

## Chapter 16

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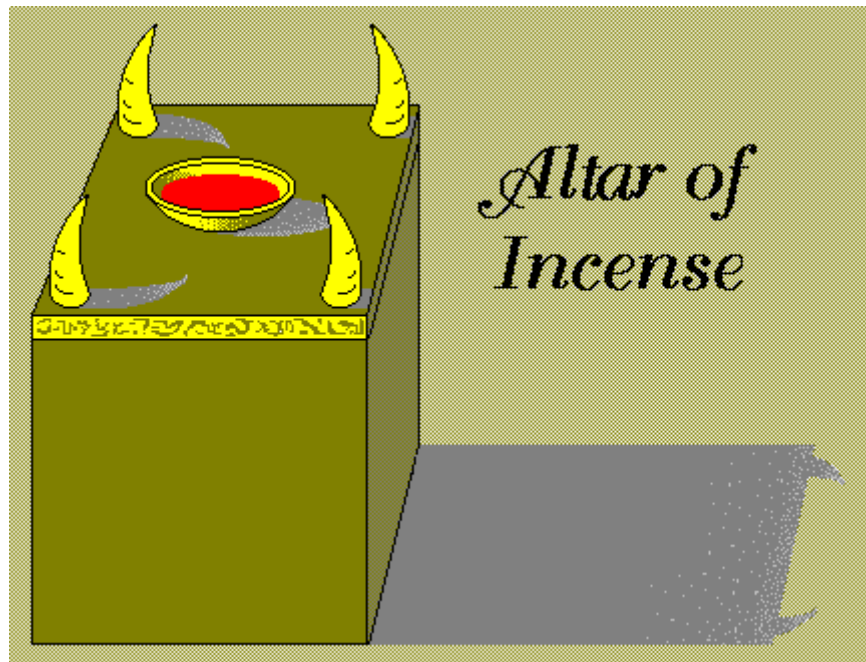
This chapter deals with the outpouring of the seven plagues upon the earth in preparation of the second coming of the Savior. Through the pouring out of the plagues, the Lord cleanses the earth from sin, and prepares it for His millennial reign.

**Verse 1:** *"And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth"*. John uses the symbols of the ancient temple to relay a message of the events in the last days, and the judgment that awaits the wicked. To better understand this verse, and the rest of this chapter, we need to understand the basic concept of the temple under the law of Moses. The temple obviously represents God, both his dwelling place and his knowledge. John says that he sees seven angels coming from the temple. Again, the number seven is a symbol of completeness. They are commanded to go their ways and pour out seven vials. The word *"vial"* is translated from the Greek word *phiale*, which in reality should be translated as the word *"bowl"*, especially one used in sacred offerings (Opening of the Seven Seals, the Visions of John the Revelator, by Richard D. Draper, page 173).



The ancient temple concentrated Israel's focus on sacrifice. Sacrifice was done in the similitude of the coming and death of the Messiah. There were various sacrifices performed in the temple for various reasons. There were peace offerings, and sin offerings just to name a few. One very important aspect of the sacrificial ceremony was the offering of atonement. Israel was commanded to offer this atonement in a very specific way, *"And Aaron shall make an atonement upon the horns of it (the altar of incense) once in a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonements: once in the year shall he make atonement upon it throughout your generations: it is most holy unto the LORD (Exodus 30:10)"*. It was commanded that the children of Israel provide a unblemished lamb upon the sacrificial altar. The lamb was to be slain in a very specific way explained to

them by the Lord. Aaron was to collect some of the blood of the lamb in a vessel, a bowl made from the earth. The bowl was to then be taken to the altar of incense and blood was placed upon each of the four horns by the fingers of Aaron. The four horns represent the four corners of the earth, and this in turn symbolizes the all encompassing effects of the atonement. One should note the association of the number seven with the offering of atonement. Once a year the atonement was offered as commanded, "*Seven days thou shalt make an atonement for the altar, and sanctify it; and it shall be an altar most holy: whatsoever toucheth the altar shall be holy (Exodus 29:37)*". Again we see that the atonement of the Savior is all encompassing and complete.



