



## **THE BEGINNING OF THE END: THE BOWL JUDGMENTS**

REVELATION 16

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church

06.28.15

**BIG IDEA:** The consequences of rejecting God and partnering with evil are frightening.

### **No one will escape God's judgment.**

*1-4 Then I heard a loud voice from the temple telling the seven angels, "Go and pour out on the earth the seven bowls of the wrath of God." So the first angel went and poured out his bowl on the earth, and harmful and painful sores came upon the people who bore the mark of the beast and worshiped its image. The second angel poured out his bowl into the sea, and it became like the blood of a corpse, and every living thing died that was in the sea. The third angel poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of water, and they became blood.*

### **God's wrath is just.**

*5-7 And I heard the angel in charge of the waters say, "Just are you, O Holy One, who is and who was, for you brought these judgments. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and you have given them blood to drink. It is what they deserve!"<sup>7</sup> And I heard the altar saying, "Yes, Lord God the Almighty, true and just are your judgments!"*

### **Some people will hate God even as they experience his wrath.**

*8-11 The fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and it was allowed to scorch people with fire. They were scorched by the fierce heat, and they cursed the name of God who had power over these plagues. They did not repent and give him glory. The fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom was plunged into darkness. People gnawed their tongues in anguish and cursed the God of heaven for their pain and sore. They did not repent of their deeds.*

**Satan will continue to deceive and destroy to the very end.** *12-16 And I saw, coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs. For they are demonic spirits, performing signs, who go abroad to the kings of the whole world, to assemble them for battle on the great day of God the Almighty. ("Behold, I am coming like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake, keeping his garments on, that he may not go about naked and be seen exposed!") And they assembled them at the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.*

## **LifeGroup Study Guide Revelation 16**

### **The Beginning of the End: The Bowl Judgments**

#### **Review the Numbers and Scenes in Revelation**

7 Churches Rev 1-2

1 Lion/Lamb; 24 Elders, 7 Spirits of God, 4 Living Creatures, 10,000s x 10,000s of angels Rev 4-5

7 Seals Rev 6-8 (The 7th Seal = the 7 trumpets)

144,000 Witnesses Rev 7

7 Trumpets Rev 8-9 (The 7th Trumpet = the Seven Bowls)

7 Thunders (unrevealed); Little Scroll Rev 10

2 Witnesses Rev 11

2 Signs The Woman and the Dragon Rev 12

3 Influencers; Unholy trinity: Antichrist, False Prophet, Dragon, (and the image of the beast) Rev 13

3 Angels and the reaping of the earth Rev 14

7 Angels (3<sup>rd</sup> Sign) Rev 15

#### **7 Bowls of God's Wrath (the Seventh Trumpet) Rev 16**

Review the first 6 Bowl Judgments 16:2-14

Read the following verses: Jer. 30:23; Nahum 1:2; Matt. 3:5-12; Romans 1:18; Rev. 16:5-7, 19:15.

What do you learn about God's wrath?

(For a great article, see:

<https://bible.org/seriespage/7-wrath-god>)

'Wrath' is an old English word defined in my dictionary as 'deep, intense anger and indignation'. 'Anger' is defined as 'stirring of resentful displeasure and strong antagonism, by a sense of injury or insult'; 'indignation' as 'righteous anger aroused by injustice and baseness'. Such is wrath. And wrath, the Bible tells us, is an attribute of God. JI Packer

#### **Urgency**

What kind of warning will men have of Christ's coming? 16:15

Describe the final bowl of wrath 16:17-21

What will be men's response be to God's wrath? 16:16, 21

What response does God want in light of His wrath? 16:5;

Romans 5:9; Matt 3:8; 1 Thess 1:10