

A Study Of The Book Of Revelation

May 2, 2021

Revelation 16

Trumpets

Fire, blood on earth (8:7)
Sea – Blood (8:10)
Fountains bitter (8:10)

Bowls

On earth, sores (16:2)
On the sea (16:3)
Rivers – blood (16:8)

Plagues

Boils (Exodus 9:9-11)
Water – Blood (7:17-21)

Sun, Moon Darkened (8:12)

Sun scorched (16:8)
Darkness (16:10)

Darkness (10:21-23)
Locusts (10:4)

Smoke, Locust (9:1-4)

Angels of Euphrates (9:14)
Mystery finished (10:7)

Euphrates dried (16:12)
Finished; hail (16:17)

Hail (9:19-24)

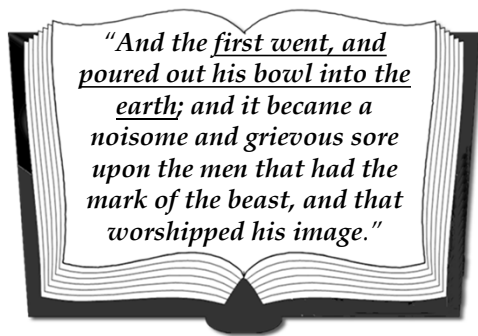
Trumpets: Warn-
Third part destroyed

Bowls: Finality of
Judgment

(Frank Jamerson, 1994 Florida College Lectures, page 132)

Revelation 16

REVELATION 16:2



Revelation 16

THE FIRST BOWL POURED OUT

- These would **not** affect the Christians
- Incurable disease (*like the 6th plague in Egypt – Exodus 9:10ff*)
- Affected those who "**worshipped the beast**" and those with the "**mark of the beast**"
- Poured out on the **same objects** of nature of those the of the four trumpets.

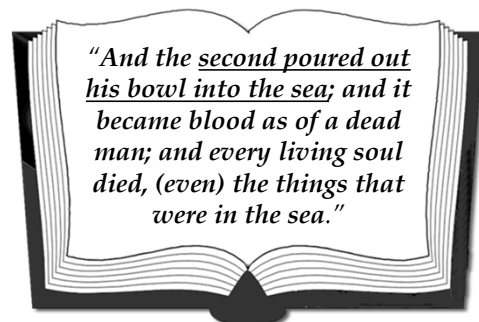
Revelation 16

THE FIRST BOWL POURED OUT

- Three underlying reasons for Rome's downfall:
 - **Natural disasters**
 - **Social decay**
 - **External invasions**
- Three objects affected by the **trumpets** (Revelation 8-9) and now repeated by the **bowls**
- **Symbolism** reminds those persecuted – Rome would fall in time – by God's timetable!

Revelation 16

REVELATION 16:3



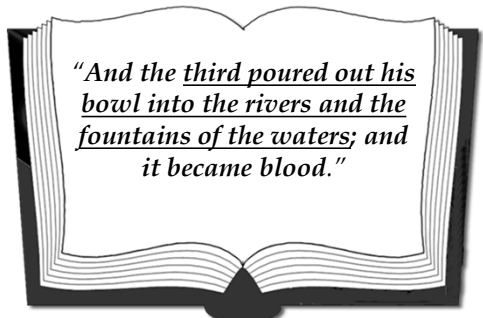
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THE SECOND BOWL POURED OUT

- Into the sea
 - Reminiscent of the first plague that came upon Egypt. (**Exodus 7:17-21**)
- Here, it is literally, “**blood of a dead man**,” (*not fresh blood*)
 - NOTE: When the spiritual quality of a society decays, it is like the coagulated blood from dead men; putrefied and rotting; foul and obnoxious
 - Such were the conditions of John’s day
- Polluted water causes endangerment
- **Second trumpet (Revelation 8:8-9)** maritime disaster warning (1/3 destroyed)

Revelation 16

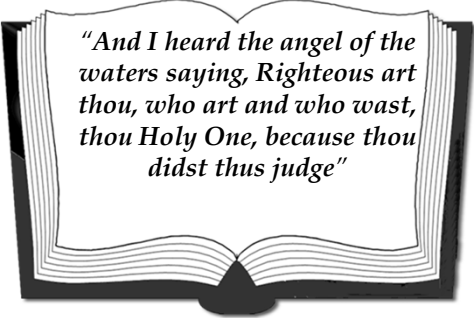
REVELATION 16:4



“And the third poured out his bowl into the rivers and the fountains of the waters; and it became blood.”

