

The background of the image features seven golden bowls, each with a dark stem, arranged in a slightly curved line across the top. The bowls are filled with a bright, fiery orange and yellow light, suggesting they contain fire or a divine substance. The overall color palette is dominated by deep reds, oranges, and yellows, creating a dramatic and intense atmosphere. The text is centered over this background.

***The Seven Bowls  
of God's Wrath***  
(Revelation 16:1-21)

**20 years ago, a world famous scientist and cosmologist expressed his concern concerning the uncertain future of the human race and planet earth. In an interview headlined, "Colonies in space may be only hope," British scientist Stephen Hawking said,**

**“The human race is likely to be wiped out by a doomsday virus before the Millennium is out, unless we set up colonies in space. Hawking said that biology, rather than physics, presents the biggest challenge to human survival.**

**“Although September 11 was horrible, it didn’t threaten the survival of the human race like nuclear weapons do.”**

**“In the long term, I am more worried about biology. Nuclear weapons need large facilities, but genetic engineering can be done in a small lab. You can’t regulate every lab in the world. The danger is that either by accident or design, we create a virus that destroys us. I don’t think the human race will survive the next thousand years, unless we spread into space.”**

**There are too many accidents that can befall life on a single planet. But I'm an optimist. We will reach out to the stars." Stephen Harking (Telegraph.co.uk., Oct. 16, 2001)**

**Hawking's apocalyptic scenario is not so difficult to imagine anymore. Hawking's eschatological anxiety is not too difficult to believe when you look at Revelation 16, when "Judgement Day Comes to the Earth."**


**Chapter 16 contains the last of the 3 series of judgements in Revelation, the 7 bowls. The intensity and rapidity of this final judgement leaves nothing but disaster, destruction and death in its wake. Indeed the bowls may be poured out in just a few months, weeks, or even days.**

**What the seals (Ch. 6) and the trumpets (Chs. 8 & 9) did not get, the bowls will wipe out in a furious and climactic display – wrath and judgment.**



**Tragically and unbelievably, men will know all of this is God's doing and yet, rather than fall on their face in repentance, our text informs us that they will repeatedly blaspheme the true and living God (verses 9, 11, 21). The complete and total depravity of man could not be put on display more clearly.**


**These 7 plagues are somewhat similar both to plagues God brought upon the Egyptians during the time of Moses (Exodus 7-12) as well as the 7 trumpet judgements (Revelation 8-9). However, the Egyptian plagues were localized and the 7 trumpets affected 1/3 of the world. These judgements in contrast, are worldwide and the last the world will ever see.**

The background of the slide features seven golden bowls, each with a dark stem, arranged in a slightly curved line across the top. The bowls are set against a dark red, textured background that resembles a surface covered in small, dark red particles or petals. The overall color palette is dominated by deep reds and golds, creating a somber and dramatic atmosphere.

***The Seven Bowls  
of God's Wrath***  
(Revelation 16:1-21)  
**CONTEXT OF REVELATION 16**

**Following the introduction of the bowl judgments in 15:1–8, chapter 16 provides details about each of the seven last plagues. When viewed alongside the previous trumpet judgments, the differences are few and the similarities many.**

**While the trumpets kill a third of humanity, the bowls bring total destruction, and the bowls also lack the interlude that precedes the final judgment. But both the trumpet and the bowl plagues are patterned after the Egyptian plagues.**



***The Seven Bowls  
of God's Wrath***  
(Revelation 16:1-21)

**TEXT**

**Revelation 16:1–2 (CSB) Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, “Go and pour out the seven bowls of God’s wrath on the earth.” The first went and poured out his bowl on the earth, and severely painful sores broke out on the people who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped its image.**

**Revelation 16:3–4 (CSB) The second poured out his bowl into the sea. It turned to blood like that of a dead person, and all life in the sea died. The third poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of water, and they became blood.**



**Revelation 16:5–6 (CSB) I heard the angel of the waters say, You are just, the Holy One, who is and who was, because you have passed judgment on these things. Because they poured out the blood of the saints and the prophets, you have given them blood to drink; they deserve it!**

**Revelation 16:7–8 (CSB ) I heard the altar say,  
Yes, Lord God, the Almighty, true and just are  
your judgments. The fourth poured out his  
bowl on the sun. It was allowed to scorch  
people with fire,**

