



# REVELATION

FOLLOWING THE WAY OF THE LAMB

## Study 14

### *Echoes of Exodus: The Seven Last Plagues* Revelation 15-16

### Dwelling in the Word

Prayerfully read through Revelation 15-16 and ask: 1) What words, phrases, or images stood out to you? 2) What does this say about what God desires to accomplish in you? 3) How could you respond to God in this passage?

### Digging Deeper

1. Re-read the worship song from 15:3-4, then read Moses' song from Exodus 15:1-18. Write down any phrases or themes that the two songs have in common. Freedom to worship God is central to both the Exodus deliverance and the final deliverance of God's people at the end of history. Use your list of themes and phrases from the songs to pray for our Christian 'siblings' around the world who long for this full freedom.
2. Scripture is full of promises and warnings; blessings for obedience and also curses for disobedience. Read Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28 (which were not enough to motivate ancient Israel to consistent faithfulness). In contrast, through Jesus' new covenant we receive the Spirit to spur us toward faith(fulness) and receive eternal blessing, avoiding the curse of death forever. Jesus, our passover Lamb has done this, rejoice!
3. God's wrath is never arbitrary, but is distributed with distinction to those who decidedly refuse to comply with his good and perfect will. Think on the following statement from Craig Koester, "...justice for the oppressed means judgement on those who oppress them." Do you trust God to ultimately judge the world in fairness and truth? If this is hard for you, why might this be so?

### For Groups

1. In 15:8 John envisions that, "The Temple was filled with smoke from the Glory of God and his power." This is reminiscent of Old Testament passages where smoke filled the Tabernacle or Temple as a sign of God's presence. As you start your group time, pause in prayer to be reminded that God is present as you gather.
2. These chapters may seem uncomfortable, as wrath is a central motif. What is your reaction to these references to God's wrath being poured out? (surprise? awe? worship? fear? trust? sadness? relief? anger?) How do you reconcile the possible tension of a God who is both a righteous Judge and also a merciful Father?  
*[Additional resources: [Is the God of the Bible an Angry God?](#); [Slow to Anger - Character of God Word Study](#)]*
3. What 3 adjectives would you use to best describe the character of God based on what you've read in the scriptures and from your experience walking in relationship with Jesus? Share/discuss these with your group.
4. In 15:1 and in 16:17, we are reminded that victory is assured, and "it is finished." Often, when we, or people we care about, are walking through difficult situations, it can feel like there will be no end. Are there any situations in your group that you have been praying for, for a while? Share some updates and continued hopes and then pray for one another in hope and with confidence that one day there will be an end, and that God is victorious.

### Living it Out

The only set of instructions in Chapters 15 and 16 is found in the interlude of 16:15; Jesus' interjection of warning and encouragement for his followers to stay alert, awake, prepared and ready for his return. This was an active theme in Jesus' teaching ministry as seen in the gospels, in both his parables, and his teaching about the end of the age. Think deeply for a few minutes on the state of the Church in the world. In what ways do you feel that the church (at large) is ready for Jesus' return? In what ways do you sense that it is not? How can you, as an individual, better ready yourself in preparation for Jesus' promised return? You may have things to confess, relationships to reconcile, or maybe even just thinking about Jesus' return as the 'last act' of redemption more frequently in your meditation time could be a possible step for you. Consider reading 2 Peter 3 again (the benediction from Sunday), as an encouragement and challenge of what to pay attention to.



## ECHOES OF EXODUS: THE 7 BOWLS

Revelation 15-16  
February 25, 2024 | Caley Tse



Revelation is at its core a book about  
Jesus Christ,  
worship and discipleship,  
and final hope for the world.

**DON'T FORGET!**

**Symbols**  
represent,  
not describe.

**Contexts**  
are crucial.

Revelation's  
**purpose**  
was/is primarily  
for believers.

