

## Revelation

### Chapter 16

#### Introduction

- Chapter 16, introduces the most brutal judgments of God upon the earth that has ever happened or ever will be.
- “For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.”-**Matthew 24:21**
- After the the bowl judgments the wrath of God will be complete
- This time period is known in Scripture as “the time of Jacob’s trouble”.

#### The Time Of Jacob’s Trouble

- “Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; and it is the time of Jacob’s trouble, but he shall be saved out of it.”-**Jeremiah 30:7**
- “And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened.”-**Matthew 24:22**
- “For Jacob My servant’s sake, and Israel My elect, I have even called you by your name; I have named you, though you have not known Me.”-**Isaiah 45:4**
- “At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time.”-**Daniel 12:1**

#### Revelation 16:1

“Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, “Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth.”

### A Voice From The Temple

- The wrath poured out upon the earth comes directly from God.
- God is in the temple and He let no one in until the bowl judgments are completed. (Revelation 15:8)
- The wrath of God is carried out by His angels.
- God's voice is also heard announcing that, "it is done" after the seventh bowl is poured out. (Revelation 16:17)

### The Wrath On The Earth

- The word in the original Greek is "γῆ" and it has several different meanings.
- "The ground, the earth as a standing place".
- "The main land as opposed to the sea or water".
- "The earth as a whole".
- "The earth as opposed to the heavens".
- "The inhabited earth, the abode of men and animals".
- "A country, land enclosed within fixed boundaries, a tract of land, territory, region".

- Is it the whole earth that God's wrath is poured out upon or is it only the Middle East?
- If it is the only the Middle East then that would explain where the people come from that enter the Millennial reign of Jesus.
- Usually in Scripture when it speaks about the whole earth it states the whole earth or the inhabitants of the earth.
- "Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon **the whole** world, to test those who dwell on the earth." -**Revelation 3:10**
- Either way, if the Middle East is affected by the wrath of God it will affect the whole earth as it does today.

### Revelation 16:2

"So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image."

### The First Bowl

- The first bowl judgment is directed to those who **received** “the mark of the beast or **worshipped** his image”.
- The breaking of the first and second commandment results in sores, scabs, and an itch that cannot be healed. (Exodus 20:3-4)
- The plagues of Egypt were only upon the people of Egypt. (Exodus 8:22-23;Ex. 9:4)
- If Israel continued in disobedience the Lord would strike Israel with similar boils: “The LORD will strike you with the boils of Egypt, with tumors, with the scab, and with the itch, from which you cannot be healed.”-**Deuteronomy 28:27**
- However, if Israel returned to Him, He would strike their enemies with the sores and boils.

### 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.”

### The Second Bowl

- The second bowl judgment is once again directed towards the natural order.
- This results in a complete contamination of the sea as opposed to the one-third in **Revelation 8:8-9**.
- “The composition of sea water is almost identical to that of blood, only a small modification would be necessary....water containing iron and other chemicals which give it a blood-red appearance, but there is no longer any life therein. In fact, it brings death to every living creature in the sea.”-Morris, The Revelation Record, Ph.D., Hydraulic Engineering
- In the new heaven and the new earth there will no longer be a sea. (Revelation 21:1)

### Revelation 16:4

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

### The Third Bowl

- The third bowl judgment is directed towards the fresh water supply.
- During the time of the two witnesses they stopped the rain upon the earth. (**Revelation 11:6**)
- Human survival will be very difficult without a fresh water supply.
- "They thirsted after blood and massacred the saints of God; and now they have got blood to drink!" (Clarke)

### Revelation 16:5-7

"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, because You have judged these things. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due." And I heard another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments."

### The Angel Of The Waters

- This is referring to the angel who had just poured out the third bowl judgment who is called, "the angel of the waters".
- The angel proclaims God's righteousness because of His judgments.
- The reason the angel is proclaiming this is because they have shed the blood of the prophets and saints.
- Another angel proclaims that God's judgments are righteous and true.

- "**I will feed those who oppress you with their own flesh, and they shall be drunk with their own blood** as with sweet wine. All flesh shall know that I, the LORD, am your Savior, and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob."-Isaiah 49:26
- One of the purposes that come out in these judgments is to demonstrate the **hardness of the heart of man**.
- Despite all these judgments man becomes angry at God rather than repenting of their sinful acts.

