

KING OF THE JUNGLE

BOWLING THEM OVER

REVELATION 15-16

Every December for the last 17 years our family has engaged in an annual tradition. It's a contest. We try to predict the winners of the college football bowl games.

We call it [the ABC... the Adams Bowl Championship](#).

This has become a really big deal. My daughter-in-laws married my sons just to participate in the ABC.

We have a [trophy](#). The winner's name is engraved...

We have a [green beanie](#). The Masters champ wears a green jacket. Our champ wears a green beanie...

We have [T-shirts... rules... a scoring system...](#) We even have a [Chancellor](#) to settle disputes - *that's me*.

For most people December is full of meaningless football. [Who cares if San Jose State wins the Military Bowl?](#) Well, [I do](#), I picked the Spartans by 12 points.

A few us put a lot of time and effort into our predictions. We study teams, trends, records. Other contestants base their predictions on team colors. ["Oh, I like orange over yellow, so I'll go with Clemson."](#)

Well, this year it happened. For the first time in family history the winner of the Adams Bowl Championship was neither *born an Adams* or is even named “Adams.”

My son-in-law, Jonathan Keller, won the coveted crown. He’s also the worn-out father of newborn twins.

It all came down to the last game. Kathy picked Notre Dame. Jon went with Alabama. Jon was right.

Everyone is now counting down the days to next year when we’ll win the title back from *the Keller Feller*.

I said all that, to say this... Revelation 15-16 is about bowls - seven bowls. But these bowls aren’t *bowl games*. There’s nothing fun or festive in these bowls.

There’s no trophy, or beanie, or T-shirts associated with these bowls - only *peril* and *pain* and *punishment*.

And these bowls are no contest. God’s justice, His wrath, bowls the world over... It’s not difficult to pick the losers in these bowls... *the people who rebel against Jesus Christ and pledge their allegiance to the Beast*.

But I’m not sure you can point to any winners.

I’m certain a loving God doesn’t consider the judgment of sinners, “*a win.*” *His victory is our salvation.* God grieves over the *defiance*, and *death* and *devastation* that rattles the Earth in the end.

If there is a winner in these seven bowls it’s **God’s righteousness**. His warnings do prove true. His Word is verified... Evil does get punished. Sin is a debt that comes due. Creatures are accountable to their Creator.

The tenants are responsible to the landlord.

These seven bowl judgments teach us that **“God don’t play.”** His judgments are no *game*. There are issues more important to God than good times and your happiness. A holy God demands righteousness.

There is a right and a wrong - and God is the arbitrator of both. He expects us to live and treat each other His way. God expects us to do what’s right.

Which make these bowls deadly serious business. They are the ultimate result of our *un-righteousness*...

Chapter 15 is a **“bowl special.”** It’s a preview of the bowl judgments. In Chapter 16 **the Lamb goes bowling!**

John begins, **“Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete.”**

There are 21 judgments mentioned in the book of Revelation... In chapter 6 *seven seals are broken*. In chapters 8-9 *seven trumpets blast*. Now in chapter 16 *seven bowls brimming with judgment are poured out*...

There are Bible commentators who try to fit these 21 plagues into a nice chronological order. I’m not so sure. There’s probably a lot of overlap. Especially at the end.

In the Olivet Discourse Jesus said, **“Unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved...”**

In other words, the judgment is so severe it can’t last forever. That’s what we see here. These bowls cripple the Earth to the point where it can no longer sustain life. That makes these plagues God’s final judgments.

If you've ever been to a hockey game you've seen a fight break out between players. In fact, most people go to a hockey fight and hope a game breaks out.

But when two hockey players get into a fist-a-cuffs the first thing they do is pull off their gloves. When you really want to inflict pain the padded gloves have to go.

Well, Revelation 15-16 could be titled, **"When God's Gloves Come Off."** From this point onward God is no longer cushioning His blows. He'll land a final flurry of combination punches. God is going for the knockout!