**Revelation 16:9–10 (CSB) and people were scorched by the intense heat. So they blasphemed the name of God, who has the power over these plagues, and they did not repent and give him glory. The fifth poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom was plunged into darkness. People gnawed their tongues because of their pain**

**Revelation 16:11–12 (CSB) and blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, but they did not repent of their works. The sixth poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the east.**

**Revelation 16:13–14 (CSB) Then I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming from the dragon's mouth, from the beast's mouth, and from the mouth of the false prophet. For they are demonic spirits performing signs, who travel to the kings of the whole world to assemble them for the battle on the great day of God, the Almighty.**

**Revelation 16:15–16 (CSB) “Look, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who is alert and remains clothed so that he may not go around naked and people see his shame.” So they assembled the kings at the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.**

**Revelation 16:17–18 (CSB) Then the seventh poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne, saying, “It is done!” There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, and peals of thunder. And a severe earthquake occurred like no other since people have been on the earth, so great was the quake.**

**Revelation 16:19–20 (CSB) The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Babylon the Great was remembered in God's presence; he gave her the cup filled with the wine of his fierce anger. Every island fled, and the mountains disappeared.**



**Revelation 16:21 (CSB) Enormous hailstones, each weighing about a hundred pounds, fell from the sky on people, and they blasphemed God for the plague of hail because that plague was extremely severe.**

The background of the image features seven golden bowls arranged in a slightly curved line. Each bowl is filled with a bright red liquid, and a thick, dark red stream is dripping from the base of each bowl. The overall color palette is dominated by deep reds and oranges, creating a somber and dramatic atmosphere.

***The Seven Bowls  
of God's Wrath***  
(Revelation 16:1-21)  
**COMMENTARY**

**Revelation 16:1–2 (CSB) Then I heard a loud voice from the temple...**

**Loud voice (megulas phones) – 20 times in Revelation, 6 times in chapter 16 alone. The voice of God, for only He is now in the temple (15:8)!**

Revelation 16:1 (CSB) saying to the seven angels, “**Go and pour** out the seven bowls of **God’s wrath** on the earth.”

**Go and pour** (both imperatives of command)  
**God’s Wrath** – the fierce anger and just judgement of God. This will be the most severe and devastating judgement the earth will ever experience.

Revelation 16:1 (CSB) saying to the seven angels, “Go and pour out the seven bowls of God’s wrath **on the earth.**”

**On the earth** – what starts in heaven ends up on earth. What starts with God ends up with man

Revelation 16:2 (CSB) The first went and poured out his bowl on the earth, and **severely painful sores** broke out on the people...

**Severely Painful** (lit. bad and evil).

**Sores** – boil, abscess, ulcer; like the 6th

Egyptian plague (Exodus 9:9-11); like Job (Job 2:7); like Lazarus (Luke 16:21).

Revelation 16:2 (CSB) ...sores **broke out on the people who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped its image.**

Only unbelievers are affected by these incurable, open, oozing, painful sores. God will specifically target and afflict those who have rejected His grace and said no to His mercy.

**Zechariah 14:12 – Now this will be the plague with which the Lord will strike all the peoples who have gone to war against Jerusalem; their flesh will rot while they stand on their feet, and their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongue will rot in their mouth.**



Revelation 16:3 (CSB) The second poured out his **bowl** into the sea. It turned to blood like that of a dead person, and all life in the sea died.

The **bowls** will be catastrophic because they follow each other so rapidly and their effects are cumulative, building upon one after the other.

Revelation 16:3 (CSB) The second poured out his bowl into the sea. **It turned to blood** like that of a dead person, and all life in the sea died.

*The Seven Bowls  
of God's Wrath  
(Revelation 16:1-21)*

**It turned to blood** - This judgement recalls the 1st Egyptian plague (Exodus 7:20-25) and the 2nd trumpet (Revelation 8:8-9).

Revelation 16:3 (CSB) It turned to blood like **that of a dead person**, and all life in the sea died.

**that of a dead person** – the sea becomes coagulated and rotting; thick and dark. The oceans which occupy approximately 70% of the earth's surface becomes a worldwide pool of blood, stabbed and running out by the just judgement of God.

