

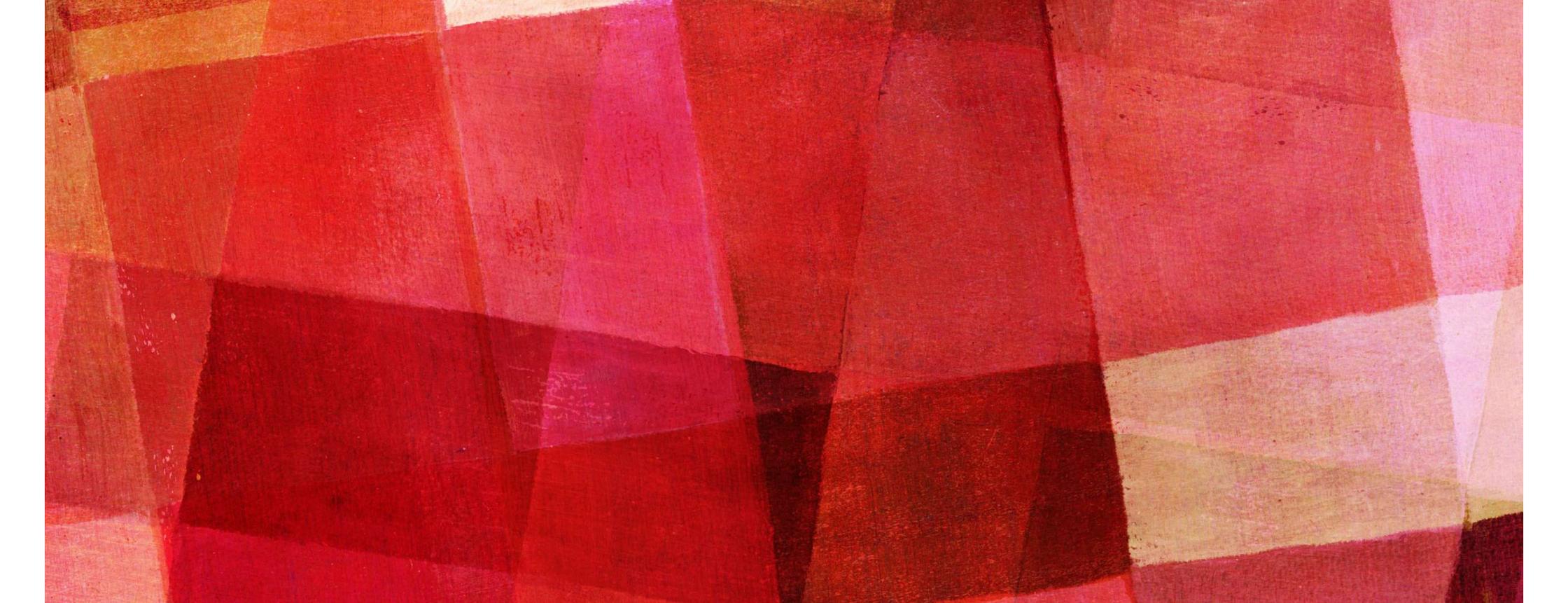
Morning Sermon, Sunday 1 March 2020, Julian Hardyman

Series: Conquering Kings (Revelation)

How much do we care about justice?

