
The Book of Revelation: Session 21

Revelation 16:12-21

YouTube: “Verse by Verse Teaching | Revelation 16:12-21 | Gary Hamrick”
(taught on December 2, 2020 | 43:57 minutes)

Notes:

6th Bowl: The Euphrates River dries up. Demons entice kings of the east to wage war against Israel in the Valley of Megiddo (Armageddon).

“Har Megiddo” = “Hill of Slaughter” on the edge of the Jezreel Valley

“What starts in the Valley of Megiddo ends at the Kidron Valley (also known as the Valley of Jehoshaphat, “the valley where Yahweh shall judge”) in Jerusalem.

The Second Coming of Jesus, “like a thief” (16:15).

- Secretively, at the Rapture (1 Thess 5:2-4)
- Suddenly, at His Return (2 Peter 3:10-12)

GOD’S JUDGMENT OF NATIONS THAT FIGHT AGAINST ISRAEL	
<u>EZEKIEL 38</u>	<u>REVELATION 16</u>
• God’s “wrath” (v.19)	• God’s “wrath” (v.19)
• “great earthquake” (v.19)	• “great earthquake” (v.18)
• “mountains shall be thrown down” (v.20)	• “the mountains were not found” (v.20)
• “pestilence” (v.22)	• “plague” (v.21)
• “great hailstones” (v.22)	• “great hailstones” (v.21)

7th Bowl: A severe earthquake splits Jerusalem into 3 parts. Topography of the earth changes. 100-pound hailstones fall on people.

Ezekiel 33:11: “I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways!”

Questions:

1. Read Revelation 16:12-17. John MacArthur comments: “God’s drying up of the Euphrates is not an act of kindness toward the kings of the east, but one of judgment. They and their armies will be entering a deadly trap. The evaporation of the Euphrates will lead them to their doom, just as the parting of the Red Sea led to the destruction of the Egyptian army. ... “It is done” (v. 17) describes a completed action with ongoing results. It is similar to Jesus’ final words from the cross, “It is finished” (John 19:30).” Swindoll agrees: ““Done” stresses the present effect of a past event, indicating that the judgment of God has already occurred, and we are at the END of history. ... In other words, *the cataclysmic end of the world and the evil that corrupted it was ordained long ago, predicted many times throughout history, and with the pouring of the seventh bowl, will be accomplished.*”
Read Psalms 2. In light of our world today, how does it impact you to realize that even the forces of evil ultimately fulfill the will of God and accomplish His purposes?
2. Read Revelation 16:18-21. The seventh bowl begins the preparation of earth for the Millennial Kingdom. “The gentle, rolling topography of the world as originally created will be restored. No more will there be great, inaccessible, uninhabitable mountain ranges or deserts or ice caps. ... That may leave Jerusalem as the highest point on earth, making it a fitting throne for the Great King who will rule there during the Millennium” (MacArthur).
Read Zephaniah 3:14-17. Based on Scripture, what will the Millennial Kingdom be like?
3. Reread Revelation 16:15 and then read Matthew 25:1-13. MacArthur explains: “Like a thief, Jesus will come quickly and unexpectedly. But, unlike a thief, He will not come to steal but to take what is rightfully His.” How can we ready ourselves for the return of the Bridegroom?

Want to dig deeper? Engage with these sermons by John MacArthur, taught in 1994:

- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-57/28>
- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-58/the-seven-bowl-judgment-part-3>