

## REVELATION: Lesson 140

### Chapter 16:1-7, God's Judgment Upon the Waters of the Earth

1 February 2021

- Vs 1** The wording in this verse is significant. God's wrath is not poured out upon *men*. The angels **pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth**. Here a warning from God telling men not to be on the earth when these vials are poured out if they don't want to suffer this wrath.
- God provided the way to escape the wrath to come when He sent His Son, Jesus Christ to die for our sins. Anyone who will receive Jesus Christ as their Savior will be in heaven during the Tribulation time.

- Vs 2** The first vial produces a grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast and worshipped his image. These are people who chose to receive the beast. No one was forced to take the mark. They could have refused and gone to heaven.
- No one is forced to receive Jesus Christ. People can refuse to receive Him and suffer the consequences.

- 3-4** The second vial made the sea to become as the blood of a dead man. The third vial turned the rivers to blood. God has done this before on a smaller scale.
- **Exodus 7:15-21**, God turned the Nile River into blood and the Egyptians had no water to drink in all the land.

The waters "**became as the blood of a dead man.**" This wording suggests that the blood was not shed through physical violence or warfare, but it is the blood of a man who died from disease.

- The Jew was forbidden by God's Law from eating any animal that was found dead because it indicated that it was diseased (Deut 14:21, Lev 22:8, Ezek 4:14).

Men cannot blame God if they end up in this difficult time.

- **Isaiah 50:1-5**, God said He did not separate Himself from His people. Men did it to themselves by their transgressions (vs 1). He provided deliverance, but men refused it (vs 2). Therefore, God corrupts the waters and death follows (vs2).

How will God's witnesses survive with no water?

- **Matthew 10:40-42**, God will have witnesses **in Jerusalem** after the believing remnant flee to the wilderness. They will depend on the kindness of others to get a "cup of cold water."
- **Mark 16:14-18**, the apostolic sign gifts will return during the Tribulation. These include the ability to drink any deadly thing, and it will not hurt them (vs 18). The poisoned waters will not hurt God's witnesses.
- **Psalms 78:1-3**, this Psalm tells us that what God did in the past for the Israelites in the wilderness wanderings, He will do for them again when they **flee to the wilderness**. God will provide them with food, water, and protection. They will get water from the Rock (Exod 17:6, 1 Cor 10:4, John 7:37).

After the Tribulation, all the waters will be healed (Ezek 47:8-9, Rev 22:1).