

/We will now begin the thirteenth lecture on the book of Revelation. /The main text is Revelation chapter 15. /The title is “Song of Salvation.”

/First, second angels with seven plagues. /Verse 1. /Second, song of victory. /Verses 2-4. /Third, the temple is opened. /Verses 5-8.

/Read verse 1. /I saw in heaven another great and marvelous sign: seven angels with the seven last plagues-- last, because with them God's wrath is completed.

/There was a great and marvelous sign in heaven. /Seven angels appeared with seven plagues. /The “seven plagues” are the bowls of God’s wrath. /This is the last of God’s wrath.

/The seven bowls of God’s wrath is further detailed in chapter 16. /God’s wrath is completed with the seven bowls of God’s wrath.

/Read verse 2. /And I saw what looked like a sea of glass mixed with fire and, standing beside the sea, those who had been victorious over the beast and his image and over the number of his name. They held harps given them by God

/There was a “sea of glass mixed with fire.” /Here the “fire” symbolizes God’s justice. /God judges the sinful world.

/Then there was “what looked like a sea of glass.” /This means it was clear and clean. /God’s kingdom is just and clear and clean. /God’s kingdom is founded and built on justice. /Everything is under God’s reign.

/Also, God’s kingdom is secure like a sea of glass. /This means that it is always stable. /The world on the other hand is shaky.

/However, there are no disturbances in God’s kingdom. /There are no sufferings in the kingdom. /It is peaceful and stable.

/Here the “beast” points to the nations of the world. /It points to the nation of the Antichrist. /It became an idol. /This is mentioned in chapter 13. /Those who are victorious over the beast and his image will be stand on the sea of glass.

/Those who are victorious over idols will sing praises before God. /They have harps given to them by God. /The victorious believers praise God. /They sing new songs.

/After the Israelites left Egypt and crossed the Red Sea, they sang praises. /In the last days, believers will leave their sufferings and praise God.

/Verse 3. /and sang the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb: "Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the ages.

/Here, “the song of Moses” refers to God’s commandments. /Revelation 14:12. /The “song of the Lamb” is the song of Jesus Christ’s redemption. /It is the song of thanksgiving of redemption of believers of Jesus.

/We must keep the Word of God, and we must not betray the name of the Lamb. /Then we can sing songs and praises to God.

/The works of the Lord are great and marvelous. /God’s judgment of the wicked and his salvation of believers are also great and marvelous.

/The victorious sang, “Just and true are your ways, King of the ages.” /God rules over all nations. /He is the King of all creation. /He judges the world. /The way of the Lord is righteous and true. /He judges the wicked and saves the believers.

/Verse 4. /Who will not fear you, O Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed."

/The Lord alone is holy. /God judges the wicked and saves the chosen people. /Therefore, man must fear God. /We believers worship God.

/It says, “your righteous acts have been revealed.” /“The Lord shows us salvation and judgment.

/Verse 5. /After this I looked and in heaven the temple, that is, the tabernacle of the Testimony, was opened.

/The tabernacle of the Testimony was opened. /This refers to the “Holy of Holies.” /This refers to the “source of salvation.” /God fulfills his plan of salvation and the words of the covenant.

/Verse 6. /Out of the temple came the seven angels with the seven plagues. They were dressed in clean, shining linen and wore golden sashes around their chests.

/There were seven angels. /They came with seven plagues. /They were dressed in clean, shining linen. /They wore golden sashes. /This is the seven bowls of God’s wrath to judge the wicked. /4:7.

/When sin comes, God judges. /When sins arise, God judges. /Matthew 23:35, 36.

/God will completely judge the world through the seven bowls of wrath. /God does not tolerate any sins and will show his wrath.

/Verse 8. /And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power, and no one could enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels

were completed.

/The temple was filled with God's glory and power. /This points to God's presence.
/Isaiah 6:3, 4. /Exodus 19:18. /God completes his plan of salvation.

/Then he judges the sinful world. /That is the reason for the Lord's presence. /No one was able to enter the temple. /No one was able to approach God because of his wrath and his judgment.

/The saved believers are already in heaven. /There, believers sing praises with the song of the Lamb on the sea of glass. /We believers have already been saved. /However, the sinful world will receive judgment with the seven bowls of wrath.