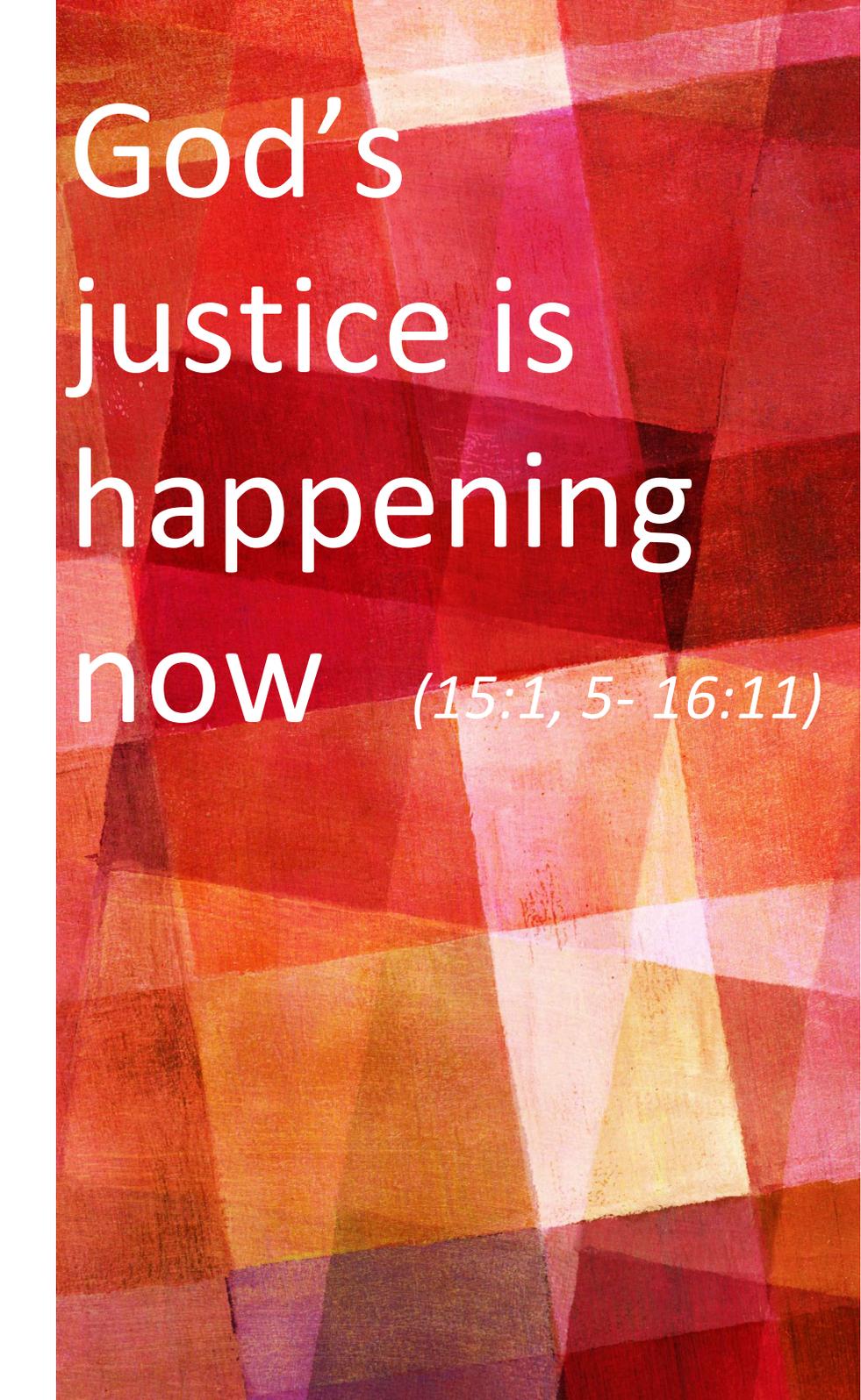
Revelation 15-16

1. God's justice is happening now (15:1, 5-16:11)
2. God's justice is just (16:5-7)
3. God is preparing for his final justice (16:12-21)
 - Are we ready? (16:15)
 - Are we on the road to victory (15:2)
 - Are we on the road to praise? (15:3-4)



REVELATION 15-16

How much do we care about justice?



God's
justice is
happening
now *(15:1, 5-16:11)*

15:1, 5-8

I saw in heaven another great and marvellous sign: seven angels with the seven last plagues – last, because with them God's wrath is completed.

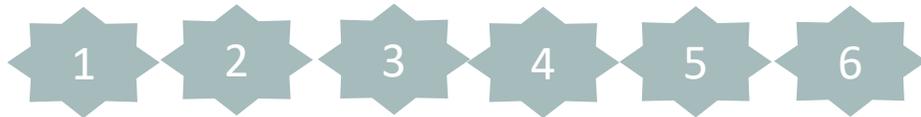
⁵ After this I looked, and I saw in heaven the temple – that is, the tabernacle of the covenant law – and it was opened. ⁶ Out of the temple came the seven angels with the seven plagues. They were dressed in clean, shining linen and wore golden sashes round their chests. ⁷ Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls filled with the wrath of God, who lives for ever and ever. ⁸ And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power, and no one could enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.

