

## Lecture 29 – Revelation 15-19: Bowls of Wrath, Babylon

*I saw in heaven another great and marvelous sign: seven angels with the seven last plagues—last, because with them God’s wrath is completed. And I saw what looked like a sea of glass mixed with fire and, standing beside the sea, those who had been victorious over the beast and his image and over the number of his name. They held harps given them by God and sang the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb:*

*‘Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the ages. Who will not fear you, O Lord. And bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed.’*

*After this I looked and in heaven the temple, that is, the tabernacle of the Testimony, was opened. Out of the temple came the seven angels with the seven plagues. They were dressed in clean, shining linen and wore golden sashes around their chests. Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls filled with the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever. And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power, and no one could enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed. Revelation 15*

### Key Terms

Bowls of wrath, Babylon- the harlot, Revelation and Daniel

### Lecture Objectives

- Identify, describe, and interpret images of Revelation 15-19.
- Explore ways in which these images are used by John to encourage and challenge his readers.

### Preliminary Questions

- To what extent do the images in Revelation regarding hell and final judgment offend you? To what extent do they encourage you? To what extent do they motivate you?

### Revelation 15-19: Bowls of Wrath, Babylon

I. Bowls of Wrath Signify Final Judgment (not to warn but to punish) - Scene 5: 15-16

A. Angels pour out

1. Filled with ...
2. When they are poured out, God’s wrath is ...
3. 7 bowls are like ...
4. With one big difference:
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_

5. Angels execute just judgment of God: nations refuse to repent and curse God

B. Hardship always elicits a response

1. sometimes a response of ...
2. sometimes a response of ...

II. Babylon: The Harlot and The Bride (6: 17-19)

A. The character and identity of Babylon

1. Babel, Babylon
2. In allegiance with ...
3. Is drunk with ...
4. Two images being mixed
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_

5. A complex relation between Rome and Babylon
    - a. Seven heads represent ...
    - b. Babylon rides a beast resembling beast of 12:3. Beast is Rome in its power
    - c. The harlot is Rome too - in its seductiveness
    - d. Like all cities of the world (false governments) usurping divine prerogatives (Exo. 15:11, Ps. 89:8, Rev. 13:4, 18:7)
    - e. They array themselves against God and hate each other
  6. Main emphasis: Babylon in her ...
- B. Babylon is fallen
1. Fall is announced
  2. "Come out of her so you do not participate in her sins." (18:4)
    - a. \_\_\_\_\_
    - b. \_\_\_\_\_
    - c. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. Kings and merchants mourn her fall (18:9)
    - a. \_\_\_\_\_
    - b. \_\_\_\_\_
    - c. \_\_\_\_\_
  4. Her trade was not innocent.
    - a. Hubris
    - b. Slavery
    - c. Persecution.
  5. Believers rejoice at her fall ...
    - a. Rejoicing vs. gloating
    - b. Judgment for sins
    - c. Closure to mankind.
  6. Therefore praise God for his power to defeat his foes (19:1-5).
- C. Symbols of Revelation:
1. Sometimes no change in the way symbols are used throughout scripture
  2. Sometime a small shift to fulfillment
  3. Sometimes a big shift: example of two witnesses from Zechariah
    - a. \_\_\_\_\_
    - b. \_\_\_\_\_
- D. See Daniel 2, 7
1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
- E. Times in Daniel and Revelation: "time, times, and half a time" (a little over three years)
1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
  4. \_\_\_\_\_
  5. \_\_\_\_\_
  6. \_\_\_\_\_
  7. Therefore, ...