/We will continue the lecture with Revelation chapter 16. /The title is "The Apocalypse." /Or "The Seven Bowls of God's Wrath." /First, the painful sores. /Verses 1-2. /Second, the seas turn to blood. /Verse 3. /Third, the rivers and springs of water turn to blood. /Verses 4-7.

/Fourth, the sun scorches people. /Verses 8-9. /Fifth, darkness. /Verses 10-11. /Sixth, the drying of the Euphrates River. /Verses 12-16. /Seventh, the earthquake and God's wrath. /Verses 17-21.

/Read 16:1. /Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go, pour out the seven bowls of God's wrath on the earth."

/There was a loud voice from the temple. /This is the voice of God commanding the seven angels. /God will send seven angels in the last days to judge the world.

/Verse 2. /The first angel went and poured out his bowl on the land, and ugly and painful sores broke out on the people who had the mark of the beast and worshiped his image.

/Here we see the first of the seven bowls. /There are and painful sores. /These are sores that break out among people who have the mark of the beast and worship his image. /The "beast" symbolizes the nation of the Antichrist.

/The "painful sores" symbolize thoughts and lies. /At the time, people will have received evil influences from different cults and people full of lies. /2 Timothy 2:16, 17. /The painful sores are fallacious thoughts and morals.

/False prophets teach lies. /Those who follow the beast and follow false prophets will break out in painful sores. /These people could also literally break out in sores. /They can break out in similar sicknesses.

/Verse 3. /The second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it turned into blood like that of a dead man, and every living thing in the sea died.

/The second bowl was poured out into the sea. /Then the sea turned into blood. /Every living thing in the sea died. /The “sea” symbolizes the many nations of the world. /It symbolizes the world. /Revelation 17:15. /All nations in the world will receive judgment.

/To have “turned into blood like that of a dead man” means that life will be destroyed. /There is no hope. /The world will turn into a valley of the shadow of death. /Everything with life will die. /The world will be a place where no one could live in. /Micah 7:2-6.

/Further, this can also mean that all sea creatures will die in the sea. /Most of the seven bowls of wrath are the destructions of life.

/We learned about the seven trumpet plagues in chapter 8. /A characteristic of the trumpet plagues is that “one third” of mankind will be destroyed. /We believers have no choice but to receive the trumpet plagues. /However, the seven bowl plagues here will destroy everything.

/Yet, we believers will not receive the bowl plagues. /God removed the bowl plagues from us. /We believers will be raptured and will go up to heaven before the coming of the bowl plagues.

/Verse 4. /The third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood.

/Verse 5. /Then I heard the angel in charge of the waters say: "You are just in these judgments, you who are and who were, the Holy One, because you have so judged;

/This is the third bowl plague. /The bowl is poured out on the rivers and springs of water. /The water will turn to blood. /To have “became blood” means that life will be cut. /This is the suffering of death. /James 5:1-4.

/Wrath was on the rivers and springs of water. /This means that there will be a plague regarding nature. /The source of humanistic happiness will come to an end. /This world will no longer be an environment where people and animals could live in.

/Also, in the last days, rivers and springs of water can actually receive this kind of plague. /Exodus 7:20. /Today, there are disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis. /That will lead to destruction of nuclear reactors.

/Then the earth will be polluted with radioactive matters. /The oceans will be polluted. /The rivers and springs of water will become polluted. /This is one sign of the last days.

/Our God was in the past, is in the present, and is holy. /The Lord judges sin. /The Lord judges the people who follow after the beast.

/Verse 6. /for they have shed the blood of your saints and prophets, and you have given them blood to drink as they deserve."

/Verse 7. /And I heard the altar respond: "Yes, Lord God Almighty, true and just are your

judgments."

/The "altar" is the place where all the martyrs are. /Revelation 6:9-10. /The Lord judges. /This is the answer to the prayers of the martyrs.

/Thus, God will judge the wicked who killed believers and prophets. /Those who killed believers will receive great sufferings.

/Verse 8. /The fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and the sun was given power to scorch people with fire.

