

## December 30 Answers

- 1) After the vision of the two beasts, John witnessed God's last call for repentance. Three angels flew over the earth with a final **warning**. This teaches us that God desires **everyone** to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Tim 2:4). After the reaping of the earth, John watched as the seven angels poured out the seven **bowl** judgments. In the middle of these judgments, the angel in charge of the waters cried out: "**Just** are you, O Holy One, who is and who was, for you brought these judgments. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and you have given them blood to drink. It is what they **deserve!**" (Rev 16:5-6). This teaches us that even God's wrath is worthy of **praise**. As the bowls continued to be poured out, the wicked refused to **repent**. Indeed, John said three different times that they **cursed** God's name (Rev 16:9, 11, 21). This shows us that people can become so hardened that even the worst judgment only **fuels** their hatred of God. After the last bowl was poured, one of the seven angels took John aside to see the destruction of "**Babylon** the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth's abominations" (Rev 17:5). Babylon was the name given to "the great **city**," a place of commercial and political power which will dominate the world during the Tribulation. As John watched, the kings of the earth **wept** and wailed as they saw the smoke of her destruction, and the heavens **rejoiced** to see the downfall of the city which had killed both prophets and saints (Rev 18:24). This reminds us not to put our **trust** in any earthly institution or government, for the kingdom of God's Son is the only kingdom that will last forever.