

Remember that the plagues...from the trumpets were different from the scrolls. The first 4 trumpets were supernaturally induced disasters in nature. The fifth and sixth trumpet were torment by demons from hell. The 7th trumpet was a kingdom proclamation that means that every chance for repentance is over. All of creation will be purified because there are no covenant observant people left. All that's left is the followers of the beast and the dragon and the false prophet and those who took the mark of the beast. I haven't really done the math, but we're talking about at least of 1/3rd to half or better of the world's population are dead and gone. This will pretty much wipe out the rest of them. Plagues should always remind us of Egypt which has been the symbol of sin, evil, bondage, and death since the time of Moses. God hardened Pharaoh's heart. The remaining earth dwellers hearts are already completely hardened toward Yahweh and rebel against any kind of repentance.

Revelation 16 Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the ¹⁶bowls of the wrath of God on the earth."

This is the voice of God. No one can enter the temple until these bowls/vials have been poured out. We saw that at the end of Chapter 15. The temple was cleared out and shut until this happens. Why? Again, you have to think about Moses on Mt. Sinai. Exodus 19³ And Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel: ⁴ 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and *how* I ¹⁶bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself. ⁵ Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine. ⁶ And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These *are* the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel." This is the covenant. All the earth is Mine. You are to be a holy nation. There is no holiness left. There are no covenant keepers left. The time has come for cleansing. The smoke, the presence of God is the power that can not only undo the evil in this world. He can undo all creation. He can undo everything he breaks out upon. Out of mercy for all creation He locks Himself into the Holy of Holies for a short time, until these plagues are poured out. Continue with

Exodus 19 ¹⁰ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes. ¹¹ And let them be ready for the third day. For on the third day the LORD will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. ¹² You shall set bounds for the people all around, saying, 'Take heed to yourselves *that* you do *not* go up to the mountain or touch its base. Whoever touches the mountain shall surely be put to death. ¹³ Not a hand shall touch him, but he shall

surely be stoned or shot *with an arrow*; whether man or beast, he shall not live.' When the trumpet sounds long, they shall come near the mountain."

¹⁴ So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and sanctified the people, and they washed their clothes. ¹⁵ And he said to the people, "Be ready for the third day; do not come near *your wives*."

¹⁶ Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that all the people who *were* in the camp trembled. ¹⁷ And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. ¹⁸ Now Mount Sinai *was* completely in smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and ¹⁹the whole mountain quaked greatly. ¹⁹ And when the blast of the trumpet sounded long and became louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him by voice. ²⁰ Then the LORD came down upon Mount Sinai, on the top of the mountain. And the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

²¹ And the LORD said to Moses, "Go down and warn the people, lest they break through to gaze at the LORD, and many of them perish. ²² Also let the priests who come near the LORD consecrate themselves, lest the LORD break out against them."

²³ But Moses said to the LORD, "The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai; for You warned us, saying, 'Set bounds around the mountain and consecrate it.' "

²⁴ Then the LORD said to him, "Away! Get down and then come up, you and Aaron with you. But do not let the priests and the people break through to come up to the LORD, lest He break out against them." ²⁵ So Moses went down to the people and spoke to them.

Hopefully, you can see something similar, but to a much greater magnitude happening macrocosmically at this time.

² So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a ¹³foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.

Notice the precision of the bowls/vials plagues versus the trumpets and scrolls. This is very careful because, in Him not a thing was made that was made. Everything that came to be has to be covered by this purification starting with the people who allied themselves with Satan, the beast, and the false prophet.

³ Then the second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood as of a dead *man*; and every living creature in the sea died.

Again, comparing this with previous blood plagues going all the way back to Egypt, this time the sea, so all oceans, are affected. The blood is as of a dead man, or as of dead. There is a difference between those types of blood. There is no oxygen flowing through dead blood. Nothing that depends on oxygen can live in it. It is thick. Nothing can move in it. If it can't move to breathe, or if it can't take in fuel, it dies. If everything in the oceans die, the impact on the earth is devastating. Blood has always been a symbol of life and salvation. Not it is death and condemnation.

⁴ Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood.

First, all salt water became dead blood. Now all fresh water is blood. By the way, blood is salty. If you do drink it, it just makes you thirstier. People will only have blood to drink. People will essentially die of thirst with only blood to drink. Why?

⁵ And I heard the angel of the waters saying:

"You are righteous, ¹⁴O Lord,
The One who is and who ¹⁵was and who is to be,
Because You have judged these things.

⁶ For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets,
And You have given them blood to drink.

¹⁶ For it is their just due."

⁷ And I heard ¹⁷another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous *are* Your judgments."

What really interests me about all of this is the idea that people are getting what they deserve. You really see the wages of sin playing out here. The merciful thing about God throughout his-story is that we don't get what we deserve. When we repent and turn to Him, When we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Disciples of Jesus Christ never get what they deserve. Thank God, because in a world with zero repentance where people actually get what they deserve, blood for blood, this is what it looks like. World, take warning.

⁸ Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. ⁹ And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed

the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.

