

ARMAGEDDON AND THE 7 LAST PLAGUES

(LESSON 15)

Bible Studies

1. Revelation 14:9-11 reveals that God is going to pour out His wrath one day. What is the wrath of God?
Revelation 15:1
2. According to Hebrews and elsewhere Jesus is our High Priest or Intercessor and we may enter into the heavenly temple through prayer? What happens during the seven last plagues to this relationship? **Revelation 15:5-8, Isaiah 59:16-17**
3. Who receives the plagues?
Revelation 16:2
4. Why are the second and third plagues poured out?
Revelation 16:6
5. Why is the plague of darkness poured out? **John 3:19-21**
6. How many people are involved in the battle?
Revelation 16:14
7. Who are represented by the kings of the east?
Revelation 16:12, Matthew 24:27, Revelation 19:16
8. In the seventh plague, hail is used. Where is it? **Job 38:22-23**
9. What will people on the wrong side of the battle of Armageddon cry?
Revelation 6:16-17
10. What will people on the right side of Armageddon cry?
Isaiah 25:9

How Can We Avoid the Plagues?

The seven last plagues are one of the fiercest events that will ever occur on this planet. Without Jesus, the plagues would be something fearful and frightful, but with Jesus, it is

nothing more than the final birth pains before delivery.

To avoid the plagues, simply obey the messages that are preached before Jesus returns (Revelation 14:14). The third angel specifically speaks on this subject in which Revelation 14:9-11 tells us, “*And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive [his] mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.*”

This message is very serious, yet the vast majority of Christians treat it lightly. God sends this stern warning so that we are able to avoid the plagues by simply not worshipping the beast, his image, or receiving his mark.

What is the wrath of God? Revelation 15:1 states, “*And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.*” It is the seven last plagues.

It says “last plagues”. That implies that there must have been other plagues. Maybe there is a lesson in those plagues to see us safely through the seven last plagues.

What Were the First Plagues Like?

The interesting parallels between the first plagues and last plagues are these:

1. Exodus 5:1, 5 says, “*And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness. And Pharaoh said, Behold, the people of the land now [are] many, and ye make them rest from their burdens.*” **A call was made to worship God and give glory to Him.**
2. Exodus 5:6-9 says, “*And Pharaoh commanded the same day the taskmasters of the people, and their officers, saying, Ye shall no more give the people straw to make brick, as heretofore: let them go and gather straw for themselves. And the tale of the bricks, which they did make heretofore, ye shall lay upon them; ye shall not diminish [ought] thereof: for they [be] idle; therefore they cry, saying, Let us go [and] sacrifice to our God. Let there more work be laid upon the men, that they may labour therein; and let them not regard vain words.*” **A period of persecution occurred.**
3. Exodus 7:20-21 says, “*And Moses and Aaron did so, as the LORD commanded; and he lifted up the rod, and smote the waters that [were] in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants; and all the*

waters that [were] in the river were turned to blood. And the fish that [was] in the river died; and the river stank, and the Egyptians could not drink of the water of the river; and there was blood throughout all the land of Egypt.” **The plagues then fell.**

4. Exodus 12:51 says, “*And it came to pass the selfsame day, [that] the LORD did bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their armies.*” **God delivered His people after the plagues.**

Since history tends to repeat itself, here are the parallels to our day:

1. Revelation 14:6-7 states, “*And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.*” **There is a call to worship God and give glory to Him.**
2. Revelation 13:16-17 states, “*And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.*” **There is a period of persecution.**

3. Revelation 16:2 states, “*And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and [upon] them which worshipped his image.*” **The persecution is then followed by the plagues being poured out upon the persecutors.**
4. Revelation 22:12 states, “*And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward [is] with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.*” **And Jesus delivers His own after the plagues.**

What Happens Before the Plagues Are Poured Out?

