

Sermon Follow-up — August 30, 2020 — The Seven Bowls of Revelation 16

Preacher – Hunter

Sermon Title – The Seven Bowls

Scripture Reading – Revelation 16:1-21

Sermon Recap:

In life, few victories are guaranteed. But the book of Revelation points us to a victory that IS guaranteed and assured in Jesus Christ. Regardless of how we interpret these chapters and when we believe they take place, they point to the second coming of Christ which is glorious and reason to rejoice.

Revelation reveals that the glorified Christ is the victorious King who is coming again.

1. God's judgement will be completely finished (v.17)

This is through the seven seals, seven trumpets, and the seven bowls. We can be confident that the judgement is completely finished after the seven bowls, because the seal judgements affected one fourth of the earth (Rev 6:8), the trumpet judgements affected one third of the earth, and the bowl judgements affected the whole earth. With that in mind, the bowls FINISH the judgment of the earth.

2. God's judgement is completely just (Ch 16:7 and Ch 17-18)

Those who are the recipients of His judgement respond by cursing the name of God, and this shows us the justice of His judgement. Judgement falls on those who refuse to turn to the Lord and continue to blaspheme His name. His judgement is just because the world is evil. We must remember God's justice is accompanied by His grace. He offers forgiveness through grace but will judge those who do not seek his forgiveness.

3. God's judgement is completely perfect (Ch 19:11-16, Ch 20)

Jesus arrives in triumph as Satan is eternally defeated. Eternal rejection of God requires eternal separation from Him. Satan will be defeated, evil will be eradicated, and Jesus' judgement will be perfect.

The glorified Christ is the victorious King who is coming again. And we must stay awake and vigilant. Revelation 16:15-16 teaches us to be ready for the return of Christ. We can experience victory over sin from Christ's victory on the cross and anticipate the final victory to come. We are reminded to contend for the faith and to share our faith. May we open our eyes to the majesty of the glorified Christ who ALREADY paid the cost for us to enjoy eternity with the Father. Trust Jesus Christ and receive the invitation knowing that your name is written in the book of life.

Application Questions:

1. Does the thought of God's judgement and destruction of all evil bring you peace or fear?
2. If Babylon is the world's system that works with Satan to oppose God and His people, Christians could face more difficult circumstances than our generations have known. How can you prepare yourself to faithfully face opposition that may become painful and costly?
3. Do you see a connection between God's grace and God's judgement?
4. What does it look like for you to be vigilant and stay awake to remain faithful?
5. Does the certainty of God's future judgement impact your commitment to sharing the good news of Jesus with friends, family, neighbors, coworkers, who have not yet received Jesus?