7 Seals (6:1-8:1)	7 Trumpets (8:2-11:19)	<b>You Are Here</b> →	7 Bowls (15:1-16:21)
1: Conquest 2: Violence 3: Economic Hardship 4: Death	1: Earth 1/3 scorched 2: Sea 1/3 to blood 3: Water 1/3 bitter 4: Sun 1/3 darkened	<b>The Dragon &amp; the Beasts (12:1-14:20)</b>	1: Sores 2: Sea to blood 3: Rivers to blood 4: Scorching sun
5: Martyrs 6: Cataclysm	5: Locusts (1 Woe) 6: Calvary (2 Woe)		5: Darkness 6: Demonic Frogs
Interlude (7:1-17)	Interlude (10:1-11:14)		Interlude (16:15)
7: Silence (7 Trumpets)	7: Consummation		7: Earthquake
<b>Intensification</b> →			



**ECHOES OF \_\_\_\_\_:  
THE 7 BOWLS**



**ECHOES OF GENESIS:  
THE 7 BOWLS**



**ECHOES OF LEVITICUS:  
& DEUTERONOMY  
THE 7 BOWLS**



**THE  
ECHOES OF PSALMS:  
THE 7 BOWLS**



THE  
ECHOES OF PROPHETS:  
THE 7 BOWLS



THE  
ECHOES OF GOSPELS:  
THE 7 BOWLS



I will lay my hand on Egypt and with **mighty acts of judgment** I will bring out my divisions, my people the Israelites. And the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out of it.

Exodus 7:4-5



TODAY'S ROADMAP:

**Revelation 15:** Echoes of Praise  
(Dwelling in the Word)

**Revelation 16:** Echoes of Plagues  
Echoes of Passover

I saw in heaven another great and marvelous sign: seven angels with the seven last plagues—last, because with them God’s wrath is completed. And I saw what looked like a sea of glass glowing with fire and, standing beside the sea, those who had been victorious over the beast and its image and over the number of its name. They held harps given them by God and sang the song of God’s servant Moses and of the Lamb:

“Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty.

Just and true are your ways, King of the nations.

Who will not fear you, Lord, and bring glory to your name?

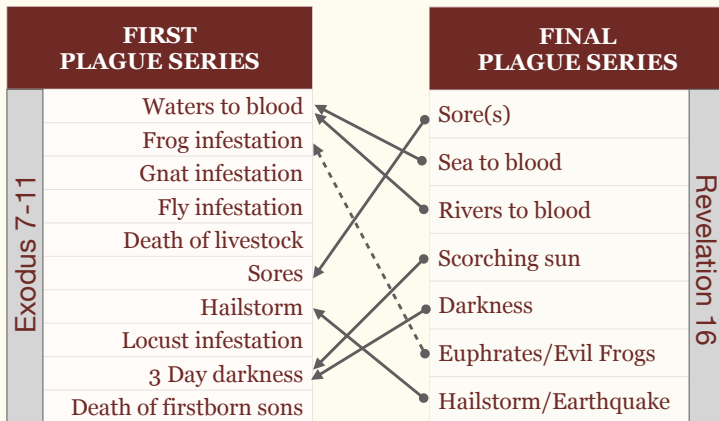
For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed.”

After this I looked, and I saw in heaven the temple—that is, the tabernacle of the covenant law—and it was opened. Out of the temple came the seven angels with the seven plagues. They were dressed in clean, shining linen and wore golden sashes around their chests. Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls filled with the wrath of God, who lives for ever and ever. And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power, and no one could enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.

## TODAY’S ROADMAP:

**Revelation 15:** Echoes of Praise  
(Dwelling in the Word)

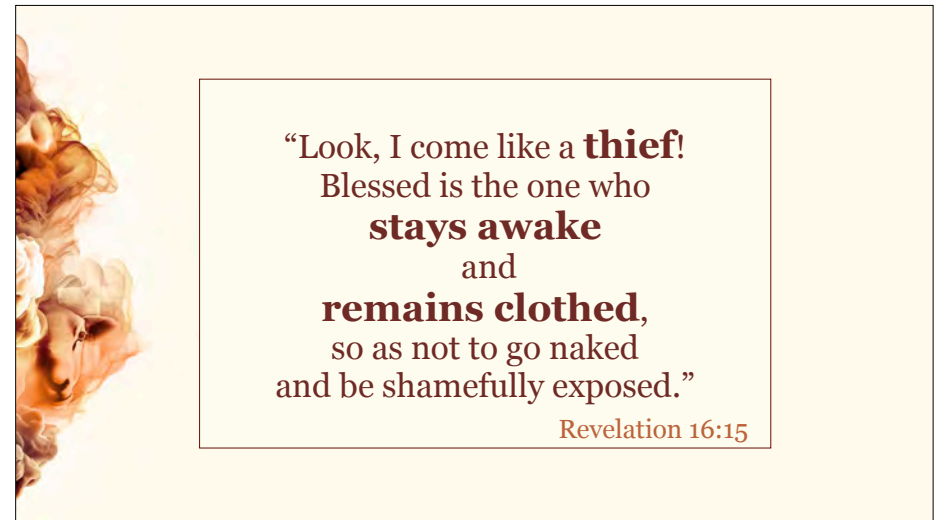
**Revelation 16:** Echoes of Plagues  
Echoes of Passover



