

# The Apocalypse

## Chapter 16, Part 1

- I. Introduction
  - a. Our lesson introduced us to the bowl judgments
    - i. In today's lesson, we begin to see them poured out
  
- II. Commentary
  - a. **Verse 1**
    - i. The voice of God is heard from the Temple – loud and powerful
      - 1. He directs the seven angels to pour out their bowls on the Earth
        - a. Notice, they are not being sprinkled
          - i. They are being completely poured out
  - b. **Verse 2**
    - i. The first angel immediately follows the instructions of God
      - 1. This is the responsibility of angels and men
      - 2. He pours his bowl of wrath out completely
        - a. Notice, he pours it on the entire world
        - b. This brought sores upon all those that had the mark of the beast and worshipped his image
          - i. This sounds similar to the plague on Egypt during the Exodus
        - ii. The children of God saved during the Tribulation do not receive this plague as they do not receive the mark
          - 1. By this restriction, we assume there are still many saved people that have not been martyred
          - 2. This will cause the unsaved to hate them even more
  - c. **Verse 3**
    - i. The second angel follows by pouring his bowl out on the sea
      - 1. This plague affects the entire oceanic Earth
      - 2. This is similar to the first plague on Egypt which affected the Nile River
        - a. Though, the scope here is much greater
      - 3. All marine life in the ocean is completely wiped out
        - a. Consider the affects on the food chain
        - b. Consider the stench that must accompany this plague
          - i. Remember, 2/3 of the world is oceans
      - 4. Under the second trumpet, 1/3 of the sea became blood
        - a. Under this bowl, all of the oceans become blood
  - d. **Verses 4-7**
    - i. The third angel follows by pouring his bowl out on the fresh waters of the Earth
      - 1. All of the water supply of the Earth is wiped out
        - a. Everything we drink has water as a base ingredient

- i. We cannot comprehend such a plague
    - ii. The “*angel of the waters*” speaks
      - 1. It seems God has angels that have special tasks
        - a. This angel is in charge of the Earth’s water supplies
      - 2. He praises God for His righteous judgment
        - a. All of God’s judgments are righteous
          - i. As Christ’s will be during the Millennium
      - 3. He says God gave them blood for blood
        - a. That is, they have shed the blood of God’s elect and He has now given them blood to drink
          - i. There is no way this tastes good or is healthy
    - iii. A voice from the altar echoes what the angel said
- e. **Verses 8-9**
  - i. The fourth angel follows by pouring his bowl out on the sun
    - 1. It is given power to scorch men with fire
      - a. Perhaps the heat will be increased
      - b. Perhaps God will cause the sun to move a bit closer to the Earth (or vice versa)
      - c. Perhaps God will remove part of the Earth’s atmosphere which protects men from the sun
    - 2. Humanly speaking, one would think this would cause men to cry out to God for forgiveness
      - a. However, “*...the carnal mind is enmity against God*” (**Rom. 8:7**)
        - i. No amount of suffering can cause a person to repent and believe
          - 1. This speaks of the depravity of man
          - 2. Not even this foretaste of hell works apart from the sovereign grace of God
- f. **Verses 10-11**
  - i. The fifth angel follows by pouring his bowl out on the Earth
    - 1. This bowl is directed specifically at the beast and his throne
      - a. Do not forget, God began to eject the usurper (Satan) around the middle of the Tribulation period
      - b. The capital city of the beast will become dark
        - i. This city is rebuilt Babylon as we will see in upcoming lessons
        - ii. It seems, however, that his entire kingdom will become dark
          - 1. Remember, he will be a world-wide ruler
      - iii. There will be pain associated with this
        - 1. So much that they will gnaw their tongues
        - 2. This seems to be associated with the sores from the first bowl
          - a. The darkness may cause the pain to be multiplied
    - 2. As with the previous bowl, those affected cry out in their depravity