



# THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

Vision 4, Part I (16:1-11) - Bowls 1-5

---

---

# SUMMARY OF CHAPTERS 14-15

---

- Those who are faithful to God during the apex of Catholic and Papal power will be saved
  - Those who complied with the Catholic Church will be condemned
  - God will pour out His judgment on the Catholic Church and its European allies in a series of judgments
-

---

# SETTING UP THE BOWLS OF WRATH

---

---

# 1,260 YEARS

---

- First introduced in Revelation 11:2-3; repeated in 12:6, 12:14, and 13:5
  - Earlier interpretation
    - Begins with Seal #6 (Constantine's reforms) ends with Trumpet #6 (the Reformation)
    - Roughly the 300's to the 1500's
    - Represents the time of Catholic hegemony in Europe
  - Another possible interpretation
-

---

“Yielding honor to the Apostolic See and to Your Holiness, and honoring your Holiness, as one ought to honor a father, we have hastened to subject all the priests of the whole Eastern district, and to unite them to the See of your Holiness, for we do not allow of any point, however manifest and indisputable it be, which relates to the state of the Churches, not being brought to the cognizance of your Holiness, since you are the Head of all the holy Churches.”

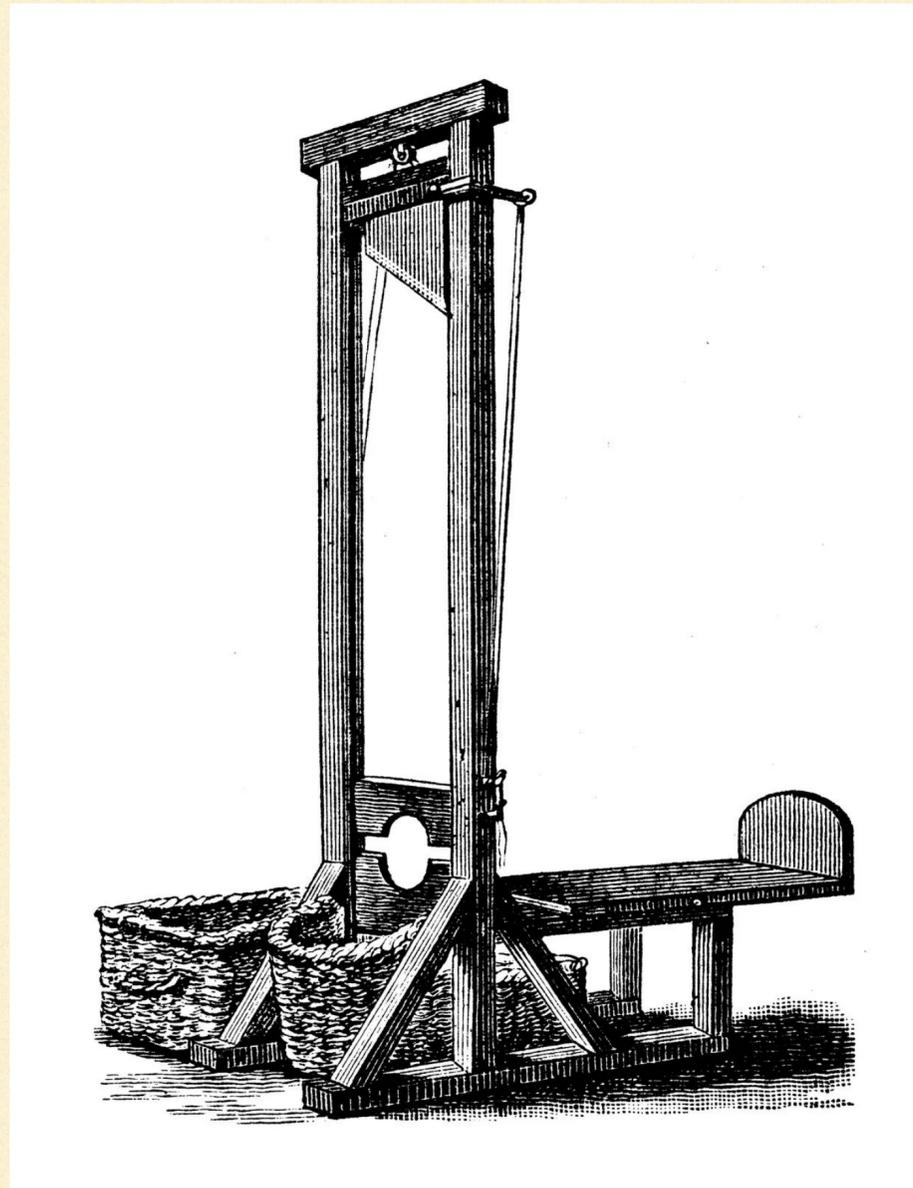
*—Emperor Justinian’s letter to Pope John II on March 15, 533*

