

## CHAPTERS 15 & 16 SUMMARY

### Chapter 15

In Revelation 15 the seven bowls of wrath are introduced. There are seven angels who hold the seven plagues. Those who are victorious over the beast sing the “song of Moses...and the song of the Lamb” as they stand on the sea of glass. The latter part of Revelation 15 portrays seven angels with seven plagues (Rev. 15:5-8). They bring divine judgment—a judgment that is certain to come.

### Chapter 16

The first four bowls of God’s wrath deal with nature (Rev. 16:1-9). The wrath comes as a consequence to the sins of men. In these judgments God is declared to be just (Rev. 16:6, 7). It is just because these men who are suffering are wicked men; those who shed the blood of the New Testament saints and prophets (Rev. 16:5).

The last three bowls of wrath in Revelation 16:10-21, address moral and political symbols. The throne of the beast is assaulted and his kingdom is plunged into darkness. This may be the idea that he can no longer guide his empire. It is falling apart.

The sixth bowl is poured out on the river Euphrates (Rev. 16:12-16). Unclean spirits come from three sources, the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet. They are gathering the forces of evil for a battle, the results of which we read about in Revelation 19:19-21.

Armageddon is mentioned in Revelation 16:16 as the place of battle. Many false teachers have speculated about this and stirred people into a frenzy. As with so much else in Revelation, this is a symbolic reference to a place of decisive battles. Judges 4 and 5 tell us about Deborah and Barak winning a decisive battle against Jabin and his military leader Sisera. The battle between Jesus Christ and His enemies will be decisive. It will not be barely won. Rather, it will be an overwhelming victory.

Finally, the seventh bowl is poured out on the air (Rev. 16:17). This is Satan’s realm as he is described as “the prince of the power of the air” (Eph. 2:2). God wins, Satan loses.