

Living Connections Bible Study



Bowls of Wrath

Prayer

Icebreaker: Can you share an experience when something hot, cold, or sticky was poured ...dumped on you? What consequences or shock did you feel?

Text: Revelation 15:5 - 16:21

1. What scene does John describe for us in Revelation 15:5?

2. What is this inner sanctuary called and what is the significance of this? Revelation 15:5

3. What does God base the judgments that come out of the Tabernacle? Revelation 15:5

Since Jesus' crucifixion, the Tabernacle in Heaven has been open to God's people. The temple veil between the holy place and the Holy of Holies was split from top to bottom, from God to man. *Let us come boldly to the throne of Grace [the mercy seat] to find grace to help in time of need.* (Hebrews 4:16) In Revelation 15 the veil is pulled back, not to let man in, but to reveal and pour out God's 7 last judgments.

4. Why do the 7 angels go out from the presence of God in Revelation 15:6?

5. What is the significance of their clothing: *clothed in pure bright linen, and their chests girded with golden bands?* Revelation 15:6; 19:8; Ephesians 6:14; 1 Peter 1:13

6. What kind of being will hand these 7 angels their bowls of judgment? Revelation 15:7; 4:6-8

The Greek word for bowl here is *phialas*, meaning a flat shallow bowl. These judgments will not be poured out gradually as a stream from a pitcher, but the contents will be hurled down in an instant.

7. What is the significance of the smoke that comes from God's dwelling place? Revelation 15:8; Exodus 40:34-35; 1 Kings 8:10-12; Isaiah 6:1-4; Psalm 76:7

8. Whose voice do you think is heard from the temple commissioning the 7 angels to their task? Revelation 16:1; John 5:27

9. Where does the first angel pour his bowl, what is the result, and who experiences God's wrath from this bowl? Revelation 16:2; 14:9-10; Exodus 9:8-12

10. What impact does the second bowl have on the oceans of the earth? And why is this so devastating to mankind? Revelation 16:3

11. Where is the 3rd bowl judgment poured, and why is this a form of *poetic justice*? Revelation 16:4-7; 6:9-10 Galatians 6:7; Romans 12:19

12. What is the result of the fourth bowl judgment? Revelation 16:8-9

Think about it this week:

By this time there will be no atheists. Men's hearts will be so hardened and their allegiance to Satan and Antichrist so resolute they will not repent. These judgments will affect them like the plagues of Egypt, which hardened Pharaoh's heart, leading to their destruction.

The same sun melts the wax, hardens the clay. Is my heart getting softer or harder toward God?