UNLOCKING PROPHECY #16

Revelation's Battle of Armageddon & the Seven Last Plagues

What is the context of seven last plagues?

† "Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete" (Revelation 15:1).

Why does the wrath of God fall on the earth?

- † "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness..." (Romans 1:18).
- † "Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience" (Colossians 3:5, 6).

Who do the plagues fall on specifically?

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.' So the first angel went and poured out his bowl on the earth; and it became a loathsome and malignant sore on the people who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped his image" (Revelation 16:1, 2).

When does probation (which is the time God gives humanity to make a choice either for or against Him) close?

- "Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls *full of the wrath of God,* who lives forever and ever. And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power; and no one was able to enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were finished." (Revelation 15:7, 8).
- † "He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy let him be unfilthy still; he who is righteous let him be righteous still; he who is holy let him be holy still" (Revelation 22:11).

Righteous go through plagues, but they are protected

- their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason, they are before the throne of God; and they serve Him day and night in His temple...'" (Revelation 7:14, 15).
- Noah went through the flood (Genesis 6-9). Daniel was thrown into the lions' den and protected by God's angel (Daniel 6); Daniel's three friends went through the fiery furnace and were protected from the flames (Daniel 3). The children of Israel were not saved from Egypt before the plagues fell, but afterward (Exodus 7-15). We need a faith that is going to endure. A faith that holds onto Christ when the going gets rough.

Revelation 16:13-15

- † The three unclean spirits come out of the mouths of the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet. All three mouths are mentioned—emphasizing not their actions but emphasizing their message—what comes out of their mouths. Their message turns people away from God's message in the final crisis.
- † What's God's message for this world at the end of time? Revelation 14's three angels' messages. Satan and his evil forces counter God's three angels' messages with a message of his own
- † Vs. 13 says the unclean spirits were like frogs, then vs. 14 says clarifies they are spirits of demons performing signs, and going to the kings of the earth and the whole world. This is talking about the devil's counterfeit to God's three angels' messages of Revelation 14. God has a universal message that goes to the whole world before He comes, and the devil also spreads his satanic & extremely deceptive message around the world before Christ comes. Remember, there is a great controversy between Christ and Satan—Jesus is doing all He can to save as many as He can, and the devil is trying to destroy as many as he can.

- † Then in vs. 15 comes the final call to the saints. Revelation 16:15 KJV, "Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame."
- † So the events of vss. 13-15 must be prior in time to the events of vs. 12 because in vss. 13-14 Babylon gathers its political support for the battle, in order to attack the saints.
- + Armageddon (vs. 16) is the climax of the two [messages] going to the world—the devil's counterfeit message vs. God's three angels' messages of Revelation 14. Armageddon is really a struggle for the mind, a struggle over who to worship. Will we worship God like the 3 angels' messages call us to? Or are we going to worship the beast mentioned in Revelation?
- † Now, let me clarify: Yes, the 7 last plagues fall after the close of probation. However, Rev. 16:13-16 present events that are earlier than the 6th plague, events that are even before the close of probation—because when the 3 angels' messages are proclaimed, and the devil's counterfeit message is proclaimed—people are still free to choose which side to belong to.
- † Sometimes in Revelation the events are not listed in chronological order—that's one of the reasons why Revelation is a bit complicated in some places. But through deep study God can help us understand it.

The Seven Last Plagues:

The Plagues	Biblical Description in Revelation 16	Bible Promises for God's People to Remember
1. Sores	"So the first angelpoured out his bowl on the earth; and it became a loathsome and malignant sore (Verse 2).	The sore comes, "on the people who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped his image" (Revelation 16:2).
2. Sea turns into blood	"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" (Verse 3).	"I will say to the LORD, 'My refuge and my fortress, My God, in whom I trust!' For it is He who delivers you from the snare of the trapper and from the deadly pestilence" (Psalm 91:2, 3).
3. Rivers turning into blood	"Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood" (Verse 4).	"Bread will be given him, His water will be sure" (Isaiah 33:16).
4. Scorching sun	"The fourth angel poured out his bowl upon the sun, and it was given to it to scorch men with fire" (Verse 8).	"He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty" (Psalms 91:1).
5. Darkness	"Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness" (Verse 10).	"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105). "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12).
6. Drying up of Euphrates	"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" (Verse 12).	"No evil will befall you, nor will any plague come near your tent. For He will give His angels charge concerning you, to guard you in all your ways" (Psalm 91:10, 11).
7. Great earthquake, hail, destruction of cities, islands, mountains; the coming of Christ	"Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl upon the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne, saying, 'It is done.' and there was a great earthquake and the cities of the nations fellAnd every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And huge hailstonescame down from heaven upon men" (Verses 17-20).	"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fearthough the mountains slip into the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains quake at its swelling pride" (Psalms 46:1, 2). "Behold, I [Jesus] come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame" (Revelation 16:15).