**On a sultry Fall morning in 1947, the community of Venice, Florida, awoke to thousands of dead fish along the beaches and a stinging, choking “gas” in the air. Some blamed nerve gas, others a chemical spill, but scientists soon discovered the cause: RED TIDE.**

**Although this was the first scientific documentation of this catastrophic event along the Florida Gulf coast, reports of similar events have been recorded as far back as the mid 1800's. Red tides are caused by several species of marine phytoplankton, microscopic plant like cells that produce potent chemical toxins, potent neurotoxins.**

**These toxins cause extensive fish kills, contaminate shellfish and create severe respiratory irritation to humans along the shore. As red tide blooms, the density of red tide organisms increase to several million cells in each liter of sea water, and the effected area expands to many square miles.**

**The result is a mass of deadly toxin leaving a wake of dead and dying fish. As the bloom approaches the shoreline, we begin to see and feel the obvious effects: dead fish, the characteristic burning sensation of the eyes and nose, and dry, choking cough.**

# *The Seven Bowls*

**When God judges the seas, like a worldwide  
“red tide” the oceans will be defiled.**

*(Revelation 16:1-21)*



Revelation 16:3 (CSB) ...**all** life in the sea died.

The seas produce death. Literally “every soul of life died.” In this toxic “wastewater” nothing can survive. That which once brimmed with life from pole to pole is now nothing more than a watery grave, a worldwide pool of death.

**Marine life as we have known it will be wiped out! From the tiny minnow to the largest whale; marine mammals, reptiles, fishes and innumerable invertebrates, all will perish. The term “watery grave” will take on a whole new meaning.**

Revelation 16:4 (CSB) The third poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of water, and they became **blood**.

**Blood** follows blood in this judgement. The affliction that visited the oceans now comes upon the fresh water. The intensifying of God's wrath can scarcely be missed.

**Fresh water is already in short supply due to 1) 3rd trumpet (8:10-11) and 2) the drought brought on by the 2 witnesses (11:6). This bowl also recalls the 1st Egyptian plague (Exodus 7:14-25).**

**Water to drink, water to bathe and cleanse is, at best, in short supply.**

**Revelation 16:5 (CSB) I heard the angel of the waters say, You are just, the Holy One, who is and who was, because you have passed judgment on these things.**

**The angel of the water (3rd bowl) testifies to the rightness of God's judgement, the God who is and who was (not "who is to be," for HE IS HERE!).**

# *The Seven Bowls*

## *of God's Wrath*

*(Revelation 16:1-21)*

**A day of reckoning is coming. The day of reckoning has arrived. Our God is a righteous God. Sin will be dealt with. You can count on it**

Revelation 16:6 (CSB) *Because they poured out the blood of the saints and the prophets, you have given them blood to drink; **they deserve it!***

They shed the blood of God's servants. They drink the blood of God's wrath. Why? Because **they deserve it!**

Revelation 16:7 (CSB) I heard the **altar** say, Yes, Lord God, the **Almighty**, **true and just** are your judgments.

**Altar** almost always connected with judgement in Revelation.

Why? Because God is Lord **Almighty**!

Why? Because God is **true and just**.



**Genesis 18:25 (CSB) You could not possibly do such a thing: to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. You could not possibly do that! Won't the Judge of the whole earth do what is just?"**

**Psalm 19:9 – The fear of the Lord is clean,  
enduring forever; the judgements of the Lord  
are true; they are righteous altogether.**

**Psalm 119:75 – I know, O Lord, that Thy  
judgements are righteous, and that in  
faithfulness Thou hast afflicted me.**

*The Seven Bowls  
of God's Wrath*

There is a logic to God's judgement.

There is a rightness to God's judgement.

Revelation 16:8 (CSB) The fourth poured out his bowl on the sun. It was allowed to **scorch** people with fire,

In contrast to the first 3 bowls poured out on the earth, (the 4th is poured out on the sun). In contrast to the 4th trumpet, which darkened the sun, moon and stars, the 4th bowl **scorches** the earth with fire, with burning heat.