Revelation 6-16

God's judgements in time

God's final judgement

THE SEALS



THE TRUMPETS



THE BOWLS

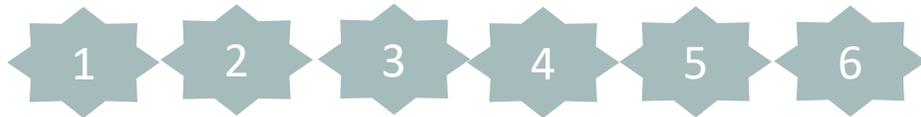


Revelation 6-16

God's judgements in time

God's final judgement

THE SEALS



THE TRUMPETS



THE BOWLS

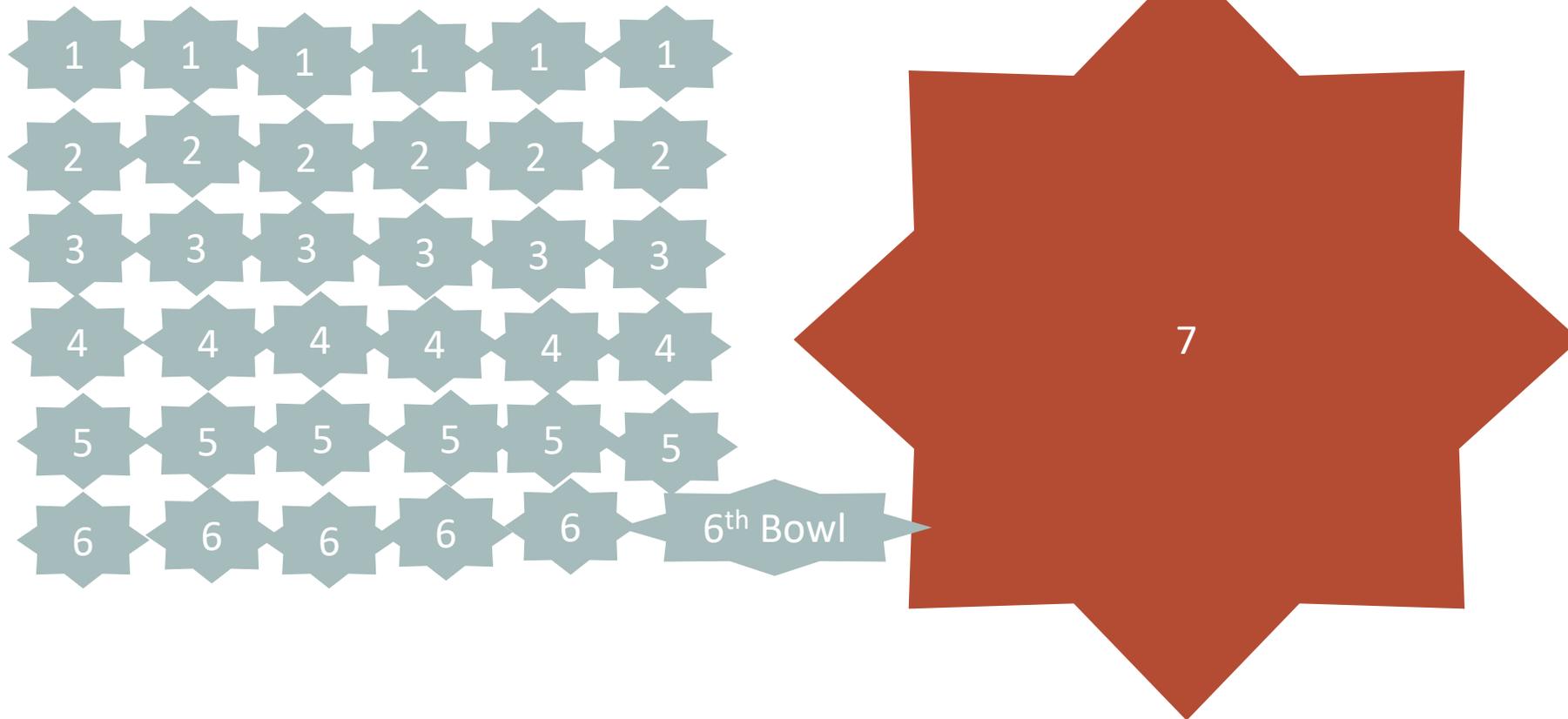


God's Judgements

Judgements in time

Final Judgement

Seals ~ Trumpets ~ Bowls



