
Revelation 16:17-21; 17:1-8

The Seven Bowls of God's Wrath (*continued from last week*)

Vs17: This is the last of the 7 judgements from God let out on the earth.

Vs18: There is a going to be a great earthquake.

Vs19-21: the government fell. There is a worldwide government set up that leaves God out, and it will fall.

The hail balls weigh 100-135 lbs each, just pummeling the earth. Instead of repenting, mankind gets madder and more stiff-necked and stays mad at God. And God just keeps pounding harder and harder.

Ch17 & 18 are the 2 most difficult chapters in the entire bible to study, understand, and/or teach. In Ch 17, the first part of is a vision of John; the second part is the angel's explanation.

The Woman on the Beast

Vs1: anytime we see a fallen woman in scripture, it's a symbol of false religion. John sees a vision of a great whore on the waters, the kings/rulers of the earth have committed fornication with her, in other words, they went along with the false teachings.

Vs2: Not only the rulers, but also the inhabitants of the earth.

Vs3: God is taking John out further into time, sees a woman sitting a scarlet colored beast (scarlet represents the blood that this woman has caused to be run). This beast is totally against God.

Vs4: She's dressed in royalty colors – purple, scarlet, pearls, gold. She's all decked out. She has a golden cup in her hand, very beautiful, on the outside. It's full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication. She's feeding this to mankind - Satanism, lies, false religion.

Vs5: Upon her head was a name written, a long impressive name. And what she's doing is big. She's full of mystery, not fully revealed, but she'll be revealed later.

Vs6: she is the false doctrine that is fed to mankind. The world will love her and think she's great and beautiful. The whole world will fall for this false religion, not just a nation or two. It won't be a new religion, it will be the remnants of the old religion left behind.

Vs6: they killed followers of Christ.

Vs7: these angels are showing John some details that are going to happen during the judgements.

Vs8: The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: (*Satan is going to be the one to ascend out of the pit, dwell on earth, and go into perdition (lake of fire). This beast is Satan, and it also represents the political power that will be in place after the tribulation*) and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is. Right now, Satan's home is the abyss, but he roams free on the earth and he has access to the throne of God. During the tribulation, Satan's access to the Throne of God will be cut off. Demons get behind the world leaders and manipulate them. Daniel showed us that in his book. At this point, the beast that this woman is riding on is Satan. The government is based on Satan at this future time. Nebuchadnezzar saw the government as a great statue, but God sees the world government as a wild beast being ridden by a woman. After the rapture the remnants of unbelievers that are left behind, sitting in the pews, saying "what happened?" Then the lie will be perpetrated by the antichrist backed by Satan, an accumulation of all of history, which will be called this harlot. It will be combination thing. For a time being, she will do things that will help man, and Satan will do things that will help her. Nimrod started this false religion back at the tower of Babel. Notice one thing as empires started up over history: they all had a religious system in place to unify the people. Satan is going to use this woman on the beast to get the people left behind to worship him.