue to _____ to give glory to God or repent of their actions. "The fiery hostility of the created order against people who are hostile to the Creator makes the sun's light and warmth, in themselves necessary and delightful, instruments of _____ when taken to extreme." (Johnson, 228)

5. *Bowl 5 (16:10-11)*

-This bowl is said to be poured out on the throne of the beast (that is the world governments that are opposed to Christ). God tears down _____ as part of His just judgments. This kingdom of

the beast is plunged into darkness (ninth plague on Egypt). “The beast’s reign has always been shrouded in spiritual darkness, for its foundation is the lie that the beast is incomparable...John has noted elsewhere that guilty people _____ darkness for the cover it offers for their evil deeds (John 3:19-20).” (Johnson, 230)

-This plague continues to show the rebellion of men against God. While the wicked suffer from the just hand of God (biting their tongue in anguish) they still do not _____ of their deeds. “Hard hearts, defiant toward the God before whom they should fall down in contrition and adoration, instead _____ in darkness toward destruction.” (Johnson, 231)

6. *Bowl 6 (16:12-16)*

-The river Euphrates (not to be taken literally) was already mentioned under the sixth trumpet (9:14) and was seen as “a restraining boundary holding back impending judgement.” (Johnson, 231). Now the river is seen as being dried up preparing the way for the advance of enemies of God’s people but also this is to be seen as preparing for the time of _____ for the people of God.

-Three lying, deceiving spirits are seen coming out of the mouths of the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet and these spirits incite the kings of the earth to war against the _____. “The enemies’ defeat, however, will take them unawares. The drying of the river removes an impediment that had hindered their assault on the church, so the “kings of the east,” who stand for the “kings of the whole world,” gleefully gather for the kill. Surely, now that this barrier no longer restrains their violence and separates them from their prey, their victory is imminent! But they are sadly mistaken. In fact, they are assembling to meet their own _____.” (Johnson, 232)

-Har-Magedon is the symbol of every battle in which, when the need is _____ and believers are oppressed, the Lord suddenly reveals His power in the interest of His distressed people and defeats the enemy...but the real, the great, the final Har-Magedon coincides with the time of Satan’s little season (Rev. 7-11).” (181)

-Christ suddenly appears in this text giving a warning and a word of encouragement. He desires that saints would remember the suddenness and unexpectedness of His second coming and also remember to be vigilant and to stay awake by keeping their garments on (which are a reference to _____ alone in Christ alone-3:18, 7:14) and not be found naked in that hour (without true faith in Christ)

7. *Bowl 7 (16:17-21)*

-This again brings us to the _____ day when the wrath of the Lord destroys the “great city.” “This section dealing with the bowls, like the preceding ones, ends with a very vivid description of the terror of the final judgment, which is symbolized by the seventh bowl.” (182)

-Here, complete destruction of the wicked world is pictured with the coming of devastating judgements (great earthquake, islands and mountains disappearing, giant hailstones). The old world will truly be _____. The words “it is done” here refer to the final and complete judgement of the wicked. The almighty will utter these words again with the completion of the new creation as well (21:6)

-Even as the wicked world must drink to the full the cup of God’s wrath they still _____ against the Lord. Now not only not repenting (as has been twice mentioned in this chapter) but now cursing God for His just judgments. “Even in hell these impenitent sinners blaspheme God because of the greatness of the plague and because of the hardness of their hearts!” (182)