

**Apocalypse Now: The Challenge of Revelation**  
**Week 7—Revelation 14 - 16**  
**October 26, 2022**

I. Review

- A. The Focus of the message is Jesus Christ (1)
- B. The exalted Lord in the heavenly throne room (ch. 4–5)
- C. Three series of seven visions portray judgment as disasters
  - 1. Seals
  - 2. Trumpets
  - 3. Bowls
- D. Pattern: 1 thru 4 disaster; 5 intensification; 6 devastation
  - 1. Interlude to encourage the faithful follows each series.
- E. Revelation 12-14 envision Christ's victory over the devil.
  - 1. Dragon Seeks to Devour Baby; it is Foiled.
  - 2. Expelled from Heaven, wreaks earthly havoc.
  - 3. Uses two beasts: Sea and Land, imitations of the Lamb
    - a) Mark of the beast: 666
  - 4. Real Salvation and Real Judgment are revealed

II. Seven Scenes of the Book of Revelation (handout)

III. Revelation 14:1-20: **The truth about salvation and judgment**

- A. 1-5 **Real Salvation**: the Lamb, his mark, his followers.
  - 1. John recognize 144,000 by the mark on their foreheads.
  - 2. Who else has marks on their foreheads? (cf. Rev. 13)
  - 3. What marks of character do the Lamb's followers have?
- B. 14: 6-20 **Real Judgment**: God the Creator and Judge.
  - 1. The first angel God is the true judge?
  - 2. The second angel Babylon/Rome is already fallen.

3. Third angel: the consequences of the mark of the beast.
- C. John paints a stark contrast of true and false salvation.
1. Two ways to worship; two different “gospels.”
  2. There is something more terrible than Rome’s judgment
- D. God’s judgment is a gruesome, bloody picture.
1. Contrast God’s harvest of the faithful. What is the message of the false gospel(s) in our day?

#### IV. Revelation 15 Vision of seven bowls commences

- A. John first portrays the security of the faithful (15:2).
1. The Song of Moses... and of the Lamb” (15:3).
- B. Seven angels in white symbolize a pure, sinless wrath.
1. Unlike human wrath, God’s is a pure and sinless.

#### V. Revelation 16

- A. 1-14 Bowls describe intense plagues that will punish ungodly.
1. John repeats central themes of judgment.
- B. 15-21 Judgment comes like a thief (cf. Revelation 3:3).
1. The Great battle to occur at a place called Armageddon.
    - a) No one knows for certain what the name means.
    - b) 60 miles north of Jerusalem is town of Megiddo.
  2. John is proclaiming a great reversal of history.
- C. Seventh Bowl
1. John repeats woes to prepare church for suffering. Grim honesty amidst ultimate hope of victory.
- D. 7<sup>th</sup> angel poured bowl into air (total judgment). “It is done” (it is finished).