**“Searing heat exceeding anything in human experience will scorch men so severely that it will seem that the atmosphere is on fire” (MacArthur, 155).**

**(Revelation 16:1-21)**

**This unbearable heat will only amplify the pain of the sores and the pain of thirst.**

**The heat will melt the polar ice caps flooding the coastal regions with the toxic, noxious waters of the dead seas. Death, misery and sorrow will lay in its path. And in response, what will men do?**

**Revelation 16:9 (CSB) ...So they blasphemed the name of God who has the power over these plagues, and they did not repent and give him glory.**

**This verse is a tragic commentary on the depravity of man.**

**Revelation 16:9 (CSB) ...So they blasphemed the name of God who has the power over these plagues, and they did not repent and give him glory.**

**Knowing from whom these plagues come, they do not repent they revile, they do not bless they blaspheme (again 3 times – verses 9, 11, 21).**



## *The Seven Bowls*

### *of God's Wrath*

**In Revelation 13:1, 5-6 Antichrist blasphemed the Lord. Here his followers follow in the footsteps of their master. (Revelation 16:1-21)**

**Revelation 16:10 (CSB) The fifth poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom was plunged into darkness. People gnawed their tongues because of their pain**

**Reminiscent of the 9th Egyptian plague (Exodus 10:21-29). Previous judgements worldwide, this one localized. God turns out the lights on the beast!**

Revelation 16:10 (CSB) The fifth poured out his bowl on the **throne of the beast**, and its kingdom was plunged into darkness. People gnawed their tongues because of their pain

**Throne of the beast** – his kingdom. Throne 42 times in Revelation; 40 of God's. (1 of Satan 2:13, 1 of Antichrist).

**His kingdom full of darkness – physically,  
politically, economically.**

## *The Seven Bowls*

**Mark 13:24-27 – But in those days, after that  
tribulation, THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND  
THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND  
THE STARS WILL BE FALLING from heaven, and  
the powers that are in the heavens will be  
shaken.**

**And they will see THE SON OF MAN COMING  
IN CLOUDS with great power and glory. And  
then He will send forth the angels, and will  
gather together His elect from the four winds,  
from the farthest end of the earth, to the  
farthest end of heaven.**

**Painful sores, foul oceans, undrinkable water, intense heat, worldwide chaos and confusion, the world is plunged into unimaginable misery. The Antichrist and his “New Deal” wasn’t such a good idea after all.**

Revelation 16:11 (CSB) and **blasphemed** the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, but they did not repent of their works.

This is the 2nd time they **blaspheme** (curse, slander) God.

Revelation 16:11 (CSB) and blasphemed the **God of heaven** because of their pains and their sores, but they did not repent of their works.

This is the 2nd time they refuse to repent.

**God of heaven** – Daniel 2:44, referring to the God who sovereignly destroys the false kingdom of this world and establishes His own universal reign.



Daniel 2:44 (CSB) “In the days of those kings,  
the **God of the heavens** will set up a kingdom  
that will never be destroyed, and this kingdom  
will not be left to another people. It will crush  
all these kingdoms and bring them to an end,  
but will itself endure forever.

**This is the final reference (rev. 16:11) to mankind's unwillingness to repent. These first 5 plagues were God's final invitation to repent. Having ignored the Lord's call; unbelieving, sinful humanity is confirmed in its sin. Mercy did not melt their hearts. Neither did judgement jolt them out of their wicked ways.**

Revelation 16:12 (CSB) The sixth poured out his bowl on the **great river Euphrates**, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the east.

**Great river Euphrates** – called this 5 times in the Bible (Genesis 15:18; Deuteronomy 1:7; Joshua 1:4; Revelation 9:14, 16:12).

Revelation 16:12 (CSB) The sixth poured out his bowl on the **great river Euphrates**, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the east.

Flows 1800 miles from the slopes of Mt. Ararat to the Persian Gulf. It formed the Eastern boundary of the land God promised to Israel. It remains the lifeblood of the Fertile Crescent.

**Revelation 16:12 (CSB)... to prepare the way for the kings from the east.**

**Kings of the east (probably some connection with the 200 million demons of 9:14ff). They come apparently in political rebellion against Antichrist or rabid anti-Semitism against the Jews. In reality, God is leading them to their destruction and slaughter.**

Revelation 16:13 (CSB) Then I saw **three unclean spirits like frogs** coming from the dragon's mouth, from the beast's mouth, and from the mouth of the false prophet.

