

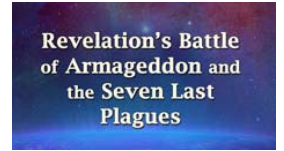
Revelation's Battle of Armageddon and the Seven Last Plagues

Revelation's Seven Last Plagues



1

My topic tonight is “**Revelation's Battle of Armageddon and the Seven Last Plagues**”



2

The seven last plagues, or what many people think of as the “Apocalypse,” is not a topic that normally makes people feel good. It is terrifying to imagine the world engulfed in natural disasters—

Earthquake,



3

Fire



4

...and volcanic eruptions.



5

Will the world be engulfed in the war of **Armageddon**?



6

Will our TV screens be filled with images of conflict, strife and famine. Will there be —

Unprecedented world **financial collapse**.



7

Or possibly will there be a **global international conflict**.



8

By contrast, we read the Gospels and see the love of Christ

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in ministry and dying for a lost world.

It is difficult to harmonize these plagues with the love of God.

Could a loving God afflict people with sores and turn rivers into blood?

We believe the Bible and specifically The Book of Revelation has answers.

That is why our theme for these meetings is:

**If it's in the Bible, I believe it.
If it disagrees with the Bible,
It's not for me.**

First, wouldn't we expect that if these cataclysmic events are coming, that God would give a clear warning first? Wouldn't God give a last day message before the plagues fall?

Revelation the 14th chapter verse 6 and onward says—

"Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people—



10

God's last day message flies to every nation, kindred, tongue and people. God in love, sends a message of salvation, the Gospel, to every people on earth—

saying with a loud voice, 'Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.'"



11

Notice, this last message leads men and women everywhere to worship who?

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The Creator.

Revelation 14:7 calls us to worship the Creator.
Has the Creator left us a symbol that He has created the world?

What is the symbol that we worship the Creator?



12

It's the Bible Sabbath.

Here is a call to all humanity in the judgment hour to worship the Creator by remembering the memorial of His Creation. Namely the Sabbath.

Verse 7 talks about true worship; verse 9 talks about false worship.



13

Revelation 14:9, 10

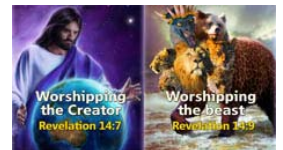
“Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, ‘If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand’”



14

Now notice there are **two worships**.

There is true worship—**worshipping the Creator**.
And there is false worship—**worshipping the beast**.



15

Revelation predicts a final conflict over true and false worship.

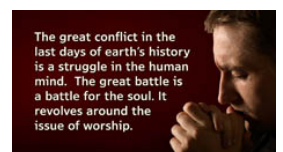
Revelation 14:7 calls us to worship the Creator.
Revelation 14:9 calls us not to worship the beast.



16

The great conflict in the last days of earth's history is not a struggle in the Middle East. It is not a struggle in Jerusalem.

The great conflict in the last days of earth's history is a struggle in the human mind. The great battle is a battle for the soul. It revolves around the issue of worship.



17

The great battle in Revelation is a battle between Christ and Satan for the mind.

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A Test of Loyalty

It is a battle between Christ and Satan for your loyalty.
It is a battle between Christ and Satan for allegiance.
It is a battle between Christ and Satan for our worship.



18

This is what the final battle is all about.

It is similar to the crisis Daniel's friends faced in their day. Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon commanded worship of the image he set up or else face death. Daniels friends had to choose between following a substitute counterfeit of divine truth or boldly declaring their allegiance to God and suffer the wrath of the king. The same test will come again in the future.



19

Revelation 15:1

“Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete.”



20

What is God's wrath?

Is God's wrath His anger?



21

God's wrath is not his anger at sinners; it is His judgment upon sin.

God's love is everlasting. When people reject the warning message and begin to persecute God's people, threatening them with death if they don't follow the popular religious movement, the wrath of God, His judgment on sin falls upon them. Wind, rain, fire, storm, the judgments of God fall on this world.



