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Babylon & Bowls of Wrath

Beast System Exposure and Judgment, Revelation 16 & 17

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– *Beast System Exposure and Judgment, Revelation 16 & 17*

- **Introduction: From Verdict to Execution**

Where Revelation 14–15 declared the pending outcome:

- Babylon is fallen
- The nations are warned
- The Lamb is affirmed as King

Revelation 16 now begins the **implementation of that judgment.**

This shift in understanding is critical:

The courtroom has spoken — now the sentence is carried out.

- **Revelation 16: The Bowls of Wrath Begin**

Seven angels pour out bowls of judgment upon the earth.

This imagery is not new, it is the **Exodus Pattern Revisited.**

- **Introduction: From Verdict to Execution** (*Continued*)

This section draws heavily from the **plagues of Egypt:**

- **Book of Exodus 7-12** (*Plagues of Egypt*)

The parallels are unmistakable:

Exodus

Water → Blood

Boils

Darkness

Frogs

Revelation

Sea & Rivers → Blood

Painful Sores

Darkness Over The Kingdom

Unclean Spirits

Underlying Meaning of “Exodus Revisited” -

Just as Egypt was judged for oppressing God’s people:

- The world system is now judged for opposing the Lamb.

Divine Council Worldview (“DCW”) Insight:

Egypt was not just a nation — Metaphorically Egypt represented:

- A **spiritual-political system opposed to God** - Yet here Revelation applies this pattern **globally**.

- **The Bowl Judgments – An Overview**

Judgment passed on the “Beast System”:

Bowls	Judgment	OT Reference	Meaning
1	Painful Sores	Exodus 9	Targets Followers of the Beast (Those “Marked”)
2	Sea → Blood	Exodus 7, Deuteronomy 32	Source of Nations/System Judged
3	Rivers → Blood	Genesis 9, Exodus 7:20-21	Justice for Bloodshed
4	Scorching Heat	Deuteronomy 28	True Loyalty Revealed
5	Darkness	Exodus 10	Beginning Collapse of the “Beast” System
6	Euphrates Dried	Isaiah 11:15 , Joel 3	Nations Gathered for Judgment
7	Earthquake + Hail	Ezekiel 38	Final Collapse of the World “Beast” System

- **First Bowl: Exposure of False Allegiance**

The first bowl strikes those who bear the mark of the Beast.

This reveals something important:

Judgment is not random — it is **targeted**, using **allegiance** as a determining factor.

This Echoes the Old Testament:

- Passover (*Exodus 12*)
- Distinction between Egypt and Israel

Meaning of the First Bowl

God distinguishes between:

- Those aligned with Him
- Those aligned with the Beast

Calling them out for judgment

- **Second Bowl: The Sea Becomes Blood**

“The sea became like the blood of a corpse, and every living thing in the sea died.”

- The entire sea turns to blood
- Not partial — total collapse of life
- “Blood of a corpse” → death, decay, corruption

Two Old Testament patterns relate to the judgment on the “Sea of Nations”:

Exodus Pattern

- Book of Exodus 7:20–21
- Nile → blood
- Egypt’s life-source judged

Deuteronomy 32 Pattern

- Book of Deuteronomy 32:42–43
- Bloodshed judged
- Nations held accountable

- **Second Bowl: The Sea Becomes Blood** (*Continued*)

The sea represents the “Realm of the Nations”

- The Beast rises from the sea (*Revelation 13*)

Meaning:

God is judging the source of the Beast system. Conceptually speaking: The Beast rises from the sea —
so God judges the sea.

What this Reveals:

- The system’s very foundation is corrupted.
- What once gave life now produces death
- Judgment is not random — it is system-level

- **The Third Bowl: Justice Declared**

The **waters** turn to blood. These waters are the **sources** within the **System**

Rivers and springs represent:

- origins of sustenance
- resources supporting life
- supply lines
- localized systems

Then a voice declares:

“They have shed the blood of saints... so you have given them blood to drink.”

Old Testament Connection

Genesis 9 (*Blood Justice*) & Isaiah 49

Meaning of the Third Bowl

This is **measured justice**: Not chaos. Not revenge. But divine accountability.

- **Fourth Bowl: Scorching Heat**

“The sun was allowed to scorch people with fire...they cursed God... and did not repent.”

- Sun intensifies → extreme heat
- People are scorched
- No repentance — only cursing of God

So what was meant to sustain life now brings judgment. There is no longer any confusion about where those that suffer loyalty lies. It is demonstrated by their response, their judgment decided.

WHAT THIS REVEALS

- Judgment does not change them
- Truth is clear, but rejected
- Allegiance is fixed

By this point, the question is not *‘Who will you choose?’*—but *‘Where is who you have chosen?’*

- **Fifth Bowl: Darkness on the Earthly Kingdoms**

Darkness falls on the kingdom of the Beast.