---

---

$$533 + 1,260 = 1793$$

---



- What was happening in Europe in 1793?
  - The French Revolution: 1789-1799
  - 1793-1795 - the “De-Christianization” of France
-

---

## REVELATION 16:2

---

So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.

---

---

# WHAT JOHN SEES

---

- Bowl is poured out “upon the earth”
    - Earth (Bowl 1), sea (Bowl 2), rivers and springs (Bowl 3), and the sun (Bowl 4)
    - Parallels the first four trumpets
  - A “foul and loathsome sore” — like an ulcer or a boil
  - It affects those who had “the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image” - those aligned with the Catholic Church
-



---

# FRANCE: THE MOST CATHOLIC NATION

---

- First Germanic power converted to Christianity (496, under Clovis I)
  - Beginning of the Holy Roman Empire under Charlemagne (i.e. the “image of the beast”)
  - French monarch known as the “Eldest Son of the Church”
  - France had the “mark of the beast” as much, or more, than any other nation in the world
-

---

# GROWING DISCONTENT WITH RELIGION

---

- Persecution of French Protestants since Reformation
  - Church held a monopoly over various institutions (e.g. hospitals and schools)
  - Catholic Church was the largest landowner in France
  - French nobility occupied highest seats of power within the Catholic Church
  - Widely-read French philosophers were critical of religion
  - Widespread atheism
-

---

# THE FRENCH REVOLUTION - 1789-1799

---

- An attempt to abandon religion in favor of reason and atheism
  - 1791 - Civil Constitution of the Clergy
  - January 21, 1793 - King Louis XVI beheaded (Justinian 533 - King Louis XVI 1793)
  - 1793-1795 - the De-Christianization of France
  - “...a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.”
-

---

## REVELATION 16:3

---

Then the second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood as of a dead man; and every living creature in the sea died.

---

---

# WHAT JOHN SAW

---

- The second bowl is poured out “on the sea” - conflict at sea, naval warfare
    - Second trumpet, Revelation 8:8 - the Vandals invasion of Italy from North Africa
  - It became “blood as of a dead man” - not red, but black; congealed
  - And “every living creature in the sea died”
    - Contrasted with trumpet #3 where 1/3 of creatures died and 1/3 of ships destroyed
    - Complete domination, destruction, annihilation
-

---

# ENGLISH NAVAL DOMINANCE

---

- 11:13, “a tenth of the city fell” in the great earthquake — England departs from the Catholic Church in the Reformation
  - French army was led by brilliant generals; less formidable at sea
  - England was half the population of France; smaller, less effective army
  - Prime Minister Pitt built the greatest navy on earth to contain the French
-

---

# EUROPE AT WAR

---

- 1793
    - February 1 - France declares war on Britain and Holland
    - Britain forms a coalition with Portugal, Spain, Sardinia, Naples, Austria, Prussia, Russia
  - October 1796 - Spain leaves the coalition, declares war on Britain
-

---

# ENGLAND DOMINATES THE SEA

---

- February 14, 1797 - Spanish armada defeated by England; Britain gains control of the Mediterranean
  - October 21, 1805 - Nelson defeats the French Navy at Trafalgar
  - 1807 — Britain blockades Europe
  - English naval power kept French militance in check
-



---

## REVELATION 16:4-7

---

Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. [5] And I heard the angel of the waters saying: "You are righteous, O Lord, The One who is and who was and who is to be, Because You have judged these things. [6] For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, And You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due." [7] And I heard another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments."