Revelation 16

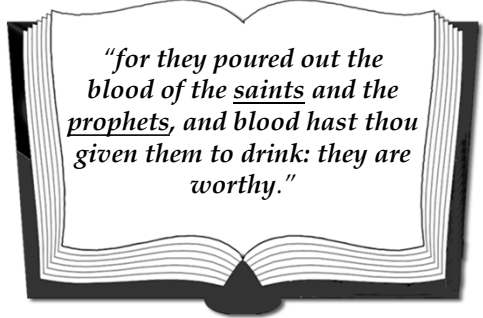
REVELATION 16:5



“And I heard the angel of the waters saying, Righteous art thou, who art and who wast, thou Holy One, because thou didst thus judge”

Revelation 16

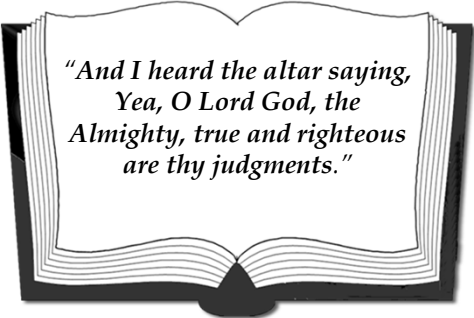
REVELATION 16:6



“for they poured out the blood of the saints and the prophets, and blood hast thou given them to drink: they are worthy.”

Revelation 16

REVELATION 16:7



“And I heard the altar saying, Yea, O Lord God, the Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments.”

Revelation 16

THE THIRD BOWL POURED OUT

- “*Into rivers and springs of water*”
 - Fresh, as well as salt water, stank with death as they turned to blood
- **Third trumpet (Revelation 8:10)**, and this third plague have similar characteristics.
- Men on earth **reaping** what they had sown.
 - The New Testament saints and prophets, all who were martyrs of Jesus (Revelation 17:6; Ephesians 3:5).
- Blood – **judgment declared to be righteous**
- Confirmed by this angel
- Righteous because of the **blood of martyrs** shed by Rome
- Made their blood runs as water (**Revelation 17:6**) and now all they have to drink is blood!

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THE THIRD BOWL POURED OUT

- Deserve **God's wrath** because of rejection of truth and shedding the blood of the bearers of that truth
- The martyrs under the altar, asking for **vindication** earlier (Revelation 6:9-11)
- The "**altar**" represented as replying to praise the event.
- **Punishment** fits the crime
- Rome is worthy of torment for her **conduct**.

Revelation 16

REVELATION 16:8

"And the fourth poured out his bowl upon the sun; and it was given unto it to scorch men with fire."

Revelation 16

REVELATION 16:9

"And men were scorched with great heat: and they blasphemed the name of God who hath the power over these plagues; and they repented not to give him glory."

Revelation 16

THE FOURTH BOWL POURED OUT

- **Horrible effect on the sun**
 - They blasphemed God, a scene similar to that described after **the 7 trumpets** had sounded (**Revelation 9:20-21**).
 - Men often become hardened, even as Pharaoh, when God calls people to repent (Exodus 9:13-17, 34-35).
- Frightening picture of torment of sinners
- Blasphemy and impenitence – fiery trial had hardened their hearts
- First four bowls happens quickly – did not move them to repent
- So far into sin – can't repent (**Hebrews 6:6**)

Revelation 16

REVELATION 16:10

"And the fifth poured out his bowl upon the throne of the beast; and his kingdom was darkened; and they gnawed their tongues for pain"

Revelation 16

REVELATION 16:11

"and they blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores; and they repented not of their works."

Revelation 16

THE FIFTH BOWL POURED OUT

- The first four bowls affected the earth in general, the fifth affects only the **beast's throne and kingdom**.
- Beast's kingdom is **darkened**.
 - Darkness often represents evil in the Bible, and since Satan has given the beast his power, seat, and authority, the influence of Satan permeates the kingdom. (Revelation 13:2)
- When the **fifth trumpet** sounded, smoke came out of the abyss causing darkness, and out of the smoke were locusts with the sting of a scorpion which tormented men so much they sought to die. (Revelation 9:1-11)
- The very seat of authority is attacked – the “**throne**”
- Again there was **impenitence** and **blasphemy** – hearts became harder

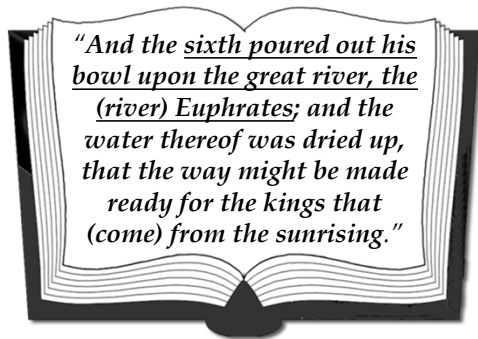
Revelation 16

THE FIFTH BOWL POURED OUT

- Center of the **empire of Rome**
- Rome's **weakening, and diminishing** of Rome's stranglehold on the world
- Difficulties of this magnitude have caused humble men to **recognize** their errors and repent
 - But Rome compounded their **sinfulness**
- Unfortunately, **sinful pleasures** had led to **internal rottenness**.

