



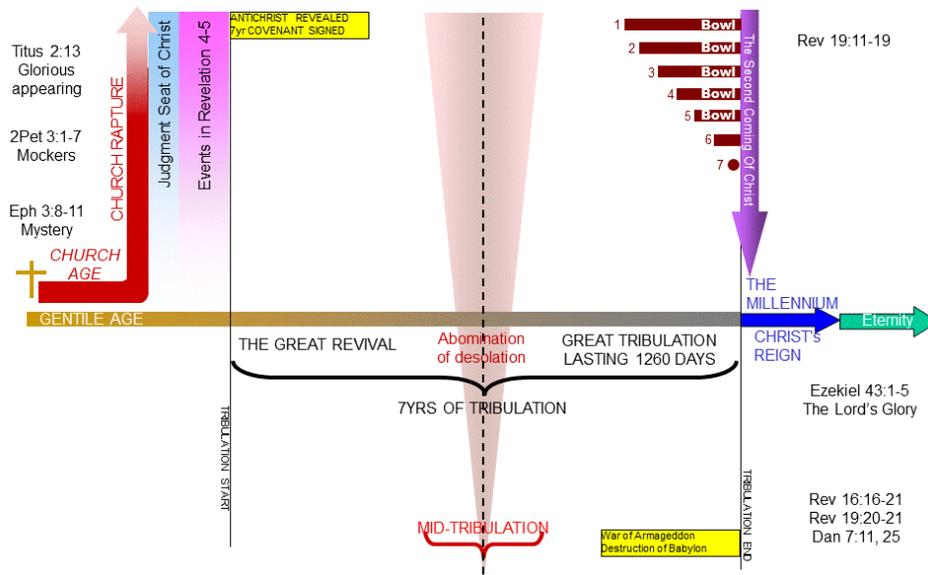
REVELATION 16:1-11

OUR UNDESERVED MERCY

The World scene as Chapter 16 gets under way:

- **Last half of the Tribulation is well under way.**
- Antichrist (Beast) has been possessed by Lucifer (dragon)
 - He has declared himself to be god.
 - World populace forced to receive mark of his worship or die.
- Jewish remnant has fled to the wilderness
- Long droughts and famines still plaguing the world.
- Clean water resources are few and far between.
- Approx. 5/8ths of the world population has been killed, died or raptured.
- Babylon, Iraq, has become the world capital of:
 - Religion – Antichrist's Pride
 - Politic – Antichrist's Domination
 - Economy – Antichrist's Greed

Revelation 16



Revelation 15:8 and the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power, and no one was able to enter into the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.

- It seems the primary recipients of these bowls of wrath are those that have taken upon themselves the “Mark of the Beast.”
 - **God’s wrath against a Christ-rejecting world**
- **Jesus knows how horrible the wrath that is coming will be:**

Matthew 24:21–22

21 For at that time there will be great tribulation, such as has not happened from the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will happen.

22 **And unless those days had been shortened, no human being would be saved.** But for the sake of the elect, those days will be shortened.

God takes no pleasure in the destruction of the ungodly!

Ezekiel 33:11 Say to them, ‘As I live,’ declares the Lord Yahweh, **‘Surely I have no delight in the death of the wicked, except in the wicked returning from his way,** and he lives.

Turn back! Turn back from your ways, O evil ones, for why should you die, house of Israel?’

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not delaying the promise, as some consider slowness, but is being patient toward you, **because he does not want any to perish, but all to come to repentance.**

- Now, finally, **it will be all done!**
- **Barnhouse:** *“The mills of God grind slowly, but they grind exceeding fine, and the last of the grist is now to go through. The machinery of judgment has been set in motion, and the Creator Himself has said that it shall not be arrested until the last plagues of His wrath are finished.”*¹
 - **Bullinger:** *“These seven Vials and their effects we take to be literal; . . . They belong to no figures of speech. The language is clear and precise. There is nothing beyond our faith, though there may be beyond our reason. True, they are supernatural, but not unnatural. In the plagues of Egypt, which all take to be literal, we have many judgments exactly similar. Indeed, six out of the seven Vials are just the same as the plagues of Egypt, and God has again and again declared that their final judgments should be like, yea, should be worse than those (Ex. 34:10). . . . In the face of this, is it not strange that these Vials should ever be taken to mean: The first, the French Revolution; and the “sores” its infidelity, etc. The second, the naval wars of the French Revolution; The third, Napoleon’s campaign in Italy; The fourth, Napoleon’s military tyranny, etc., etc.? It is a waste of precious time and space even to chronicle such interpretations.”*²