God's
justice is
happening
now

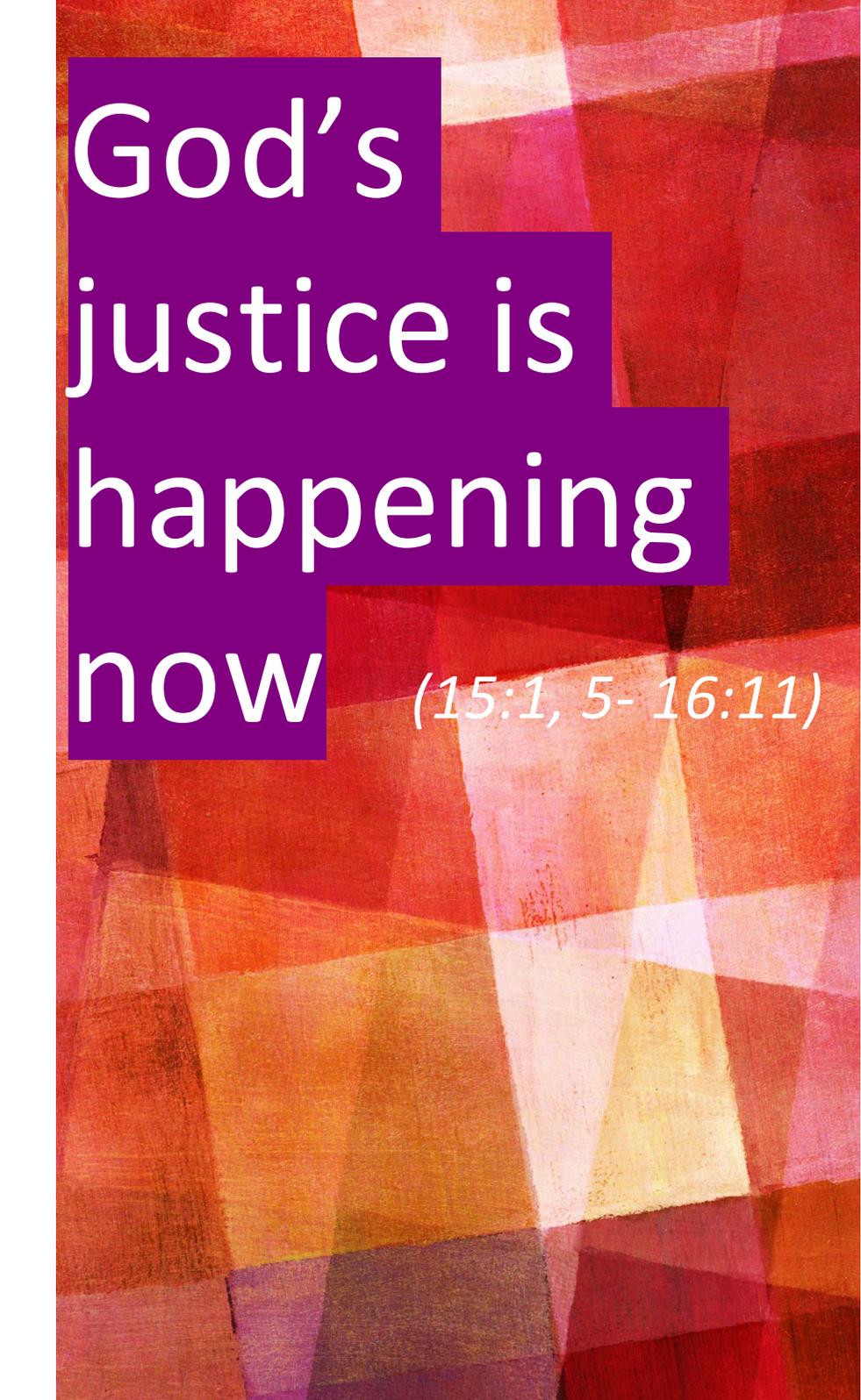
(15:1, 5-16:11)

On Idolatry:

Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, 'Go, pour out the seven bowls of God's wrath on the earth.' ² The first angel went and poured out his bowl on the land, and ugly, festering sores broke out on the people who had the mark of the beast and worshipped its image.