22

Now, what about the timing? what is the sequence of these last day **events**?



23

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Let's read them.

1. The world-wide preaching of the Gospel.

First, God has a worldwide message.

The preaching of the gospel which goes to the ends of the earth.



24

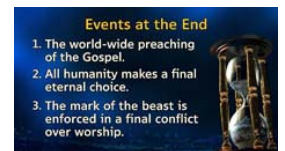
This gives every human being an opportunity to make a final choice for or against Christ.

2. All humanity makes a final eternal choice.



25

3. The mark of the beast is enforced in a final conflict over worship.



26

4. God's loyal people lovingly obey Him.



27

5. Seven last plagues are poured out.



28

6. Christ delivers His people.

So the Gospel is preached and all humanity makes a choice. What brings about that choice?



29

Revelation 15:8:

“... no one was able to enter the temple till the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.”



30

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Jesus in His final work enters that heavenly temple.

And in His final work Jesus makes a final decree,

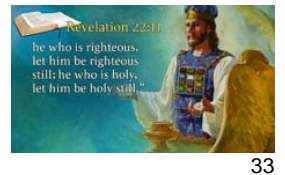


Revelation 22:11

“He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still;



he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still.”



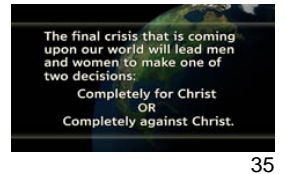
How many classes will there be? Two.
What are they?

The **Righteous** and the **Unrighteous**;
the **Holy** and the **Unholy**;
the **Pure** and the **Impure**.
There is no middle ground then.



Sometimes people today kind of waiver.
They kind of have one foot in the church and one foot in the world, delaying to make a choice.

But the final crisis that is coming upon our world will lead men and women to make one of two decisions: Completely for Christ OR completely against Christ.



The final decree will go forth and God's message will go to the ends of the earth.
Men and women will be saved or lost.

The door of probation will close and the seven last plagues will be poured out. Jesus will come to deliver His people.

Revelation 16:1

“Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels,



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'Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth.'



37

Do God's people go through the tribulation?

Are God's people delivered before this time of trouble or do they live through it under the protecting hand of God?



38

These plagues are called the seven last plagues. Were there plagues before these? Yes, the Bible tells the story of the plagues that fell on Egypt.

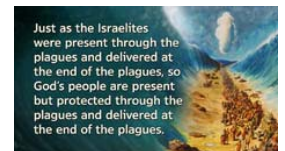
The Israelites were protected by God during the plagues that were poured out on the Egyptians.



39

The Israelites lived through the plagues and were delivered at the end of the plagues.

Just as the Israelites were present through the plagues and delivered at the end of the plagues, so God's people are present but protected through the plagues and delivered at the end of the plagues.



40

Likewise, in Daniel's time, the Hebrew worthies said, "We will not bow down to that counterfeit image and accept the beast power."



41

By faith they went into the flames.



42

They said, "We'd rather die than yield our faith."
God's people went through the first plagues, in Egypt, and were preserved. They went through Nebuchadnezzar's fire and were preserved.

Notice further what Revelation says of those who are redeemed and stand with Christ in Heaven:

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Revelation 7:14-17

“...These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation,



43

What do these people come out of? Great Tribulation. It is a multitude so large that you can not number them.

They had faith. They hung on when all around them there were things crumbling, financial collapse, all nature in turmoil, persecution by God's enemies.

They came out of great tribulation and they stand at God's throne victorious.

God preserved them through tribulation, just as He did in the stories of the Bible.

The 7 Last Plagues:

Now there is a much deeper message in these plagues than most people actually have ever imagined.



44

What are those seven last plagues?

First there are sores; sores from head to toe. The Bible describes them this way.



45

Revelation 16:2 ***“... a foul and loathsome sore. . .”***

Those who enforce the mark of the beast say, “Unless you take the mark of the beast we are going to physically afflict you.”