## 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. And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.”

## The Fourth Bowl

- The fourth bowl judgment is directed towards the sun.
- The angel is given power to scorch men with a terrible sun burn.
- “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.” - 2 Peter 3:10
- This is a true global warming!

## Men Blaspheme God

- Blasphemy is “uttering impious or reproachful words towards God”-1828 Webster
- They know Who is in control over these judgments but speak blasphemous words toward God.
- “[T]hey gnawed their tongues because of the pain.” Revelation 16:10
- During this time, if men are going to speak assaulting words toward God, He is going give them enough pain that they gnaw on their tongues like people do when having a seizure.

## Revelation 16:10-11

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

### The Fifth Bowl

- The fifth bowl is directed toward the throne of the beast.
- Satan's throne is in Pergamos which is the modern town of Bergama in Turkey.
- Satan gives power to the beast but during this bowl judgment his kingdom becomes full of darkness.
- Although, people are in intense pain, they refuse to repent of their deeds.
- In the original Greek the word for "deeds" means: "business, employment or any product whatever, any thing accomplished by hand, art, industry, or mind".



### Revelation 16:12-13

"Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared. And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet."

### The Sixth Bowl

- The sixth bowl judgment is directed towards the Euphrates river.
- The Lord dries up the Euphrates river so that the kings from the east can prepare for a battle against the Lord.
- "Proclaim this among the nations: **Prepare for war!** Wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near, let them come up." -Joel 3:9
- "If the Euphrates were dried up and made a road, massive armies from the east (nations such as China, India, and Japan) could move westward with ease." -Guzik

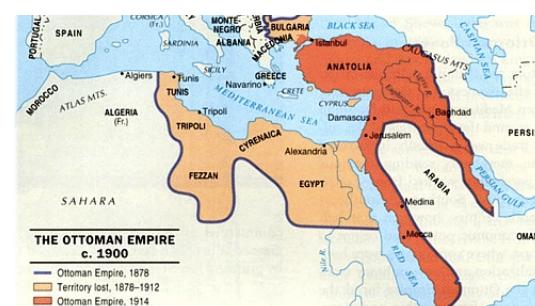


- "According to Herodotus, Babylon was overthrown when Cyrus diverted the Euphrates allowing the Persians to wade into the city unexpected. This may be the near-term reference of Jeremiah: "A drought is against her waters, and they will be dried up" (Jer. 50:38), which may also speak of the ultimate Day of the Lord drying up of the Euphrates described here. The Euphrates is mentioned because the events of the Tribulation involve the literal city of Babylon on its banks" -Garland
- "The Euphrates is indeed a great river, as here stated. It is 1,800 miles long, and from Mohammarah to the sea it is 3,6000 feet wide and 30 feet deep.\* This river is to be dried up for the more easy gathering of this infernal Crusade against the Lamb and His host. They gather to a scene of slaughter, from which they never return." -Bullinger

### Kings From The East

- The word for "east" in the original is "*ανατολή*" which literally means the "**the direction of the suns rising.**"
- Most "experts" in the area of prophecy claim that a massive oriental army led by China will invade the Holy Land after the Euphrates River is dried up.
- Historically Anatolia is considered to be the Asian peninsula east of the Mediterranean Sea which is modern day Turkey.
- After World War One the Ottoman Empire and Anatolia were divided into Turkey and neighboring Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Iraq, and Syria.

### Anatolia Pre-WWI



### Post World WWI Anatolia

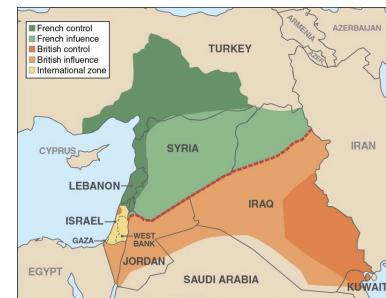


### **The Levant States**

- "The term Levant comes from the French term lever ("to rise") and its Arabic equivalent is *Mashriq* ("the country where the sun rises")."-[bibarch.com](http://bibarch.com)
- Post WWI the French and the British in a push to secure the natural resources of the Middle East, under the Sykes-Picot agreement, divided up the countries formally controlled by the Ottoman's into the countries we know of today.
- The French claimed Lebanon and Syria meanwhile the British claimed Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq.
- The **"Islamic State In Syria"** or **"The Islamic State In Levant"** is attempting to claim back what they believe is the land they lost after WWI.
- The Euphrates River goes right through the middle of the area.



