

Revelation 16:1-14. Battle Prep. From the very presence of Theos, a voice commanded: *Pour out My wrath completely, all seven bowls.* The first bowl caused visually and personally painful sores on all those who had followed the beast; they were marked with that sign, and had worshipped its [“his” is not there] image. The second bowl full of blood like that of the dead killed everything in the sea. The third bowl turned fresh water (springs & rivers) into blood as well. That third angel said:

You are fair in these penalties, for You are and were, the only one Holy. Why? Because You punished those who shed the blood of Your followers, and Your prophets. You have given them what they deserve—blood to drink.

Then from the altar came—

Yes, Lord God Almighty; your judgment is true, your justice is just.

Q Why was everything “killed in the sea?”

Q Why did the unbelievers deserve blood to drink?

Angel four’s bowl landed on the sun which was able to scorch people. Even though seared, they cursed the authority of Theos—they refused to repent, to glorify Him! The fifth angel’s bowl was direct at the beast’s throne, and kingdom. People screamed in agony, cursing Theos of heaven because they were hurting so much—but they refused to change. The sixth bowl was dumped into the Euphrates, drying it up to prepare for kings from the East. Then three unclean spirits looking like **frogs** came out of the mouth of the dragon, the beast’s mouth, and the false prophet’s mouth. As spirits of evil performing miraculous signs, they sought out the kings of the world to gather for “battle” with the Lord God Almighty.

Q Why did those afflicted by the Lord God refuse to repent; to change their ways?

Q What unclean animal presented itself to people as authoritative? Why unclean? So?

Q For what battle were the angels and the enemies of the Lord God preparing? What causes people to fight a war they cannot win?

Q What are some examples of “miraculous signs” promulgated by Satan and his evil minions?

REVELATION 16:1-14

Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, “Go, pour out the seven bowls of God's wrath on the earth.”

²The first angel went and poured out his bowl on the land, and ugly and painful sores broke out on the people who had the mark of the beast and worshiped his [αὐτοῦ; actually “its” gender neutral] image.

³The second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it turned into blood like that of a dead man, and every living thing in the sea died.

⁴The third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. ⁵Then I heard the angel in charge of the waters say:

*You are just in these judgments,
you who are and who were, the Holy One,
because you have so judged;*

*⁶for they have shed the blood of your saints and prophets,
and you have given them blood to drink as they deserve.*

⁷And I heard the altar respond:

Yes, Lord God Almighty, true and just are your judgments.

⁸The fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and the sun was given power to scorch people with fire. ⁹They were seared by the intense heat and they cursed the name of God, who had control over these plagues, but they refused to repent and glorify him.

¹⁰The fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom was plunged into darkness. Men gnawed their tongues in agony ¹¹and cursed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, but they refused to repent of what they had done.

¹²The sixth angel 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. ¹³Then I saw three evil [aka *unclean*] spirits that looked like frogs; they came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet. ¹⁴They are spirits of demons performing miraculous signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the great day of God Almighty.

Revelation 16:15-21. Hailstones indeed.

Listen up! I come like a thief! Closer to God is the one who is ready to leave, awake and with clothes nearby. (You don't want to be naked when He comes.)

All the leaders were gathered near the mound/plain called *Məgiddō*.²⁵ Then the 7th angel poured out his bowl; a loud voice from the throne declared "It is done!" Lightning, thunder & earthquakes followed, an earthquake never ever experienced before. The great city was split into thirds; the cities of the nations (ἐθνῶν; ethnon, peoples, pagans).

God had not forgotten—Babylon's cup was filled with His fury, His wrath. Islands disappeared; mountains could not be found. Huge hundredweight hailstones fell upon people. YET, they cried out not for mercy, but cursed the Lord God because His wrath was so horrific.

Q What have you been taught about what occurs at "Armageddon?" Useful for dispensationalism.

REVELATION 16:15-21

"Behold, I come like a thief! Blessed is he who stays awake and keeps his clothes with him, so that he may not go naked and be shamefully exposed." ¹⁶Then they gathered the kings [actually, "them;" "kings" is not there] together to the place that in Hebrew is called "Armageddon" [Ἀρμαγεδών, har-meh-gid-own].

¹⁷The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and out of the temple came a loud voice from the throne, saying, "It is done!" ¹⁸Then there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder and a severe earthquake. No earthquake like it has ever occurred since man has been on earth, so tremendous was the quake. ¹⁹The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations collapsed. God remembered Babylon the Great and gave her the cup filled with the wine of the fury of his wrath. ²⁰Every island fled away and the mountains could not be found. ²¹From the sky huge hailstones of about a hundred pounds each fell upon men. And they cursed God on account of the plague of hail, because the plague was so terrible.



²⁵While mentioned in the Hebrew Scriptures ten times, none infer any prophetic implications. Contrary to popular, but unsupported speculation, *Məgiddō* (aka "Armageddon"), no mention is made here of a battle or conflict. John reports a gathering of leaders occurs here. Ancient *Məgiddō* was a fortification made by King Ahab which dominated the Plain of Jezreel. Its name means "place of crowds" or "plain near the city." While also mentioned ten times in the Hebrew Scriptures, none infer any prophetic implications. Battles were indeed fought there, between Egypt & Canaanites 15th BC, and in 609BC, between Egypt & the Neo-Assyrians.