In order to fully understand what message John is conveying here we need to understand the offering of atonement. The American Heritage Dictionary (third edition) says an atonement is "*Amends of reparation made for an injury or wrong; expiation*". It is also "*Reconciliation or an instance of reconciliation between God and human beings*". Why was it necessary for Israel to offer atonement? Quite simply, for the same reasons it is necessary that we partake of the atonement. As father Adam brought sin into the world, we find that we have all partaken of it to one degree or another in our lives.

Paul wrote, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned (Romans 5:12)". The fact that no unclean thing can enter into Gods' presence leaves us with a dilemma. How do we as unclean souls, having all partaken in sin, return to Father? That brings us to the atonement. It is the tool by which we can make amends and reconciliation for our sins. By partaking of the atonement, we can return to Father.

The offering of atonement by ancient Israel, symbolized the actual atonement of the Son of Man. It was his great offering that made it possible for us to reconcile our sins with the Father. Without him there would be no hope for our return to his presence. We must understand; however, that the atonement is given to all mankind to partake of it. Many would believe that all mankind will reap the benefits of the atonement without partaking of it. Modern day revelation explains how we partake of the atonement. *"Therefore I command you to repent--repent, lest I smite you by the rod of my mouth, and by my wrath, and by my anger, and your sufferings be sore--how sore you know not, how exquisite you know not, yea, how hard to bear you know not. For behold, I, God, have suffered these things for all, that they might not suffer if they would repent; But if they would not repent they must suffer even as I; Which suffering caused myself, even God, the greatest of all, to tremble because of pain, and to bleed at every pore, and to suffer both body and spirit--and would that I might not drink the bitter cup, and shrink (Doctrine and Covenants 19:15-18)".*

The symbol of the bowls, translated incorrectly as vials, represents the atonement of our sins. It was the way that ancient Israel symbolically partook of the atonement. John adopts this symbolic ritual to explain the events of the last days. The remainder of this chapter deals with the seven bowls being poured out, specifically upon the wicked. Given this, and the fact that the wicked are those that have not partaken of the atonement; we can see the beginnings of the fulfillment of the saviors word, " *if they would not repent they must suffer even as I*". To the righteous the atonement symbolizes salvation, and to the wicked it symbolized eternal anguish, damnation and pain. The latter is the case for the remainder of this chapter.



**Verse 2:**

The first Vial (Bowl) is opened. ***"And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image"***. According to the footnote in the King James version of the Bible adopted by the

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, noisome is a word that should be translated from the Greek as bad or evil in nature. The American Heritage Dictionary (Third edition) says, noisome is to be offensive to the point of arousing disgust; foul. It could also be defined as harmful or dangerous. Either way, the term is not one that instills pleasant thoughts.

The word grievous is defined as causing grief, pain, or anguish. It could also be used to mean serious or dire; grave.

We can see that the pouring out of this bowl will result in a dangerous, disgusting, and agonizing sore upon those that have the sign of the beast and worship the beast. As spoken of previously, the beast represents the wicked nation of the earth. It represents worldliness in its full nature. Having the sign of the beast would symbolize ones devotion to it, and worshipping it would indicate that the beast and all that it stands for are priority in ones life.

When one thinks of a sore, the idea of an infected wound might be pictured; however, there is another definition which might better suit the topic. The dictionary says a sore can also mean something that causes misery, sorrow, or distress; grievous. The terrible sore spoken of by John is not explained in full detail to us at this point; however, it will be a calamity of great proportion. It will most probably destroy many of the material things on earth, since that is what would be of most importance to those that follow the beast. This great calamity is directed specifically at those that worship the things of the world.


