

CMBC Bible Study



CMBC Bible Study Revelation 16:1-21

1 And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth. 2 And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image. 3 And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea. 4 And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. 5 And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. 6 For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy. 7 And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments. 8 And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. 9 And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory. 10 And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, 11 And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds. 12 And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. 13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. 14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. 15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. 16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon. 17 And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. 18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. 19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. 20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. 21 And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.

The Seven Vials and the fierceness of the Wrath of God – Part 2: The False Prophet

14- For the first time in the Revelation narrative, John mentions “the false prophet” (V13-14), who appears after the sixth angel pours his vial upon the river Euphrates. List the characteristics that John uses to relate to the false prophet.



15- Today many claim to be prophets in the church. What does Revelation teach us to protect the church from (prophetic) falsehood, knowing the power of deception? (See also the letters to the churches)

16- How does the metaphor in V15 (*"Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame."*) add clarity to what God expects of us when facing falsehood in the church?

17- Read Deu.18:9-22:

- What does God prohibit Israel from doing (V9)?

- Name and explain the 9 things that God considers an abomination (V10-11)?

- What does God say about those who practice these (V12)?

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- What does God require of his people instead, and why (V13-14)?

- What does Moses say that God would give his people, and why (V15-16)?

- Explain what God meant when He said unto Moses, *"I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee ..."*

- How does the above add clarity to Rev.15 and the link between "the song of Moses" and "the song of the Lamb"?

Based on the above, why then do you think the "false prophet" is listed by the Lord as one of 3 *"... spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty."*?

18- When the seventh angel pours out his vial in the air (V17), scripture says that *"... there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done."* Compare this utterance to John 19:30 (*... it is finished ...*), and explain what the Lamb means here in Revelation.

19- Compare the phenomenons in V18-21 to those listed in the Gospels when Jesus gave up

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the ghost. What does each milestone teach us about the Lamb of God, and his power to destroy and to defend.

20- Babylon appears again in the Revelation narrative. We are quick to substitute it with “world system”. Why does the Lord refer to Babylon, and not Paris or New York or Las Vegas, or even Moscow or even Beijing? After all, it’s the end-time! No guessing: let us search and examine the scriptures.

21- Read V19-21. What else does it teach us about what Babylon refers to, and the fierceness of the wrath of God upon mankind and the world?

22. How do the plagues in Revelation 16 compare with the plagues in Egypt in Exodus? What is God’s purpose for each one?

23. Revelation 16 reveals a God who remembers the persecution of saints and prophets. How can this passage offer comfort to persecuted Christians today?

24. How should believers respond to the image of God as a judge as depicted in Revelation 16?
