



You're Welcome Here!



Series – Revelation

Study Guide 8: Chapters 15&16 – 7 Bowls of God's Judgement

Week Commencing 13th October 2019

Please take time to read **Revelation chapters 15 and 16**

This scene of God's judgement is written in such a way as to recall and re-imagine the Exodus story. However, the sequence of events is reversed: the people of God are already in the 'promised land'; then the plagues/ judgements follow at the authority of God's temple.

1. For the 1st century Christians suffering from all kinds of anti-Christ oppression and persecution in their day, what key messages do you think God wants them to take from this exodus re-imagining?
2. In **Rev 16.15**, in the middle of this unfolding sequence of judgements, Jesus speaks directly in the first person to his people (for the first time since he spoke directly to the 7 churches). Please read **1 Peter 4.12-19**. What is the message Jesus wants us to hear?
3. What do you need to stop, or start, or adjust in response to God's word here?
4. Please read **John 12.30-33**. In what sense did God's 'judgement come' when Jesus was on earth, and in what sense has God's judgement still to come?
5. Please read **Rev 16.9,11,21** and **2 Peter 3.4,8-13**. Why does God delay his final judgement?
6. **Rev 16.16** refers to something called Armageddon. The mysterious Hebrew word does not refer to an actual place name or known word, but instead may simply give a name to the the 'day of the Lord' conflict.
Graeme Goldsworthy puts it like this, "What is Armageddon? It is the conflict of the day of the Lord. The day of the Lord is past, for Christ has died and Christ has risen. The day of the Lord is present, for Christ makes himself to reign on this earth through the preaching of the gospel. The day of the Lord is future, for Christ will come again. Armageddon is Calvary. Armageddon is every conquest of the gospel as it shines into this darkened world. Armageddon will be the final putting down of this evil age and its deceitful master."
What do you think?
7. In **Rev 16.16** the Kings and Powers of the earth appear to gather for an almighty battle. What happens next, and why is this significant for us to remember?