By chapter 15 God has a rebellious planet on the ropes. Seven bowls are what drop him to the canvas.

Verse 2, **"And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire..."** The book of Hebrews reveals a fascinating insight. The Jewish Temple was really a small-scale model of God's throne room in Heaven.

Hebrews 9:24 makes this statement, **"For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us..."** If you want a glimpse of heaven; then examine the Temple on Earth.

And one of the features of Solomon's Temple was the bronze laver - a bowl of water where the priests tidied up. Well, here in Revelation 15:2, John sees its prototype - its heavenly equivalent. He calls it a sea... ***"I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire..."***

John sees a body of water - it's motionless - it looks like glass... It has a fiery tint as if it's stained with blood.

And he sees “those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God.” In the earthly Temple, the priests washed in the laver. On Earth cleansing is needed. Today, we’re washed in the water of God’s Word.

But in Heaven we’re already clean. *We stand where once we washed.* Our lives testify to God’s promises.

Here, martyrs - who suffered for Christ’s sake in the Tribulation - stand as a testimony to God’s salvation.

John sees these people “*who have the victory over the beast...*” *But you say, “The Antichrist put them to death because they refused his mark of worship. How can you say they were victorious over the Beast?”*

Understand victory in the Christian life is sometimes won by *escaping* tribulation - but at other times it’s won by *enduring* tribulation! God gives the Church an escape - *He raptures us.* Whereas, He’ll give the Tribulation believers endurance in the face of suffering.

Remember this the next time you’re confronted with temptation, or fear, or doubt - don’t just look for God’s escape hatch. He might want to strengthen you for the trial. Rather than “*get out,*” He could say, “*go through.*”

It’s only through difficulty and trial that we find wings we didn’t know were there. Through Him we overcome.

It amazes me, that on the eve of His final judgments God gives Earth a glimpse of Heaven - and He holds up these victorious saints as proof of His willingness to save. *It's as if God is issuing the world a last, last call...*

Verse 3, and **“they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying...”**

You can check out the lyrics to Moses' song in Exodus 15. Verses 3-4 provide *the lyrics of the Lamb*.

But before we look at the lyrics, I need to clear up some confusion about heaven's music... Notice, these musicians are on the glassy sea with **“harps of God.”**

And I know what you're thinking... **“No, please, not harps!”** There are folks, including myself, who can't bear the thought of the stereotype being true... That we'll sit around heaven listening to the strumming of boring harps. That's torture, not heaven! *Don't worry...*

I did some research this week. There're benefits to thorough Bible study. According to the Vines Expository Dictionary of NT Words, the Greek term **“kithara”** here translated, **“harps”** can also be rendered, **“guitar.”**

Breathe easy friends! The guys on the glassy sea are jamming with the Lamb on their electric guitars - their Les Pauls and Stratocasters. *Jesus is the rock that doesn't roll* - there's got to be rock-n-roll in heaven.

I will say this, everybody in heaven **is harping on Jesus!** He's all heaven talks about. Everyone is full of praise and love and adoration for *the Lion and Lamb*.

And they have no idea why we are so silent!

And here's what they sing, "Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints! Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy."

Jesus is "*King of the saints.*" He's King of the jungle!

"For all nations shall come and worship before You, for Your judgments have been manifested." God is about to pour out scalding hot bowls of judgment. We'll read later that wicked men respond with blasphemy.

But remember those in heaven praise the Lamb for the same judgments. His ways are "*just and true.*" He alone is holy. *Heaven praises what the world resents...*

It's the same responses you see in a courtroom...

When the judge walks in *the guilty squirm*, while *the victim takes heart* - justice is about to be meted out.

Verse 5, "After these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened. And out of the temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands." These angels are wearing priestly garb.

"Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God who lives forever and ever." These seven bowls are sloshing over with red-hot wrath. They're obviously, microwavable, for they've just been heated to a boil.

It's Judgment Day! God's gloves are coming off...