Revelation 16

REVELATION 16:12



Revelation 16

THE SIXTH BOWL POURED OUT

- River Euphrates is no longer an obstacle to invading armies (cf. capture of ancient Babylon by Cyrus, Jeremiah 50:38; 51:36-37)
- Like the **sixth trumpet (Revelation 9:13-19)**, the sixth bowl pictures the way prepared for the army from the area of the Euphrates.
- Rome's **greatest fears** are going to materialize
- Unable **to protect itself** from outside invaders, such as Parthians from the east.
- Army of God will bring **pagan Rome** to her knees

Revelation 16

THE SIXTH BOWL POURED OUT

- “The Euphrates is the largest, longest, and most important river of Western Asia. It is nearly 1800 miles long and was the boundary of the land promised to Abraham (Gen. 15:18). The empires of Assyria and Babylon, the greatest enemies of Israel, lived east of the Euphrates. The prophets often put the Euphrates by metonymy for these countries to designate the place from which the punishment of God would come (Isa. 7:20; 8:7; Jeremiah 46:10) ...

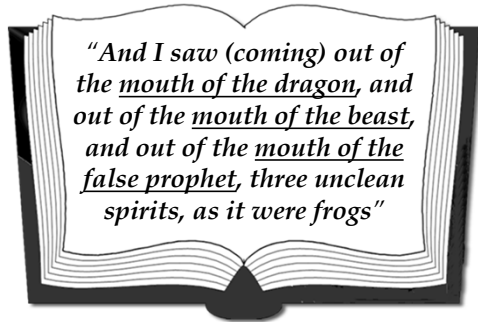
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THE SIXTH BOWL POURED OUT

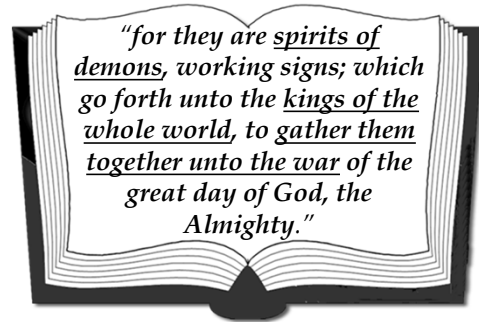
- “... When Revelation was written the Parthians, dreaded enemy of Rome, lived east of the Euphrates. The Assyrian king, Shalmaneser III (858-824 BC) mentions frequently in his records that he had crossed the river Euphrates. In one of his annals he says he had crossed the Euphrates twenty-one times (AET, 279-280) That means war!”

(Ferrell Jenkins, *Studies in the Book of Revelation*, page 39)

Revelation 16

REVELATION 16:13

Revelation 16

REVELATION 16:14

Revelation 16

INTERLUDE – BETWEEN 6TH AND 7TH BOWLS

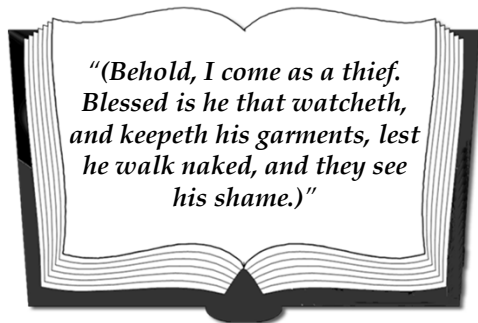
- The only description of this battle is found in Revelation 19:19-21 (cf. Daniel 7:11).
- The enemies gather together for war
- Satan will not go down **without a fight!**
- **Three unclean spirits** like "frogs" come out:
 - Mouth of the **dragon** (*Satan*)
 - Mouth of the **beast** (*civil persecution*)
 - Mouth of the **false prophet** (*false religion*)
 - Spirits of the **devils**
 - Lead his army (*Satan*) to do battle with the Lord's army

Revelation 16

INTERLUDE – BETWEEN 6TH AND 7TH BOWLS

- Revelation 16:14, "for they are *spirits of demons*, working signs; which go forth unto the kings of the whole world, to gather them together unto the war of the great day of God, the Almighty."
- Use **false propaganda** to enlist others to fight with her
 - 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12; 1 Timothy 4:1-2
- Caesar-worship vain attempt to appear as "**righteous cause**"

Revelation 16

REVELATION 16:15

Revelation 16

INTERLUDE – BETWEEN 6TH AND 7TH BOWLS

- Satan's army **appears** to be powerful and invincible
- Exhorts the saints to not be misled by **appearances** (John 7:24)
- Warns the saints His coming will not be **announced**
- Need to be ready not to be caught unprepared (1 Thessalonians 5:1-3).
- **Garments** – represent the types of lives they need to be living (Revelation 3:4, 18).
 - "Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ" (Philippians 1:27).