They say if you want to be physically protected you must take the mark of the beast.



46

The first plague is a physical affliction—sores head to toe. What those who promote the mark of the beast promise, they cannot deliver.

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The first plague has a much deeper message than some have ever understood.

Do you know what the first plague is saying?

There is no **physical security** outside of **Christ**.



Church and state unite. Pressure is applied to God's people.

47

The authorities declare they are going to physically oppress you unless you receive the mark of the beast.

But it is those who receive the mark of the beast who are physically afflicted by the plagues.

Jesus is our only protector.

Listen to His promise for His people:

Psalms 46:1, 2

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed,



48

And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.”

Why don't we fear when there are terrible calamities afflicting the physical bodies of men and women and the natural disasters afflicting the earth?

Because God is our refuge and strength. All our physical security is in Christ.



49

2. Sea turns into blood

The Bible says of the second plague,



50

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Revelation 16:3

“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.”



51

Now can you possibly imagine what would happen if anything like this occurred—if the sea actually became like blood and if every living thing died in the sea?

What would it do to international shipping? What about the fishing industry? What about the billions of dollars of the tourist industry?

It would destroy the economy of the world.

But those enforcing the Mark of the Beast say, that they control whether or not you buy or sell.



52

They say all economic security is in the beast power. What does the second plague say?

The only **economic security is in Jesus Christ.**



53

Look at the third plague; it also has a message about Christ. Third plague—

3. Rivers turning into blood



54

Revelation 16:4

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



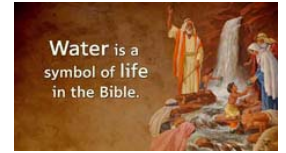
55

Why did God do that? Why do the rivers and springs of water become blood?

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What is water a symbol of in the Bible?

Water is a symbol of life in the Bible.



56

Revelation 16:5, 6

“And I heard the angel of the waters saying: ‘You are righteous, O Lord, The One who is and who was and who is to be,



57

because You have judged these things. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets,



58

and You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due.”



59

The enforcers of the mark of the beast say, “If you want your life to be preserved take the mark of the beast.”

They can't deliver because the rivers and fountains of water turn to blood showing that

All of our life is in Christ.

At end time Christ is our only hope for physical security.

Christ is our only hope for economic security.

Christ is the only one that can preserve our lives.



60

The Bible promise for Christ people is:

Isaiah 33:16

“Bread will be given him, His water will be sure.”



61

When the rivers and fountains of waters are turned to blood,

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and thirst and starvation spread through the earth, God sustains His people with food and water.

4. Scorching sun

In the fourth plague, "The sun scorches men."
Notice how the Bible puts it.



62

Revelation 16:8, 9

"Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire.



63

And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues;



64

and they did not repent and give Him glory."

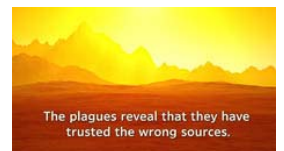


65

The plagues reveal that they have trusted the wrong sources.

You see in that fourth plague the sun scorches them. Throughout the centuries there has been a conflict over sun worship.

In the final days there will be a conflict over worshipping the creator on the Sabbath and the "Sun's day."



66

The fourth plague says **all true worship is in Christ** — Worship the Creator.

It says worship the Creator.

Don't accept a counterfeit system of worship.

All true worship is in Christ. The Bible says—



67

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Psalms 91:1-3

“He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.”



68

I will say of the LORD, ‘He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust.’



69

God has a group of people who trust Him for physical security. God has a group of people who trust Him for economic security.

God has a group of people who put their life in His hands. God has a group of people who trust Him for all of their worship.

If He says, “Remember the Sabbath,” they do it.

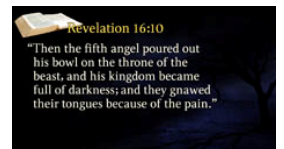
5. Darkness



70

Revelation 16:10

“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.”



