

## Revelation 32

(types, symbols, etc. 14-16)

- 16:2...a grievous and noisome sore is indicative of the effects the vials will have on those who have worshipped the beast...speech figures follow showing the reality of this judgment. The sea became as blood dried...and every living soul died in it...indicates the widespread nature of the judgments as is also true in v. 4. It is likely that these statements indicate the severity but not an exclusive nature to the trials.
- 16:6...has given them blood to drink indicates that God has returned to His foes what they sought...they sought the lives of His own, He has judged their own lives and given them a prey other than what they sought.
- 16:8...power to scorch men..perhaps indicative of changes in the climate and the lessening of the atmospheric powers that protect us from the sun.
- 16:10..on the seat of the beast, the place from which the beast executes his power or authority.
- 16:12..the Euphrates I am prone to think is meant literally and that the drying up is an act that allows the river bed to be used as a natural highway for armies coming to contend at Armageddon.
- 16:13..three unclean spirits represent the messages that will be sent by the unholy trinity to bring people to the last battle.
- 16:15..blessed is he that watcheth, etc., is a warning to all who witness this scene to be certain of purity but it also has an application to all of us to be certain that we are not exposed as unwise or unbelieving persons.
- 16:16..Armageddon..the hill of Megiddo, I think, literally describes the place from which the beast will think to launch his great final assault on the people of God.
- 16:18..the great earthquake should be compared to the one described in Zechariah 14.
- 16:20..every island fled away symbolizes the greatness of the Divine wrath. This picture is made dramatically real in the plague of hail in v. 21.

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Some available lessons:

1. Great trials still do not make men repentant. But God's own are delivered even though some are delivered by the means of death and martyrdom. They are spared the judgments of the wicked and the wrath of God.
2. God knows when the right time comes for Judgment. We are often impatient in this process but He knows when and where to execute.
3. The character of God is never better seen than when He is praised for truthfulness and righteousness in His dealings with men. Note the sections of praise in these chapters.