

Events in Revelation 16 transpire after Jesus has arrived and begins to gather His people. This wrath is reserved for those who defy Jesus in His presence, during the 75 extra days.

First Bowl Rev 16:2

Those who worship the beast manifest malignant sores.

Second Bowl Rev 16:3

The (Mediterranean) sea becomes blood. Everything in it dies.

Third Bowl Rev 16:4

Regional rivers and waters (springs, lakes) also "become blood."

Fourth Bowl Rev 16:8-9

The sun burns with fierce, scorching heat on those unwilling to submit to Jesus.

a. In the first four bowls, nature is retaliating against that which would blaspheme its Creator.

b. This is happening on earth, focused on the antichrist's kingdom centered in the Mediterranean region, but the effects quite likely reach the entire planet.

c. These events take place after Jesus has returned to earth, and makes His way to Jerusalem to receive His Kingdom. His Second Coming unfolds as more of a process than a single event.

Note: In 16:9b, John notices that, although pressed severely, blasphemers still do not repent.

Fifth Bowl Rev 16:10-11

A spiritual event of darkness that causes severe pain, carried out on the kingdom of darkness and its followers.

Sixth Bowl Rev 16:12-16

The Euphrates is shown to be a spiritual boundary that, when removed, allows 3 unclean spirits to motivate remaining evil armies to march on Jerusalem.

d. The dominion of the antichrist is experiencing the painful effects of blasphemy against God, who has just given them over to their own desire for life without Light, and has removed Israel's last remaining protective boundaries.

e. The principalities and blasphemers that are yet intentionally rebellious to Jesus' headship experience the wrath of God.

f. This leads to the battle of Armageddon.

Note: Verse 15 is a last call to repentance.

Seventh Bowl Rev 16:17-21

The last of God's wrath is poured out on earth. Creation experiences the greatest earthquake ever, and 100 lb. hail falls on the remaining blasphemers.

g. A vision of events depicting the final installment of God's wrath on the earth.

h. The last of the antichrist's followers and all principalities are destroyed at Armageddon...

i. ...culminating in the end of this age.