Revelation 15:5-8 tells us, “*And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened: And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles. And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who liveth for ever and ever. And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.*” Notice that as the plagues are being poured out, no one may enter into the temple. Why? Because by this point Jesus has fulfilled the Day of Atonement feast or Judgment. The feast day He is preparing at

this point is the last one – Ingathering (second coming). This is brought out in Revelation 22:11-12, which says, “*He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward [is] with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.*” Even Isaiah recorded the transition from Jesus being our High Priest and intercessor in the heavenly sanctuary to the Jesus who would be returning to hand out the reward even to the wicked. Isaiah 59:16-17 tells us, “*And he saw that [there was] no man, and wondered that [there was] no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him. For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance [for] clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloke.*” Remember, Isaiah 35:4 states, “*Say to them [that are] of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come [with] vengeance, [even] God [with] a recompence; he will come and save you.*”

How does this specifically affect us? Well, during the plagues, every person’s fate is sealed. No one will be able to switch sides. That is why it is so important to surrender all to Jesus now and not a moment later. We do not know when the words “*It is done*” (Revelation 21:6) will be stated and the plagues begin. Besides, if we die before then, our fate is also sealed.

Do We Need to Fear the Plagues?

Psalms 91:1-2 begins with, “*He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, [He is] my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.*” Trust in a “*Thus Saith the Lord*”.

Psalms 91:3 continues with, “*Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, [and] from the noisome pestilence.*” This by the way is the first of the seven last plagues.

Psalms 91:4 tells us, “*He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth [shall be thy] shield and buckler.*” And we find the truth in His Word (John 17:17), in the examples of Jesus (John 14:6), and in His Holy Ten Commandments (Psalms 119:142).

Psalms 91:5-10 says, “*Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; [nor] for the arrow [that] flieth by day; [Nor] for the pestilence [that] walketh in darkness; [nor] for the destruction [that] wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; [but] it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the LORD, [which is] my refuge, [even] the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.” Praise the Lord, true Christians have nothing to fear concerning the plagues.*

Psalms 91:11-14 tells us, “*For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in [their] hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.*” Notice that God commends those who know His name. From the *Marked, Sealed, and Delivered* lesson, you may recall how important it is to know God’s name. Those that have the Father’s name (Revelation 14:1), which by Bible definition is Abba (Mark 14:36), are sealed (Revelation 7:3). Remember, ABBA appears right in the middle of the word **SABBATH**.

Psalms 91:15-16 finishes with, “*He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I [will be] with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.*”

Let us keep these words in the back of our mind while we investigate the plagues.

What Do the Plagues Consist of?

There are several false teachings that God wants to reveal in the closing moments of earth’s history. People have hooked onto these theories despite numerous warnings. Each false theory is targeted by a plague. God is going to allow an intense measure to prove these things out.

Revelation 16:1 begins with, “*And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.*” And now for the seven last plagues.

~ First Plague ~

Revelation 16:2 starts off with, “*And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and [upon] them which worshipped his image.*” The primary focus of the first plague is to reveal the false miracle workers. People are flocking to signs and wonders preachers and events and are not following a “*Thus Saith the Lord.*”

Now there are true miracles, but we must be careful for Revelation 13:13-14 says, “*And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by [the means of] those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.” And Revelation 19:20 tells us, “*And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.*”*

God does not like it when evangelists profess to heal people in the name of God all to rake in the cash. Take for

instance Peter Popoff from years ago who would hold a seminar and announce that night that someone was going to be healed. “I feel the anointing,” he would say. This would get the congregation all geared up. Then he would ask, “Lord, tell me who’s going to be healed tonight?” Then he would say, “It’s, it’s a Mr. Johnson. Lord tell me, where does he live? He lives at 555 Green Street. Lord, lead me to him.” And he would wonder through the audience and then stop at a particular point. He would ask the gentleman, “Are you Mr. Johnson?” And the man would shockingly reply, “Why, yes I am.” Peter then would say, “Lord tell me, what is this man’s ailment? Sir, you have back problem, isn’t that right?” “Well, yes,” is the astonishing answer. “Do you believe in the power of Jesus?” “Yes I do,” would be the reply. Then Peter would lay his hand on the man’s forehead and release the healing power. The man would shake a little and then fall to the ground. The plate is passed around for everyone to drop in their hard-earned dollars, and the man does not recover until after the meeting has been left out for hours.