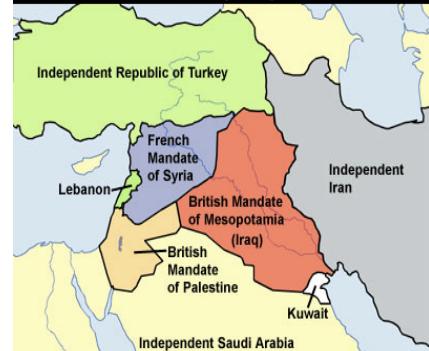
### Sykes-Picot Division Of The Middle East



## Understanding The Issues

- “As a general rule, understanding the archaeology, history, and geopolitics of the region require mastery of their Levantine geographical context.”-[bibarch.com](http://bibarch.com)
- When Britain and France divided the Middle East after WWI they didn’t take into account the ethnic peoples or the religion when determining the boundaries of the the Nations.
- WWI was labeled, “ the war to end all wars” but little did they know that they were sowing a seed of conflict that would be used by a sovereign God to bring about the Great and Final Conflict.

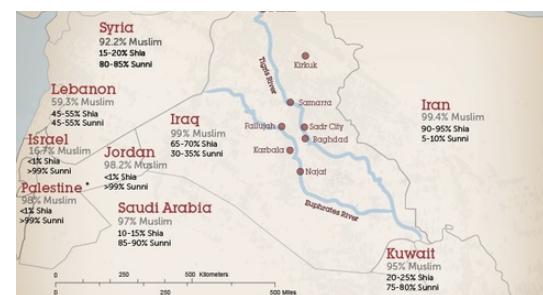
Post-WWI Middle East (1923)



## Ottoman Empire And Iraq



## Middle East Muslims



Belief	Sunni	Shi'a
Meaning of the Name	Well trodden path or tradition	Followers of Ali
Amount of Followers	940 Million +/-	120 Million +/-
Percentage	90%	10%
Countries Located	Majority of Islamic Countries	Iran, Iraq and Yemen
Origins	632 A.D.	632-650 A.D. after the killing of Ali's son Hussein in 680
Did Mohammed Appoint a Successor?	No	Yes
Successor	Abu Bakr, Mohammed's father in law through Aishah	Ali Ibn Talib, husband of the prophet's daughter.
Qualifications	Tribe of the Prophet or any qualified ruler	Blood line
Current Leaders	Imams	Caliphs or Supreme Ruler
Identity Of Leaders	Human Leaders	Infallible manifestations of God and perfect interpreters of the Quran
The Mahdi	Coming in the future	He was already here but went into hiding but will return at the end of time.

## Revelation 16:14-16

“For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame. And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.”

### Demonic Frogs

- There are **three** demonic spirits that look like frogs.
- They are “like” frogs therefore they are not frogs but demonic spirits.
- These demonic spirits come from “out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.”
- The **purpose** of the demonic spirits is to place a delusion in the minds of the kings of the **whole or inhabited** earth by performing signs in order to battle against the Lord at Armageddon.

### Watchfulness

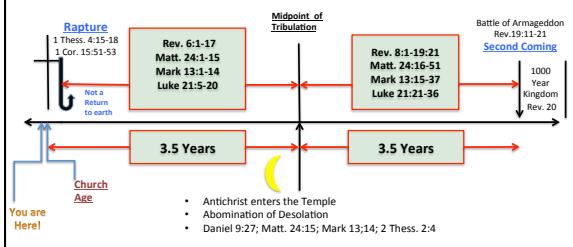
- There is warning for those who do not follow the beast to watch for the coming of the Lord.
- The Lord has an appointed time to return to the earth at His Second Coming but no one knows the “day” or “hour” except the Father.
- Therefore the Lord does come **as a** thief to those who are left upon the earth.
- The thief analogy is used continually in the New Testament to describe the sudden return of the Lord.
- Those who can persevere to the end will walk into the Millennium.