**3 unclean spirits like frogs** – the unholy trinity. Frogs were unclean animals (Leviticus 11:10, 41). They were deceiving spirits performing the miraculous! They deceive the rulers of the whole earth drawing them to their death.

**Revelation 16:14–15 (CSB) For they are demonic spirits performing signs, who travel to the kings of the whole world to assemble them for the battle on the great day of God, the Almighty. “Look, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who is alert and remains clothed so that he may not go around naked and people see his shame.”**

**They believe they are gathering for earthly combat. They will actually be gathering for a heavenly conflict. Their enemy? God Almighty!**

**Matthew 24:24-25 – For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect. Behold, I have told you in advance.**



**Revelation 16:15 (CSB)“Look, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who is alert and remains clothed so that he may not go around naked and people see his shame.”**

**This is the 3rd of 7 beatitudes in Revelation.**

# Seven Beatitudes in Revelation

**Rev 1:3** Blessed is he who reads this prophecy and takes it to heart.

**Rev 14:13** Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

**Rev 16:15** he who watches and is prepared for the Lord's coming.

**Rev 19:9** those invited to the Lamb's wedding supper.

**Rev 20:6** those who have a part in the first resurrection.

**Rev 22:7** he who keeps the words of this book.

**Rev 22:14** those who wash their robes.

**Matthew 24:42-44 – Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming. But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. For this reason you be ready too; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will.**

# *The Seven Bowls*

## *of God's Wrath*

*(Revelation 16:1-21)*

**1 Thessalonians 5:2 – For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night.**

Revelation 16:15 (CSB) ...Blessed is the one who is **alert and remains** clothed...

**Alert and remains** (pre. tense) F.F. Bruce says that “according to the [Jewish] Mishnah, the captain of the temple in Jerusalem went his rounds of the precincts by night, and if a member of the temple police was caught asleep at his post, his clothes were taken off and burned, and he was sent away in disgrace” (Bruce, 657).

**Armageddon – Har-Magedon, probably means the hill country surrounding Megiddo, 60 miles north of Jerusalem. Actually there is no Mt. Megiddo. Mounce and Johnson and others attempt to symbolize it to mean the final overthrow of all the forces of evil by God. There is no reason to symbolize or spiritualize the text.**

**One of history's most famous battlefields with more than 200 battles having been fought there. - Napoleon called this valley the greatest battlefield he had ever seen!**

## *The Seven Bowls*

### *of God's Wrath*

*(Revelation 16:1-21)*

**Further, Armageddon is its focal point. The war to end all wars will engulf the whole earth without question (cf. 14:17-20; 19:17-21).**



From J. Scott Duval -

*The Seven Bowls  
of God's Wrath*

Armageddon

In the Bible, the term “Armageddon” is mentioned only in Revelation 16:16: “Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.”

In the context of the seven bowl judgments, demonic spirits deceive and gather the “kings of the whole world” for the “battle on the great day of God Almighty” (16:14). The term “Armageddon” refers to the place called Harmagedōn in Hebrew, meaning “the mount of Megiddo.”

**The city of Megiddo was not a “mountain,” but was famous as the site of many significant battles in Israel’s history when God’s people were attacked by pagan nations (e.g., Judg. 5:19; 2 Kings 23:29; 2 Chron. 35:22; Zech. 12:11).**

**As a result, it became a symbol of the epic eschatological battle between God and the forces of evil. This epic battle is anticlimactic since Christ conquers merely by his appearance.**

**The battle and its outcome are reported in 19:11–21 and specifically in verse 20a, “But the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet” (cf. 17:14; and perhaps 20:7–10). Jesus returns and totally defeats his enemies, judging them by his word.**

Revelation 16:17 (CSB) Then the seventh poured out his bowl into the air, and a **loud voice** came out of **the temple** from the throne, saying, "**It is done!**"

**It is done** - This is it. Turn out the lights, the show is over. **Loud voice** (chapter ends and begins with this). From **the temple** – from God it is done – it's over. That's it.

