

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

chapter 15 and 16

Lesson 17

As a prelude to the pouring out of the *seven bowls of the wrath of God* in Revelation 16, we find singing. John heard a song declaring the *works and ways* of the Lord to be *great, marvelous, just and true*. May you discover these truths about Him in a deeper way as you study these chapters.

OBSERVATION: Read Revelation 15

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet (page seven of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
2. Key words help us to better understand the verses. We have listed below key words. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text. Remember to mark any personal pronouns.
Key Words: God, Jesus/Lamb, angels(s), and beast
3. Make a list of what the chapter reveals about *God*.
4. Using the text of Revelation 15, draw (on a separate sheet of paper) what you think John *saw*.
 - a. What did you observe by drawing the descriptions in chapter 15, that you had not noticed before drawing the chapter?

Read Revelation 15:1-4

1. From Revelation 15:1, note the *great and marvelous sign* that John *saw*.
 - a. What would now be *complete*?

2. Describe what John *saw* in Revelation 15:2.
 - a. From Revelation 13:15-17, record what happened to this multitude.
 - 1.) While on earth, these people were *overcome* by the beast (Revelation 13:7). Why then do you think they now *have victory* in Revelation 15:2?
 - 2.) How are you comforted by their *victory*? See also 1 John 5:4,5.

3. According to Revelation 15:3a, what did this multitude sing?
 - a. Use Revelation 15:3b-4 to note and comment on the following aspects of their song:
 - God's works

 - God's ways

 - God's worthiness
 - b. Choose one of the above aspects of their song and share why it ministers to you.

4. What question was asked in Revelation 15:4?
 - a. What answers were given?

- b. If you had not read the answers in verse 4, what might you have written as your answer to this question?

Read Revelation 15:5-8

1. What did John *behold after these things*? Revelation 15:5

2. Describe the scene in Revelation 15:6.

3. What did one of the *living creatures* give to these *angels*? Revelation 15:7
 - a. Find and comment on the *sevens* in Revelation 15:6-7.

4. What happened after the *angels* were given their *bowls*?

OBSERVATION: Read Revelation 16

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet (the last page of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?

2. Key words help us to better understand the verses. We have listed below key words. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text. Remember to mark any personal pronouns.
Key Words: *God, Jesus* (verse 15), *angel*, and *beast/dragon/unclean spirits/false prophet*

3. Using the text of Revelation 16, draw (on a separate sheet of paper) what you think John *saw*.
 - a. What did you observe by drawing the descriptions in chapter 16, that you had not noticed before drawing the chapter?

Read Revelation 16:1-11

1. What were the *seven angels* told to do in Revelation 16:1?
2. Use the following verses to describe the results of the pouring out of the first *five golden bowls*:
 - a. *First bowl* – Revelation 16:2
 - b. *Second bowl* – Revelation 16:3
 - c. *Third bowl* - Revelation 16:4
 - d. *Fourth bowl* - Revelation 16:8-9
 - 1.) Record the response of men to the judgment of God.
 - e. *Fifth bowl* - Revelation 16:10-11
 - 1.) How did mankind continue to respond to God's judgment?
 - 2.) Read Romans 2:4-5 and remark on the hardness of man's heart.
 - 3.) How are you impacted by this profound tragedy?
3. Contrast the response of impenitent men with the proclamation of the *angel of the waters*. Revelation 16:5-6
 - a. What did the *angel of the waters* declare about God's character?
 - 1.) According to Revelation 16:5b-6, what reasons are given to validate God's character?

4. What affirmation to God's judgment came from the *altar*? Revelation 16:7

a. Why do you believe God's *judgments* are *just*?

Read Revelation 16:12-21

1. What happened when the *sixth angel poured out his bowl*? Revelation 16:12a

a. Why did this happen? Revelation 16:12b

1.) The Euphrates River has historically served as a natural military barrier between the East and the West. With this in mind, what is being conveyed here?

2. From Revelation 16:13, record what John *saw*.

a. Use Revelation 16:14 to identify these *spirits* and their mission.

3. In your own words, write Jesus' exhortation from Revelation 16:15.

a. How is this exhortation a warning to believers today?

1.) How will you heed this warning?

b. How is this exhortation a comfort to believers today?

1.) How are you personally comforted?

4. What is the name of the *place* where the *kings of the earth* gathered? Revelation 16:16
5. Summarize, from Revelation 16:17–21, what took place when the *seventh angel poured out his bowl*.
 - a. What aspect of this judgment stood out to you?
 - b. Observe and remark on the stubborn response of men to God's judgment. Revelation 16:21
 - 1.) How does Proverbs 28:5 help explain the varied responses to God's judgment?

REVIEW: Read Revelation 15,16

1. In light of these two chapters, share your impression of the *ways of God*.

Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them.
- Psalm 111:2 NIV

Observation Worksheet

Revelation 15

¹ Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete. ² And I saw *something* like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark *and* over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. ³ They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvelous *are* Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true *are* Your ways, O King of the saints! ⁴ Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For *You* alone *are* holy. For all nations shall come and worship before You, for Your judgments have been manifested." ⁵ After these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened. ⁶ And out of the temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands. ⁷ Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God who lives forever and ever. ⁸ The temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power, and no one was able to enter the temple till the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.

Revelation 16

¹ 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." ² 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. ³ 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. ⁴ Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. ⁵ 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. ⁶ For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due." ⁷ And I heard another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous *are* Your judgments." ⁸ Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds. ¹² 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. ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ 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. ¹⁵ "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." ¹⁶ And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon. ¹⁷ 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!" ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. ²¹ 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.