## KEY ECHOES: PLAGUES

1. **Worship** is at stake *centrally*.
2. **Warnings** are proclaimed *repeatedly*.
3. **Wrath** is distributed *distinctly*.

<b>7 Seals</b> (6:1-8:1)	<p>“Look, I come like a <b>thief!</b> Blessed is the one who <b>stays awake</b> and <b>remains clothed,</b> so as not to go naked and be shamefully exposed.”</p>	<b>7 Bowls</b> (15:1-16:21)
1: Conquest 2: Violence 3: Economic Hardship 4: Death		1: Sores 2: Sea to blood 3: Rivers to blood 4: Scorching sun
5: Martyrs 6: Cataclysm		5: Darkness 6: Demonic Frogs
Interlude (7:1-17)		Interlude (16:15)
7: Silence (7 Trumpets)		7: Earthquake

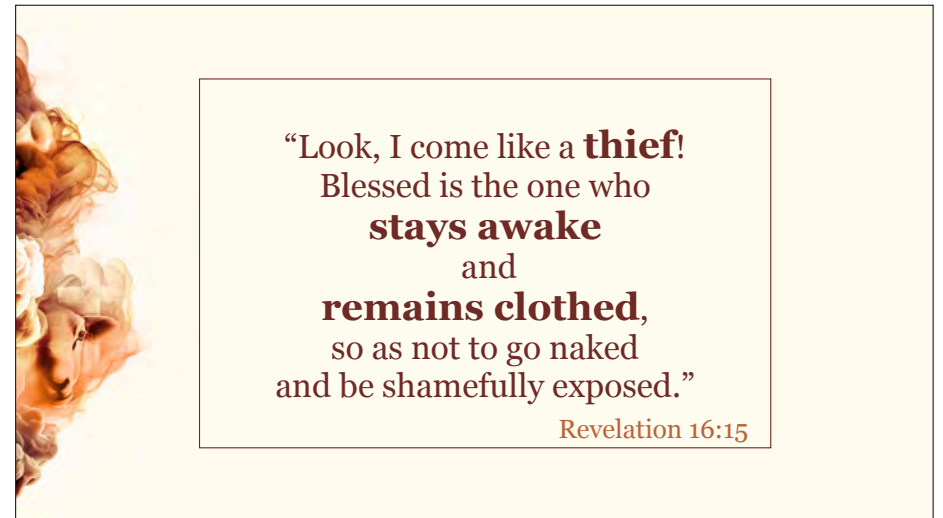


... all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at **twilight**. Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. That same **night** they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. ... Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. This is how you are to eat it: with your **cloak tucked into your belt**, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the Lord's Passover.

“On that same **night** I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.


Because the Lord kept vigil that night to bring them out of Egypt, on this night all the Israelites are to keep vigil to honor the Lord for the generations to come.

Exodus 12:6-8, 10-13, 42



“Be **dressed** ready for service and keep your lamps burning, like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him... It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the **thief** was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”

Luke 12:35-36, 38-40



“Look, I come like a **thief!**  
Blessed is the one who  
**stays awake**  
and  
**remains clothed,**  
so as not to go naked  
and be shamefully exposed.”

Revelation 16:15

**Wake up!** But if you do not wake up, **I will come like a thief**, and you will not know at what time I will come to you...

**They will walk with me, dressed in white**, for they are worthy. The one who is victorious will, like them, **be dressed in white.**

Revelation 3:2-5

I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and **white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness...**

Revelation 3:17-18

“Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.

**Fine linen, bright and clean was given her to wear.”**

(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God’s holy people.)

Revelation 19:6-9

## KEY ECHOES: PASSOVER



**STAY AWAKE!  
STAY CLOTHED!  
BE READY!**