71

Light is a symbol of truth, spiritual knowledge and wisdom. They have looked to the beast for light and truth but the beast's kingdom is filled with darkness.

This literal darkness on the seat of the beast is an appeal to you and me that—

All light is only in Christ.



72

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Psalm 119:105 says,

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”



73

And Jesus says —

John 8:12, “. . . I am the light of the world. . . .”

If you want physical security come to Christ.

If you want economic security come to Christ.

If you want your life preserved come to Christ.

If you want true worship come to Christ.

If you want truth and not falsehood, if you want light and not darkness, turn away from any church system that teaches darkness and come to Christ.

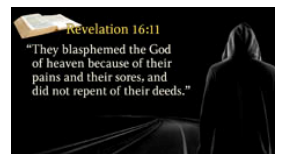


74

Literal plagues reveal much deeper spiritual truths.

Revelation 16:11

“They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.”



75

You would think that those rebelling against God when afflicted by the sores, pain, bloody water, scorching and darkness, would fall down and repent and plead for forgiveness.

The plagues show that ...

It is extremely dangerous to turn from any teaching of God's word you know.

If you do that you will be gradually led into darkness.



76

One step away from Christ leads to another and then still another. One compromise of truth leads to another

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compromise of truth.

One compromise of God's word leads to another
compromise of God's word.

The plagues warn us to look away from all that is contrary to
the Word of God, even it is a huge religious conglomerate, to
look to God's work for light.

6. Armageddon

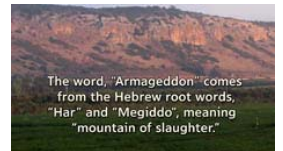
Now what is Armageddon?

Let's look at the word first and see what it means.



77

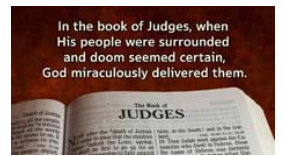
The word, "Armageddon" comes from the Hebrew root words "Har" and "Megiddo," meaning "mountain of slaughter."



78

Literally translated, "Armageddon" means mountain of slaughter.

In the book of Judges, when His people were surrounded and doom seemed certain, God miraculously delivered them.



79

The battle of Armageddon is not some battle on earth.
Although there may be physical conflict leading up to it.
It is the final conquest of Jesus Christ and the armies of
Heaven over the powers of Hell and wickedness.

It is earth's last war.

But notice God's promise to preserve His people,

Psalm 91:5-8

"You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day,



80

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nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday.



81

Why not?

A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you.



82

In Christ we are secure, sheltered, and safe.

In Christ we have a refuge.

In Christ we have a fortress.

In Christ we are protected.

A thousand can fall at your side. We need not fear.



83

Look what the Bible says. Are we delivered before the plagues? Certainly not.

Only with your eyes shall you look, and see the reward of the wicked.



84

So the plagues are the reward of rebellion.

The plagues are the reward of disobedience.

The plagues are the logical consequence, the natural result of a life separated from God and of a planet separated from God, forfeiting God's protection.

Now notice what the Bible says. Six plagues have been poured out and then the Bible says after six plagues—

Revelation 16:15 KJV

“Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.”

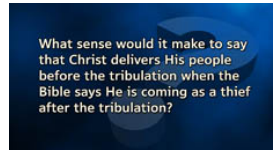


85

After six plagues Jesus says “behold I am coming as a thief.”

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What sense would it make to say that Christ delivers His people before the tribulation when the Bible says He is coming as a thief after the tribulation?



86

It would make no sense at all for the Bible to say Jesus is coming as a thief to deliver His people if he had already come as a thief before the plagues began.
During those seven last plagues God protects His people.

7. The coming of Christ

During those seven last plagues He is their refuge and security.



87

During those seven last plagues Jesus is all in all to them. As the battle of Armageddon takes place, as this final conflict and war occurs, the wicked finally try to triumph over the righteous.