And notice the fireworks in heaven. “The temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power, and no one was able to enter the temple till the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.”

Heaven chokes on the smoke of God’s wrath.

The excellent Bible commentary, entitled “Chapter by Chapter,” says of this verse, “The temple in heaven is filled with smoke, as the earth below is about to be smoked.” I couldn’t have said that any better myself.

Get ready for these seven bowls to be dumped out on the Earth. These aren’t *bowl games*. This is serious business. Chapter 16 is lights-out for this wicked world.

“Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, “Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth.” 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.”

We don't know if the mark of the Beast is a laser tattoo or a microchip of some sort, but I've read that if a lithium battery planted under the skin breaks - the lithium causes a vile sore. In the same way these abscesses are somehow related to the mark that people accept in their right hand or in their forehead.

At one time the legions who worshipped the Beast were proud of this mark. They loved and worshipped their supposed Savior. Now their mark of allegiance has turned into a puss-u-us, cankerous, festering sore.

Or these “*foul and loathsome*” lesions could have something to do with nuclear radiation. When atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima, people who didn’t die in the blast, were tortured from radiation burns.

John Hersey in his book “[Hiroshima](#),” paints a vivid picture of the survivors, “[Faces where wholly burned, eye-sockets were hollow, fluid from melted eyes ran down cheeks, mouths were mere swollen, pus-covered wounds.](#)” The victims broke out with running sores, and ended up dying slow, painful, torturous deaths.

Another possibility... these sores could be a mass outbreak of melanoma - skin cancer caused by an over-exposure to solar radiation. We’ll see that the fourth bowl gives power to the sun to scorch humans.

Even SPF 100 sunblock won’t help!

Watch out! Another bowl is emptied in verse 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.](#)” Notice, these angels have a good aim. They always hit their targets. The first angel had the worshippers of the Beast in his crosshairs.

The second angel targets the seas.

And this is an environmental disaster of unparalleled proportion. This is Greenpeace’s worst nightmare! It makes the Gulf Coast oil spill look like a baby’s drool.

The Earth’s oceans are poisoned. They turn toxic. Fish, seals, plankton die. The world launches a massive “[save the whales](#)” campaign, but to no avail. Waters that once teemed with life *die... No more sushi.*

In Revelation 8:8 when the second trumpet blasted, we’re told, “[something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea](#)

became blood.” There we discussed the possibility of the earth being impacted by a meteorite or a comet.

The mineral composition of an object from space would be high in iron. It could be that the iron interjected into the ocean turns the waters blood-red...

And again, this possibility was in this past week’s news. Did you see where a 1000 foot wide asteroid named, [Apophis](#), sailed by our planet. If it had struck Earth the asteroid would’ve generate a blast equivalent to 500 megatons of TNT. *No small firecracker.*

This time there was no danger. But scientists are tracking its trajectory. In 2029 it’ll make a much closer flyby - *inside the orbits of our communication satellites.*

There are thousands of Near Earth Objects, like Apophis, that are keeping astronomers on their toes.

And there’re other possibilities for this plague...

Red-tide is a phenomena caused by a saltwater parasite. It turns the ocean red and kills fish. Ironically, the organism has a nickname... [“the cell from hell.”](#)

Of course, God might not use an meteor or parasite. He can just say [“Let there be blood, and there be blood.”](#) When you’re God you do whatever you want.

The possible doomsday scenarios are endless. *How* it happens is conjecture. *That* it happens is certainty.

[“Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood.”](#)

This is why these bowl judgments have to occur within a few days of Jesus' return. Humans can live a maximum of ten days without water. If the bottled waters and coca-colas sustain us a few more weeks, then earth's inhabitants will be able to survive maybe a month after the third angel pours out his bowl of wrath.

Now I know what some of you are thinking! Wow, God has been so loving, and gracious, and merciful to me I didn't think He was capable of such judgment?

That's why the third angel offers an explanation as he pours out his bowl... John writes, "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. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due."