On Persecutors:

⁶ for they have shed the blood of your holy people and your prophets, and you have given them blood to drink as they deserve.'

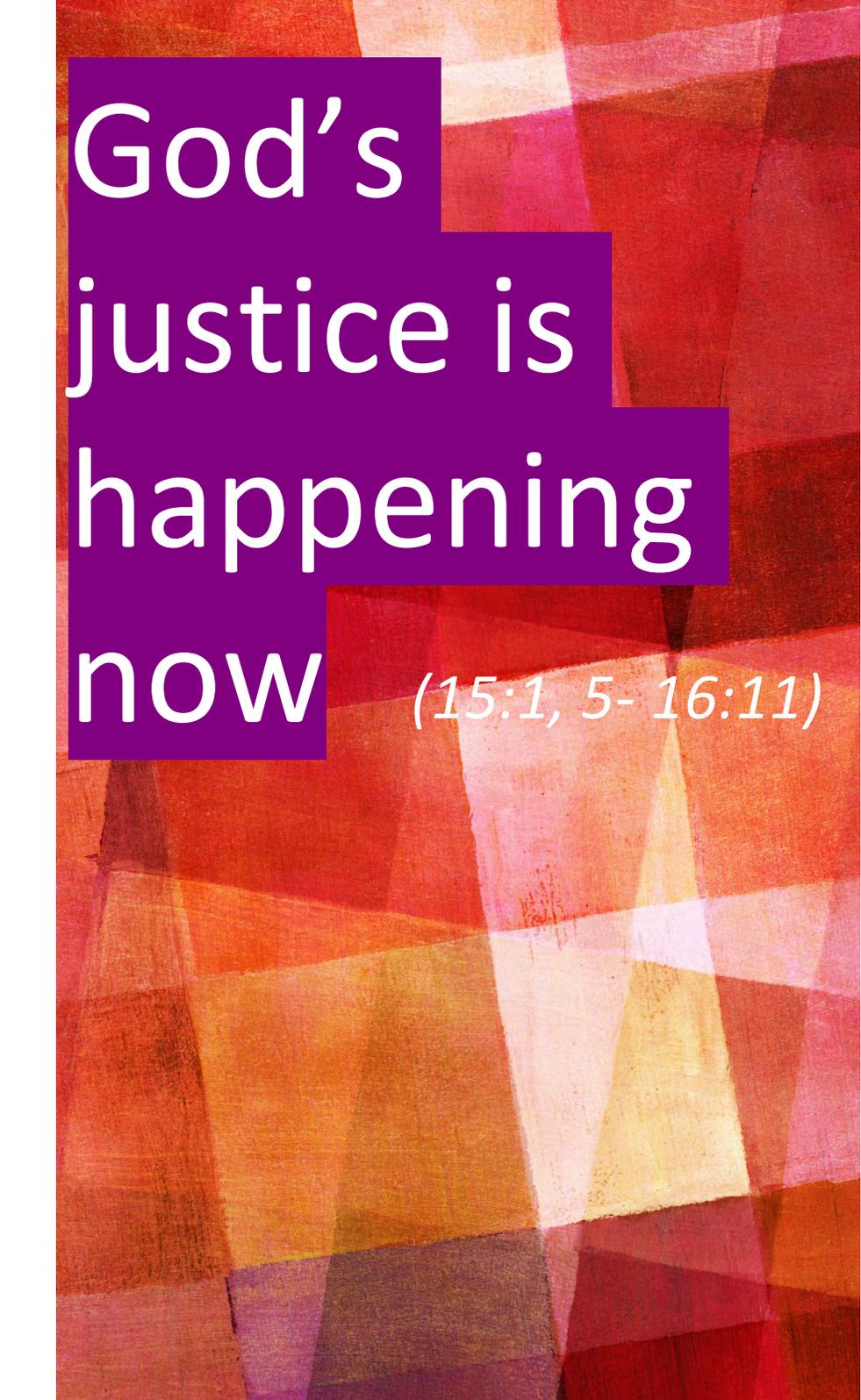


God's
justice is
happening
now

(15:1, 5-16:11)

In Pain

² The first angel went and poured out his bowl on the land, and ugly, festering sores broke out on the people who had the mark of the beast and worshipped its image.