**Revelation 16:18 (CSB) There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, and peals of thunder. And a severe earthquake occurred like no other since people have been on the earth, so great was the quake.**

*(Revelation 16:1-21)*

**The 7th seal (8:5), 7th trumpet, 7th bowl all contain noises, thunderings and lightnings. The “big one” really does come in this day.**

**Revelation 16:19 (CSB) The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Babylon the Great was remembered in God's presence; he gave her the cup filled with the wine of his fierce anger.**

**(Revelation 16:1-21)**

**Great city (probably Babylon) divided.**

**Jerusalem is the great city of 11:8, Babylon of 14:8, 16:19, and Rome in 17:18.**



Revelation 16:19 (CSB) and the **cities of the nations fell.**

**Cities of the nations fell** – can you imagine? In a matter of moments Hong Kong gone, Beijing gone, New Delphi gone, Sydney gone, Moscow gone, Paris gone, Rome gone, Athens gone, London gone, Berlin gone, New York gone, Washington gone, Los Angeles gone, Orlando! Gone gone gone! All of them gone!!!

Revelation 16:19 (CSB) ...**Babylon the Great** was remembered in God's presence; he gave her the cup filled with the wine of his fierce anger.

**Babylon the Great** – center and hub of Antichrist's kingdom (will be dealt with in detail in chapters 17 & 18)...God remembers.

**Revelation 16:20 (CSB) Every island fled, and the mountains disappeared.**

**Islands vanish, mountains disappear. Australia vanishes, Everest disappears, Hawaii vanishes, the Rockies disappear. All gone. All gone.**

**Revelation 16:21 (CSB) Enormous hailstones, each weighing about a hundred pounds, fell from the sky on people, and they blasphemed God for the plague of hail because that plague was extremely severe.**

**(Revelation 16:1-21)**

**Similar but so different from the 7th Egyptian plague (Exodus 9:23- 24) and the 1st trumpet (8:7).**

Revelation 16:21 (CSB) Enormous hailstones, each **weighing about a hundred pounds**, fell from the sky on people, and they blasphemed God for the plague of hail because that plague was extremely severe.

The heaviest hailstone on record weighed 2 pounds! The earth, what little remains, will be blasted and plummeted.

**Revelation 16:21 (CSB)...and they blasphemed God for the plague of hail because that plague was extremely severe.**

**The result: same as before. Men blaspheme God. Beaten, bruised and battered into submission, men still shake their fist in the face of God and curse His name.**

The background of the slide features seven golden bowls arranged in a slightly curved line across the top. Each bowl is filled with a bright red liquid, and thick, dark red drips are falling from the rims of each bowl. The overall color palette is dominated by deep reds and oranges, creating a somber and dramatic atmosphere.

***The Seven Bowls  
of God's Wrath***  
(Revelation 16:1-21)  
**MODERN APPLICATIONS**

## *The Seven Bowls*

### *of God's Wrath*

*(Revelation 16:1-21)*

In addition to reminding us that God judges evil, the bowl judgments also speak powerfully to those who profess Christ.



**1. Christians should be prepared for Christ's imminent return. While Jesus's statement in 16:15 might seem terribly out of place at first glance, it actually gets to the heart of the matter for John's audience.**

**As we will see in Revelation 17–18, Babylon, with its political momentum and economic security, has the power to lull us to sleep spiritually. Jesus intrudes to shock us out of our slumber and warn us that his return will be sudden and unexpected.**

**Most interestingly, in this third of seven beatitudes in Revelation, Jesus blesses the individual (“the one”) who stays awake and remains clothed. The great final battle turns out to be an individual spiritual battle.**

**In Jesus's eschatological discourse, he repeatedly warns his followers to stay alert and remain watchful (e.g., Matt. 24:4, 42, 44; 25:13). In the parables that conclude the discourse, he defines watchfulness as faithfulness (Matt. 24:43–25:30).**

**To stay alert means to stay focused on doing what God has told us to do. This passage offers a prime opportunity to help people discern what is most important when applying prophetic-apocalyptic portions of Scripture.**

**2. How people respond to judgment reveals the condition of their hearts. Although these judgments are brought against unbelievers, we can still learn from their negative example about how not to respond to spiritual discipline.**

