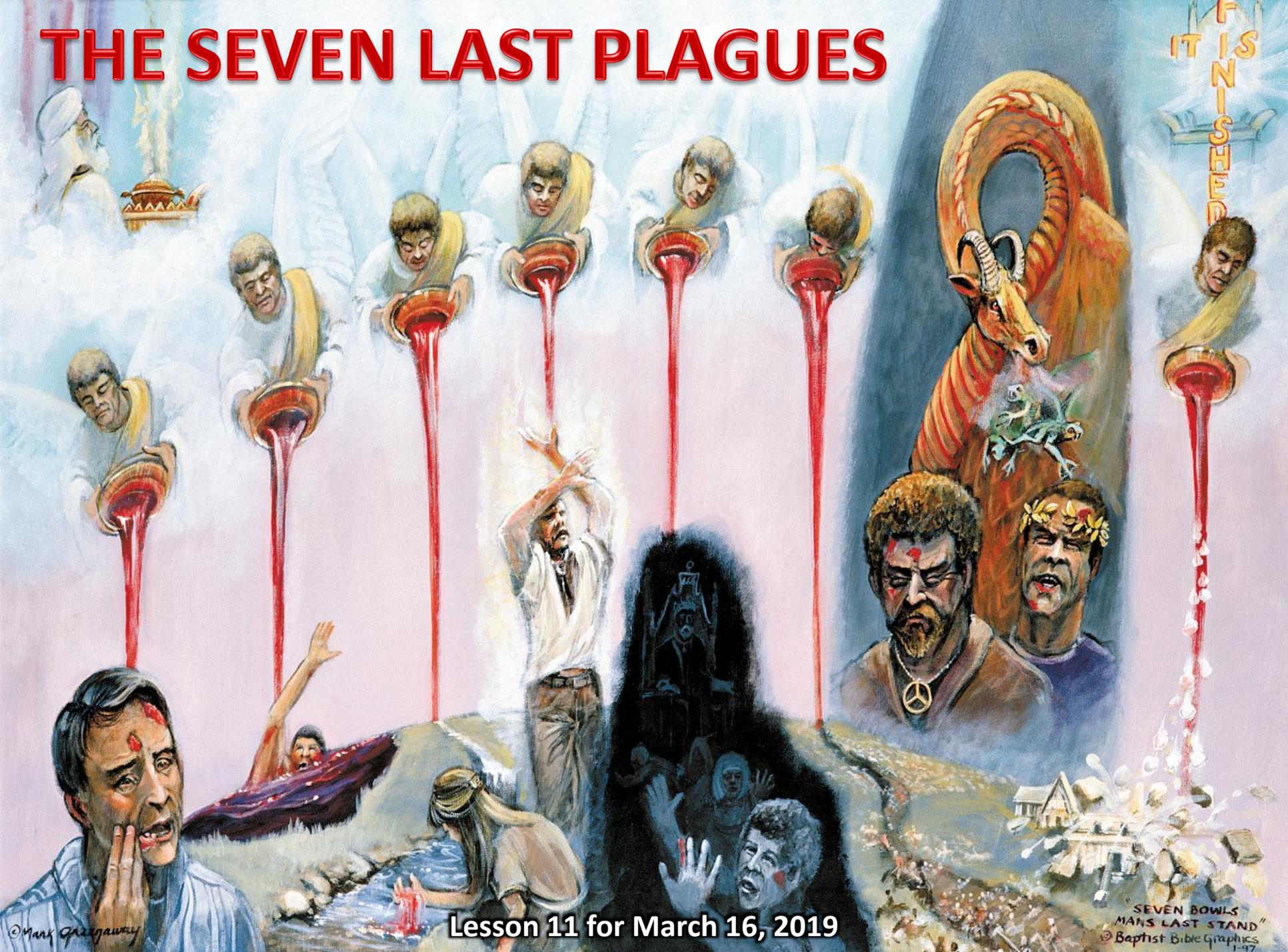


# THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES



Lesson 11 for March 16, 2019

"SEVEN BOWLS  
MANS LAST STAND"  
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**“You, Yourself, are to be feared; and who may stand in Your presence when once You are angry? You caused judgment to be heard from heaven; the earth feared and was still, when God arose to judgment, to deliver all the oppressed of the earth.”  
(Psalm 76:7-9)**

