

THE TRUTH

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Lesson 25 - The Truth About God's Wrath

We are studying about events that will take place. As we read the inspired prophets of the Bible, we find that it is God's plan that at the end of time before Jesus comes, there will be seven terrible plagues that will come upon this world. These plagues are just as sure to come, as the fact the sun rose this morning. They are predictions of prophecy; they will be fulfilled.

1. What is the wrath of God? [Revelation 15:1; 16:1] Ans. The seven last _____

THE DELAY

2. What two events must be completed before the plagues begin?

- a. The final _____ of _____ people, both intellectually and spiritually. [Revelation 7:1-3]
- b. Jesus _____ his intercession in the _____. [Revelation 22:11; 8:5]

NOTE: After the sealing, Jesus will step out from between the Father and men; and God will keep silence no longer, but pour out His wrath on those who have rejected His truths for this time. He will stand up, put on the garments of vengeance, and then the seven last plagues will be poured out.

3. Whom did Isaiah say the inhabitants of Earth would not have someday? [Isaiah 59:16-17; Revelation 15:8] Ans. An _____

A PARALLEL

NOTE: The plagues that fell upon Egypt, [Exodus 7-12] when God was about to deliver Israel are similar in to those more which will fall upon the world just before the final deliverance of God's people. [Revelation 15, 16]

- I. Each of the ten plagues that fell upon Egypt was painfully literal and targeted a specific deity or God worshipped by the Egyptians.
- II. Similarly, each of the seven last plagues will be literal, yet each will strike a blow at some false aspect of modern Babylon's religion.

4. Will any of the wicked die under the falling of the seven last plagues? [Psalms 91:5-8] Ans.

5. What will not be mingled with the falling of the seven last plagues? [Habakkuk 3:2; Revelation 14:9, 10] Ans. _____

All the judgments upon men, prior to the close of probation, have been mingled with mercy. The pleading blood of Christ has shielded the sinner from receiving the full measure of his guilt; but in the final judgment, wrath is poured out unmixed with mercy. [Great Controversy, 628]

THE DURATION

6. What will be the duration of the seven last plagues? [Rev. 18:8] Ans. _____, which is interpreted as _____

NOTE: When the Word declares that these plagues will come in one day that does not mean a day of twenty-four hours. Why not? Because Revelation 16 shows that the seven last plagues are not confined to a period of only twenty-four hours. When it says the plagues will come in one day, that one-day must be a prophetic day. The Bible plainly shows that a day in prophecy represents a year. You will find that in Ezekiel 4:6. God says, "I have appointed thee each day for a year." On this basis you can see that the seven last plagues will cover the space of about one year.

7. While the plagues are falling, will all seven be felt simultaneously by the wicked? Ans. _____ and _____

"These plagues are not universal, or the inhabitants of the earth would be wholly cut off. Yet they will be the most awful scourges that have ever been known to mortals" [Great Controversy, 629]

EXAMINING THE PLAGUES

8. What is entailed in the "first plague? Who receives it? [Revelation 16:2; 2 Peter 1:19] Ans. a. A noisome and grievous _____. b. Those that receive the _____ of the _____

NOTE: Is this plague worldwide? Yes, because the mark of the beast will be worldwide. 'All the world wondered after the beast... all that dwell on the earth shall worship him.' [Revelation 13:3]

It seems appropriate that the first plague of the seven that falls on those in modern harlot Babylon who are guilty of spiritual fornication and adultery should be the terrible disease that comes as the result of physical uncleanness.

"A noisome, a grievous sore, indicates the dissolution of the body afflicted, and that the constitution is laboring under some inward disease, or affected by contagion from without. It is therefore a fit emblem to represent the exposure of the corruptions of the Church of Rome, and breaking out of those loath- some diseases of internal abominations which had been hid for ages from the world by the cunning craftiness of this Papal beast." [William Miller, Evidence, 220, 221]

9. What takes place under the "second plague?" [Rev. 16:3] Ans. _____ / _____ turn to _____

The word for 'soul' in Revelation 8:9 is "psuche" and is translated to mean, 'creatures' - obviously referring to marine life. When Moses smote the waters before Pharaoh and his great men, they saw the waters, which they adored, turned to blood. It was a putrid mass for seven days, and all the fish that were in it died. The people could not use the water for any purpose.