This calamity might be the one spoken of by the sounding of the first trump in Revelation chapter eight (8), verse seven (7). The two passages compare as follows;



*Chapter 16, Verse 2 "And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image."*

*Chapter 8, Verse 7 "The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up."*

**Verse 3:**

The second  Vial (Bowl) is opened. *"And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood*

*of a dead man; and every living soul died in the sea''.* We should not ignore the reality and possible literal nature of these plagues. Most of the plagues issued by God have been literal rather than figurative. The plagues that were unleashed upon Egypt in the days of Moses seem almost unbelievable, yet they literally happened. Likewise, we should not consider these last plagues symbolic just because that they are difficult to comprehend. Let us look at the ten plagues of Moses recorded in Exodus chapters seven (7) through thirteen (13);

<b><i>1st Plague</i></b>	<i>The river was turned to blood. The fish in the river died, and the water stank. There was blood throughout Egypt.</i>
<b><i>2nd Plague</i></b>	<i>Frogs came forth and covered the whole land.</i>
<b><i>3rd Plague</i></b>	<i>Lice plagued the land. They were as numerous as dust.</i>
<b><i>4th Plague</i></b>	<i>A grievous swarm of flies filled the land.</i>
<b><i>5th Plague</i></b>	<i>The cattle throughout the land die.</i>
<b><i>6th Plague</i></b>	<i>Festering boils and blisters infected all living creatures.</i>
<b><i>7th Plague</i></b>	<i>Thunder, hail, and fire destroy all the crops.</i>
<b><i>8th Plague</i></b>	<i>Locust come and eat all that is green in the land.</i>
<b><i>9th Plague</i></b>	<i>Thick darkness for three days.</i>
<b><i>10th Plague</i></b>	<i>The first born of all the Egyptians die.</i>

They have striking similarity to many of the seven last plagues. We should keep in mind that even if the plagues are literal, there might be symbolism attached to them. For instance, the term sea is often used to symbolize people, while blood symbolizes death, or atonement. They verse might have some symbolic overtures which teach that many people will die. This calamity appears to be the associated with the sounding of the second trump in Revelation chapter eight (8), verses eight (8) through nine (9). The two passages compare as follows;



**Chapter 16, Verse 3** "And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man; and every living soul died in the sea."

**Chapter 8, Verses 8-9** "And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood; And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed."



**Verses 4-6:**

The third Vial (Bowl) is opened. *"And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy"*. Again, this passage is probably literal in nature; however, the following symbolism might be applied. The rivers and fountains might symbolize people; though, if the symbolic meaning was to be gained through the word water, it would symbolize cleansing. Whatever the case, they became as blood. As stated previously, blood usually represents death, or atonement. This symbolism appears to be quite fitting in that the waters were responsible for the death of many of the saints and prophets. Thus, the water represents wicked people. To them was given blood to drink. Drinking symbolizes the partaking of something, in this case death. They are to die for their sins. John says they are to die because they are worthy. Note that the word worthy should have been translated from the Greek as deserving. This offers a much better explanation.

This plague appears to be closely associated with the sounding of the third trump in Revelation chapter eight (8), verses ten (10) through eleven (11). They compare as follows;



**Chapter 16, Verses 4-6** "And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy."

**Chapter 8, Verses 10-11** "And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter."



**Verses 7-9:** The fourth Vial (Bowl) is opened. "And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments. And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory".

The sounding of the fourth trumpet brought changes in the firmament as 1/3 of the sun, the moon, and the stars were darkened. Likewise, changes in the firmament are brought by the pouring out of the fourth bowl. The sun is often used as a symbol of the power of God. If this is the case, this angel is given this power to scorch men with fire. Fire represents destruction, cleansing and the removal of the wicked. Note that such a fate, we are told, is given to the wicked, but to those that blasphemy God's name, and refuse to repent of their sins. Chapter eight (8), verses twelve (12) through thirteen (13) of the book of Revelation speaks of the sounding of the fourth trumpet and similar events. They compare as follows;



**Chapter 16, Verses 7-9** "And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments. And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory."

**Chapter 8, Verses 12-13** "And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise. And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!"



**Verses 10-11:** The fifth Vial (Bowl) is opened. "And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds". The American Heritage Dictionary (third edition) says a seat is a center of authority; a capital. The tongue is a symbol of whole man or the speech thereof. To gnaw can mean to bite or chew on, or erode with the teeth. It could also take on the meaning of afflicting or worrying persistently.