Called the **“great”** chapter of Revelation: (J.B. Smith)

- **“great voice”** (v1)
- **“great heat”** (v9)
- **“great river Euphrates”** (v12)
- **“that great day of God Almighty”** (v14)
- **“great earthquake”** (v 18)
- **“the great city”** (v19)
- **“great Babylon”** (v19)
- **“a great hailstorm”** (v21)
- **“exceeding great plague”** (v21)

The seven bowls of God’s wrath:

- Rapid fire judgments – one quickly after another
- All in Revelation Chapter 16:

¹ Donald Grey Barnhouse, Revelation (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1971), 288.

² E. W. Bullinger, Commentary On Revelation (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 1984, 1935), Rev. 16:1.

| THE SEVEN BOWLS | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd | 4 th | 5 th | 6 th | 7 th |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sores afflict those who accepted the mark of the Beast. Rev. 16:2 | Sea turns to blood; all sea creatures die. Rev. 16:3 | Rivers turn to blood. Rev. 16:4-7 | Mankind scorched by the sun, blasphemes God. Rev. 16:8-9 | The Beast's seat of government is afflicted. Rev. 16:10-11 | The Euphrates is dried up; world armies gather to Armageddon. Rev. 16:12-16 | The earth is utterly shaken. Rev. 16:17-21 |

1 And I heard a **loud** (great) voice from the temple saying to the **seven angels**, "Go and pour out on the earth the seven bowls of the wrath of God."

2 And **the first** went and poured out his bowl on the earth, and there was a **foul and loathsome sore on the people who had the mark of the beast and on them who have worshiped his image.**

- "foul and loathsome sore"

- Ἐλκος κακὸν καὶ πονηρὸν [Helkos kakon kai ponēron].
 - **Sore**, is ἔλκος [helkos] meaning: "Strictly wound; by metonymy ulcer, ulcerated sore, abscess."
 - "An outward sign of some inward corruption"
 - The "poison" of their rebellion coming forth
 - ἔλκος, οὖς, τό (s. ἐλκόω; Hom.+) *wound* (so Il. 4, 190; Antig. Car. 36) or *sore, abscess, ulcer* (so Thu., Theophr., Polyb., also SIG 1168, 114; 1169, 38; SEG XLII, 818, 3; LXX; TestSol 9:6; Just., D. 115, 5).³
 - **Foul** is κακὸν [kakon], which in this context means "dangerous, pernicious . . . harmful."
 - κακός, ή, όν (Hom.+; gener. pert. to not meeting ή accepted standards of behavior, 'bad, worthless, inferior'). Actively causing evil, i.e., hurtful, harmful (Rom. 14:20; Titus 1:12, "ravenous beasts" [a.t.]; Rev. 16:2; Sept.: Prov. 16:4; Amos 6:3).⁴
 - **Loathsome** is πονηρὸν [ponēron], meaning "painful, virulent, vicious, serious."
 - πονηρός, ά, όν (s. πονέω, πόνος; Hes., Thu.+) comp. πονηρότερος Mt 12:45; Lk 11:26; superl. πονηρότατος (Diod S 14, 4, 2; PRyl III, 493, 89) Hm 3:5.—Freq. in Gk. lit. the opp. of ἀγαθός/καλός or χρηστός. pert. to being morally or socially worthless, *wicked, evil, bad, base, worthless, vicious, degenerate*. in ref. to the status of some ailment *painful, virulent, serious* (since Theognis 274) ἔλκος *sore*,

³ William Arndt et al., *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000), 317.

⁴ Spiros Zodhiates, *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament* (Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers, 2000).

- **Thus, God strikes them with dangerous and pernicious, painful and virulent wound-like ulcers or abscesses.**

- The fulfillment of an O.T. prophecy about serving false gods:

Deuteronomy 28:27, 35

27 “Yahweh shall afflict you with the boils of Egypt and with tumors and with the scurvy and with the skin rash that cannot be healed.

35 Yahweh shall strike you with grievous boils on the knees and on the upper thighs from which you will not be able to be healed, from the sole of your foot and up to your crown.

- Just like the 6th plague of Egypt when they worshipped pagan gods:

Exodus 9:8–12

8 And Yahweh said to Moses and to Aaron, “Take for yourselves full handfuls of soot from a smelting furnace, and let Moses sprinkle it toward the heavens before the eyes of Pharaoh.

