Revelation 16:1-11

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

* Day 1

Read Revelation 16:1-11.

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

1a Then I heard a loud voice from the temple,

1b saying to the seven angels,

1c “Go

1d and pour out

1e on the earth

1f the seven bowls

1g of the wrath of God.”

2a So the first angel went

2b and poured out his bowl

2c on the earth;

2d and it became a loathsome and malignant sore

2e on the people

2f who had the mark of the beast

2g and who worshiped his image.

3a The second angel poured out his bowl

3b into the sea,

3c and it became blood

3d like that of a dead man;

3e and every living thing in the sea died.

4a Then the third angel poured out his bowl

4b into the rivers and the springs of waters;

4c and they became blood.

5a And I heard the angel of the waters saying,

5b “Righteous are You,

5c who are and who were,

5d O Holy One,

5e because You judged these things;

6a for they poured out the blood of saints and prophets,

6b and You have given them blood to drink.

6c They deserve it.”

7a And I heard the altar saying,

7b “Yes, O Lord God, the Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments.”

8a The fourth angel poured out his bowl

8b upon the sun,

8c and it was given to it

8d to scorch men with fire.

9a Men were scorched with fierce heat;

9b and they blasphemed the name of God

9c who has the power over these plagues,

9d and they did not repent

9e so as to give Him glory.

10a Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl

10b on the throne of the beast,

10c and his kingdom became darkened;

10d and they gnawed their tongues

10e because of pain,

11a and they blasphemed the God of heaven

11b because of their pains and their sores;

11c and they did not repent of their deeds.

1. Where do these verses fit in the book/timeline of Revelation?
2. How did chapter 15 set the stage for these verses?
3. Carefully observe the diagram above. What patterns do you notice in the passage?
4. In v.1, where does the voice come from? What does it say? Where were they to pour out the bowls of wrath? Whose voice is this?
5. Where does the first angel pour his bowl? What was the plague? Who did it impact?
6. Where does the second angel pour his bowl? What was the plague?

* Day 2

Read Revelation 16:1-11 again.

1. Where does the third angel pour his bowl? What was the plague?
2. How does this angel respond? What does he highlight?
3. How does the altar in heaven respond? Can an altar speak? What is happening here?
4. Where does the fourth angel pour his bowl? What was the plague?
5. How did the men respond in v. 9?
6. What does this response reveal about them?
7. How does v. 9 connect repentance and God’s glory?
8. How does repentance bring God glory?

* Day 3

Read Revelation 16:1-11 again.

1. Where does the fifth angel pour his bowl? What was the plague?
2. How did they respond to this plague?
3. What is this passage highlighting about the nature of God?
4. What is this passage highlighting about the nature of sinful man?
5. What is the primary message of this passage to the original audience?
6. What is the primary message of this passage to us?
7. How should you respond to this passage?

In preparation for Sunday, pray that we would fear God as we ought – that we would praise him for his righteous judgments and see them as right and that we would bring God glory through our repentance.