

Problem:

Lk 13:1

why doesn't God save everybody?

Revelation 16 demonstrates that this is the wrong question so that "why doesn't God save everybody?" becomes, "why does God save anybody?"

Lk 13:2-5

Jesus reminds us of an even more poignant question that we ought to ask ourselves as we hear this sermon: "why does God save me?"

Main Idea:

God will finish His wrath
exposing Man's humiliation
and his rebellion
unhindered by heat
unaltered by anguish
undeterred by distance
unrestrained by ruination

Implication: Rev 16:15Behold the **exposure** of Natural Man

- 2 pet 3:10; Jn 3:16-21

Behold the **garments** of salvation

- Rev 7:13-14

Application:Behold the **one awake**

- Eph 1:1-14 (- why does God save me - because He wanted to)

Behold the **blessed** interruption

- Eph 2:1-10 ("but God")

- every good thing in your life for now and into eternity depends on these two words

- it is the gospel in two words and we will rejoice in them forever

Text:**God will finish His wrath**

Rev. 16:1 ¶ Then I heard a loud voice from the temple telling the seven angels, "Go and pour out **on the earth** the **seven bowls of the wrath** of God."

on the earth - Rev 8:7-12; 9:13-15, 18-21

exposing Man's humiliation

Rev. 16:2 ¶ So the first angel went and poured out his bowl on the earth, and **harmful and painful sores** came upon the people who bore the mark of the beast and worshiped its image.

Rev. 16:3 ¶ The second angel poured out his bowl into the sea, and it became like the blood of a corpse, and **every living thing died that was in the sea**.

Rev. 16:4 ¶ The third angel poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of water, and they became blood.

painful sores - Rev 16:11 (throughout) Ex 9:7-11; Deut 28:15, 27, 35-37; Job 2:7-8; 29:1-30:1(humiliating)
became blood - Ex 7:17-24 (humiliating)

and rebellion

Rev. 16:5 And I heard the angel in charge of the waters say,
 "Just are you, O Holy One, who is and who was (no is to come),
 for you brought these judgments.

Rev. 16:6 **For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets**, and you have given them blood to drink.
 It is what they deserve!"

Rev. 16:7 ¶ And I heard the altar saying,
 "Yes, Lord God the Almighty,
 true and just are your judgments!"

they have shed blood - Rev 13:11-18
the altar saying - Rev 6:9-11; 8:3-5

unhindered by heat

Rev. 16:8 ¶ The fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and it was allowed to scorch people with fire.

Rev. 16:9 They were **scorched by the fierce heat, and they cursed the name of God** who had power over these plagues. **They did not repent and give him glory.**

scorched - Mal 4:1-2
repent, give glory - Rev 14:6-7

unaltered by anguish

Rev. 16:10 ¶ The fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom was plunged into darkness. **People gnawed their tongues in anguish**

Rev. 16:11 and **cursed the God of heaven for their pain and sores. They did not repent of their deeds.**

darkness, unrepentant - Ex 10:20-23

undeterred by distance

Rev. 16:12 ¶ The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river **Euphrates**, and its water was dried up, to prepare the way for the kings from the east.

Rev. 16:13 And I saw, coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs.

Rev. 16:14 For they are **demonic spirits**, performing signs, who go abroad to the kings of the **whole world, to assemble them for battle on the great day of God the Almighty.**

Rev. 16:15 ("Behold, I am coming like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake, keeping his garments on, that he may not go about naked and be seen **exposed!**")

Rev. 16:16 And they **assembled** them at the place that in Hebrew is called **Armageddon (mountain of slaughter).**

Euphrates - (Gen 2:14; 15:18 - both the cradle and the grave of Mankind)

assemble/great battle - Jer 25:15-31; Zech 14:2-3

Har Megiddo - Rev 14:18-20; 19:19; 20:8

One can stand on the Nazareth escarpment and see Megiddo and Mount Carmel across the valley 30 miles to the south.

unrestrained by ruination

Rev. 16:17 ¶ The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air (**satan prince of air**), and a loud voice came out of the temple, from the throne, saying, "**It is done!** (perfect tense)"

Rev. 16:18 And there were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, and **a great earthquake** such as there had never been since man was on the earth, so great was that earthquake.

Rev. 16:19 The great city was split into three parts, and **the cities of the nations fell**, and God remembered Babylon the great, to make her drain the cup of the wine of the fury of his wrath.

Rev. 16:20 And **every island fled away, and no mountains were to be found.**

Rev. 16:21 And **great hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, fell from heaven** on people; **and they cursed God** for the plague of the hail, because the plague was so severe.

it is done - Jn 19:30 (salvation/damnation)

hail - Ex 9:22-26 (Egypt is world new exodus)

cursed God - 1 Cor 2:14

Articles for further study: <https://www.raystedman.org/new-testament/ephesians/but-god>