With the sounding of the fifth trump in Revelation chapter nine (9), verse one(1) through twelve (12), we saw the bottomless pit opened and thick darkness arise from the pit. It was then that we saw the army of the wicked arise from the smoke, represented by the symbol of locust. With the pouring out of the fifth bowl we see the stronghold of the wicked filled with darkness. The wicked appear to become stirred up against God because of the judgments upon them for their unrepentant ways. It would appear that there is some correlation between the fifth trump and the fifth bowl. They compare as follows;



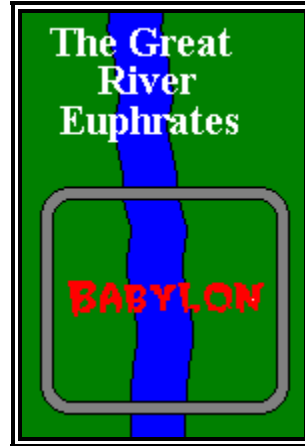


**Chapter 16, Verses 10-11** "And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds."

**Chapter 9, Verses 1-12** "And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power....."



**Verses 12-14:** The sixth Vial (Bowl) is opened. "And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty". Though the great river Euphrates might literally dry up, there is a possibility that the reference made to its drying up is symbolic. The city of Babylon was built on the river. Their fortress city gained it's strength from the river. It was the source of life, survival, and security to those that dwelt in the city. Since Babylon is a symbol used to represent the wicked, the Euphrates could in turn be used to symbolize the strength and power of the wicked. This symbolic interpretation would stand to reason, since this occurrence is to prepare the coming of the Savior, or as John states, "*the kings of the east*".



It would seem that in a last attempt, the adversary begins to unleash the remainder of his resources. John sees the coming forth of three unclean spirits that he likens unto frogs. Frogs are often used as symbols for the devil or that which comes from him. In Egypt, frogs arise from the slime areas of the Nile annually. They are associated with uncleanness and abomination, as the law of Moses forbids their consumption. *"And all that have not fins and scales in the seas, and in the rivers, of all that move in the waters, and of any living thing which is in the waters, they shall be an abomination unto you (Leviticus 11:10)"*. The three unclean spirits are said to come, one from the mouth of the dragon, one from the mouth of the beast, and one from the mouth of the false prophet. The symbol of the mouth generally represents the person. More specifically it symbolizes the power of the spirit in inspiring the soul and life.

The dragon, as previously cited, represents Lucifer, while the beast represents the wicked nations of the world. John introduces a new figure into this section of his vision, the false prophet. A prophet is defined as a person who speaks by divine inspiration or as the interpreter through whom the will of God is expressed (American Heritage Dictionary, Third Edition). Thus, we see that a false prophet would be one that professes to be a prophet; however, lacks divine inspiration and isn't called of God. A word used synonymous with the term false prophet is that of an anti-Christ. The bible dictionary says an anti-Christ is one who would assume the guise of Christ, but in reality would be opposed to Christ.

It would seem that the adversary will take three approaches in leading men astray in the last days. He calls them three unclean spirits. The word unclean, obviously represents something not of God. Spirit, might represent the state of being that we were in prior to earth life; however, it most probably represents an inclination or a tendency of a specific kind (American Heritage Dictionary, third

edition). Of the three approaches Satan will use in the last days the first is the direct approach. This is represented by the unclean spirit from the mouth of the dragon. It is more or less the open rebellion of man. Those that choose out right to deny Christ and follow the principles of the adversary. In modern societies, we see this as Satan worship, and other forms of cult worship that teach men to deny the Christ. The second approach is represented by the unclean spirit out of the mouth of the beast. This unclean spirit is one that teaches man to rely on his own abilities. It teaches that there is no Satan and no God, but just man. It is represented in modern society as atheism, humanism, world government, science, and other such organizations that teach the philosophies of men. Finally, we see the unclean spirit from the mouth of the anti-Christ. This spirit leads mankind after religious affiliations that they would suppose are of God; however, they lack the power, authority, and knowledge required for salvation. When Joseph Smith inquired of the Lord as to which church he was to follow, he was directed that he *"must join none of them, for they were all wrong; and the Personage who addressed" him "said that all their creeds were an abomination in his sight; that those professors were all corrupt" that "they draw near to me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me, they teach for doctrines the commandments of men, having a form of godliness, but they deny the power thereof (Joseph Smith History 1:19)".*

