

The Wrath of God – Revelation 14, 15, 16

God of New Testament is the same as the God of Old Testament

God judges sin. God has plans to carry out **eternal** judgment against **unrepentant** sinners.

Revelation shows us God's plans to judge the wickedness of the world that one day will reach its fullness: the grapes of wickedness will be completely ripe to be harvested and crushed.

Rev 14:18-20 gives us that imagery.

Rev 15:1-8 gives us the heavenly scene as 7 angels prepare to pour out the 7 bowls of God's wrath.

Rev 16:1- 21 gives us the 7 types of judgment that God is going to pour out :

1. Sores
2. Oceans become blood, every living thing dies
3. Rivers become blood
4. Sun scorches men with heat
5. Darkness on kingdom of the beast
6. Euphrates river dries up
7. Super seismic worldwide disaster – earthquake, 100lb hailstones

The recipients of this judgment are:

- Rev 16:2 – those with mark of the beast, who worship the image
- Rev 16:5 – those who poured out the blood of saints and prophets
- Rev 16:5 – those who deserve it
- Rev 16:9, 21 – those who blaspheme the name of God
- Rev 16:9, 11 – those who do not repent
- Rev 16:10 – those belonging to the kingdom of the antichrist
- Rev 16:12 – kings from the east who will gather at Armageddon
- Rev 16:19 – 5 geographical locations (cover whole world) ... great city Jerusalem, cities of the nations, Babylon, every island, mountains

The bowls are action from God because of:

- ❖ Rev 16:1 – God's wrath
- ❖ Rev 16:5 – God's righteousness, eternity, holiness, justice
- ❖ Rev 16:7 – God is Lord God, the Almighty, true and righteous are His judgments

1st NEW TOPIC: ARMAGEDDDON - 1st and only time in the Bible – **Revelation 16:13-16**

6th bowl - God's military strategy for final judgment on the antichrist and his armies.

God will allow Satan and the Antichrist to gather their forces in the place called Har-megadon.

Har-meggido = Mt Megiddo = Valley of Jezreel

Armageddon is BOTH a specific geographical **place** AND it is a **title** for the final campaign of the Tribulation. As a place, it is a plain – a flat expanse of **land surrounded** by some hills and mountains.

What will the antichrist, and satan, and the false prophet say to summon these forces to Israel?

(We do not know.)

Rev 16:13-14 - Out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet Come 3 unclean spirits.

- OUT of the mouth – indicates words.
- 3 unclean spirits (like frogs) - spirits of demons - indicates a deceptive / oppressive / demonic influence through the words of the antichrist and false prophet.

Armies will attack Jerusalem Zechariah 12:2-3, 14:2-3

The antichrist will command the armies of the world to come to Israel to defeat Israel – once and for all, To Destroy the Jewish people, to take over their land.

We KNOW that Satan will wage war against the Jews. Rev 12. We know that the antichrist will put a stop to their sacrifices. We know that the antichrist will kill Jews.

What is God's purpose is for allowing this gathering of armed forces to take place in HIS HOLY LAND? (We do know.)

God's strategy is to gather the rebels of the world together in the place where He has put HIS people Israel.

In Israel, **God will wage war** - the war of the great day of God the Almighty. Rev 16:14

- All the forces of the world, led by satan and the antichrist gather at Armageddon, will strike Jerusalem. Zech 12-14
- Then the BREAKER will return to rescue His people Israel. Zech 14:3, Micah 2:12-13, Rev. 14:19-20

Summary of the 6th bowl of wrath of God:

1. the antichrist will deceive the world (deception)
2. motivate them to fight against Israel (anti-semitism)
3. God's purpose – judge and crush the wicked and unrepentant

2nd NEW TOPIC: BABYLON - 1st time (of 296 times): Rev. 14:8, 2nd time: Rev 16:19-20 - announcement of 7th bowl, Revelation 17-18 - all about God's judgment on Babylon

The city of Babylon has been a major capital city for many leaders of empires:

- Nimrod – the 1st world leader (Gen 10)
- Amraphel – King of Shinar
- Hammurabi – King of Babylon – 1792Bc – 1750BC
- “It has been estimated that Babylon was the largest city in the world c. 1770 – c. 1670 BC, and again c. 612 – c. 320 BC.” *wikipedia*
- Nebuchadnezzar – King of Babylon
- Cyrus the Great – conquered the city, made it part of the Persian Empire
- Alexander the Great - planned it to be capital city – died there around 323BC, it was left in ruins
- Parthians attacked it and Babylon has never made a comeback.
- For over 2000 years, it has been a place of ruin, and a place of wild animals
- 1899-1917, German archeologists recovered remnants of the Ishtar Gate, relocated and reconstructed its blue-glazed tile murals at the Pergamon Museum in Berlin.

Does Revelation refer to the real, geographical city of Babylon, or is it a symbol for another city, or just a symbol for wickedness all over the world?

During John's day - no major city of Babylon existed that could be destroyed the way that the prophesy indicates. (The once-mighty city had lost its prominence as a political and cultural capital, though it remained a inhabited, smaller settlement.)

You don't have to see it to believe it. We **believe God's word** because God Himself has said it.

Isaiah 40:8 ⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades, But ^athe word of our God stands forever.

What does God's word tell us to expect?_In the future, there will be a physical city of Babylon

- headquarters for the antichrist
 - headquarters for false religion
 - headquarters for world government
 - financial capital of the world
- 1979 - Saddam Hussein – began rebuilding Babylon
 - At present: Iraq – restore Babylon for tourism, and building Grand Faw shipping port

Religious Babylon will be destroyed. (Rev 17)

Political and commercial Babylon will be destroyed. (Rev 18)

The kingdom of Heaven – the Kingdom of the Lord – is the only safe place to live.