THE BOOK OF
REVELATION

Revelation 15–16

- The bowl judgments will take place in the last few months before Christ returns
- These final judgments take place following another heavenly worship scene
  - The "song of Moses" is probably the one recorded in Exodus 15 celebrating God's judgment on Egypt
  - The "song of the Lamb" is recorded in vs 3–4
  - "All-Powerful" — 10x in the NT; 9x in Revelation

Revelation 15–16

- There is a solemnity implied by the angels marching from the heavenly temple, each being handed their bowl by one of the four living creatures

  The sashes around their chests indicate judgment like Jesus in 1:13

- The temple was no longer accessible while the final judgments were being poured out; God will be inaccessible during this time (Exodus 40:34–35)

Revelation 15–16

- 1st bowl — painful sores on beast worshippers
- 2nd bowl — all oceans become coagulated blood
- 3rd bowl — all fresh waters turn to blood

  Side comment: The punishment fits the crime (vs 5–7)

- 4th bowl — scorching sunburns; no repentance
- 5th bowl — intense darkness; blasphemy, still no repentance

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Revelation 15–16

- 6th bowl — drying of Euphrates River, permission for earth's armies to converge on Jerusalem
  - God will make the way possible, but Satan will be the one calling them together
  - The three members of Satan's team will work together to demonically gather their largest human attack force

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Revelation 16:15

"Look! I will come like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays alert and does not lose his clothes so that he will not have to walk around naked and his shameful condition be seen."

Just as church saints do not know when the Rapture will take place, but we are still to be ready, so these saints will not know "the day or the hour," yet Jesus encourages them to stay alert and watch for his coming.

Revelation 15–16

- 6th bowl — drying of Euphrates River, permission for earth's armies to converge on Jerusalem
  - God will make the way possible, but Satan will be the one calling them together
  - The three members of Satan's team will work together to demonically gather their largest human attack force
  - They will gather at Armageddon (Har-Megiddo, "Hill of Megiddo"; Valley of Jezreel in the OT)
  - 126 mi^2 (326 km^2) plain between Galilee and Samaria

Revelation 15–16

- 7th bowl — final destruction (compare to the 6th seal)
  - Thunder and lightning in heaven
  - Great earthquake that levels cities around the globe
  - Major topographical changes all over the world (compare to the Flood)
  - Enormous hailstones — approx. 100 lbs, 45 kg
  - Response: recognition that this is from God but no repentance

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Revelation 15–16

Three times they will not repent (Romans 1:18-32)

- 16:9 — would not repent and give God glory
- 16:11 — would not repent of their evil deeds
- 16:21 — chose to blaspheme God instead

Blessing for obedience (1:3)

- How do I respond when I see bad things happening to other people?

  Heaven worships and sees holy justice

- How do I respond when they are happening to me?

  Difference between "Why, God?" and "Why me?"

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