**Like an echo of the psalmist, Revelation 15 shows those who will remain standing when the judgment of God is spilled on the inveterate earth, and the Lord comes to save His people (Revelation 16).**



**The time of the last plagues. Revelation 15**



**The first plagues. Revelation 16:1-11**



**The sixth plague**



**River Euphrates is dried up. Revelation 16:12**



**The triple satanic message. Revelation 16:13-14**



**The battle of Armageddon. Revelation 16:15-16**

# THE TIME OF THE LAST PLAGUES

**"And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God." (Revelation 15:2)**



**Each person on Earth has had the opportunity to choose between worshipping God or the beast. John sees the victorious, those who have accepted God. But they are not going to receive their reward yet.**



**The scene changes to heaven (v. 5). The tabernacle is emitting smoke (Ex. 40:34-35; 1K. 8:10-11). The intermediary work in the Heavenly Sanctuary is finished. The time of grace has come to an end.**



**As the third angel had announced, now is the time for everyone to face the consequences of their decision.**



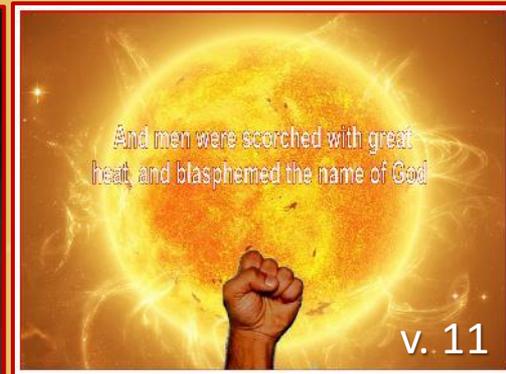
# THE FIRST PLAGUES

**"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.'" (Revelation 16:1)**

**These plagues are similar to those that took place in Egypt. They reveal the hardened heart of those who have decided to worship the beast (v. 2 y 9), and the impotence of the devil who cannot protect his worshippers (v. 10-11).**

**After the devastating consequences of the first four plagues, the world turns to the beast and asks her for help. But the beast cannot help them (her throne is filled with darkness in a symbolic way).**