9 And it will become fine dust over all the land of Egypt, **and it will become on humans and on animals a skin sore sprouting blisters in all the land of Egypt.**”

10 And they took the soot of the smelting furnace, and they stood before Pharaoh, and Moses sprinkled it toward the heavens, **and it became skin sores sprouting blisters on humans and on animals.**

11 And the magicians were not able to stand before Moses because of the skin sores, **for the skin sores were on the magicians and on all the Egyptians.**

12 And Yahweh hardened Pharaoh’s heart, and he did not listen to them, as Yahweh had spoken to Moses.

- **Again** – marked judgment against those with the mark of worship of the Antichrist

3 And **the second** poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood, like that of a dead person, **and every living thing that was in the sea died.**

⁵ William Arndt et al., *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000), 852.

- Previously a 1/3 of the oceans and fresh waters became tainted with blood and bitterness:

Revelation 8:8-11

8 And the second angel blew the trumpet, and something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea,

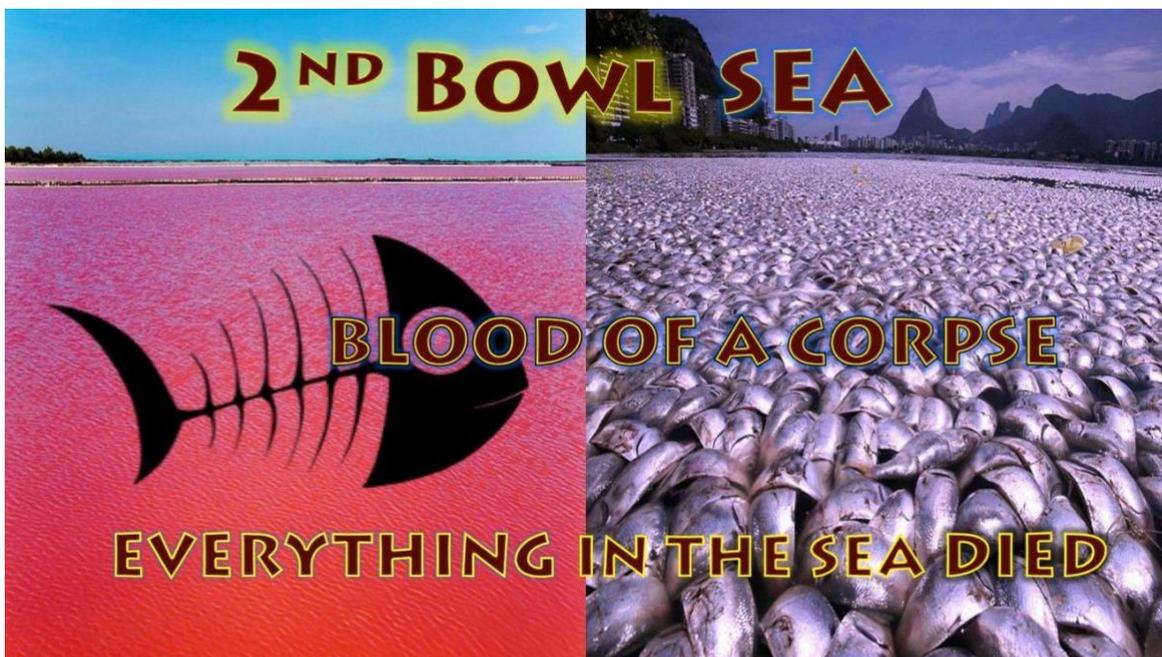
and a third of the sea became blood,

9 and a third of the creatures in the sea—the ones which had life—died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

10 And the third angel blew the trumpet, and a great star burning like a torch fell from heaven,

and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water.

11 And the name of the star was called Wormwood, and a third of the waters became wormwood, and many people died from the waters because they were made bitter.



- Coagulated, thick, lumpy, blood-like **oceans**; like a dead man's blood.
 - **EVERY living thing that lives in any water dies!**
 - IMAGINE THE STINK!
 - Flies
 - Rot
 - Animals floating to the shores

4 And **the third** poured out his bowl on the rivers and the springs of water, **and they became blood.**

- **ALL fresh water affected as well!**

5 And I heard **the angel of the waters** saying,
 “You are righteous, the one who is and the one who was, the Holy One,
 because you have judged these things,

6 **because they have poured out the blood of the saints and prophets, and you have given them blood to drink; they are deserving!”** ⁶

7 And I heard the altar saying,

“Yes, Lord God All-Powerful, true and righteous are your judgments.”

