



# Revelation Hope for Uncertainty

## PROGRAM 8 - Revelation's Most Amazing Prophecy

### Message Summary

The details of the Seven Last Plagues as described in the Book of Revelation, emphasises their role as the completion of God's wrath poured out after the close of Christ's intercessory ministry. Here are the main points:

### Context of the Plagues

- The plagues represent the "wrath of God" (Revelation 15:1-2, 7), explicitly linked to the Third Angel's Message (Revelation 14:10).

### Recipients of the Plagues

- The plagues target those who worship the Beast and its image and receive its mark (Revelation 14:9-10).
  - **Key Text:** Those who worship the Beast and receive its mark will experience the undiluted wrath of God, as described in Revelation 14:9-10.
  - **Note:** This judgment is "full strength," without mingled mercy.
- Babylon (apostate Christianity) is also a recipient (Revelation 18:2, 4).
  - **Key Text:** Babylon's fall is declared as a warning in Revelation, urging God's people to separate from her to avoid sharing in her sins and the plagues destined for her. (Revelation 18:2, 4)
- Those who add to or take away from the prophecies of Revelation will receive the plagues (Revelation 22:18).
  - **Key Text:** If anyone alters the words of the Book of Revelation, God will send them the plagues described in it. (Revelation 22:18)

### Timing of the Plagues

- The plagues are poured out after the close of Christ's high priestly ministry in the heavenly sanctuary.
- Christ's intercessory work is described in Revelation 8:3-5, ending when the censer is thrown to the earth.
  - **Key Text:** The Angel intercedes with the saints prayers, then fills a censer with fire and throws it to earth, resulting in an earthquake (Revelation 8:3, 5).
- Revelation 15:6-8 no one could enter the temple until the seven last plagues were finished, symbolising the end of intercession and the finality of everyone's destiny.

### Specific Details of the Seven Last Plagues

The plagues are geographical and primarily affect those with the mark of the Beast.

- **First Plague (Revelation 16:1-2):** Foul and loathsome sores on those with the mark of the Beast and its image
- **Second Plague (Revelation 16:3):** The sea turns to blood, killing all sea creatures
- **Third Plague (Revelation 16:4-7):** Rivers and springs turn to blood, targeting persecutors of saints and prophets.

- **Fourth Plague (Revelation 16:8-9):** Intense heat from the sun scorches men; they blaspheme God and do not repent.
- **Fifth Plague (Revelation 16:10-11):** Intense darkness on the throne and kingdom of the Beast; unrepentant pain and blasphemy.
- **Sixth Plague (Revelation 16:12-16):** The Euphrates river dries up, preparing the way for the "kings of the East" (Jesus Christ).
  - **Key Elements:** Three unclean spirits like frogs (Dragon, Beast, False Prophet) gather the kings for the battle of Armageddon.
  - **Interjection:** Christ declares, "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" (Revelation 16:15), suggesting a counterfeit coming of Jesus.

### **The Battle of Armageddon (Revelation 16:14, 16)**

- This is a spiritual conflict, uniting humanity against God and His people, not a literal physical battle.
- The "spirits of demons" gather forces for "the battle of the great day of God Almighty."
- "Armageddon" (Har Megiddo) is a symbolic location.

### **The Seventh Plague and its Aftermath**

- **"It Is Done" (Revelation 16:17):** Poured out "on the air," this declaration marks the close of probation, sealing everyone's eternal fate.
  - **Key Text:** Those who are unjust or righteous will remain so; everyone's fate is sealed at this point, as declared in Revelation 22:11.
- **Cataclysmic Destruction:**
  - **Great Earthquake (Revelation 16:18-20):** An unprecedented earthquake, causing islands to flee and mountains to disappear.
  - **Great Hail (Revelation 16:21):** Hailstones weighing about a talent (25-59 kg) fall, causing massive destruction, yet men continue to blaspheme God.
- **Correlation:** The seventh plague correlates with events under the Seventh Seal (Revelation 8:5) and the Seventh Trumpet (Revelation 11:15, 19).
- **Division of "Great Babylon" (Revelation 16:19):** Babylon is divided into three parts, leading to internal conflict and its destruction.
- **God's Shelter for His People:** God's people will be protected (Psalm 91, Joel 3:16).
  - **Key Text:** God promises to be a refuge and source of strength for His people during times of upheaval. (Joel 3:16)
- **Rapture Views:** The Bible supports a post-tribulation 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming, where believers experience the plagues but are protected by God before being taken to heaven. Will you choose today, to be on the Lord's side of the battle and be ready when Jesus returns?

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