



## No Comparison between Antiochus in 167 B.C. & the Antichrist; The Lord's 3-Stage Campaign of Shock & Awe: 7 Bowl Judgments: MOABs 1-4, Rev 16:1-9

Nevertheless, we could mention vast portions of Scripture that must be ignored if it is assumed the Tribulation is past and the Church will eventually conquer the world. We will instead isolate our debate to the eleventh chapter of Daniel and the commentary of:

**Walvoord, John F. "World History from Darius to the Time of the End." Chapter 11 of *Daniel: The Key to Prophetic Revelation*. (Chicago: Moody Press, 1971), 252, 270-71:**

Chapter 11 naturally divides into two major sections. The first, verses 1-35, describes the major rulers of the Persian Empire and then gives in great detail some of the major events of the third empire following Alexander the Great, concluding with Antiochus Epiphanes. The entire period from the death of Antiochus Epiphanes to the time of the end is skipped over with no reference to events of the present church age, and the second section, verses 36-45, deals with the last Gentile ruler who will be in power when Christ comes in His second advent. Probably no other portion of Scripture presents more minute prophecy than Daniel 11:1-35, and this has prompted the sharpest attack of critics seeking to discredit this prophetic portion. (p. 252)

Beginning with verse 36, a sharp break in the prophecy may be observed, introduced by the expression *the time of the end* in verse 35. Up to this point, the prophecy dealing with the Persian and Grecian Empires has been fulfilled minutely and with amazing precision. Beginning with verse 36, however, an entirely different situation obtains. No commentator claims to find precise fulfillment in the remainder of this chapter. (p. 270)

Liberal critics, following the thesis that Daniel was written by a second-century B.C. writer, almost uniformly hold that this section was fulfilled in the life and death of Antiochus Epiphanes. Even liberal scholars, however, agree that this section is not nearly as accurate as the earlier portion. In other words, (those) who find the earlier section so remarkably accurate that they hold it as history rather than prophecy, admit a sharp difference in the latter section beginning in verse 36 as not corresponding to history. This is the reason why conservative scholars have rejected the historical interpretation and, with due regard to the inspiration of Scripture, expect a future fulfillment.

Because of the completely unsatisfactory explanation of an historical fulfillment of verses 36-45 in contrast with the precise fulfillment of the earlier portion, conservative expositors relate this passage to the climax of history culminating in the second advent of Christ. This, of course, is in keeping with the total tenor of Daniel's prophecies which characteristically have their climax in the end of the interadvent age and the triumph of the kingdom of heaven which the Son of man will accomplish when He returns. The king described in verses 36-39 of Daniel 11 and the events of the subsequent verses therefore have nothing to do with the second century B.C., and are entirely future and unfulfilled. (p. 271)

The Preterists confuse the events surrounding the rapture with those that are dominant at the Second Advent. No downturn of history comes close to the one that prevails during the last half of the Tribulation, characterized in Revelation 16:1 as the "seven bowls." Nothing in recorded history can even come close to the shock and awe visited upon this earth during this future period of history.

The Tribulation opens in Revelation 6 when the Lord breaks the first six seals of a scroll. Seals are affixed to a scroll in order to secure the secrecy of its contents and insure they are not disclosed until a predetermined time. The first six seals unleash judgment associated with great misery and pain upon the earth's inhabitants.



The seventh seal is generally an intensification of the first six seals and consists of the “seven trumpets” of Revelation 8:2. The remainder of chapters 8 and 9 describe the first six of these judgments. The seventh trumpet is an intensification of the first six trumpet judgments and consists of the “seven bowls” of Revelation 16:1-21.

### The Seven Bowl Judgments:

**Revelation 16:1 -** Then I [ John ] heard a loud voice from the source of the Temple [ **God the Father from the Throne Room** ], saying to the seven angels [ **pursuivant: wingless rank-and-file angels who function under Cherub Heralds as executioners of judgment** ], “Go a pour out the seven bowls [ **φιάλη, phialē: bowl: emphasizes rapidity and broad distribution of divine judgment** ] of the wrath of God into the earth.”

**v. 2 -** And the first pursuivant went and poured out his bowl into the earth; and it became a loathsome and malignant sore upon the men who had the mark of the beast and who worshipped his image.

1. The “bowls” signify divine acts of judgment that are emptied rapidly, broadly, and efficiently. They are God’s MOABs: the **Mother of All Bowls**. The content of a bottle takes time to be emptied as compared to a bowl which can be emptied rapidly.
2. The targets for the first bowl judgment are those who signed on for membership in the Antichrist’s global economic system:

**Revelation 13:16 -** The Antichrist causes all, the small and the great, the rich and the poor, the free and the slaves, to be given a mark [ **χάραγμα, charagma: a brand** ] on their right hand or on their forehead,

**v. 17 -** and he provides that no one should be able to buy or sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name.