In the wake of all the suffering our tendency is to forget what this world did to deserve its punishment.

Yet God doesn't forget... This Christ-rejecting world has innocent blood on its hands. Since 1980, 1.3 billion unborn, innocent children have been aborted.

That would be 16% of today's global population. For every five people you meet there's one person missing.

And abortion is just one cause of the blood on this world's hands... think of the wars, the genocide, the vice, and hatred... it all cries out for God's vengeance.

Recall the Jews who stood before Pilate and cried for God's Son to be crucified. They shouted ominous words, "His blood be on us and on our children."

Did they have any idea what they were asking?

We might get squeamish in the face of judgment.

But not God. His judgments are *“just and true.”* *“You are righteous, O Lord...”* God doles out *“their just due.”*

And Heaven isn't finished defending God's righteous wrath. In verse 7 John writes, *“And I heard another (maybe an angel) from the altar saying, “Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments.”*

Don't make the mistake of seeing just one side of God's heart. Yes, He is kind and benevolent – merciful and gracious. But His mercy comes at a steep price.

Understand God created the world and us, in good faith. He's a good God and loves us. Why would He expect anything other than total compliance from his creatures? But that's not what happened. Adam and Eve, then you and me, defied the Creator's authority.

What is God to do? Ignore it? Let it slide? Let the puny little human mud-dobbers walk all over Him?

If God had been so nonchalant who would respect Him? God has to cast down those who challenge Him.

There would've been no thought of mercy - only justice - if Jesus didn't step in between us and God.

God decreed that the wages of sin is death. This is the price of God's mercy... someone had to die for us.

Jesus assumes our penalty. He assuages, or eases God's wrath. God focused all that we deserved on Jesus - *legally, physically, emotionally, spiritually.*

When God sees a child molester, a wife beater, a rapist, a serial killer, a pimp... He gets really angry.

Yet God stored up all His wrath for one strategic moment. At the cross He poured out His feelings of disgust on His only Son. The hammer intended for sinners fell on Jesus... And for one reason, so that God now could treat mankind with mercy - not judgment.

But if you reject Jesus - if you act as if God's mercy is no big deal - you put yourself back under God's judgment. If you're that foolish and defiant you deserve what you get. But you can't fault God - not at all.

As the angel from the altar cries out, *"Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments."*

Verse 8, *"Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire."* Al Gore is right! Global warming will become a problem. But this isn't man-made. Greenhouse gasses are not the cause. This is the judgment of God.

Say a meteorite rips through the ozone and leaves a hole - the sun could turn into a blow torch and scorch the planet like a prairie fire. God's wrath is heating up.

Verse 9, *"And men were scorched with great heat..."* You'd think they'd repent, and cry to God for mercy.

Instead, *"They blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory."* God obviously has the power to stop them, but they're in complete defiance to His will.

Even in the face of judgment the world shakes its fist in God's face and hurl insults at Him. How arrogant!

“Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast...” Again, when it comes to God's judgment these angels are sharpshooters. They hit their target. There's not a lot of collateral damage.

God is ordering precision strikes against deliberate targets. And this angel has the Beast in his scope!

The rebellion is now concentrated at his throne.

The fifth bowl is poured out on the Beast, “And his kingdom became full of darkness...” It's literally lights out for planet Earth. Thick darkness engulfs everything.

It's so dark the sufferers can't perceive beyond their blisters and sores. They sit and sulk - and flail about in pain. Verse 10 describes their favorite pastime...

“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.”

This seems unfathomable. How could they not repent? Why not tap out?... give up?... yield to God?...

Our passage tonight, 2 Thessalonians 2, provides us an answer to that question. Paul writes, “The coming of the lawless one (the Antichrist) is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe **the lie**, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in **unrighteousness.**” The Antichrist will have serious swag. He’ll capture people’s allegiance.

He’ll be persuasive - to the point of working miracles.