What actually took place? Well, Oprah Winfrey did a wonderful job on documenting this. As I said, this was a number of years ago. Anyways, when Peter asked, “Lord, tell me who’s going to be healed tonight,” he was actually asking his wife who was in a private room looking out at the audience through a mirrored window. She would radio her husband who was wearing a tiny receiver. Now, Oprah intercepted the radio wave and recorded the

conversation. When Peter asked, "Lord tell me, where does he live?" again he was asking his wife to read it right off the registration card. When Peter asked, "Lord, lead me to him", she was just telling him the seat location as all seats were assigned. And when Peter asked, "Lord tell me, what is this man's ailment," again his wife read it off the registration card under special prayers. Then Peter placed the palm of his hand, which contained an electrode onto the man's forehead. The electrode was wired to a battery pack and he literally fried the man's brain for which he could not help but fall down. He is out cold; people call it a healing; they dump lots of money into the collection; and after the meetings have been let out, he finally comes to his senses.

Then there was a preacher/healer who sat in an oval tower and said that God was calling him home unless he gets 10 million dollars to build a hospital. Excuse me! If he has the gift of healing, why does he need to be building a hospital? Amen?

God reveals the false healers with the first plague who selfishly practice the wealth gospel, which in comparison to Jesus is a mockery of the gospel. When the first plague occurs, all the people who trusted in these shysters will flock to them, and they will be powerless. Of course, the people will then lose their trust in them, but it will be too late.

~ Second and Third Plagues ~

Revelation 16:3-7 states, "*And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became*

as the blood of a dead [man]: and every living soul died in the sea. And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy. And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous [are] thy judgments." Why the plague of blood? The answer is in the verses. People willfully chose not to accept the blood of Jesus and then killed His saints throughout the centuries especially during the Dark Ages.

This plague will stop the shipping industry in its tracks as well as the fresh water supply. Do not worry though. To the faithful, God promises... "*He shall dwell on high: his place of defence [shall be] the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters [shall be] sure"* (Isaiah 33:16). Just as God provided manna and water in the wilderness, it will also be provided to the faithful at the end of time.

~ Fourth Plague ~

Revelation 16:8-9 says, "*And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory."* Why the sun? All through the ages, man has worshipped the creation instead

of the creator (Romans 1:25). Satan has picked the object of the sun to be worshipped and man has gone right along with it. The pagan empires of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome were blatant about it. Papal Rome Christianized it and passed it on to the whole world where Christians today, after learning the truth about the Sabbath, will continue to justify their attendance on Sunday and sticking with their Sunday keeping churches.

God created the Sabbath day and yet man is determined to disobey this commandment by throwing them all away or by keeping only nine. God punishes willful disobedience by allowing the object of worship to burn the people. Remember, He warned them ahead of time. The warning appears in Revelation 14:7 which clearly says, "*Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."* This is a direct quote from the fourth commandment, as we studied before.

Further, is it a coincidence that God created the sun on the fourth day and that God's commandment regarding the Sabbath is the fourth one and that the fourth angel pours out this fourth plague? Remember that devout Christians do not believe in coincidences. Amen?

~ Fifth Plague ~

Revelation 16:10-11 continues with, "*And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, And*

blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds.” Why darkness? John 3:19 tells us, “*And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.*”

~ Sixth Plague ~

Revelation 16:12-16 states, “*And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs [come] out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, [which] go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed [is] he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.*” Now we have a lot to cover. This is loaded with symbolism.

To help understand these verses, let us visit literal Israel of ancient times and compare the similarities to the symbolic spiritual Israel or Christians.

1. Both Old Testament Israel and New Testament Spiritual Israel are persecuted by Babylon: Literal Israel in Jeremiah 50:33-34 states, “*Thus saith the LORD of hosts; The children of Israel and the children of Judah [were] oppressed together: and all that*

took them captives held them fast; they refused to let them go. Their Redeemer [is] strong; the LORD of hosts [is] his name: he shall throughly plead their cause, that he may give rest to the land, and disquiet the inhabitants of Babylon.” Spiritual Israel in Revelation 17:5-6 says, “*And upon her forehead [was] a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.*”

2. Both literal and spiritual Israel are forced to worship an image: Literal Israel in Daniel 3:14-15 says, “*Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, [Is it] true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up? Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; [well]: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who [is] that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?*” Spiritual Israel in Revelation 13:15 tells us, “*And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.*”

3. Both literal and spiritual Israel refer to their persecutor as

Babylon the Great: Literal Israel says so in Daniel 4:30: “*The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?*” Spiritual Israel says so in Revelation 17:5: “*And upon her forehead [was] a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.*”