The unclean spirits of the dragon and the beast, though powerful in leading men astray, are much more obvious for the faithful to discern. The unclean spirit of the false prophet is a much more powerful tool of the adversary in leading those that are diligently searching for the truth away from the church of God. Perhaps that is why the Savior warned, *"Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect (Matthew 24:23-23)".*

This passage compares to the sounding of the sixth trump in Revelation chapter nine (9), verses thirteen (13) through nineteen (19). They compare as follows;

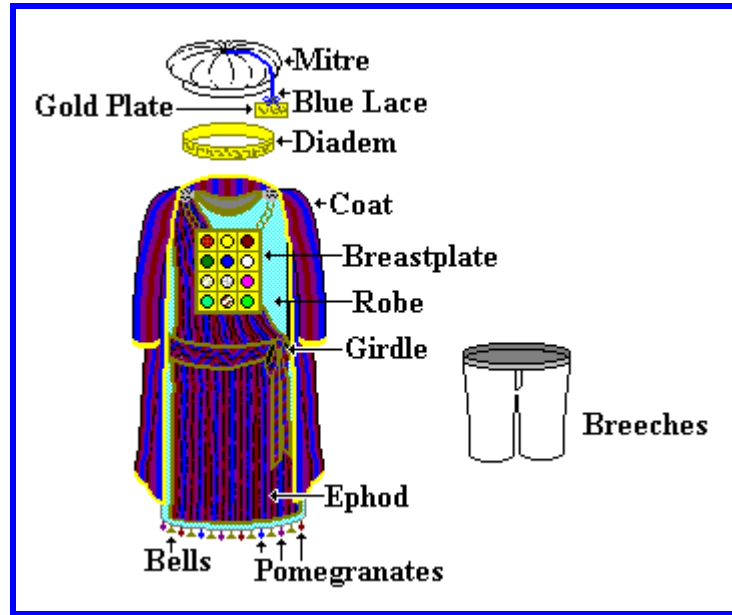


**Chapter 16, Verses 12-14** *"And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty."*

**Chapter 9, Verses 13-19** *".....Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them....."*

**Verse 15:** The Lord breaks John's vision of the plagues to offer this warning; ***"Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame"***. Throughout this work John makes inferences to the tabernacle of ancient Israel and the clothing associated with it. Here we see him mentioning that we must keep our garments, lest we walk naked and all shall see our shame. Interestingly enough the ancient temple clothing is described using the same wording. In the Book of Mormon we read, *"Wherefore, we shall have a perfect knowledge of all our guilt, and our uncleanness, and our nakedness; and the righteous shall have a perfect knowledge of their enjoyment, and their righteousness, being clothed with purity, yea, even with the robe of righteousness (2 Nephi 9:14)"*. The temple clothing of the ancient temple symbolized purity, and the blessings that result from purity. Sin and uncleanness are often symbolized by the term naked or nakedness. Being naked represents the absence of the robes of righteousness or the temple clothes. As one takes a closer look at the robes of righteousness and their separate pieces, one can gain a greater understanding of some of John's symbolism. *"He shall put on the holy linen coat, and he shall have the linen breeches upon his flesh, and shall be girded with a linen girdle, and with the linen mitre shall he be attired: these are holy garments; therefore shall he wash his flesh in water, and so put them on (Leviticus 16:4)"*. *"I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels (Isaiah 61:10)"*.

### ***Robes of Righteousness***



### Mitre

The mitre is a turban, or bonnet. Presumably a linen bonnet. The Lord included a mitre as part of the temple attire as he said, ".....and thou shalt make the mitre of fine linen....(Exodus 28:39)". The mitre symbolizes the crown of purity and exaltation. It also represents purity of thought

### Ribbon

Ribbons symbolize sovereign or judicial power. It designates the power to bind and to loose. It also symbolizes bonds voluntarily accepted or entered into. The Lord commanded, "And thou shalt put it on a blue lace, that it may be upon the mitre; upon the forefront of the mitre it shall be. And it shall be upon Aaron's forehead, that Aaron may bear the iniquity of the holy things, which the children of Israel shall hallow in all their holy gifts; and it shall be always upon his forehead, that they may be accepted before the LORD (Exodus 28:36-37)".

