

# UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF REVELATION THROUGH BIBLE PROPHECY

## 13 Plagues on the Land and Armageddon

This sequence of events begins in **Revelation 14:9-10**: “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength. . . .” So before Jesus comes, the mark of the beast will be enforced. **Revelation 13:15-17** says the mark of the beast will be forced upon all classes of people—rich and poor, small and great, free and bond. Only those with the mark will be allowed to buy and sell—all others face an economic boycott and death sentence. Before Jesus comes, the whole world will be tested on the question of loyalty.

God’s wrath will come in the form of the Seven Last Plagues, reserved for those who receive the mark of the beast. **Revelation 15:1 & 16:2**. Those who yield to human traditions and laws, selling out their devotion to Christ, will feel the unmitigated wrath of God. During this fearful time, God’s children will be alive but protected by His grace. The plagues will fall all around them, but they won’t be touched. The church will go through the tribulation and emerge triumphant.

The seven last plagues are described in Revelation 16, but no description of this period of earth’s history can approach its reality as the wicked drink the cup of God’s wrath unmixed with mercy. As in the days of ancient Egypt, God’s people will be on earth during these terrible calamities, but have the promise that God will protect them as He did the people of Israel of old. **Psalms 91:4** promises: “He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge.” And **Psalms 91:7-10** gives wonderful assurance: “No evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling.”

The seven last plagues fall in the following order:

1. Terrible and loathsome sores – showing that Christ is our physical security.
2. Sea turned into blood – showing that Christ is our economic security.
3. Rivers turned into blood – showing that Christ is where life is found.
4. Sun scorches men – showing that Christ is the source of true worship.
5. Darkness covers earth – showing that Christ the light, and we must follow his word.
6. Armageddon – the systems that supported the beast will fall and Christ will come to rescue us.
7. It is done! – Christ will return to rescue his people.

The battle of Armageddon may have physical elements, but its primary mean is the fall of false human systems that oppress God’s people. At famous battles fought in the plain of Megiddo (Judges 5-7) God’s people found victory against impossible odds. So, in the last days, God will rescue his people when the dragon (Satan), the beast (end-time power) and the false prophet (false religion) conspire against them.



<b>Revelation 15:1, 6-8, 16:1</b>	The seven last plagues contain “the wrath of God.”
<b>Revelation 14:9-10</b>	Only those who worship the beast and receive his mark “shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God.”
<b>Revelation 16:2</b>	The seven last plagues are not suffered by God’s faithful people, but are poured out only on those who “had the mark of the beast.”
<b>Psalm 91:7-11</b>	Even while the wicked are falling everywhere, God promises the righteous that no plague will touch them.
<b>Exodus 7 – 11, 8:21 23, 9:4-7, 10:23</b>	When God brought ten plagues upon Egypt, just the first three had a general effect—the last seven affected <i>only</i> the Egyptians, <i>not</i> God’s people.
<b>Isaiah 33:16</b>	God promises those who walk righteously that their bread and water will be sure.
<b>Revelation 18:2-4</b>	God urges His people to come out of Babylon and not partake of her sins—or receive of her plagues.
<b>Isaiah 28:21</b>	Acts of punishment and judgment are so foreign to God’s loving nature that the Bible calls them “strange.”
<b>Revelation 16:9,11,21</b>	The plagues, which would wake up a sincere but misguided person, only confirm the wicked in their rebellion. Instead of repenting, they blaspheme God.
<b>Revelation 16:5 &amp; 7</b>	Even while the plagues are falling; heavenly voices proclaim that God is righteous and His judgments just.
<b>Revelation 16:3-4, 6</b>	When the rivers and springs of water become blood, an angel declares: “They have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and you have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due.”
<b>Revelation 22:11-12</b>	When the plagues start to fall, mankind’s probation is already closed, for each one’s final decision has already been made.



**Beautiful parallel:** The ten plagues fell upon Egypt *just before God’s people were delivered* from that wicked country.

The seven last plagues will fall *just before God’s people are delivered* from this wicked world—so keep looking up.