When we visualize the mammoth amount of life in the oceans, what a horrendous calamity this will be. Probably the dead sea-life by the multiplied millions of tons will be washed ashore layer upon layer, maybe for miles in extent. Not only will the harbors, river mouths, and beaches be choked with rotting flesh, but the overpowering stench will pollute the air for miles and make life a misery.

10. What takes place under the "third plague?" [Rev 16:4-7] Ans. _____ / _____ turn to _____

NOTE: The reason is given. The nations have craved for blood. The persecuting church shed the blood of millions. She was drunk with the blood of the saints. Those who feel the effects of this plague have followed the Papacy, so they share its fate... the wicked have just condemned the saints to death. [Revelation 13:15]

11. What will God's people drink and eat during this time? [Isaiah 33:16] Ans. God provides _____ and _____

12. What takes place under the "fourth plague?" [Rev. 16:4-7] Ans. _____ sun

It is doubtless the heat of the sun during the fourth plague that produces the terrible drought and famine pictured in Joel 1:15-20. Under this fourth judgment the very source of the temporal blessings of life is transformed into an agency of fearful torture and destruction. Normally, the sun warms and cheers men, and controls plant growth, climate, and many other natural processes necessary to the maintenance of life upon the earth. Now, it sends forth an excess of warmth and energy that tends to torment men and to destroy life.

13. What takes place under the "fifth plague?" [Revelation 16:10-11] Ans. _____

NOTE: This plague is poured upon the seat of the beast - the papacy. The seat of the beast is wherever the Papal See is located, which has been thus far, and without doubt will continue to be, the city of Rome. The headquarters of the papal kingdom that had so long kept millions in spiritual darkness will be visited with a darkness so dense and terrible that it will be painfully felt, as was the darkness during one of the plagues of Egypt..

- **They gnawed their tongues for pain:** The same power that caused unnumbered millions of martyrs to gnaw their tongues for pain on the rack and the stake, now receive the terrible penalty meted out by the eternal law of justice and retribution. They are judged as they judged. What they gave to others comes back upon their own heads.
- **Lies:** The tongues of the papal leaders have spoken blasphemies against God, His name, His sanctuary, and His truth, and now because of physical and mental anguish they punish their own tongues. They gnaw their tongues for pain and remorse.

14. What takes place under the “sixth plague?” [Rev. 16:12-16] Ans. The River _____ up.

The Euphrates represents the people over whom mystical Babylon holds sway. The waters of the Euphrates would thus be the ‘many waters’ on which mystical Babylon sits, the ‘inhabitants of the earth,’ whom she makes ‘drunk with the wine of her fornication.’ [Ch. 17:2]

Modern Babylon trusts in her ‘Euphrates’ (the support of the world’s populations) as naively as ancient Babylon did in hers (the literal river.) The drying up of the water represents the drying up of support by those multitudes that had been deluded by the woman and her spiritual daughters.

15. What takes place under the “seventh plague?” [Rev. 16:17-21] Ans. _____ falls from heaven.

In the Old Testament, the law required persons convicted of notorious crimes to be stoned to death.

- a. _____ [Leviticus 24:17]
- b. Practicing _____ or the _____ [Leviticus 20:27]
- c. _____ [Leviticus 20:10]
- d. _____ [Leviticus 24:16]
- e. _____ [Deut. 21:18-21]
- f. A woman who proclaimed to be a _____ at marriage, but wasn't: [Deut. 22:13-21]
- g. _____ [Deut. 17:2-5]
- h. _____ the _____ [Numbers 15:32:36]

The entire community, indicating everyone’s abhorrence of the great crime, did the stoning. Under the seventh plague the people who have worshiped the beast, blasphemed God, and refused to repent are hail-stoned to death while heavenly voices approve. [Deuteronomy 13:2-11; 21:18-21; 22:23,24; Leviticus 24:16]

- Every stone the weight of a talent – each stone probably weighs about _____ pounds.

16. What does the prophet Zephaniah encourage everyone to do before the plagues are poured out? [Zephaniah 2:1-3] Ans. To seek _____ and _____

17. What about those who are still in Babylon’s “false worship” system? [Revelation 18:4] Ans. They are admonished to _____ of confusion.