### Gold Plate

The golden plate upon the forehead, might explain John repeated reference to having a name written upon your forehead. It symbolized devotion to the name inscribed. "And they made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold, and wrote upon it a writing, like to the engravings of a signet, **HOLINESS TO THE LORD**. And they tied unto it a lace of blue, to fasten it on high upon the mitre; as the LORD commanded Moses (Exodus 39:30-31)".

### Diadem

A crown worn as a sign of royalty. The diadem was the name given to what was referred to early on in the Old Testament as the holy crown. It was closely associated with the mitre. "And thou shalt put the mitre upon his head, and put the holy crown upon the mitre (Exodus 39:6)".

### Coat

"And thou shalt embroider the coat of fine line.... (Exodus 28:39)".

<b>Breastplate</b>	A breastplate represents typically represents protection; however, this breastplate represents the power to judge. <i>"And thou shalt make the breastplate of judgment with cunning work; after the work of the ephod thou shalt make it; of gold, of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, and of fine twined linen, shalt thou make it (Exodus 28:15)".</i>
<b>Robe</b>	The robe was a dress like garment that laid under the ephod. <i>"And thou shalt make the robe of the ephod all of blue. And there shall be an hole in the top of it, in the midst thereof: it shall have a binding of woven work round about the hole of it, as it were the hole of an habergeon, that it be not rent (Exodus 28:31-32)".</i>
<b>Girdle</b>	The dictionary defines a girdle as a belt or sash worn around the waist. It is a symbol of strength, consecration, and readiness. The girdle can symbolize ones power. <i>"And the curious girdle of the ephod, which is upon it, shall be of the same, according to the work thereof; even of gold, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen (Exodus 28:8)".</i>
<b>Ephod</b>	The ephod was a side waist coat worn by the priest. It appearance was to be very specific. The Lord tailored it as follows, <i>"And they shall make the ephod of gold, of blue, and of purple, of scarlet, and fine twined linen, with cunning work (Exodus 28:6)".</i>
<b>Bells, Pomegranates, &amp; the Hem</b>	Bells symbolize the connection between heaven and earth. It is often associated with prayer and the voice of God. The pomegranate fruit symbolizes faithfulness. <i>"And beneath upon the hem of it thou shalt make pomegranates of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, round about the hem thereof; and bells of gold between them round about: A golden bell and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate, upon the hem of the robe round about (Exodus 28:33-34)".</i> The hem of a garment represents the persons power and authority.
<b>Breeches</b>	Breeches were undergarments that covered the hips and the thighs. <i>"And thou shalt make them linen breeches to cover their nakedness; from the loins even unto the thighs they shall reach (Exodus 28:42)".</i>
<b>Gold</b>	The color gold symbolizes the sun, eternity, exaltation, and royalty.
<b>Purple</b>	The color purple symbolizes royalty, humility and submission.
<b>Blue</b>	The color blue is a symbol of the sky and heaven.
<b>Scarlet</b>	The color scarlet symbolizes blood and the atonement.

**Verse 16:** *"And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon".* After feeling the wrath of God and hearing the call unto repentance the wicked, whom we saw gather a great army with the sounding of the sixth trump (Revelation 9:12-21), unite to come against God for the great and final battle, "Armageddon". It is the final battle between good and evil before the millennial reign.



**Verses 17-21:** The seventh Vial (Bowl) is opened. John sees *"the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air"*. The air is one of the essential elements of all life. It can be used as a symbol for the completeness of life. This plague must encompass all living things upon the face of the earth.

As John's vision continues he hears *"a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done"*. Similar words were uttered by the Savior as He hung on the cross and completed His mission for His mortal probation. Similarly, the Savior shall declare *"It is done"*, as He closes the sixth dispensation in His Father's plan. We conclude that it is the Savior speaking because of the symbolism used by John. The ancient Israelites looked to the temple for the word of their God, Jehovah. It was from the temple that Jehovah spoke with them. This voice came from the temple. We know through latter day revelation that Jehovah is Jesus Christ.