- **They wanted the blood of the saints and prophets**
 - Here you go – blood everywhere
 - Here’s what you wanted and deserve!
- **Oh Lord, please don’t give us what we deserve!**
 - **Grace** – gifting us with what we DON’T deserve
 - **Mercy** – NOT condemning us with what we do deserve
- **The Angel says – He remains righteous to give man what he deserves!**
 - True and righteous are Your appraisals of what we deserve.
- **Psalm 136**
 - **26X** – the Psalmist recognizes that – **HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER.**
 - **WE WILL NEVER RUN OUT OF HIS MERCY!**

8 And **the fourth** poured out his bowl on the sun,
 and it was granted to it to burn up people with fire.

9 And people were burned up by the **great heat**,
 and **they blasphemed the name of God** Who has the authority over these
 plagues,

and they did not repent to give him glory.

They knew where these plagues were coming from

- They blasphemed HIS NAME!

Malachi 4:1

⁶ 514. ἄξιος *áxios*; fem. *axía*, neut. *áxion*, adj. from *ágō* (71), to weigh. An estimate or value. **Some believe it refers to a set of scales where the weights bring or draw down (*ágousi*) the beam to a horizontal level when the weights are equal on each side.** Worthy, indicating inherent value as contrasted to *tímios* (5093), worthy from attributed value. (Spiros Zodhiates, *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament* (Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers, 2000))

1 “For look! The day is about to come, burning like an oven, and all the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble. The coming day will consume them,” says Yahweh of hosts. “It will not leave behind for them root or branch.

2 Peter 3:7

7 But by the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly people.

- **Blasphemies is what Satan is all about!**

Revelation 13:1 And I saw coming up out of the sea a beast that had ten horns and seven heads, and on its horns ten royal headbands, **and on its heads a blasphemous name.**

Revelation 13:5 **And a mouth was given to him speaking great things and blasphemies,**

and authority to act was given to him for forty-two months.

- **Morris, Revelation Record:** *“Because they refused to love the truth that they might be saved, **they are under the spell of a deadly delusion, believing an incredible lie** (2 Thessalonians 2:10, 11). Not even the awful plagues on the earth or the pain in their bodies will bring them to repentance. Knowing that only God could remove the plagues, they nevertheless continue to defy and blaspheme His Holy Name. Maddened by a terrible conglomerate of sin-darkened minds, oppressive evil spirits, addiction to drugs, devastated environment and now intense pain and heat, **all they can think of is hatred of God**, pressing forward to a final confrontation (*Armageddon*) which they yet believe will deliver them from His power and judgment, freeing them to live in the wickedness which they love.”* ⁷

10 And **the fifth** poured out his bowl **on the throne of the beast,** and his kingdom became darkened, and they began chewing their tongues because of the pain.

11 And they blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pain and because of their sores, **and they did not repent of their deeds.**

⁷ Henry M. Morris, *The Revelation Record: A Scientific and Devotional Commentary on the Prophetic Book of the End Times* (Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale, 1983), 305.

- The sores of the 1st bowl are not healing and are causing enough pain that people are gnawing on their tongues.
- Darkness that is so painful that people gnaw their tongues!
 - Where is the throne of the Antichrist during the Tribulation?
 - Options:
 - **San Francisco?** – unlikely though very wicked
 - **Sydney, Australia** – some report to be the epicenter of homosexuality in the world.
 - **Jerusalem** – where he declares himself to be God
 - **Rome** – the center of the Whore of Babylon – the center of False religion. (Revelation 17:9)
 - **Babylon** – Iraq, former capital of Nimrod's false religion, Nebuchadnezzar's pagan idolatry, the epicenter of almost every false religion satanic witchcraft that exists today.

They will not repent:

Revelation 9:20–21

20 And the rest of humanity who were not killed by these plagues **did not repent** of the works of their hands, in order not to worship the demons and the gold and silver and bronze and stone and wooden idols, which are able neither to see nor to hear nor to walk,
21 and they did not repent of their murders or of their magic spells or of their sexual immorality or of their thefts.

Benediction

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God,
 that the words, which we have heard this day with our outward ears,
 may through Thy grace be so grafted inwardly to our hearts,
 that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living,
 to the honor and praise of Thy Name;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.