

# VICTORY: REVELATION'S HEAVENLY PERSPECTIVE

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## *Reading Revelation Responsibly*

**Purpose:** to give us a heavenly perspective on our earthly circumstances so that every generation of readers can be challenged, comforted and given hope.

### → **Our God who Judges Justly Rebellious Nations**

On Sunday, Micah mentioned that we find in Revelation a blend of Old Testament images describing rebellious nations. First century Rome was just the next depiction of an adulterous nation that will face divine judgement...there were other nations before them and others who came after them. A great exercise is to examine our own context to see where we need to repent.

- God has always set himself against any society that set the pursuit of wealth, power and arrogance as its main course. For example, read: Isaiah 23; 47; Jeremiah 51; Revelation 13 and 17.
- How does God set himself against arrogant nations? Why do you believe he does this?
- In what ways is our country/society guilty of the things that are mentioned in these Scriptures? Things like violence, oppression, deception, power and pride. As Christians, how can we oppose such a society and give witness to God's kingdom?

### → **Our God of the Exodus: a repeated theme**

On Sunday, Micah mentioned that many of the Exodus plagues are called out by the seven trumpets (Rev. 11) and then repeated and poured out through the bowls (Rev. 15-16).

- The Exodus narrative is a repeated theme (think [hyperlink](#)) throughout Scripture. Here is the specific breakdown of the connections between Exodus and Revelation:
  - Boils (Ex. 9:10; Rev. 16:2)
  - Water to Blood (Ex. 7:20-21; Rev. 16:3-4)
  - Darkness (Ex. 10:21; Rev. 16:10)
  - Frogs (Ex. 8:2-3; Rev. 16:13)
  - Hailstones (Ex. 9:24; Rev. 16:21)
- What was the purpose of the plagues both in Exodus and Revelation? (Ex. 8:15, 19; Rev. 9:20-21)
- What faith lessons can we learn from the Exodus story and the message of Revelation concerning repentance and God's judgement?

### → **What about God's restorative justice in our reality?**

- Some among us face injustices regularly; however, many of us are unfamiliar with it, so it is difficult to acknowledge from our place of privilege.
- Challenge: take the time to listen and learn from those who feel the full weight of injustice.
- Action: choose a way to be an ally to those who suffer injustice for kingdom purposes.