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P.O. Box 322  
Sterling Heights, MI 48311

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**December 25**

**Revelation 16:1-21**

Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth."

**First Bowl: Loathsome Sores**

<sup>2</sup> So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.

**Second Bowl: The Sea Turns to Blood**

<sup>3</sup> Then the second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood as of a dead *man*; and every living creature in the sea died.

**Third Bowl: The Waters Turn to Blood**

<sup>4</sup> Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. <sup>5</sup> And I heard the angel of the waters saying:

“You are righteous, O Lord, the One who is and who was and who is to be, because You have judged these things. <sup>6</sup>For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due.” <sup>7</sup>And I heard another from the altar saying, “Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous *are* Your judgments.”

#### **Fourth Bowl: Men Are Scorched**

<sup>8</sup>Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. <sup>9</sup>And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.

#### **Fifth Bowl: Darkness and Pain**

<sup>10</sup>Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. <sup>11</sup>They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.

#### **Sixth Bowl: Euphrates Dried Up**

<sup>12</sup>Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared. <sup>13</sup>And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *coming* out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. <sup>14</sup>For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, *which* go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. <sup>15</sup>“Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed *is* he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame.” <sup>16</sup>And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.

#### **Seventh Bowl: The Earth Utterly Shaken**

<sup>17</sup>Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, “It is done!” <sup>18</sup>And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. <sup>19</sup>Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath. <sup>20</sup>Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. <sup>21</sup>And great hail from heaven fell upon men, *each hailstone* about the weight of a talent. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great.

**OKAY, HERE'S MY TEACHING COMMENTARY**

Here in Revelation chapter 16 the last seven bowls of the wrath of God are revealed. God delegates the administration of his wrath to seven individual angels. Jesus taught the disciples that God would use his angels to accomplish his purposes in the last days:

Matthew 13:41-43 The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

**The first angel** pours out his bowl upon men that have the mark of the beast and they are afflicted with some kind of disease. There was no cure for this plague. These people had made a decision to receive the mark of the beast and now it was payback! You cannot come under the power and control of a Satanic influence and think that you're going to get away with an unholy alliance with Satan! This is a common misunderstanding of those that get involved with witchcraft and the occult. They think that they have the power to manipulate dark spiritual forces for their own personal use but in the end they have only succumbed to the deceptive chains of darkness and will ultimately pay with the loss of their own souls eternally if they do not repent and lay hold of the mercy and deliverance of God through faith in Jesus blood who alone has the spiritual power to break every diabolical bondage and bring men into the spiritual life, fellowship and freedom of the Son of God.

**The second angel** pours out his bowl upon the sea and every living thing died. The oceans of the earth were poisoned. Now mankind is unable to use any of the resources in the great sea's that God the Creator had originally blessed for our benefit.

**The third angel** poured out his bowl on all of the springs and rivers of the earth and they were turned to blood. Apparently, God decided that he was not going to be providing anymore free clean water for his enemies to drink. This would make drinking water high-priced commodity.

**The fourth angel** poured out his bowl on the sun. This caused intensified solar flares of fire to rise from the surface of the sun. These flames were so intense that they reached out and began to scorch people. Did humanity acknowledge the almighty power of God allowing this to happen? No! They just blasphemed God all the more and refused to repent.

**The fifth angel** poured out his bowl on the kingdom of the beast and a great darkness came upon men. The blue letter bible commentary says: "The ninth plague on Egypt was a literal darkness, with spiritual overtones. It could be *felt*, as described in Exodus 10:21-22." This darkness could be both in the atmosphere but it also has the meaning of mental darkness. This darkness is accompanied by inescapable suffering because of the sores and pains upon the bodies of men. However people still refused to repent and continued on in their defiant rebellion against God.

**The sixth angel** poured out his bowl on the river Euphrates and it was dried-up to provide a road for the kings of the east to travel to the place called Armageddon in Israel for the final

battle. The Ataturk Dam in Turkey has already stopped the flow of the Euphrates in 1990 while filling a reservoir. It is evident by all of the dams that have been built along the Euphrates river by several countries that the literal drying up of this river and the fulfillment of this prophecy is near. See more at: <http://bible-prophecy.co/home/seven-bowls/#sthash.AbQ8Tbd3.dpuf>

**The seventh angel** poured out his bowl into the air which produced the greatest earthquake ever to hit the earth. It will be so extreme that the Bible says every city fell and the islands and mountains all disappeared! Now that is a major earthquake! Next gigantic hailstones weighing about 100 pounds each fall to earth and crush people to death. The Bible says that because of these plagues men continue to curse and blaspheme God who had the power over these apocalyptic plagues and judgments manifesting his divine wrath. It's at this time that God remembers Babylon and prepares to turn recompense against this defiant system. This we will study in chapter 17 and 18 of the book of Revelation.

### **Prayer**

Father, it's Christmas and we thank you for sending your Son Jesus Christ born of the virgin Mary to redeem us by his holy blood, cleansing us from our sins. We praise and worship you because you alone are worthy and we rejoice that our names are written in the Lamb's book of life. We thank you for Jesus and the written Word of God. Lord we pray that you would pour out your Holy Spirit in revelation and conviction upon everyone that does not yet know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Strengthen us your servants with might by your Spirit in our inner man, lead us into the fear of the Lord and to be guided by your Holy Spirit everyday loving you with all our hearts and serving you according to your will, ready to meet you at your coming, in Jesus name, Amen.

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