The Seven Bowls
PART I
Revelation 16:1-9

Main Thought The seven golden bowls of God’s wrath – the seven last plagues – are now poured out upon earth in the last half of the seven year tribulation period.

Introduction (1). The order came from God himself in the temple (15:8).

The First Plague: Grouse Sore (2).
- These were UGLY (ulcerous -- Latin) PAINFUL (noisome KJV, Grouse) sores.
- They were those of the Egyptians in the 6th plague of Moses (Ex. 9:9-11).
- Though the rain falls on the just and the unjust (Job [Job 2:7-10] and Lazarus [Luke 16:20-21]), this is targeted upon only those who followed the beast.
- Their sores remained for they refused to repent (11; Ex. 9:12; 13:15; 2 Thess. 2:10) thus “storing up God’s wrath” against themselves (Rom. 2:5).

The Second Plague: Sea Water Turned to Blood (3).
- As the 2nd Trumpet made 1/3 of the seas BLOOD and 1/3 of the sea life die (8:8-9), here all of the seas were turned to blood and all sea life died.
- This was akin to the first plague of Moses (Ex. 7:20-21).

The Third Plague: Fresh Water Turned to Blood (4-7).
- As the 3rd Trumpet turned 1/3 of the fresh water into WORMWOOD and many died (8:10-11), here some, not all, of the fresh water became blood.
- Because they shed the blood of prophets (18:24), they would now drink blood.
- This action was deemed just for they reaped IN KIND what they sowed (Gal 6:7-8): (1) Pharaoh drowned Hebrew boy babies, his army drowned; (2) Haman tried to hang Mordecai but was himself hanged; (3) Saul refused to slay the Amalekites, so he was slain by an Amalikite.

The Fourth Plague: Scorching Heat (8-9).
- Here the SUN became more intense – searing people with fire and heat.
- This was parallel but opposite to the 4th Trumpet which affected the sun, moon, and stars which turned 1/3 of each dark (8:12).
- This intense heat was predicted in the OT (Mal. 4:2; Isa. 66:15-16).
- What is shocking is that even this was not enough to cause people to repent – it only SEARED their consciences (1 Tim. 4:2) even more. This refusal (11; 13:15) is well catalogued in scripture (Pharaoh [Ex. 13:15]; Israel [Psa. 78:10]; Last Days [2 Thess. 2:10]).
- Do not refuse to come to Him to have life (John 5:40).