Excessive heat always seems to bring out the worst in people, or I should say, reveals the true character of people. These people blaspheme God. They don't repent or give Him glory. The remnant always gave glory to God, even for the near annihilation of Israel because they saw God's judgement as pure and moving Israel toward tikkun olam. There is no one left in the world who will do that now.

By the way, notice that in the middle of the seven plagues is the sun. This is a reminder of the menorah again. The light source is in the middle which is about the light of the world who loves people. But ultimately people reject the light, choose darkness and next plague darkness comes.

¹⁰ Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. ¹¹ They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.

The plague of darkness is on the throne of the beast, which is in Jerusalem. God pinpoints the seat of darkness and makes it dark there. The people chose darkness rather than light. They made their hearts the seat of darkness by following the beast. They are experiencing the hell of their own choosing. They would not repent again.

¹² Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared.

Every set of seven judgements includes a pause, or parenthetical moment. This seven does it too. It just doesn't take up a whole chapter. The river Euphrates is dried up. There is now a clear path for the kings of the east so they have no impediment in waging outright war against the lamb.

¹³ And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *coming* out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. ¹⁴ For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, *which* go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

So, we have to go back to the concept of counterfeit. The Holy Trinity is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Satan has an unholy trinity, Dragon, Beast, False Prophet. Three unclean spirits come out of the mouth of the dragon. These liars perpetuate the counterfeit and make the kings of the earth believe that they have unstoppable supernatural power that

will easily defeat the Yahweh. The magicians and sorcerers of Egypt tried to prove the same thing to Pharaoh, only then, God showed His power was greater because His goal was to release Israel from bondage. The plague of frogs is connected to Egypt, again, the symbol of bondage to sin and death. They have a deathly stench and when they are in full propagation it will smell like death everywhere. Still, no one repents. Instead, they believe the lies and decide they can defeat God, the creator of the universe.

15 "Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame."

The garments referred to here are basically pajamas. In the 1st century, Jews typically wore a one piece garment to bed. The idea here is to watch, keep your clothes on, don't sleep, be ready for the battle that is coming.

16 And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, ^(b)Armageddon.

Har-Meggido is a 15 mile wide battlefield in the Northern plains of Israel. The city of Megiddo was there. Lots of famous battles of ancient Israel took place there. This is the gathering place for the battle, but the final battle won't probably happen there. It will be much closer to Jerusalem.

17 Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!"

The seventh bowl is poured out into the air and the consequence is the signal that the end of the history of this world has just been locked in. The voice from the temple, from the throne, says something familiar. It is finished, it is done. Same words in Hebrew. Naek Maier. Jesus proclaimed this on the cross. Satan heard this once before and in his arrogance he thought he had defeated Y'shua. Luther talks about Jesus on the cross like a worm on a hook and Satan took the bait. The arrogance of Satan, to wage war on Yahweh, after being kicked out of heaven by Michael is crazy. I wonder if he thinks he is getting a rematch with Michael, because even though Satan considers himself equal to God he is not. He isn't the opposite of Yahweh. Yahweh has not opposite. Satan is really the opposite of Michael, but that's not who is coming to the fight.

18 And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. ¹⁹ Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.

The sounds of cataclysmic power are here. Violent sounds of thunder, earthquakes, etc. There is a finality in this because of the magnitude of it. We're not dealing with a battle on a local scale. We're dealing with a global event that starts with the splitting of "the great city" into three parts. The Hebrew letter shin, which is the first letter of Shema, and Shaddai, like El Shaddai, divides can be laid overtop of Jerusalem and the city is split into a perfect letter shin. Dr. Liebenberg says that the three letters of Shaddai are Shin, Dalet, and Yod. You put them together and you get "Protector of the door of Israel." The Great City Jerusalem is divided into the letter Shin, the door is open, El Shaddai takes down, probably by earthquake, Babylon and all of the great cities of the nations of the world.

20 Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. The islands flee. More than once, I have heard that the earthquakes at this time are of such a huge magnitude that it reverses the tectonic plates and brings the landmass of the world together in one place. There are no excuses for getting to Armageddon for the last battle. There is no need to fly or set sail. The world is like one great big open battlefield. This is very true to Hebrew thinking. If this is the way the world was in the beginning, it will be the way it is in the end. Time is cyclical, not linear. For the landmasses to come back together just makes cyclical sense.

21 And great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great.

The hail that is falling from heaven upon men, that's including every man-made thing, is about 110 pounds. You know what can happen to a car or a building with golf ball sized hail. Imagine hail that weighs the size of a smallish person falling from thousands of feet in the air. Everything on earth will be flattened down. Again, instead of repenting, these deluded people, who love their delusion, who love the lies of the enemy, will not repent. They will blaspheme God and blame Him for the consequences of their actions.

Our letter today is Ayin, it is the 16th letter in the Hebrew aleph bet. Its numerical value is 70.

Ayin means Eye, or Spiritual Insight. In this chapter the disciples of Y'shua are called to watch. Don't fall asleep. Don't put on your pajamas. Keep watch. The day of the Lord is coming soon.