

INTRODUCTION

1. 5th cycle - Rv 16. saturation of curse.
2. Last time - 1st 4 bowls - Rv 16:2-4, 9. Today [Title] - v5-7, 9

1st: God's Jgdmnt is Vindicated by Angels - v5

1. Praise using same vocab as song of Moses/Lamb in 15:3-4.
2. *the angel of the waters*: jurisdiction [7:1; 14:18] *in charge of* NIV, ESV
3. *righteous are You*: Rv 15:3 Vindicate judgment. Dt 32:4; Ps 119:137; 145:17
4. *who are & who were* = 3-fold formula: *Him who is & who was & who is to come* [Rv 1:4, 8; 4:8]. Rv 11:16-19 *the one who is to come* is omitted; here, it is replace w/ *O Holy One*.

2nd: God's Jgdmnt is Vindicated by Saints in Heaven - v7

1. An antiphonal response of affirmation: *yes* - this is true.
2. *the altar saying* - martyrs - Rv 6:9-11. Affirmation - 15:3-4
 - i. Saints on earth [like Ab intercede for Sodom - Gn 18]
 - ii. Yet, like Lot, we vexed by wickedness & we groan: injustice [Isa 59:9,14]
 - iii. We intercede for Sodom yet concur w/ heaven's affirmation: *yes*.

3rd: Evidence that Justifies God's Just Judgment - v6

1. context v5: jgdmnt -> justice: righteous punishment.
2. Why are men judged? Mt 25:37-46: treatment of Jesus evident by treatment of His Church - 1C 3:17.
3. *for* = rationale for wrath - [Rv 6:10-11]
4. *blood* 2x [v6]: 1st = *blood* of martyrs & 2nd = *blood* drunk as jgdmnt - Lex Talionis: punishment fits crime.
 - i. Ps 79:1-6 v6 *pour out Your wrath* - actual war & bloodletting
 - ii. Blood in Rv 16:6 - symbol of war
 - iii. Jgdmnt based on men's treatment of Christ's people [2 Th 1:3-8]

5. *saints & prophets* - coupled together in Rv 11:18; 18:20, 24; 22:9
6. *They deserve it* - who? [v2b]. *deserve* = equivalent moral worth

4th: More Evidence that Justifies God's Just Judgment - v9

1. repeats v8b *men scorched w/ fire of sun*.
2. Saints delivered - Rv 7:16 [Isa 49:10]
3. Symbol of jgdmnt/war: Rv 9:17-18; 11:5-7; 17:16; 18:8. *Lake of Fire* 19 & 20.
 - i. 2 Peter 3:7 - not a symbol; nor was Flood
4. Rv 16:9 *they blasphemed the name of God* - IIIrd. They image their god - Rv 13:5-6 [Ps 115:8]. They are citizens of Babylon - Rv 17:3
5. They know God *has the power over these plagues* & they attempt to jdg Him by blaspheming Him. Instead of repenting, they blame God like petulant children [Lk 7:32]: *blaspheme God* 3x [16:9,11,21].
6. *did not repent* - saw at end of trmpts [9:20-21]: v11.

Applic #1: Like Pharaoh, Men Harden Their Hearts Under Plagues of Wrath

1. Sov'ty does not diminish free will. God & Pharaoh hardened Pharaoh's heart.
2. We cannot judge God - He judges us for the things we can judge: ourselves!

Applic #2: Beware of Blasphemy

1. Beware of giving unconverted men an opportunity to blaspheme [Rm 2:23-24]. Adorn the doctrine of God our Savior [Tit 2:10].
2. Beware of blaspheming; of blaming God - discontentment [Xth] ties into Ist. Discontentment blasphemously says that Christ is not enough to satisfy.

Applic #3: How Will You Experience God's Judgment?

1. Jgdmnt is inescapable. Either in Christ or in Hell. 2C5:21