4. Both literal and spiritual Israel experience Babylon sitting on many waters: Literal Israel in Jeremiah 51:12-13 tells us, “*Set up the standard upon the walls of Babylon, make the watch strong, set up the watchmen, prepare the ambushes: for the LORD hath both devised and done that which he spake against the inhabitants of Babylon. O thou that dwellest upon many waters, abundant in treasures, thine end is come, [and] the measure of thy covetousness.*” Spiritual Israel in Revelation 17:1 states, “*And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters.*”

5. Both literal and spiritual Israel experience the river Euphrates drying up: Literal Israel in Isaiah 44:27-28 says, “*That saith to the deep, Be dry, and I will dry up thy rivers: That saith of Cyrus, [He is] my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.*”

Spiritual Israel in Revelation 16:12 says, "And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared."

6. Both literal and spiritual Israel experience a call to come out of Babylon: Literal Israel in Jeremiah 51:6-8 says, "Flee out of the midst of Babylon, and deliver every man his soul: be not cut off in her iniquity; for this [is] the time of the LORD'S vengeance; he will render unto her a recompence. Babylon [hath been] a golden cup in the LORD'S hand, that made all the earth drunken: the nations have drunken of her wine; therefore the nations are mad. Babylon is suddenly fallen and destroyed: howl for her; take balm for her pain, if so be she may be healed." Unfortunately, not all of literal Israel adhered to the call to come out of literal Babylon where they perished. They could not see how they were being poisoned. They enjoyed their lives, in other words, they were comfortable. Spiritual Israel in Revelation 18:4 says, "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." Will you come out of Babylon? Or will you enjoy the comforts of where you are now? Will you be unable to see the poisons around you?

7. Both rescuers come from the "east": Literal Israel is found in Isaiah 41:2: "Who raised up the righteous [man] from the east, called him to his foot, gave the nations before him, and made [him] rule over kings? he gave

[them] as the dust to his sword, [and] as driven stubble to his bow." Spiritual Israel is found in Matthew 24:27: "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

Now with that in mind, let us begin addressing the sixth plague more directly. How many people are involved in the battle? Revelation 16:14 tells us, "For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, [which] go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty."

So how is everybody (the whole world) going to be affected if Armageddon is a literal battle somewhere on this earth? Further, is God really interested in who will win World War III? John 18:36 tells us, "Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence." The answer is "No" because God's kingdom is not on this planet.

Besides, where is the real battle? Revelation 12:7 says, "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels."

Next, let us look at the definition of the word ARMAGEDDON. In the Greek, which the New Testament was written in, it means *the Valley of Megiddo*. But wait! John said to use the Hebrew tongue. And now, it means *Mount of the Congregation*. Let us go read about it.

Isaiah 14:12-15 says, "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! [how] art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit." From the beginning, this battle has been raging. It is the battle of who will rule the universe: God or Satan? The battle is much larger than some little valley here on earth. It has eternal consequences attached. God tells us though who is going to win in verse 15: "Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit." Praise the Lord it is God!

What does "the drying up of the river Euphrates" mean? Revelation 16:12 says, "And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared." Drying up some river in the Middle East is not going to have a major affect on anything. With nuclear warheads and technology for water supplies, the Euphrates is considered peanuts in this great spiritual battle.

To understand this issue, we compare it to literal Israel where at that time; the Euphrates River was the lifeline to Babylon. In spiritual Israel, Babylon now occupies the world. The drying of the river Euphrates would not even put a dent into spiritual

Babylon. What does water mean in prophecy? Revelation 17:15 tells us, “*And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.*” That means spiritual Babylon (false teachings) loses the support of its lifeline – the people.

Now, who are the unclean spirits? Revelation 16:13 says, “*And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs [come] out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.*” Well, it is none other than the counterfeit Godhead. The real Godhead contains God the Father as the head, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The counterfeit has Satan as the head (dragon), the Antichrist as the Son (beast), and the False Prophet (image of the beast). And by the way, this is just one of the reasons a three-figure Godhead exists: If the counterfeit exists, then the original must exist.