## Armageddon

- Approximately 35 battles have been fought in the valley of Armageddon. Armageddon is also known as the Jezreel valley.
- Napoleon Bonaparte declared it as "the most natural battleground of the whole earth."
- The name "har-megiddo" means the mount of Megiddo.
- This truly will be the war to end all wars and shortly after this battle Jesus will set up His Kingdom.

35 Battles in the Jezreel Valley	
DATE	LOCATION
2350 BC	Pharaoh's rebels at "Gazelle's Head"
1479 BC	Thutmosis III v. Canaanites
1430 BC	Amenhotep II v. settlements in valley
1360-1350	Biridiya v. Labayu
1125 BC	Deborah and Barak v. Sisera
1099 BC	Gideon v. Midianites and Amalekites
1016 BC	Saul and Jonathan v. Philistines
925 BC	Shoshenq I (Shishak) v. Megiddo
841 BC	Jezebel v. Joram and Ahaziah
609 BC	Necho II v. Josiah
218 BC	Antiochus III v. Ptolemy IV
55 BC	Gabinius v. Antigonus
67 AD	Varus' Jewish Rebels
940 AD	Ikhshidids v. Abbasids (no victor)
946	Ikhshidids v. Hamdanids
975	Byzantines v. Fatimids
1113	Maudud v. Crusaders
1182	Saladin v. Daburiyans
1183	Saladin v. Crusaders
1187	Saladin v. Crusaders (no victor)
1217	Crusaders v. Muslims
1247	Ayyubids v. Crusaders
1260	Mamlukes v. Mongols
1263	Mamlukes v. Hospitallers
1264	Hosios/Temples v. Mamlukes
1295	Zahir al-Umar v. Nablus-Saqr alliance
1771-1773	Zahir al-Umar v. Lejjun
1799	Napoleon v. Ottomans
1918	Allenby v. Ottomans
1948	Israelis v. Arabs
1948	Israelis v. Arabs
1967	Israelis v. Arabs
1973	Israelis v. Syrians
????	God v. Evil

## Prophecy Timeline



## 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!" 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."

## The Seventh Bowl

- When the Seventh Bowl is poured out John hears a loud voice coming from the temple in heaven.
- The voice proclaims that, "it is done".
- The word for "**done**" in the original is "**γίνομαι**" and when used in the perfect tense expresses the idea of "**it has come to be**".
- Ever since the very beginning God has been moving historical events towards the completion of His plan to redeem the world.
- It is at this point in history when God's plan for this world has been fully accomplished.

## **Isaiah 66:6-11**

- "The sound of noise from the city! **A voice from the temple!** The voice of the LORD, Who fully repays His enemies! Before she was in labor, she gave birth; before her pain came, **she delivered a male child.** Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall the earth be made to give birth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion was in labor, she gave birth to her children. **Shall I bring to the time of birth, and not cause delivery?**" says the LORD. "Shall I who cause delivery shut up the womb?" says your God. "**Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all you who love her;** rejoice for joy with her, all you who mourn for her; that you may feed and be satisfied with the consolation of her bosom, that you may drink deeply and be delighted with the abundance of her glory."
- The woman in labor is the same woman we saw in Revelation 12 and at the pouring out of the seventh bowl the woman receives joy at the reality of the coming kingdom.

## The Earthquake

- Jesus taught that earthquakes were an indicator of "the beginning of sorrows" (Mat. 24:8).
- A tremendous earthquake results from the opening of the sixth seal attended by cosmic signs (Rev. 6:12).
- There was an earthquake after the seventh seal, but before the first trumpet, when the angel of the altar took the censer, filled it with fire, and threw it to the earth (Rev. 8:7-10).
- At the ascension of the two witnesses a great earthquake leveled one tenth of Jerusalem contributing to the conversion of some of those who remained alive (Rev. 11:13).
- This earthquake is the last one initiating the kingdom of Jesus.

- "See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven, whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, "Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven."-**Hebrews 12:25-26**
- The shaking of the earth is referring to the day when God will remove all the kingdoms of the earth that man has placed his hope.
- "Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying: 'I will shake heaven and earth. I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms; I will destroy the strength of the Gentile kingdoms.'" -**Haggai 2:21**
- Anything and everything that is not from God will be removed at the end of days.