**Nevertheless, the people don't want to accept their mistakes and blaspheme against God.**



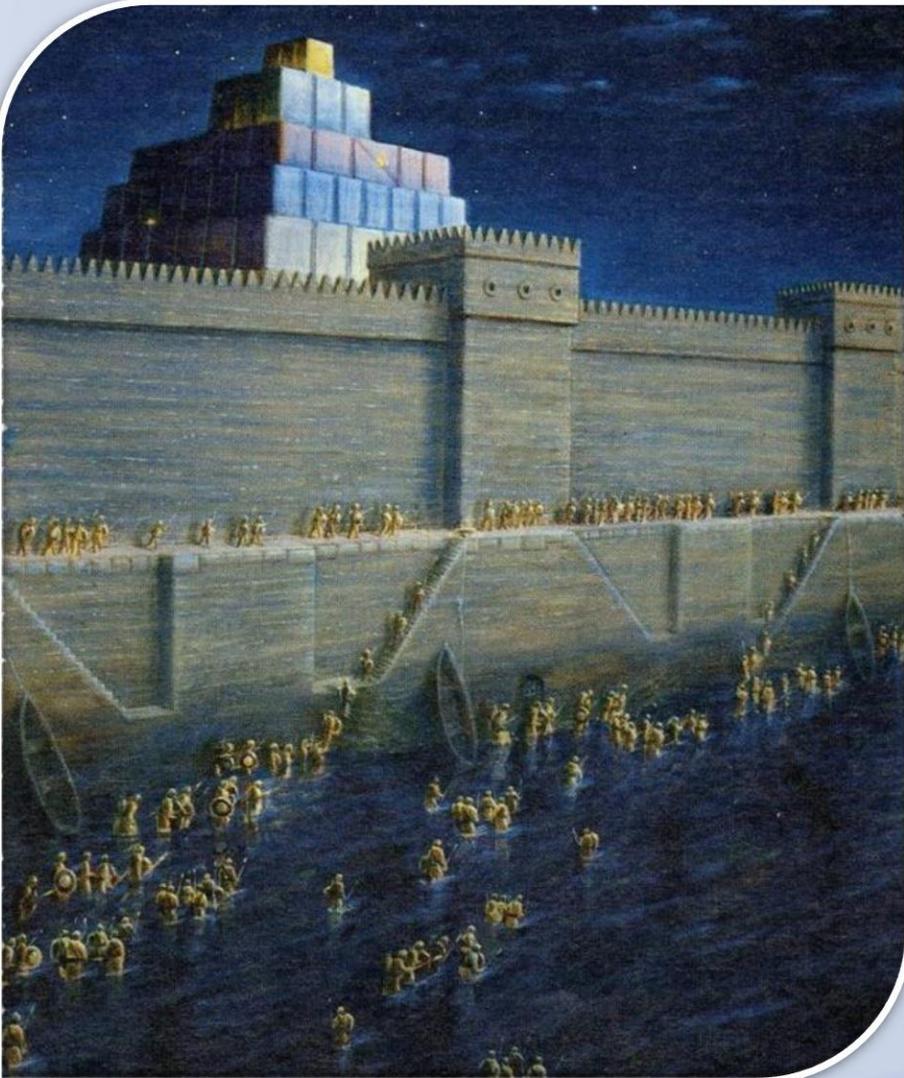
# RIVER EUPHRATES IS DRIED UP

“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.” (Revelation 16:12)

The sixth plague begins with the fall of Babylon that will be explained in more detail in the next chapters. The river Euphrates was dried up literally when the old Babylon fell into the hands of Cyrus.

The Papacy cannot help the people, so it turns to the apostate Protestantism. Finally, both lose all the support from the people and it's time for Jesus to come back to take what it's His (v. 15).

However, the devil doesn't want to lose his domain and prepares a last and desperate attack.



# THE TRIPLE SATANIC MESSAGE

**“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.” (Revelation 16:13)**

**Satan sends a triple message as a counterfeit of the triple angelic message in Revelation 14. In order to do so, he uses spiritualism (the dragon), the papacy (the beast) and apostate Protestantism (the false prophet).**



**At that moment, God has already removed His Holy Spirit from those who didn't accept Him. They will be easily deceived by the devil's signs and miracles, and they will turn to him again (see 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12).**

**The end is imminent: “Behold, I am coming as a thief” (v. 15). Satan attacks for the last time.**

# THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON

**"And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon."  
(Revelation 16:16)**



**Armageddon means "mount of Megiddo" in Hebrew. There's no place with that name, but there's an area in Palestine called "Megiddo."**

**That was a strategic area where many battles were fought. Apostate and faithful kings died there (Ahaziah, 2K. 9:27; Josiah, 2K. 23:29).**

**With that last attack, Satan tries to destroy the people who still remain faithful to God. *We are getting ready to remain faithful in that last battle as we decide to remain faithful in our temptations today.***

**That attack will be interrupted by the seventh plague (v. 17-21). That will happen just before "the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ." (Titus 2:13)**

**“While Jesus had been standing between God and guilty man, a restraint was upon the people; but when He stepped out from between man and the Father, the restraint was removed and Satan had entire control of the finally impenitent. It was impossible for the plagues to be poured out while Jesus officiated in the sanctuary; but as His work there is finished, and His intercession closes, there is nothing to stay the wrath of God, and it breaks with fury upon the shelterless head of the guilty sinner, who has slighted salvation and hated reproof. In that fearful time, after the close of Jesus’ mediation, the saints were living in the sight of a holy God without an intercessor. Every case was decided, every jewel numbered.”**

E.G.W. (Early Writings, p. 280)

**“The people of God will not be free from suffering; but while persecuted and distressed, while they endure privation and suffer for want of food they will not be left to perish. That God who cared for Elijah will not pass by one of His self-sacrificing children. He who numbers the hairs of their head will care for them, and in time of famine they shall be satisfied. While the wicked are dying from hunger and pestilence, angels will shield the righteous and supply their wants. To him that ‘walketh righteously’ is the promise: ‘Bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure.’ ‘When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the Lord will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them.’ Isaiah 33:15, 16; 41:17”**

E.G.W. (The Great Controversy, cp. 39, p. 629)