People see that the fifth plague of darkness is poured out on the throne of the beast (Vatican City) and reason, "If God was for the beast why have the plagues affected them too?" When the people realize that they have been deceived they withdraw their support.

The name Cyrus means "sun." He was a type of Christ. In Revelation, Gods angels come from the east, (Rev 7:2). Jesus comes from the east, (Matt 24:27). Cyrus, the king of the east, delivered God's people from the tyranny of Babylon, Jesus, the King of the East, will deliver God's people at end time.

11. What does the Devil do when the support of Babylon is gone? Revelation 16:14-16

Note: Satan and his angels work miracles among the kings of the earth, which creates a false spiritual revival. Healings, supernatural phenomenon etc... gain back their support and they gather them together for a final war against God and His people. The battle of Armageddon is the last great struggle between Christ and His people and Satan and his armies.

The word "Armageddon" comes from the Hebrew root "Har", and "Megiddo", meaning "mountain of slaughter. The word Armageddon is only used one time in the Bible - in Rev 16:16. Where does this imagery come from? In Judges 4:15 and 5:19, it seemed like God's people were doomed, but God delivered His people. This battle was fought "by the waters of Megiddo" The same scene will be reproduced again at the end of time. God delivers His people from Satan and His forces. How does this happen?

12. What is the seventh plague? Revelation 16:17-21

Note: What the earthquake doesn't take care of the hail will. When the seventy pound blocks of hail finish its work then King Jesus will appear in eastern sky. The sixth and seventh plagues reveal that Jesus will give His people the victory over all the forces of evil.

13. How does God protect us during the plagues? Psalm 91:4, 8-12

*Note:* While the wicked are suffering from the effects of their sinful choices, angels will protect us. *God does not decide who gets the plagues, WE DO!* 

MY CHOICE: I want to take this heaven sent opportunity to repent, seriously re-valuate my life, and commit to Jesus and the truth on a deeper level.

## Journey With Jesus



Lesson #20 The Seven Last Plagues

On August 1, 1945, five days before the bombing of Hiroshima, the U.S. Army Air Force dropped one million leaflets over Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and 33 other Japanese cities warning that those cities were going to be destroyed within a few days and advising the residents to leave to save their lives. Here is a snippet of the leaflet.

"Read this carefully as it may save your life or the life of a relative or friend. In the next few days, some or all of the cities named on the reverse side will be destroyed by American bombs... But, unfortunately, bombs have no eyes. So, in accordance with America's humanitarian policies, the American Air Force, which does not wish to injure innocent people, now gives you warning to evacuate the cities named and save your lives." In the Bible, God has also given a warning telling of impending doom so that we can avoid His wrath.

1. What call from heaven signals the close of man's probation? Revelation 22:11

Note: Right now, God will hear your prayer no matter what your life is like, (see Jn 6:37) but one day, the last sinner will come to Jesus. The last sermon will be preached, the last Bible study will be given because the probation of man will soon close and no one be able to repent. That is why if you are going to repent, do it now while you still can. 2. What sets the stage for the seven last plagues? Revelation 14:9-10

Note: Only those with the mark of the beast will be allowed the privilege of buying and selling. The righteous will be threatened with death. At that point, it's as if God says, "You have crossed the line, you have gone too far."

3. What is the wrath of God? Revelation 15:1

*Note:* God's wrath is not His anger against sinners; it is His judgment upon sin. The plagues are the result of a world that chooses to be in rebellion.

4. What is the first plague? Revelation 16:1-2

Note: Notice that the plague falls on those who received the mark. The people who received the mark sold their souls for a promise of physical security, but in return they receive the very thing they tried to avoid. **The first plague shows that there is no physical security in anyone except Jesus Christ.** 

5. What is the second plague? Revelation 16:3

Note: Much of the world's trade is one by sea and when this happens the world's economy is destroyed because ships cannot float in blood. They took the mark to have financial security, but that plan backfires. **The second plague shows that there is no financial security except in Christ.** 

6. What is the third plague? Revelation 16:4-7

Note: God's people were martyred in the dark ages by the same power that causes persecution during end times. God infers, since you shed the blood of My people, I'll give you blood to drink. The majority compromised to avoid their blood from being shed. In return, God gives them blood to drink. **The third plague reveals that all life comes from Jesus Christ.** 

7. What is the fourth plague? Revelation 16:8-9

Note: Why the sun? It bears repeating: the mark of the beast is the mark... of the... beast! We have already noted that the Bible identifies the beast as the Papacy. What does the Roman Church State claim as its sign of authority? "Sunday is our mark of authority... The church is above the Bible, and this transference is proof of that fact." The Catholic Record September 1, 1923. The Sabbath is the sign of God's creative and redemptive power. Those who accept the mark of the beast (forced Sunday worship) have been deceived to accept the pagan day of the sun and keep a false day of worship. God honors their choice and shows man the peril of following tradition. **The fourth plague, reminds us that all true worship is in Jesus Christ.** 

8. What is the fifth plague? Revelation 16:10-11

Note: Did you notice that during the fifth plague people are still suffering from the first? This text shows that the plagues are not all universal, or immediately fatal. Why darkness? The beast says, "Come to me for political and religious guidance; we have the keys to the kingdom." God is revealing to the world that Roman Church State is exactly what He said it was, darkness! **The fifth plague shows that all light and truth is only found in Jesus as revealed in the Bible** (see John 8:12 & Psalm 119:105).

9. Where are God's people during the plagues? Revelation 7:9, 14-17

Note: When those who received the mark have boils and blood to drink, the bread and water will be sure for God's faithful (see Isa 33:16). In Revelation 16:15, which falls between the 6th & 7th plague, Jesus says, "Behold, I am coming as a thief." What sense does it make to say that Christ delivers His people before the tribulation when the Bible says He is coming like a thief after the tribulation? Noah's family was saved through the flood. The Israelites went through the plagues in Egypt. The three Hebrew worthies were saved through the fiery furnace. Daniel was saved through the lion's den. God will protect His people from the seven plagues (see Ps 91:4, 8-12).

10. What is sixth plague? Revelation 16:12-16



Note: Again, Revelation gets its imagery from the OT. In Daniel 5, Cyrus the Persian King caused the River Euphrates to dry up causing the support of Babylon to crumble. In Bible prophecy, water = people (see Rev 17:15). After five plagues, the world sees that the beast cannot deliver what it promises.