**At the end of the trumpet judgments people refuse to repent (9:20–21), and at the conclusion to the bowls they curse God three times (16:9, 11, 21). The ungodly respond to judgment not by humbling themselves, changing their ways, and crying out for mercy but by blaming, even cursing, God.**

**“Although the beast cannot sever the bond between God and his creature—even when we curse, we have God’s name on our lips—he can so warp the creature that it hates the one who made it.”**

**Joseph Mangina, Revelation, 187.**



**The way a person responds to perceived discipline reveals the condition of their heart. Sadly, some people who claim to be Christians regularly respond by refusing to repent and consistently blaming God and God's people, when what is needed is a humble acceptance of personal responsibility and repentance.**

The background features seven golden bowls, each with a dark stem, arranged in a slightly curved line across the top. The bowls are set against a dark red, textured background that resembles a surface covered in small, dark red particles or a dense forest of small trees. The overall color palette is dominated by deep reds and oranges, creating a somber and intense atmosphere.

***The Seven Bowls  
of God's Wrath***  
(Revelation 16:1-21)  
**OLD TESTAMENT CONNECTIONS**

**Revelation 16:1** Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, “Go and pour out the seven bowls of God’s wrath on the earth.”

**Psalm 69:24** Pour out your rage on them, and let your burning anger overtake them.

**Isaiah 66:6** A sound of uproar from the city! A voice from the temple—the voice of the Lord, paying back his enemies what they deserve!

**Jeremiah 10:25 Pour out your wrath on the nations that don't recognize you and on the families that don't call on your name, for they have consumed Jacob; they have consumed him and finished him off and made his homeland desolate.**

**Ezekiel 22:31 So I have poured out my indignation on them and consumed them with the fire of my fury. I have brought their conduct down on their own heads.” This is the declaration of the Lord God.**

## Zephaniah 3:8

8Therefore, wait for me—this is the Lord's declaration—until the day I rise up for plunder. For my decision is to gather nations, to assemble kingdoms, in order to pour out my indignation on them, all my burning anger; for the whole earth will be consumed by the fire of my jealousy.

**Revelation 16:2** The first went and poured out his bowl on the earth, and severely painful sores broke out on the people who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped its image.

**Exodus 9:10** So they took furnace soot and stood before Pharaoh. Moses threw it toward heaven, and it became festering boils on people and animals.

**Deuteronomy 28:35 The Lord will afflict you with painful and incurable boils on your knees and thighs—from the sole of your foot to the top of your head.**

*The Seven Bowls  
of God's Wrath*

*(Revelation 16:1-21)*

**Revelation 16:3** The second poured out his bowl into the sea. It turned to blood like that of a dead person, and all life in the sea died.

**Exodus 7:17–21** This is what the Lord says: Here is how you will know that I am the Lord. Watch. I am about to strike the water in the Nile with the staff in my hand, and it will turn to blood....



**Revelation 16:4 The third poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of water, and they became blood.**

**Psalm 78:44 He turned their rivers into blood, and they could not drink from their streams.**

**Revelation 16:5 I heard the angel of the waters say,  
You are just, the Holy One, who is and who was,  
because you have passed judgment on these  
things.**

**Psalm 119:137 You are righteous, Lord, and your  
judgments are just.**

**Psalm 145:17 The Lord is righteous in all his ways  
and faithful in all his acts.**

**Exodus 3:14** God replied to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you.”

**Deuteronomy 32:4** The Rock—his work is perfect; all his ways are just. A faithful God, without bias, he is righteous and true.

**Revelation 16:6 Because they poured out the blood of the saints and the prophets, you have given them blood to drink; they deserve it!**

**Psalm 79:3 They poured out their blood like water all around Jerusalem, and there was no one to bury them.**

**Isaiah 49:26 I will make your oppressors eat their own flesh, and they will be drunk with their own blood as with sweet wine. Then all humanity will know that I, the Lord, am your Savior, and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.”**

**Revelation 16:7 I heard the altar say, Yes, Lord God, the Almighty, true and just are your judgments.**

## *The Seven Bowls*

**Psalm 119:137 You are righteous, Lord, and your judgments are just.**

*(Revelation 16:1-21)*

**Psalm 19:9 The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are reliable and altogether righteous.**

**Revelation 16:10** The fifth poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom was plunged into darkness. People gnawed their tongues because of their pain

**Exodus 10:21** Then the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand toward heaven, and there will be darkness over the land of Egypt, a darkness that can be felt.”

