

The Seven Bowl Judgements of God Revelation 16:1-11

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The Final 7 Plagues from God

- ▶ The 7 bowls of God's wrath
- ▶ The 7 Trumpet judgments
- ▶ The 7 seals

- ▶ Question: Differences and Similarities?

The Differences in the Judgments between the trumpets and bowls

1. Partial effect vs. whole effect
2. Repentance oriented vs. wrath oriented
3. Indirect vs. direct effect upon mankind

The Similarities in the Judgments

1. All Three draw from the plague language of Exodus
2. Similar motifs of the storm and earthquake
3. Each one seems to bring more intensity to the judgments of God
See Mt 24:21

The First Bowl Judgment - v 2

- ▶ Ugly and painful sores break out on people
 - ▶ On those who had the mark of the beast
- ▶ Reminiscent of the 6th plague of Egypt
 - ▶ See Ex 9:8-11

The Second Bowl Judgment - v 3

- ▶ The sea turned to blood
 - ▶ The first Egyptian plague - see Ex 9:8-11
- ▶ Also parallels the second trumpet plague
 - ▶ See 8:8-9
- ▶ NOTE!
Does "like that of a dead man" mean something?

The Third Bowl Judgment -

v 4

- ▶ The rivers and streams turn to blood
 - ▶ Again, the first Egyptian plague - Ex 9:8-11
- ▶ Also parallels the third trumpet plague
 - ▶ See 8:10-11

A Minor Interlude - vs 5-7

- ▶ The angel in charge of the water confirms the justice of God's judgments
 - ▶ Those who worshipped the beast loved to shed blood - they now get to drink blood

A Minor Interlude - vs 5-7

- ▶ Jesus is referred to as, "You who are and who were"
 - ▶ What happened to "and is to come" as in 1:4 and 4:8?
- ▶ Perhaps this indicates that Jesus is now reigning and has begun the final sequence of events of earth

A Minor Interlude - vs 5-7

- ▶ The altar responds to the angel's announcement
- ▶ Question: What does this signify?
- ▶ The altar is symbolic of the voices of the martyrs and prayers of the saints
 - ▶ See 6:9; 8:3-5

The Fourth Bowl Judgment - 8,9

- ▶ The sun scorches people with fire
 - ▶ Fire is used in conjunction with God's judgements - see Deut 28:20-22; 1 Cor 3:13; 2 Pet 3:7
- ▶ They were "scorched with a great scorching"

The Fourth Bowl Judgment - 8,9

- ▶ NOTE! There is no water on the earth to drink!
- ▶ NOTE! The people do not respond in repentance but in anger and curse the name of God

The Fifth Bowl Judgment - 10,11

- ▶ The kingdom of the beast is plunged into darkness
- ▶ Reminiscent of the 9th plague of Egypt
 - ▶ See Ex 10:21-29
- ▶ Also echoes the 4th trumpet
 - ▶ See 8:12

The Fifth Bowl Judgment - 10,11

NOTE!

The inhabitants of the earth recognize that God is responsible for the plagues and yet refuse to repent but rather curse His name

They hate God and will not admit that they are wrong - See John 8:42-47

Conclusion/Summary

- ▶ The inhabitants of the earth will know of God but will refuse to repent and follow Him. Rather, they will curse Him
- ▶ They have hardened their hearts towards Him so much that they can no longer repent
- ▶ Like the Exodus story

Conclusion/Summary

- ▶ This is the story of mankind
 - ▶ Repent or reject
- ▶ We tend to view repentance as bad and humiliating while in reality it is good and humiliating
 - ▶ Matt 5:3