We can understand the difference between the Father and Satan as well as the difference between Jesus Christ and the Antichrist. But what about the Holy Spirit and the False Prophet? Well the purpose of the Holy Spirit is told to us in John 16:13: “*Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, [that] shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.*” And John 16:8 tells us, “*And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.*” The Holy Spirit will

lead us back to the truth, which is found in the Word, Jesus, and the Law as stated before. The False prophet will try to do away with the Word by replacing it with fables, the theory of evolution, etc.; do away with the teachings of Jesus by substituting the teachings of man’s traditions; and do away with the law by promoting that they can be changed and even done away with.

Further, the Holy Spirit reproves us of sin, righteousness, and judgment. What is sin? 1 John 3:4 defines it as, “*Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.*”

Why righteousness? 1 John 2:29 tells us, “*If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.*” The Holy Spirit will lead us to do what is right, that is to obey the Word of God in all points.

Why judgment? Well, how are we judged? James 2:12 says, “*So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.*” By the law, which liberates us from sin and Satan.

A lot of people do not like to think of the Holy Spirit this way. They like to have a good time with the Spirit. That is actually the False Prophet working.

Now these three through their spirits are preparing the world for the great battle according to Revelation 16:14. What spiritual warfare is Satan using most effectively? Well, in the lesson *Ye Shall Not Surely Die*, we will discover the truth about this subject.

Now let us examine who the Kings of the East are.

Revelation 16:12 states, “*And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.*”

Again, to understand this, let us examine literal Israel. Isaiah 44:27-28 says, “*That saith to the deep, Be dry, and I will dry up thy rivers: That saith of Cyrus, [He is] my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.*” First, there is Cyrus who was one of the two kings that joined together to conquer Babylon. It took the joint effort of the Medes and the Persians. Isaiah 45:1 says, “*Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut.*” Cyrus diverted the river Euphrates away from Babylon. Now Babylon had two leaved gates positioned inside the first wall that went all the way to the river floor just in case of something like this would happen, however, during the big party (Daniel 5), they forgot to close the gates. This allowed Cyrus to march right in and take over without much resistance. By the way, notice the verse describing the victory. It almost reads word for word out of Revelation. Isaiah 21:9 says, “*And, behold, here cometh a chariot of men, [with] a couple of horsemen. And he answered and said, Babylon is fallen, is fallen; and all the graven images of her gods he hath broken unto the ground.*”

Where does Jesus come from? Matthew 24:27 says, "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Jesus is represented by the Kings of the east. This is confirmed by Ezekiel 43:2, which says, "And, behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east: and his voice [was] like a noise of many waters: and the earth shined with his glory." You may still be taken back by the fact that there is an "s" on the end of the word KINGS. Hold that thought for just a moment as we address the next question.

Where is the battle of Armageddon fought? Revelation 19:11-21 says, "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him [was] called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes [were] as a flame of fire, and on his head [were] many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he [was] clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies [which were] in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on [his] vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come

and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all [men, both] free and bond, both small and great. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which [sword] proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh." The battle is not on earth; it is in heaven, which matches exactly with what we have been studying all through this lesson.

Now notice that Jesus is referred to as the "King of Kings." There is the "s".

~ Seventh Plague ~

Revelation 16:17-21 says, "And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, [and] so great. And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in

remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, [every stone] about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great." With islands sinking and mountains crumbling, it will not be fit for man or beast. Keep in mind while this earth is falling apart, the saints will be on their way up (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

In regards to the hail, did you know that God has it already prepared? Job 38:22-23 says, "Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail, Which I have reserved against the time of trouble, against the day of battle and war?"

Do You Think It Is Hard to Follow the Lord!

My friends, when those blisters cover the lost from head to toe where they cannot sit down nor stand up nor lay down, that will be hard. But the saints will not have a boil; that will be easy.

When they try to quench their thirst or take a shower, blood will just pour out. Now that will be hard. The saints are promised that their bread and water will be sure. That will be easy.

When the sun scorches them and their skin burns, that will be hard. The saints will be able to be out in the sun and not get burned. That will be easy.

Then the darkness will be so

thick that people will gnaw their tongues out. That will be hard. The saints will be led by the Light. That will be easy.

Then there is the battle of Armageddon and the earth being shaken apart. The lost will cry according to Revelation 6:16-17, which says, "*And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?*" That will be hard! The saints will be shouting the words of Isaiah 25:9, which says, "*And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this [is] our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this [is] the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.*" That will be easy.

May we see what God has revealed regarding how easy it is to surrender all to Him. A little sacrifice now will prevent a whole lot of pain later.