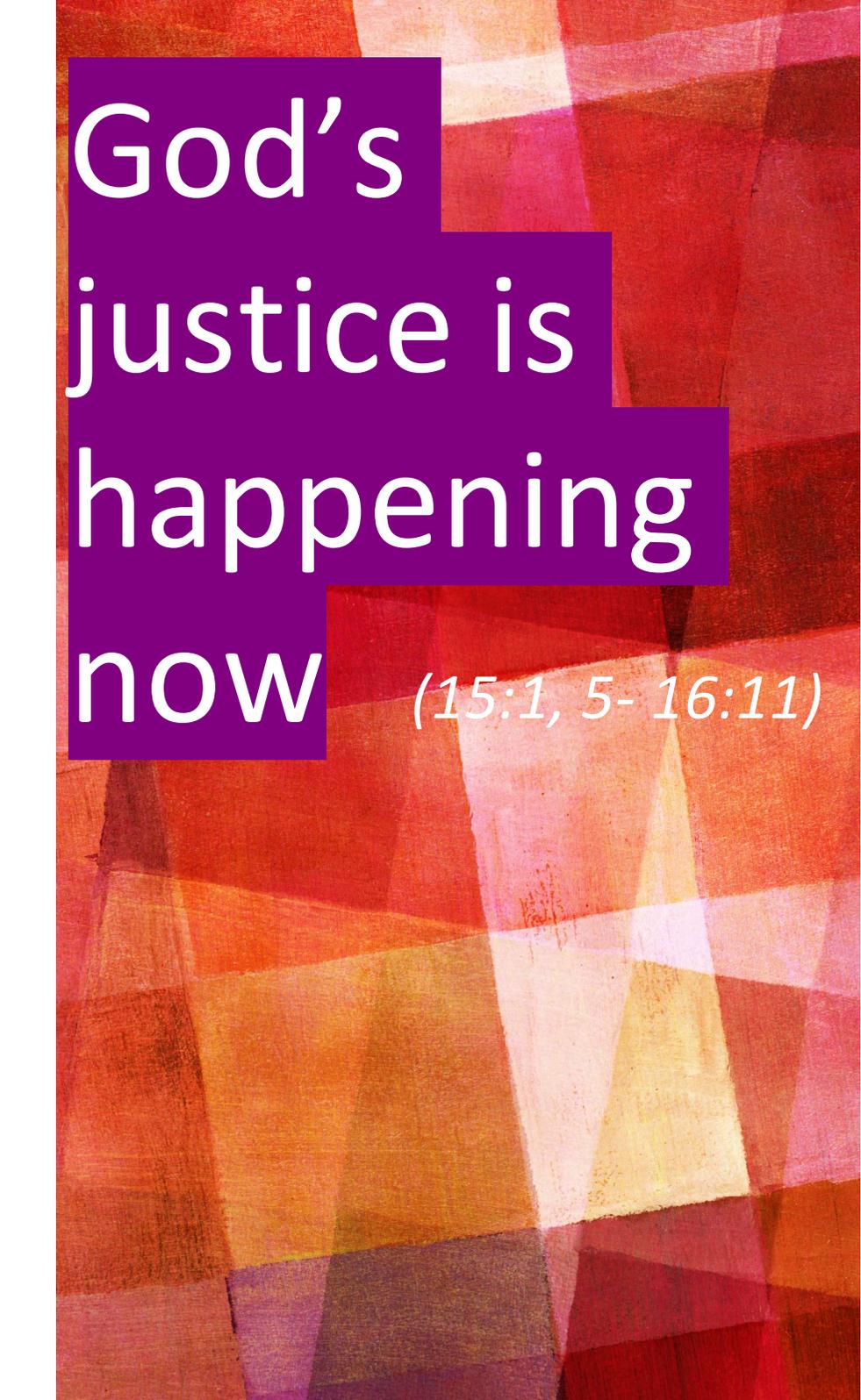
God's
justice is
happening
now

(15:1, 5-16:11)

In Hardship

³ The second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it turned into blood like that of a dead person, and every living thing in the sea died.