## *The Seven Bowls*

**Isaiah 8:22 They will look toward the earth and see only distress, darkness, and the gloom of affliction, and they will be driven into thick darkness.**

*(Revelation 16:1-21)*

**Revelation 16:12** The sixth poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the east.

## *The Seven Bowls*

**Isaiah 11:15** The Lord will divide the Gulf of Suez. He will wave his hand over the Euphrates with his mighty wind and will split it into seven streams, letting people walk through on foot.

**Isaiah 44:27** who says to the depths of the sea, “Be dry,” and I will dry up your rivers;



**Revelation 16:16 So they assembled the kings at the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.**

**2 Kings 23:29 During his reign, Pharaoh Neco king of Egypt marched up to help the king of Assyria at the Euphrates River. King Josiah went to confront him, and at Megiddo when Neco saw him he killed him.**

**2 Kings 9:27** When King Ahaziah of Judah saw what was happening, he fled up the road toward Beth-haggan. Jehu pursued him, shouting, “Shoot him too!” So they shot him in his chariot at Gur Pass near Ibleam, but he fled to Megiddo and died there.

**Zechariah 12:11** On that day the mourning in Jerusalem will be as great as the mourning of Hadad-rimmon in the plain of Megiddo.

**Judges 5:19** Kings came and fought. Then the kings of Canaan fought at Taanach by the Waters of Megiddo, but they did not plunder the silver.

**Revelation 16:17** Then the seventh poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne, saying, “It is done!”

**Isaiah 66:6** A sound of uproar from the city! A voice from the temple—the voice of the Lord, paying back his enemies what they deserve!

**Revelation 16:21** Enormous hailstones, each weighing about a hundred pounds, fell from the sky on people, and they blasphemed God for the plague of hail because that plague was extremely severe.

**Exodus 9:24** The hail, with lightning flashing through it, was so severe that nothing like it had occurred in the land of Egypt since it had become a nation.

The background of the slide features seven golden bowls arranged in a slightly curved line across the top. Each bowl is tilted downwards, and a thick, dark red liquid is dripping from its rim. The entire scene is set against a dark, textured background that resembles a surface covered in a fine layer of red particles or a dense forest of small red flowers. The overall color palette is dominated by deep reds, oranges, and dark browns, creating a somber and dramatic atmosphere.

***The Seven Bowls  
of God's Wrath***  
(Revelation 16:1-21)

**SUMMARY**

## Key Themes of Revelation 16:1–21

- Because God is just and true, he will judge those who persecute his people.
- Christians should be prepared for Christ's imminent return.

## Key Themes of Revelation 16:1–21

- The ungodly respond to judgment not by crying out for mercy but by cursing God in unrepentant defiance.
- God will defeat the unholy trinity and the pagan powers at the epic eschatological battle in preparation for the last judgment



The background of the slide features seven golden bowls arranged in a slightly curved line. Each bowl is filled with a bright red liquid, and a thick, dark red stream is dripping from the base of each bowl. The overall color palette is dominated by shades of red and gold, creating a dramatic and intense atmosphere.

***The Seven Bowls  
of God's Wrath***  
(Revelation 16:1-21)

**CONCLUSION**

**At the beginning of our study, we looked at British scientist Stephen Hawking. The final words I cited from the eminent scientist as he expressed his fears about earth's future was, "But I'm an optimist. We will reach out to the stars."**

**Let's not encourage mankind to reach out for the stars, but to reach out for the Son, the Son of God. When God's judgement comes, only those holding on to Him will stand, only those held by Him will survive. The day will be awesome. The day will be terrible. Only those who hold on the Son will escape the wrath that is to come.**

The background of the image features seven golden bowls, each with a dark stem, arranged in a slightly curved line across the top. The bowls are filled with a bright, fiery orange and red liquid, which appears to be dripping down the stems. The overall background is a dark, textured red with a mottled, almost marbled appearance, suggesting a scene of intense fire or divine wrath.

***The Seven Bowls  
of God's Wrath***  
(Revelation 16:1-21)