After the Savior declares that all is done, John sees and hears *"voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell"*. These occurrences are quite literal. Similar events occurred after the Saviors crucifixion. We can read in the Book of Mormon of cities being utterly destroyed, mountains falling upon cities, great thunderings and lightnings. Such will also be the case in the last days.

John says that the "great Babylon", who represents the wicked nations of the world, will come *"in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath"*. The cup symbolizes the abundance and fullness of God's wrath. Wine is used to represent the atonement, of which Babylon must pay herself. She will not be allowed to partake of the saving graces of Jesus Christ for she has rejected Him.

John sees that *"every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great"*. We know that at the coming of the Lord, the high places will be made low and the valleys made high. We are obviously not too far from the promised day of His return. Accompanying such calamity will come an almost unbelievable hail. The hail will weigh approximately 76.5 pounds each. Though the wicked have come in remembrance of their God, due to the seven plagues, we see that the wicked will remain wicked and the righteous will remain righteous. The wicked again blasphemy the Name of God.

The occurrences of this passage are quite similar to those found in the book of Revelations, chapter eleven (11), verses fifteen (15) through nineteen (19). The two passages compare as follows;



**Chapter 16, Verses 17-21** *"And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great."*







**Chapter 11, Verses 15-19** *" And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.....And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail."*



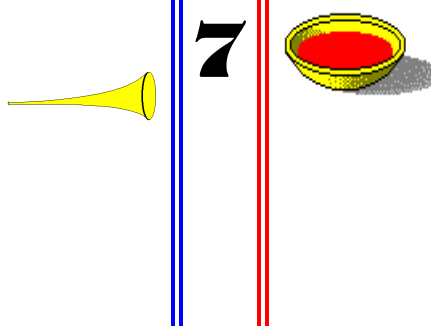
***Summary of the Six Vials (Bowls)***

<b>#</b>	<b>Bowl</b>	<b>Plague</b>
<b>1st</b>		Followers of the adversary are plagued with a grievous and evil sores.
<b>2nd</b>		The sea becomes as blood. Every living soul in the sea dies.
<b>3rd</b>		The rest of the waters of the earth become as blood.
<b>4th</b>		The sun scorches men with fire.
<b>5th</b>		Darkness is set throughout the evil kingdom of the adversary.
<b>6th</b>		The river Euphrates dries up. Three unclean spirits are unleashed. Nations gather for Armageddon.
<b>7th</b>		Thunderings, Lightnings, and the greatest earthquake every felt. Jerusalem is divided into three, and many great nations fall. The islands of the earth disappear and the mountains are flattened. Great hail falls upon the earth.

## Possible Correlation between the Seven Trumps and the Seven Bowls

Events	Trump	#	Bowl	Plagues
Hail and Fire mingled with blood fall to the earth. One-third of the trees burned and all the grass.		<b>1</b>		Followers of the adversary are plagued with a grievous and evil sore.
A burning mountain is cast into the sea. One-third of the sea becomes blood. one-third of the life in the sea dies.		<b>2</b>		The sea becomes as blood. Every living soul in the sea dies.
One-third of the waters become bitter. Many men die.		<b>3</b>		The rest of the waters of the earth become as blood.
One-third of the Sun, Moon and Stars refuse to shine.		<b>4</b>		The sun scorches men with fire.
The bottomless pit is opened. Thick darkness comes from the pit. Locust are unleashed on mankind.		<b>5</b>		Darkness is set throughout the evil kingdom of the adversary.
An army of 200,000,000 is unleashed on man. They kill one-third of mankind		<b>6</b>		The river Euphrates dries up. Three unclean spirits are unleashed. Nations gather to Armageddon.

The kingdoms of the earth are proclaimed to be the Lords. Armageddon follows.



Thunderings, Lightnings, and the greatest earthquake every felt. Jerusalem is divided into three, and many great nations fall. The islands of the earth disappear and the mountains are flattened. Great hail falls upon the earth. Armageddon follows.