Paul calls them **“lying wonders.”** And to execute His judgment in an expeditious manner God will seal their rebellion by casting upon them **“a strong delusion.”** They end up believing not just **“a lie,”** but **“the lie.”**

This is what happened at the tower of Babel. The world came under the sway of a charismatic leader.

Nimrod convinced the world that *God was the bad guy*, and that *he was the good guy*. Rather than encourage folks to be accountable for their sin, Nimrod taught them to blame God for its consequences.

Big bad God was the person responsible for the global flooding. Nimrod would protect them from God.

I believe this is **“the lie”** - **“the strong delusion”** - that hardens the rebellion... that causes mankind to ignore the obvious and follow the Beast. It’s the age-old lie!

Remember when Satan tempted Eve. He convinced her that God was trying to stunt her growth. *If you eat* **“your eyes will be opened, and you’ll be like God...”**

Following Satan was the means to enlightenment.

Don’t you see it... this is also the spirit of our day.

Christianity is depicted as this repressive, intolerant religion - responsible for the last 2000 years of war, hatred, bigotry, prejudice. It manipulates through guilt, fosters hate, and represses freedom of expression.

In fact, if you believe in something as Neanderthal and archaic as biblical Christianity it should disqualify you from praying at the President's inauguration...

“The lie” Satan told Eve is *“the lie”* of the last days.

“Biblical Christianity is holding society back. Open your eyes! Find the god that's within each of us. Shed the shackles of Christianity and follow a new Savior!”

All that's left is for Satan to introduce the Beast.

Verse 12, *“Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared.”* From this point on, the stage will be set for the final battle – we call it, *“the battle of Armageddon.”*

It's a clash between the armies of this world and the army of Jesus Christ. And one of the major players in this battle to end all battles are *“the kings of the east.”*

Daniel 11 is another prophecy that sees this same event. When the Antichrist invades Israel he'll be attacked by Syria from the north, and Egypt from the south, but to no avail. The only hindrance to the plans of the Beast is news of armies approaching from the East. Is this the Chinese? A confederacy of nations?

All we're told is how they reach the battlefield.

They march into the plain of Meggido through a dried up river bed. Traditionally, the Euphrates River is the boundary between east and west. It's 1800 miles long. In places it's two-thirds of a mile wide - thirty feet deep.

This great river bed will be *the highway to Hell*. Here's the road eastern armies take to Armageddon.

In 1990 Turkey finished a dam whereby they can shut off the headwaters that fill up the Euphrates. The Ataturk Dam has diminished the water level in the Euphrates by a third. It's cause tremendous tension with Turkey's downstream neighbors, Syria and Iraq.

This dam might one day aid the kings of the east.

Again, as we mentioned last week. Everything in this section is leading up to the final battle of Armageddon.

In verse 13 John writes, "And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet." This is gross... demons like frogs issuing from a man's mouth. *Makes you want to croak.*

Some of you ladies think if you kiss enough frogs you'll find you're Prince. You might also find a demon.

I think I'd pray and trust God to bring me a hubby.

It's said of the frogs, "For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." These three demons deceive and coax the nations to the final showdown.

Jesus speaks in verse 15. It's red letters in my Bible, "Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame." And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon."

Which literally means, "the Mountain of Megiddo."

Megiddo is an ancient city that sat on the southern boundary of the Valley of Jezreel. This has been the site of numerous battles down through the centuries...

Whenever I go Israel I love to go to the observation deck, and look out as far as the eye can see over this valley. It's where Deborah and Barak defeated the Canaanites... And Gideon defeated the Midianites...

It's where Saul died at the hands of the Philistines...

And the British under General Allenby defeated the Turks in WW1... The valley is presently a huge expanse of farmland - *with one exception*... There's now a Israeli Air Force base in the middle of the valley. Planes from Megiddo can fly sorties to Syria and Iran.

When Napoleon Bonaparte saw the plain of Megiddo he remarked, "All the armies of the world could maneuver for battle here." And one day soon they will.