/The fourth bowl plague is that the sun grows hot. /Hence, the sun scorches people with its fire. /The sun can actually grow hotter in the last days. /2 Peter 3:12. /The earth will melt with fire.

/The earth can be destroyed through nuclear weaponry. /The current ozone layer is also becoming destroyed. /The "sun" symbolizes the Word of God in the spiritual sense. /Psalm 119:105.

/Therefore, the world will be scorched by the authority of the Word of God. /There will be a day of judgment as the Bible says. /John 12:48.

/Verse 9. /They were seared by the intense heat and they cursed the name of God, who had control over these plagues, but they refused to repent and glorify him.

/Those who received these plagues cursed and blasphemed against the name of God. /The people of the world do not repent or seek God when they are met with plagues.

/They do not think to repent when met with plagues. /Rather, their hearts become more and more closed. /Instead, they stand against God and defy him.

/Verse 10. /The fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom was plunged into darkness. Men gnawed their tongues in agony

/This is the fifth bowl plague. /The beast falls from his throne. /Here, the "beast" is the nations of the world. /It is the nation of the Antichrist. /Thus, the nations of the world will receive God's judgment.

/As a result, societies and political aspects will grow dark. /The thoughts and hearts of people will grow dark. /Morals will fall to the ground. /The sufferings of people will become worse. /People will become ignorant.

/Then people will meet fallacious leaders. /They will meet fallacious kings. /Then the citizens will suffer under their tyranny.

/Verse 11. /and cursed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, but they

refused to repent of what they had done.

/Here, there are “pains and their sores.” /The “sores” are evil thoughts. /2 Timothy 2:16, 17. /Many people receive sufferings through evil thoughts. /People receive sufferings because of evil thoughts in the world.

/Many people suffer and die because of the theory of evolution. /Today, many people suffer and face death because of beliefs and philosophies.

/Verse 12. /The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the East.

/This is the sixth bowl plague. /The angel’s bowl was poured onto the Euphrates River. /The “river Euphrates” is along the border of Israel and other nations. /Deuteronomy 1:7. /Joshua 1:4. /This means that Israel and the world will become one.

/Verse 13. /Then I saw three evil spirits that looked like frogs; they came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

/There are three evil spirits that look like frogs. /These are the spirits of the devil. /The evil that is described here points to sin. /It is to enjoy materialism and hedonism. /The frogs are compromises.

/The devil is an evil spirit. /The mouth of the dragon, the mouth of the beast, and the mouth of the false prophet are all the same. /The “dragon” is the devil. /The “beast” is the nations of the world. /The “false prophets” are fallen Christians.

/False prophets propagate lies. /When one frog begins to croak, other frogs around it begin to croak along. /People are enticed through crowd psychology.

/People enjoy crowd rallies. /Crowds gather and protest. /People gather in public places and clamor about. /1 Timothy 4:1. /These are crowd rallies and crowd psychology.

/If one person, who lacks knowledge of whether or not something is correct, claims that something is true, then others will agree and follow. /There is no real truth there. /People follow after lies. /They follow after what is false.

/Verse 14. /They are spirits of demons performing miraculous signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the great day of God Almighty.

/There is an evil spirit. /The works of the devil become greater. /Demons go out and do great things. /Then people are stirred up by false prophets who are like frogs.

/Then many people become confused. /Then they go into battle. /They have the last

battle. /They stir up the final battle for mankind. /This is the Armageddon. /This is mentioned in verse 16.

/The Euphrates River will dry up and all peoples of the world will battle in the land of Israel. /This is the final war.

/Verse 15. /"Behold, I come like a thief! Blessed is he who stays awake and keeps his clothes with him, so that he may not go naked and be shamefully exposed."

/Jesus said that He would come like a thief. /We do not know when thieves will come. /We do not know when Jesus will come again. /We do not know the date of Jesus' Second Coming. /What we do know is that "The Lord's Second Coming is near!"

/Therefore, we must always look forward to Jesus' coming and prepare our faith. /What should we prepare for as believers? /First, our lives must be awake. /Our spirits must be awake.

/We must connect with God spiritually. /We must receive guidance of the Holy Spirit. /Ephesians 5:18. /1 Peter 5:8. /We must follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

/Second, we must protect our clothes. /We must protect the Word of God. /We must protect our faith. /We must follow after good consciences.