**v. 18 -** Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six.

3. Great controversy has been generated by verse 18 but one thing is sure: nothing like this has ever occurred so far in history, not even Franklin Roosevelt’s albatross called the Social Security number. Everybody in this county has one and in many ways no one can do business without it. So far, however, we have not been required to have it branded on the hand or forehead although I’m sure the invention of the bar code back in 1972 has since caused the hearts of bureaucrats at the Social Security Administration to palpitate rapidly.
4. There really is no mystery to the number since verse 18 clearly explains it: it is the number of man. In biblical numerology, the number six is applied to man while, for example, deity and perfection are represented by the number seven. The tripling of the number six simply indicates that the people of the earth must acknowledge the Antichrist as God before they will be allowed to receive a bar-code ID tattooed on their hand or forehead.
5. The first MOAB Judgment is directed to all the religious unbelievers who signed on with the Antichrist. The effect is somewhere between terminal acne and terminal skin cancer. It’s ugly, it hurts, and it’s not going away.



**Revelation 16:3 -** (The Second MOAB) Then the second pursuivant angel poured out his bowl [ **launched his MOAB** ] into the sea and it became blood as from a dead person; and then every living creature began to die.

6. This is contamination of all salt-water bodies worldwide. Resultant putrefaction causes massive death among its creatures. The waters become literal blood as a reminder of tribulational martyrs who have been persecuted under the rule of Antichrist. This judgment is designed to affect the conscience of all unbelievers.

**Revelation 16:4 -** (The Third MOAB) And the third pursuivant angel launched his MOAB into the rivers and lakes and they became blood.

7. This is a judgment on the world's fresh water supply. Explanation of this judgment is supplied by the pursuivant indicating that he is also a teaching angel. His analysis covers the next three verses:

**Revelation 16:5 -** Then I heard the pursuivant related to the water saying, "You keep on being righteous, O Holy One, Who is [ **Jesus Christ in hypostatic union: the Omega** ] and Who has always existed [ **Jesus Christ in undiminished deity: the Alpha** ], because You have judged these things;

8. Notice that our Lord is righteous in judgment. The justice of God is mankind's point of contact with divine essence. It is the source of both blessing and judgment. The purpose of this campaign of seven-fold judgments is Crisis Evangelism.
9. The Lord is using punitive ordinance at ever-increasing levels of intensity in order to gain the attention of the unbelieving population of the Tribulation.
10. These people are so negative that the only way for any of them to entertain a moment of objectivity for communication of the gospel is the removal of all systems of human security and infliction of maximum pain.
11. With no area of human security left these people have only one option and that is divine security. Thus the Lord mounts a three-stage campaign of shock and awe containing seven sorties each. This is Crisis Evangelism and it is administered under the approval of divine righteousness by means of the One who has been granted the authority of all judgment, the Lord Jesus Christ:

**Revelation 16:6 -** because they have poured out the blood of the saints and the prophets, and You have given them blood to drink for they keep on deserving this.

**v. 7 -** Then I heard others from under the altar respond, "Yes, O Lord God, the omnipotent One, Your judgments are in accordance with truth and justice."

12. The altar in question is located in the heavenly Tabernacle but references the brass altar of the Tabernacle of the Wilderness and the Temples in Jerusalem. The latter were the sites of animal sacrifices where most of the blood of these creatures was poured into the fire underneath. Thus, the souls of the tribulational martyrs are located under the altar in heaven thus symbolizing their martyrdom after rejecting the Antichrist's tattoo.

**Revelation 16:8 -** (The Fourth MOAB) The fourth pursuivant angel launched his MOAB on the sun and so it was given the power to burn mankind with heat.



**v. 9 -** Consequently, men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has authority over the plagues. Furthermore, they did not change their minds to give Him the glory.

13. The sun's radiation, previously filtered by the Van Allen belts, the ozone, the atmosphere, and clouds, is miraculously allowed to intensify at ground level. This causes extreme sunburn to occur worldwide.
14. This is again an appeal for response to the gospel. Rejection of Jesus Christ as Savior will result in being cast off the earth following the baptisms of fire and assigned to the Torments compartment of Hades.
15. At this point the Enviro Mentals' fondest dreams will finally come true: global warming with a vengeance! Many will be there to enjoy the moment.
16. Rather than respond to the evangelistic appeal, the people blaspheme God instead.