---

---

# WHAT JOHN SAW

---

- The “rivers and springs...became blood” — military conquests along rivers
  - Parallel to Trumpet #3 - Attila the Hun
    - Many major battles along the rivers of Central Europe
-

---

# 1796 - FRANCE INVADES ITALY

---

- Northern Italy filled with rivers fed by Alpine snowpack
  - First battles fought by Napoleon
    - He intended to unite Europe into a single confederacy
  - Nursed an intense hatred of the papacy: he called it “the center of fanaticism”
-

---

# THE CISALPINE REPUBLIC

---

- Merges Modena and Emilia with two territories of the Papal States, Bologna and Ferrara
  - Conquered territories are along the Po River Valley in Northern Italy
  - Later becomes the Italian Republic (1801) and later the Kingdom of Italy (1805)
  - Napoleon reduces the Papal States thus reducing papal power
-



---

“And I heard the angel of the waters saying: ‘You are righteous, O Lord, The One who is and who was and who is to be, Because You have judged these things. [6] For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, And You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due.’ [7] And I heard another from the altar saying, ‘Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments.’”

—Revelation 16:5-7

---

---

## REVELATION 16:8-9

---

Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.

---

---

# WHAT JOHN SAW

---

- Bowl was poured out “on the sun” - the sun (or a star) represents an important ruler (e.g. Attila the Hun in 8:10-11 and Mohammed in 9:1)
  - The bowl gave the sun “power to scorch men with fire” - punishment
  - Parallel to Trumpet 4 which involved the heavenly bodies of the sun, moon, and stars
-



---

# NAPOLEON VS. THE PAPACY

---

- 1797 - Napoleon sends his prospective brother-in-law, General Duphot, to Rome as an emissary
  - 1801 - Concordant between France and the Papacy
  - December 2, 1804 - Notre Dame Cathedral
  - Relationship deteriorates further
  - 1815 - Napoleon defeated at Waterloo
-

---

“And men were scorched with great heat,  
and they blasphemed the name of God who  
has power over these plagues; and they did  
not repent and give Him glory.”

—Revelation 16:9

---

---

“I am convinced that the Catholic religion is the only one capable of making a stable community happy, and of establishing the foundations of good government. I undertake always to defend it .... I intend that [it] should be practiced publicly and in all its fullness .... France has had her eyes opened through suffering and has seen that the Catholic religion is her single anchor amid the storm. .”

*–Napoleon to the Clergy of Milan, June 5, 1800*

---

---

## REVELATION 16:10-11

---

Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.

---

---

# WHAT JOHN SAW

---

- The fifth bowl is poured out on “the throne of the beast” — the seat of its power, where the beast reigned
  - Kingdom “became full of darkness” — like the ninth plague of Egypt
  - They “did not repent of their deeds” — no contrition, no change
-

---

# THE PAPACY LOSES THE PAPAL STATES

---

- 1821-1831 — Papacy reasserts itself, growing unrest among the Italian population against the Catholic Church
  - 1831 — Papal States revolt
  - 1831-1848 — unrest in Italy builds
  - 1859-1860 — Italy unifies, Papal States seized
  - December 8, 1864 — Syllabus Errorum released
  - 1871 - the Law of Guaranties
-

---

# SUMMARY OF 16:1-11

---

- Bowls 1-4 represent France rebelling from Catholic Church
  - Bowl 5 represents Italy reducing the kingdom of the Papacy from the Papal States to the Vatican
  - In less than 100 years, the Catholic Church (the beast) lost:
    - Its closest ally in Europe, France
    - The Holy Roman Empire (ended by Napoleon in 1806)
    - Vast amounts of territory across Europe
-

---

# WHAT LIES AHEAD

---

- God's judgment of the beast and false prophet concludes
    - Bowl #6 - decline and fall of the Ottoman Turk Empire, groundwork laid for Armageddon
    - Bowl #7 - the World Wars decimate the kingdom of the beast (Europe)
    - Chapters 17-18 - reflections on Babylon
    - Chapter 19 - Jesus defeats the beast and false prophet (Armageddon)
  - Chapter 20 - God defeats the dragon (Armageddon) and judges the world
  - Chapters 21-22 - Heaven
-