/Third, we must not go around naked. /We must wear the clothing of righteousness. /We must wear the clothing of Jesus. /Romans 13:13, 14. /Believers must not keep their hope in the world, /but keep their hope in heaven.

/In this way, we believers must be awake in the days of suffering and disasters. /We will not take part in the Armageddon. /We will not receive the bowl plagues.

/Then why did God tell his believers this in verse 15? /It means that we believers who are reading the Bible at this moment must be awake. /The world will be destroyed in the future.

/Therefore, we must not fall into the world. /We must know that the world will be destroyed, and that we must always be awake in our faith. /God is giving us his words of warning for us who are reading the Bible.

/Verse 16. /Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.

/“Armageddon” is a place located north of Israel called Megiddo. /Judges 5:19. /There will be a great battle there. /There will be a worldwide war. /After the war, the world will be nearly completely destroyed.

/This does not pertain to us believers. /We will be raptured before the bowl plagues, at the

Second Coming of Jesus.

/Verses 17-18. /The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and out of the temple came a loud voice from the throne, saying, "It is done!" Then there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder and a severe earthquake. No earthquake like it has ever occurred since man has been on earth, so tremendous was the quake.

/This is the seventh bowl plague. /The bowl is poured into the "air." /Then there is a severe earthquake. /The people in the "air" symbolize thoughts. /Ephesians 2:2.

/There is lightning, rumblings, and thunder. /This signifies God's judgment. /There is a severe earthquake.

/The "earthquake" means that all thoughts will be separated. /There will be great riots. /The world's politics, economies, and thoughts will all be divided. /Genesis 11:6-9.

/There can actually be lightning, rumblings, thunder, and earthquakes in the last days. /There can also be disasters resulting for nuclear weaponry. /Then this world will be completely destroyed.

/Verse 19. /The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations collapsed. God remembered Babylon the Great and gave her the cup filled with the wine of the fury of his wrath.

/The "great city" refers to Babylon. /Babylon will rise with humanism. /Babylon symbolizes worldly humanism.

/This city of Babylon will be split into three parts. /It will split into three big parts. /The thoughts of the world will be split into three parts.

/Then it says "the cities of the nations collapsed." /Those who stand against God will perish. /The thoughts and powers of those who stand against God will be ruined. /Worldly humanism will be destroyed.

/God will violently judge these people. /The wine of God's wrath will be poured onto these people.

/Babylon will be judged for their sins against God. /God will remember the sins of Babylon and judge all at once. /The judgment will be filled with God's wrath. /This is the last and final judgment.

/Verse 20. /Every island fled away and the mountains could not be found.

/Every island and mountains will not be found. /This means that in one morning's time, all the world's greatest nations and powers will be destroyed.

/Verse 21. /From the sky huge hailstones of about a hundred pounds each fell upon men. /And they cursed God on account of the plague of hail, because the plague was so terrible.

/There are huge hailstones. /One hailstone is about a hundred pounds each. /A hundred pounds is 34 kilograms. /This is a very heavy plague. /There can actually be hailstones of this size. /Exodus 9:24. /Joshua 10:11.

/These can also signify weapons used in battles. /Huge hailstones can be made into bombs to kill people. /This means that there will be heavy judgment in the spiritual sense.

/Thus, the heart will be heavily troubled. /It is to receive great psychological sufferings. /Psalm 32:3, 4.

/It says that people cursed God because of the plague of hail. /People do not think to repent even when they face such plagues.

/People are supposed to return to God when met with such plagues, yet they did not repent. /Those who do not repent are those determined to be destroyed. /Those who are not chosen will never repent.

/Through the bowl plagues, most of the world will be destroyed. /We believers will not receive the bowl plagues. /Therefore, we must know in advance that the world will ultimately be destroyed.

/Therefore, we must have faith. /Then we must remember verse 15. /We must be awake. /We must wear the clothing of Jesus' righteousness. /We must be kind in behavior.

/We must prepare our faith just like the five wise virgins. /Then we must receive the Lord in the midst of Jesus' glory at His Second Coming.

/Here we will conclude the thirteenth lecture on the book of Revelation. /Thank you.