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The First Angel Poured His Bowl and Ugly and Painful Sores Broke Out 16: 1-2

The first angel poured his bowl and ugly and painful sores broke out DIG: Who commands the angel to pour out the seven bowls of wrath? Why are these plagues worse than those ushered in by the trumpets? How do the ugly and painful sores affect those who have taken the mark of the beast?

REFLECT: What great life lesson have you learned out of adversity? When have you been blessed out of some horrible event? How can you help others who might be going through the same thing right now? Don't waste your sorrows!

After hearing **a loud voice** commanding **the seven angels** to **pour** their **seven bowls of God's wrath** upon **the earth**, **John** saw **the angels** instantly obey. However, they didn't simply crowd at the edge of heaven and dump their **bowls** like a mob of kindergartners in a food fight. We see them act, one at a time, in an orderly and somber manner. Clearly, these final bowls of wrath will be poured out in the very last days of the Great Tribulation.

Then I heard a loud voice from the Temple in heaven **saying to the seven angels, "Go, pour out the seven bowls of God's wrath on the earth" (16:1).** This **voice** must be that of **Yeshua**, for all others will be excluded from **the Sanctuary until the seven plagues have accomplished their purpose (15:8 CJB).** Like the ten **plagues** in Egypt, all **seven plagues** will be supernatural acts of **ADONAI**. There will be no natural or scientific explanations for these **plagues**. They will hit far to fast for any explanation other than **Jesus Himself**. In fact, there is only one brief pause, just long enough for one of **the** holy **angels** to affirm that the bowl judgments are just and righteous **(16:5-7).**[354] As **the first angel** leaves **the Temple** in heaven, **his** great **bowl** over-flowing with **God's wrath (Psalm 79:6)**, **he** flies swiftly, dumping its contents here and there, this continent and that continent, until every portion of **the earth** receives some of its bitter concoction. Finally the **bowl** will be empty and its dreadful mixture will start to take affect.



Ugly and painful sores will break **out on those who** live on the earth **(16:2a).** This reminds us of the plagues in Egypt (see my commentary on **Exodus, to see link click Bp – Moses Tossed Soot in the Air and Festering Boils Broke Out All Over Egypt**). The two Greek words *kakos and poneros* mean **ugly and painful.** When used together they emphasize the **sores** will be oozing and incurable. All the great scientists of the world will be frantically trying to find a cure, but to no avail. The god of science will fail. But being a counterfeit son in every way, the antichrist will boast in his ability to heal and being "the great physician." And for a while, with the help of the false prophet, it will seem to be true, as people flock to him for healing. But his inability to heal his people of the **ugly and painful sores** sent by **the Lord** will demonstrate beyond a shadow of a doubt that he is a liar. Despite the pain of the **sores**, hearts of the people, like Pharaoh's, will remain hard. They will not turn away from their sins to glorify **God (16:9)**, but will curse **Him** to the end **(16:21)**.[355]

*Armageddon is coming. Who in their right mind would choose to side with the antichrist in his fight against **ADONAI**? Yet millions are making **such a** decision each day when they reject **such a great salvation (Hebrews 2:3)** as that offered by **the Father** through **His Son**, **Jesus** our **King**. For this is the heart of what Armageddon is all about. It is the world saying," We will not **bow** our **knee (Philippians 2:10a)** to anyone. We are too proud. We are too mighty. We are too important*."[356]

This plague did not merely affect **a third of mankind (9:15)** as the sixth trumpet judgment had done, but affected all **the people** who had received **the mark of the beast and worshiped his image (16:2b)**. Because they had refused to worship the true **God** and Creator, **Jesus Christ**, but rather choosing to worship the image of **the beast**, **the hour of His judgment** will **come** upon them **(14:6-7)**.

Will they put **the mark of the beast** on their bodies? Then **the LORD** will add **His** own **mark** to **their** bodies. But **His mark** would truly reflect the **ugly** character of the god **they** worshiped. Were **they** afraid of what would happen to **them** if they refused **the mark of the beast**? Then **ADONAI** would send **them** some **painful sores** that will merely be a down payment on what will be awaiting them in **the lake of fire (20:15)**. From that point on, no one who will receive **the** beast's **mark** will be able to forget the consequences of the dreadful choice he or she will have made.[357]

Only the people who accepted the mark of the beast and worshiped his image will be affected. Those who rejected the mark out of their devotion to **Messiah** will be immune. And this will only infuriate them all the more against **Jesus Christ** who will inflict **His** judgment upon them. There will be no more hiding. It will be obvious who has chosen the true **Son** and who has chosen the counterfeit son. Everyone will be exposed because those **sores** will be so hideous. Moses spoke of these when he said: **ADONAI will afflict you with the boils of Egypt and with tumors, festering sores and the itch, from which you cannot be cured. He will afflict your knees and legs with painful boils that cannot be cured, spreading from the soles of your feet to the top of your head (Deuteronomy 28:27, 35).**

And since **those who live on the earth (6:10, 8:13, 11:10, 13:8, 13:12-14, 17: 2** and **8)** will not be able to attack **Yeshua** directly, they will take out their anger and great bitterness against the Jews. At this point the Jews will refuse to pledge allegiance to the beast, not because they are saved, but because he is trying to kill them. They will be hunted down, arrested, tried for not taking on the mark of the beast and executed. By the end of the Great Tribulation **two thirds** of the Jews **will be** killed, and **one third will be** saved when **the**y recognize **Messiah** for who **He** is and ask **Him** to come back (**to see link click Ev – The Basis for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ**).

*Dear Awesome **Creator** and **Father, You** are worthy of all our love! We bow in worship of **You**. Life in this world seems to be so real, but it is really only a foretaste of all eternity- either heaven or hell according to our **heart**. **The Father loves the Son and has given everything into His hand. He who trusts in the Son has eternal life. He who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him (John 3:35-36).** A **heart** that loves **God**, is most important. **And He said to him, "You shall love ADONAI your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the first***

and greatest mitzvah (Matthew 22:37-38). *The wisest decision anyone can make is to give* ***You*** *all their* ***heart****. When pains and trials come, we choose to focus on eternity and life with* ***You*** *in heaven.* ***We are hard pressed in every way, yet not crushed; perplexed, yet not in despair; persecuted, yet not forsaken; struck down, yet not destroyed (Second Corinthians 4:8-9). For I consider the sufferings of this present time not worthy to be compared with the coming glory to be revealed to us. (Romans 8:18).*** *We choose to focus on eternity and life with* ***You*** *in heaven.* ***You*** *are wonderful and have such an awesomely fantastic eternal heaven for those who love* ***You****. We love* ***You****! In the holy name of* ***Your Son*** *and the power of* ***His*** *resurrection. Amen*