

Bible Course
Acts to Revelation
Lesson 84

Read Revelation 15

Name:			

Vision #5:
The Seven
Bowls

Chapter 15 begins the vision of the seven bowls. This is the fifth of seven visions. In the first verses, we first see a type of interlude, a time of tranquility and peace.

Ι.	they sing the song of Mosesand the song of the Lamb, saying,
	and are thy works, Lord God
	Almighty; and are thy ways, thou
	King of saints.
2.	Again remember there are so many references to the Old Testament. Look at Exodus
	15:1 to see the similarity: I will sing unto the LORD, for He hath triumphed
	: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea. See also
	Deuteronomy 32:4: he is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all His ways are
	: a God of and without iniquity,
	and is He.
3.	Beginning with verse 5, the focus changes to the seven angels with seven vials (or
	bowls). The vials are of the of
	, who liveth forever and ever.

Read Revelation 16

There is a growing intensity with each of these visions. God is coming and bringing the final judgment. Throughout all that will happen, remember, God is in control. This is a comfort for believers and a terror for unbelievers. As each vial is poured out, think also back to the Old Testament and the similarity to the plagues in Egypt.

4.	The fin	rst three vials are against those who bear the mark of the beast:
	a.	And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a
		and
		upon the men which had the mark of the beast and upon them which worshiped
		his image (like the Egyptian plague of boils).
	b.	And the second angel poured out his vial upon the; and
		it became as the of a dead man: and every living soul
		died in the sea (Egyptian plague of water turned to blood).
	c.	And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters;
		and they became
	d.	And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the; and
		power was given to him to men with
		The response of men included: And
		men the name of God, which hath power over these
		plagues: and they to give Him
5.	The se	econd set of vials is against the trinity of evil: the Dragon, the Second Beast, and
	the Fa	lse Prophet.
	a.	The fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom
		was full of; and they gnawed their tongues for
		, and the God of heaven.
	b.	The sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water
		thereof was up, that the way of the kings of the east
		might be prepared. This is the first reference to the Battle of Armageddon. It is
		only mentioned here.

Armageddon is taken as a literal battle by many people – maybe a siege of Jerusalem or a battle between two nations, or the struggle between the spread of the gospel and paganism/false religions. But remember to go to the Old Testament for explanation of the symbolism in Revelation. Armageddon in Hebrew is "Har Megiddon" (the Hill of Megiddo). The hill country of Megiddo and the adjacent valley of Esdraelon have been the sight of many important battles (Judges 5:19). Sisera with his advantage of numbers is defeated. Jehu killed Joram and Ahaziah

who fled to Megiddo, then Jehu continued with the killing of Jezebel, Ahab and his family, and the worshippers of Baal. (II Kings 8-11). Josiah was killed by Pharaoh-nechoh in this area. The city of Megiddo is a symbol of the ongoing battle between good and evil ending with a final battle at the end of time. Armageddon is also a symbol of God's miraculous help to His people when they have need.

6.	And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the; and there
	came a great voice out of the of, from
	the throne, saying, It is done.
	greater than any previous ones.
7.	And the great city was divided into parts, the cities of the
	nations fell: and great came in remembrance before God, to
	give unto her the cup of the wine of the of His
	Babylon (tower of Babel) represents those who tried to be
	mightier than God. There is a crushing of all pleasure of those who worship the beast
	The Babylonian anti-Christian empire is destroyed as God's anger explodes
	flee, not found. In the final judgment
	the empire of evil is completely destroyed. The trumpets warned, the vials poured out the
	wrath.
	Evaluator

Meditation

Future Punishment

The place in hell is quite ready for every unconverted soul. When Judas died, the Scripture says "he went to his own place." It was his own place before he went there, being quite prepared and ready for him. As when a man retires at night to his sleeping room, it is said he is gone to his own room, so a place in hell is quite ready for every Christless person. It is his own place. When the rich man died and was buried, he was immediately in his own place. He found everything ready. He lifted up his eyes in hell, being in torments. So hell is quite ready for every Christless person. It was prepared long ago for the devil and his angels. The fires are all quite ready, and fully lighted and burning.

Vain Amusements

God gives His mercies to be spent; Your hoard will do your soul no good. Gold is a blessing only lent, Repaid by giving others food.

The world's esteem is but a bribe,
To buy their peace you sell your own;
The slave of a vainglorious tribe,
Who hate you while they make you known.

The joy that vain amusements give, Oh, sad conclusion that is brings! The honey of a crowded hive, Defended by a thousand stings.

'Tis thus the world rewards the fools, That lives upon her treacherous smiles; She leads them blindfold by her rules, And ruins all whom she beguiles.

God knows the thousands who go down From pleasure into endless woe; And with a long despairing groan, Blaspheme their Maker as they go.

Oh, fearful thought, be timely wise; Delight but in a Saviour's charms; And God shall take you to the skies, Embraced in everlasting arms.

The Works of the Rev. John Newton