This recalls the Old Testament:

- Exodus plague of darkness **Exodus 10:21-23**
- Day of the Lord as darkness **Amos 5**

Meaning

The kingdom that claimed to bring “light” is revealed as darkness.

DCW Insight

This is the **collapse of false enlightenment**

The system that promised:

- knowledge
- order
- progress

...is now exposed as **spiritually blind**.

- **The Sixth Bowl: Gathering the Nations**

The Euphrates is dried up making way for the *Kings of the East*; and unclean spirits gather the kings of the earth.

Old Testament Connections:

- Rivers dried for deliverance **Isaiah 11**
- Nations gathered for judgment **Joel 3**

Armageddon

This refers to **Har-Megiddo**: a place of decisive conflict in Israel's history

Meaning

The nations are gathered for conflict, not for victory they anticipate — but for judgment

DCW Insight

This is the moment where: The nations under corrupted rule are brought together for final accountability – and ultimate demonstration of the Beast System's futility.

- **The Seventh Bowl: “It is Done”**

A loud voice declares: “It is done.”

Old Testament Echoes

- Creation completion **Genesis 2**
- Judgment completion **Ezekiel 38:19-23**

Meaning

The system has reached its end - Earthquake and Collapse

- Cities fall
- Babylon remembered
- The world system fractures

- **Revelation 17: The Full Revelation of Babylon**

Now John is shown what Babylon truly is. This answers the question raised earlier: “Who is Babylon?”

The Woman on the Beast

John sees:

- a woman sitting on a scarlet beast
- adorned in wealth
- holding a cup of abominations

Old Testament Imagery

Jeremiah 51 — Babylon as a Golden Cup

Ezekiel 16 — Harlot Imagery

Nahum 3 — Prostitute City

- **Revelation 17: The Full Revelation of Babylon** (*Continued*)

Meaning

Babylon is an entire **civilization system**, not merely a *city*.

- The **Beast** = political authority, coercive power
 - The **Harlot (Babylon)** = religious/cultural seduction, false worship
- Combined they are the “Mystery Babylon”

Old Testament Meaning

Harlotry represents:

- idolatry
- covenant betrayal
- spiritual corruption

Interpretation

Babylon seduces the nations into:

- false worship
- false security
- false identity

- **Revelation 17: The Full Revelation of Babylon** *(Continued)*

John sees:

The woman is drunk with the blood of the saints

Meaning

The Babylon system is not neutral.

It is:

- seductive
- powerful
- and ultimately persecuting

Connection to Earlier Chapters

Dragon → persecutes

Beast → wages war

Babylon → celebrates it

- **Revelation 17: The Full Revelation of Babylon** *(Continued)*

The Beast and the Woman: A Temporary Alliance

The woman rides the Beast.

But later:

The Beast turns on her.

Meaning

- The system is inherently unstable
- Political power eventually destroys the system that sustained it.

The Seven Heads and Ten Kings

These represent: **kingdoms, rulers, authority structures**

Daniel Connection (Daniel 7) — beasts and horns

Revelation is a continuation of the same pattern of empires described in the **Book of Daniel**

- **The Two Kingdoms Now Fully Revealed**

Revelation 16 executes the judgment declared in heaven, while Revelation 17 unveils the true nature of Babylon — a system of power, deception, and rebellion — showing that the kingdoms of this world are collapsing as the authority of the nations is reclaimed under the rule of the **Lamb**.

Beast Kingdom

Dragon → authority

Beast → political power

False Prophet → religious control

Babylon → cultural seduction

Kingdom of the Lamb

God → authority

Lamb → King

Spirit → truth

People → faithful witnesses

- **Final Insight - DCW Context**

Revelation 16–17 reveals:

Not just judgment... but the **exposure and dismantling of the entire rebellious worldly system** that has existed since Babel **Deuteronomy 32**.

- **Final Insight - DCW Context** *(Continued)*

Regarding **Faithfulness, Fulfillment, and Final Judgment**, Revelation describes the saints as those who:

- “...**keep the commandments of God**”
- “...**hold to the testimony of Jesus**”

This language reflects both:

continuity with God’s covenant through Israel
fulfillment of that covenant in the Messiah

The Bible presents **one single unfolding story**, not two separate ones:

- God establishes His covenant through Israel
- The Messiah comes through that covenant
- The nations are drawn into that same redemptive plan

The culmination of Revelation does not erase this story—it brings it to completion. John’s writing here focuses on allegiance to the true God, tested under pressure, where ultimately God alone judges the heart and response to His revelation.

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