

# Revelation

(A Chapter-by-Chapter Overview of God's Picture Book)

## Lesson #15: Revelation Chapters 15-16

### Review

#### **Act I: Understanding the Relationship with Christ (Revelation 1-3)**

A glorified Jesus who is "standing among the lampstands" (in the midst of the church), sends letters of encouragement, exhortation, and correction to seven in Asia Minor.

#### **Act II: Understanding the Judgment from God (Revelation 4-11)**

Chapters 4 & 5 - Heaven, the Scroll, the Lamb

Chapter 6 – Opening of the First Six Seals

Chapter 7 – An Interlude

Chapters 8 & 9 -Opening of Seventh Seal, The First Six Trumpets

Chapters 10 & 11 -Interlude, Seventh Trumpet

#### **Act III: Understanding Why There is Opposition (Revelation 12-14)**

Featured in Chapter 12:

The Woman and the Dragon

The Background of Opposition

Featured in Chapter 13:

The Beast of the Sea

The Beast of the Land (666)

Featured in Chapter 14:

The victory experienced by those who overcome

The judgment experienced by those who oppose God

#### **Act IV: Understanding God's Wrath and God's Righteousness (Revelation 15-22)**

Act I - The Glorified Christ

Act II - The Throne Room of God

Act III - The 'Radiant Woman' and 'Great Sign'

Act IV - Another Sign in Heaven

### Revelation 15:1-8

#### **God Keeps His Promise**

##### Verse 1

*another sign* - This alerts the reader that God is about to act.

*seven last plagues* - This underscores the importance of what is about to happen, God's final word.

##### Verse 2

*sea of glass* - Brings to mind the throne room scene in chapter 4.

*those who had been victorious* - A repeated description of God's people.

*the beast, image, number* - all of these symbols work together to describe the things that oppose God and His people.

*having harps of gold* - Yet another picture identifying these people with God

##### Verses 3-4

*song of Moses* - Pointing back to the greatest victory described in the Old Testament, the parting of the Red Sea. (Exodus 15:1)

*song of the Lamb* - This points back to the 'new song' sung by God's people in Revelation 5 and 14.

*all nations will worship before you* - Eventually the wicked will be humbled.

## **The Sevenfold Wrath of God**

### Verses 5-6

*temple, tabernacle, covenant law* - All three terms invite us into the presence of God.  
*angels 'out of the temple'* - As opposed to the dragon coming out of the abyss.

### Verse 7

*four living creatures* - We first met these in chapter 4.

*golden bowls filled with wrath* - The reader is anticipating the results that will come from these instruments of divine justice.

### Verse 8

*smoke from the glory of God* - Smoke evidencing God's glory is found several times in Scripture. Exodus 19:18 (Mt. Sinai); Exodus 40:34 (Tabernacle); 1 Kings 8:10-11 (Temple)  
*no one could enter the temple* - There is no way to interrupt God's activity here.

## **Revelation 16:1-21**

### Verse 1

*God's wrath* - God's \_\_\_\_\_.

*into the earth* - a designation commonly used in Revelation to describe those opposed to God.

## **The Terrible Reality of the Wrath of God**

### Verse 2

*had the mark, worshiped its image* - The identification of the wicked each time varies a little.  
*sores broke out* - The results of the wrath of God are awful.

### Verse 3

*on the sea* - The first two bowls are poured out 'on the land' and then 'on the sea' pointing to where the two beasts of Revelation come from.

### Verse 4

*on the rivers*—Just like the judgment of the third trumpet in Revelation 8:10-11, this plague contaminates the fresh water sources.

## **Only the Wicked Receive the Wrath**

### Verse 5

*You are just in these judgments* - The proposition is put out that God is just.

### Verses 6-7

God's judgment here is in response to...

The blood of the \_\_\_\_\_ in Revelation 6:9-10.

The blood of the \_\_\_\_\_ in Revelation 11:7-10.

*the altar* - Referring to 'saints under the altar'

*true and just are your Judgments* - This truth is repeated to emphasize the point.

### Verses 8-9

*scorched by intense heat* - A description of the horrible result of the wrath of God.  
*they cursed the name of God* - Another sign that this judgment was deserved.

### Verses 10-11

*on the throne of the beast* - See Ephesians 6:10-12

*darkness, gnawed their tongues* - Yet another picture of the horrible result of the wrath of God.

*cursed the God of heaven, refused to repent* - Yet another reminder that this judgment is just.

### Verse 12

*river Euphrates, kings from the East* - This is a picture of the opposition being marshalled against God.

### Verses 13-14

*frogs* - In Bible times, frogs were considered symbols of \_\_\_\_\_.

### Verse 15

*as a thief* - Christ's coming will arrive 'as a thief' for the \_\_\_\_\_.

*blessed is the one who stays awake...*

Twofold message of Revelation for the Christian is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

## **The Wicked are Assuredly Doomed**

### Verse 16

*they gathered* - A scene is presented as a marshalling of the forces of evil against God.



*Armageddon* (Har-Magedon):

Har – mountain;

Mageddon (Megiddo) - place of troops.

*Image:* Har-Mageddon is an actual location in Israel. The Valley of Megiddo was the scene of many battles and much bloodshed throughout history.

### Verses 17-18

*it is done* - The enemies of God gathered to wage war only to be 'finished' by Him.

*earthquake* - Further indication of the glory of God.

### Verses 19-21

*city split into three parts, islands, mountains* - Indicating God's complete judgment.

*they cursed God* - God's judgment is just.