The term "Battle of Armageddon" is a misnomer.

Megiddo simply serves as the staging area for the armies of the world as they move against Jerusalem.

The final conflict is really "the Battle of Jerusalem." And we'll talk about it in two weeks - in Revelation 19.

Verse 17, “Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air...” Again, notice the target - “*the air.*”

Remember who the Bible refers to as “the prince of the power of the air?” Ephesians 2:2 coins this term as a title for Satan. This is why Satan has such an influence on music, and media, and airwaves and wi-fi.

He spreads so much of his filth through the air.

And apparently, this seventh and final bowl judgment is aimed at Satan himself and his vast domain. God is going to defeat the devil at the pinnacle of his power.

“And a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, “It is done!” Or “It is finished.”

The wording harkens back to the cross of Christ.

On the cross Jesus redeemed the creation. He bought it back. *But here He takes possession.* With this final bowl of judgment, Jesus will evicts the squatters.

He secures for Himself what belongs to Him.

Verse 18, “And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth.” This quake blows up the richter scale! Finally, the big one will hits – but its epicenter isn’t in Los Angeles - it’s in the Middle East.

Verse 19, “Now the great city was divided into three parts...” “*The great city*” is probably Jerusalem.

Today, Jerusalem is a divided city... East Jerusalem is Arab - West Jerusalem is Jewish. But you think Jerusalem is divide now, here God splits it in three...

But this earthquake not only impacts Israel. There's a ripple effect... **“And the cities of the nations fell.”**

This geological event is enormous. It impacts cities all around the world. Imagine, New York, London, Rome, Beijing, Moscow, Tokyo - all these cities in ruin.

It's interesting that all the ancient calendars operated on twelve 30 day months - a annual total of 360 days.

Yet today's solar year is an asymmetrical 365.25 days. Something tipped the Earth's axis? And caused a wobble? Geologists speculate that in Earth's past we took a direct hit from a cosmic projectile. A comet or meteor or asteroid knocked the planet off its hinges.

And if it happened before, it can happen again.

John mentions the impact of this strike on one other city. **“And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.”** Throughout history Jerusalem was God's capitol on Earth - whereas Babylon was Satan's city.

Here Babylon is made to gulp down a cup of the fierceness of God's wrath. She tastes His judgment.

Verse 20, **“Then every island fled away...”** The heat from the fourth bowl will melt the polar caps. Scientists say if that happened sea level would rise 200 feet all across the globe. Today's coastal cities will disappear.

“And the mountains were not found.” Expect tidal waves and tsunamis when the continental plates shift.

All the Earth's topography is in for a radical face lift.
Surveyors beware. All the Topo maps will be wrong.

Verse 21, “And great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent.” A talent was an ancient Hebrew measurement - the equivalent of one-hundred pounds. Think... 100 pound hailstones!

When my brother lived in Dallas, he complained about hail the size of golf balls denting his pick-up. But imagine hailstones the size of a beach-ball or bigger!

There're all kinds of theories of what might cause such a phenomena - but again don't miss the obvious!

Recall the OT penalty for blasphemy? It was *stoning!*

Here it's heaven that's throwing the rocks. This vile and wicked world has blasphemed God, and God is responding with a punishment that fits the crime.

And yet despite it all, “Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great.” People fail to get the point!

The world's reaction is proof of the hardness of their hearts. Rather than repent, they stiffen their necks and dig in their heels - and continue in die-hard rebellion.

I hope you get the point! *You are not God!* You are a creature made in His image and accountable to Him.

You are not free to do as you please and follow your heart. This is not the path to enlightenment - *but to darkness and ignorance.* Revelation 16 teaches us that this world is going to follow its heart straight to Hell.

I'm sure you don't want to go to Hell... but if the path you're own is headed there... and you stay on that path... don't be surprised if that's where you end up!

Repent while you can! God's bowls are not games - **God don't play!** These bowls are serious business.

Don't you get bowled over. Turn to Jesus today!