

REVELATION: HELP FOR LIVING, HOPE FOR LEAVING

Sermon no. 19

THE ULTIMATE CALAMITY

The Seven Bowl Judgments (Rev 16:1-21)

Introduction:

God gives John a summary of the things that are going to take place in the future. A future time only God knows of. Our study of the previous chapters has given us some details of those prophecies.

In Chapter 14 we have an overview, then comes the detail in our study today of Chapter 16. These are events that take place just before the second coming of Jesus Christ, near the end of this seven year period called The Great Tribulation.

The judgments and calamities that are poured out will intensify. The purpose of the increased intensity is to get the world's attention and focus to God, and hopefully as a result, repentance.

However, the Ultimate Calamity is not the events following the pouring out of the bowls but the hardening of the hearts of the people undergoing the judgment! They continued to rebel against God!

I. The Beginning of the End: THE COMMAND (1)

- A. The Loud Voice from the Temple (1a)
- B. The Seven Angels to Pour Out the Bowls of Wrath (1b)

II. THE SEVEN BOWLS OF THE WRATH OF GOD (2-21)

A. The First Bowl: THE PANDEMIC OUTBREAK (16:2)

- 1. The bowl is poured out upon the earth
- 2. Ulcers inflicted on the ones with the mark of the beast and who worshipped his image

B. The Second Bowl: THE CRIMSON TIDE (16:3)

- 1. The bowl is poured into the sea, turning it to the blood of a dead man
- 2. Every living thing died that was in the Sea

C. The Third Bowl: THE RED RIVERS (16:4-7)

- 1. The bowl is poured into the rivers and springs, also turning them to blood
- 2. The angel of the waters declares God's justice
- 3. Another voice from the altar also declares God's judgments are true and righteous

D. The Fourth Bowl: THE ULTIMATE GLOBAL WARMING (16:8-9)

- 1. The bowl is poured out on the sun, giving the fourth angel power to scorch men with fire
- 2. Men were scorched with great heat

3. The Ultimate Calamity Revealed

- a. They blasphemed the name of God who had power over these plagues
- b. They did not repent or give glory to Him

E. The Fifth Bowl: THE DARKNESS (16:10-11)

1. **The Target:** The throne of the beast, his kingdom became full of darkness
2. **The Outcome:** Men gnawed their tongues because of the pain

F. The Sixth Bowl: THE DROUGHT EUPHRATES (12-16)

1. **The Target:** The Great River Euphrates
2. **The Outcome:** The water was dried up, preparing the way for the kings of the east
3. The Three Demonic Unclean Spirits
4. Jesus offers both a warning and a blessing
5. The Gathering at Armageddon

G. The Seventh Bowl: WIDESPREAD DESTRUCTION (16:17-21)

1. Thunder, Lightning, and an unprecedented Mighty Earthquake
2. The **great city was divided** and the cities of the nations fell
3. Great **Babylon was remembered**, to receive the cup of the wine of the fierceness of God's wrath
4. Great **devastating** events occur
 - a. Every island fled away and the mountains were not found
 - b. Great hail fell upon men, and they blasphemed God because of the hail.

Conclusion:

Hallelujah! Because the next event will be in Chapter 19 when the Lord returns to earth as King of kings. Chapters 17 and 18 will be a sidebar to underscore the significant role of Babylon in the future kingdom of the beast.

There is no escape from divine judgment unless you acknowledge the grace of God by faith in Jesus Christ.

God has given all of humanity ample warning by His messengers. The 144,000 Jewish evangelists; The Two Witnesses of Rev. 11, and by angels flying in mid-air in Rev. 14:6-12. There is no excuse. In every rejection of God's Truth and Grace in Christ, you allow your hearts to become callous and hard.

SO SEEK THE KING OF KINGS! THE LAMB WHO IS WORTHY!

These events should not **DISCOURAGE** us but should **DRIVE** us to share Christ and His Love and Salvation to all. It should not be a **SEDATIVE** of complacency but a **STIMULANT** for evangelism not just to escape Judgment, even if that may be a good reason, but more so to be in the presence of the Triune God! The One worthy of Honor, and Power, and Praise!

Even so **COME LORD JESUS, COME!**