Unbelievers try to finally destroy believers.
Satan's wrath is poured out on God's people.

Jesus comes as King of Kings.
He is the mighty deliverer.



88

The seventh plague climaxes with the coming of Jesus Christ.
The Bible says—

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Revelation 16:17, 18

“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!’”



89

It's done; sorrow is over.

It is done; heartache is over; war is over.

Sickness and suffering are over.

It is done; no more heartache, no more disappointment, no more tears.

It is done. It is finished.

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.



90

All of earth begins to heave and shake.

Planet earth is now being delivered from the bondage of sin.

These are the birth pangs of a new world.

The Bible says—

Revelation 16:20, 21

“Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.



91

And great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent.”



92

Each hailstone weighs 66 pounds.

This is Heaven's artillery.

Here are **God's people** –
God's people are **protected by Him**.

They have found their physical security in Christ.

They have found their economic security in Christ.

Their lives are hid with God in Christ.



93

Revelation's Battle of Armageddon and the Seven Last Plagues

They have found true worship in Christ.
They have found Christ is the source of their light and truth.
He is their refuge from war and pestilence.
The wicked try to annihilate them.

But here there is a great earthquake; every mountain and island is moved out of its place.



94

Jesus Christ streams down the corridor of the sky.
Hailstones come down and crush the wicked.
Christ comes on His throne — King of Kings, Lord of Lords.
Christ comes as the master of all of the universe.



95

The righteous are caught up to meet Him in the sky.
They are changed into immortality.
The righteous dead are resurrected.
The righteous living ones are caught up to meet Him in the sky.
The wicked are destroyed by the brightness of His coming.

Christ is their security then because He has been their security in times of trouble down through the centuries.

A number of years ago an Australian lumberman was returning to his home after working in the woods. As he got closer to his home he smelled smoke on the horizon.



96

A fire had completely destroyed his farm.



97

As he was looking through the still smoldering ashes, He found the charred remains of mother hen.
As he stood there looking at this mother hen and looking at the charred black old rubble, in sorrow he moved the hen's remains with his foot.



98

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Out from underneath the mother hen four little chicks scattered. Mamma gave her life to preserve the life of those four chicks.



99

The Christ who died for you on the cross is not going to let you go during the time of tribulation.



100

The Christ that bought you with His blood on Calvary is not going to let you go in the time of tribulation.
The Bible says—

Psalms 91:4

“He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler.”



101

Psalms 91:10

“No evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling.”



102

You can trust this Christ.

You can put your hands in the hands of this Christ.

You can flee to this Christ today in your troubles. He will safely take you through your time of trouble.

You can flee to this Christ today when your faith is weak.

He will strengthen that weak faith.

He will place within your heart a deep commitment to serve Him.

You have nothing to fear if your heart is one with Christ's heart. If your mind is one with Christ's mind.

Get your eyes off the trouble and difficulty and put them on Christ.

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Put your physical security in Christ's hands.
Get your eyes off making money and put your economic security in Christ's hands.



103

Get your eyes off the temporary pleasures of this life and put your life in Christ's hands.

Put your worship in Christ's hands. Follow Christ's truth.
Put your whole life in Christ's hands because God is going to have a group of people, not one or two, not thousands, but the Bible says, a multitude that no man could number, who will find Christ as their refuge.

They will find Christ as their security. They will find Christ as their hope. They will come out of the great tribulation.
You can make it.

All the demons in hell cannot take you out of Christ's hands!
You and Jesus can make it through the great tribulation!
I want to be on Jesus' side, don't you?
Would you stand with me if that is your desire? Just stand now as we pray. There are some here who have been thinking about being baptized. If so, would you just raise your hand? I want to pray for you. Just raise your hand. I would really like to have a special prayer just for you. If you raised your hand or you have been thinking about being baptized, could you just come forward? Just come now, come...come....and we will pray.

(After the prayer, have them sit down in the front row so you can shake their hand and get their names)