⁴ The third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood.



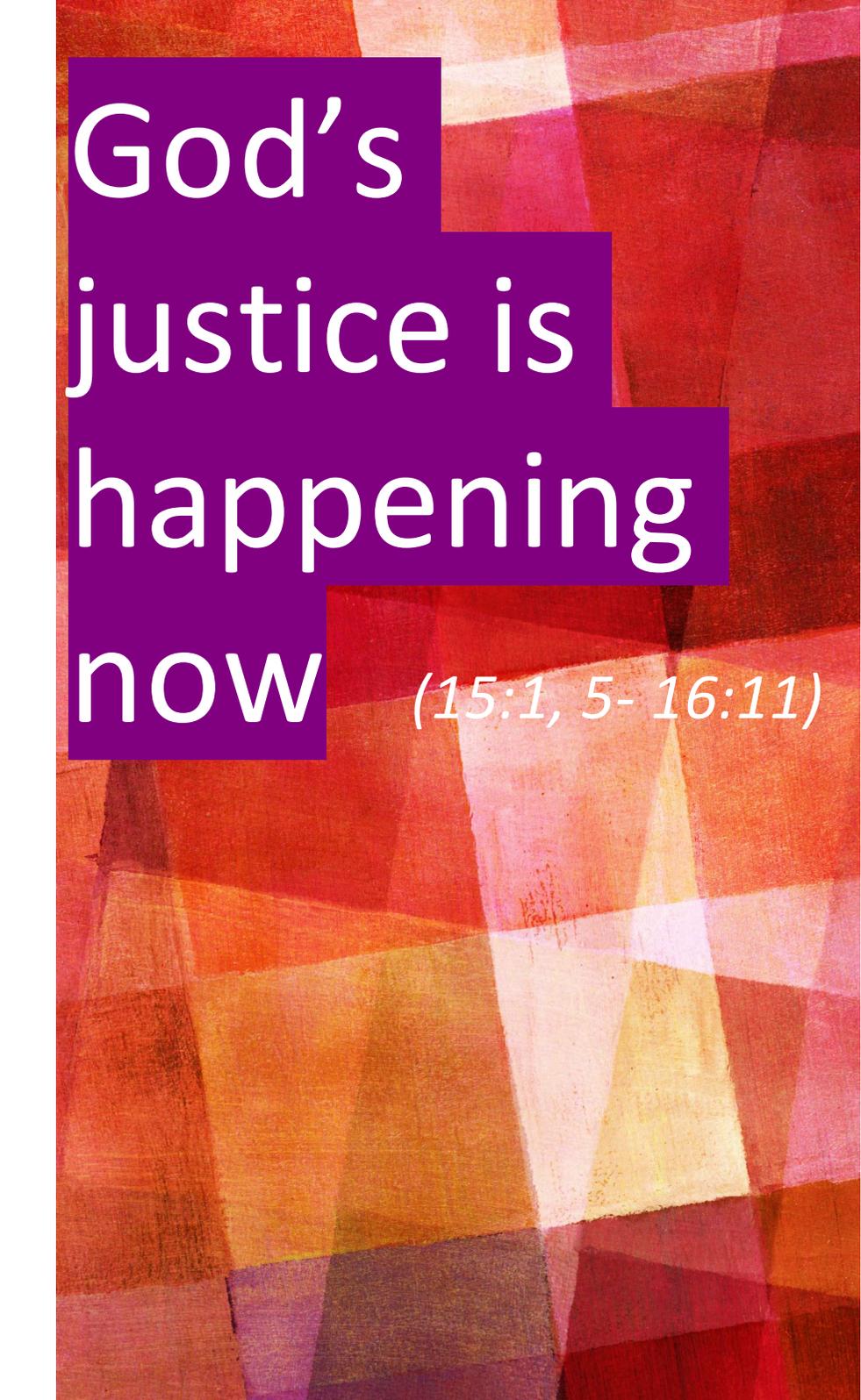
God's
justice is
happening
now

(15:1, 5- 16:11)

In Loss of Normal Protection

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

⁹They were seared by the intense heat

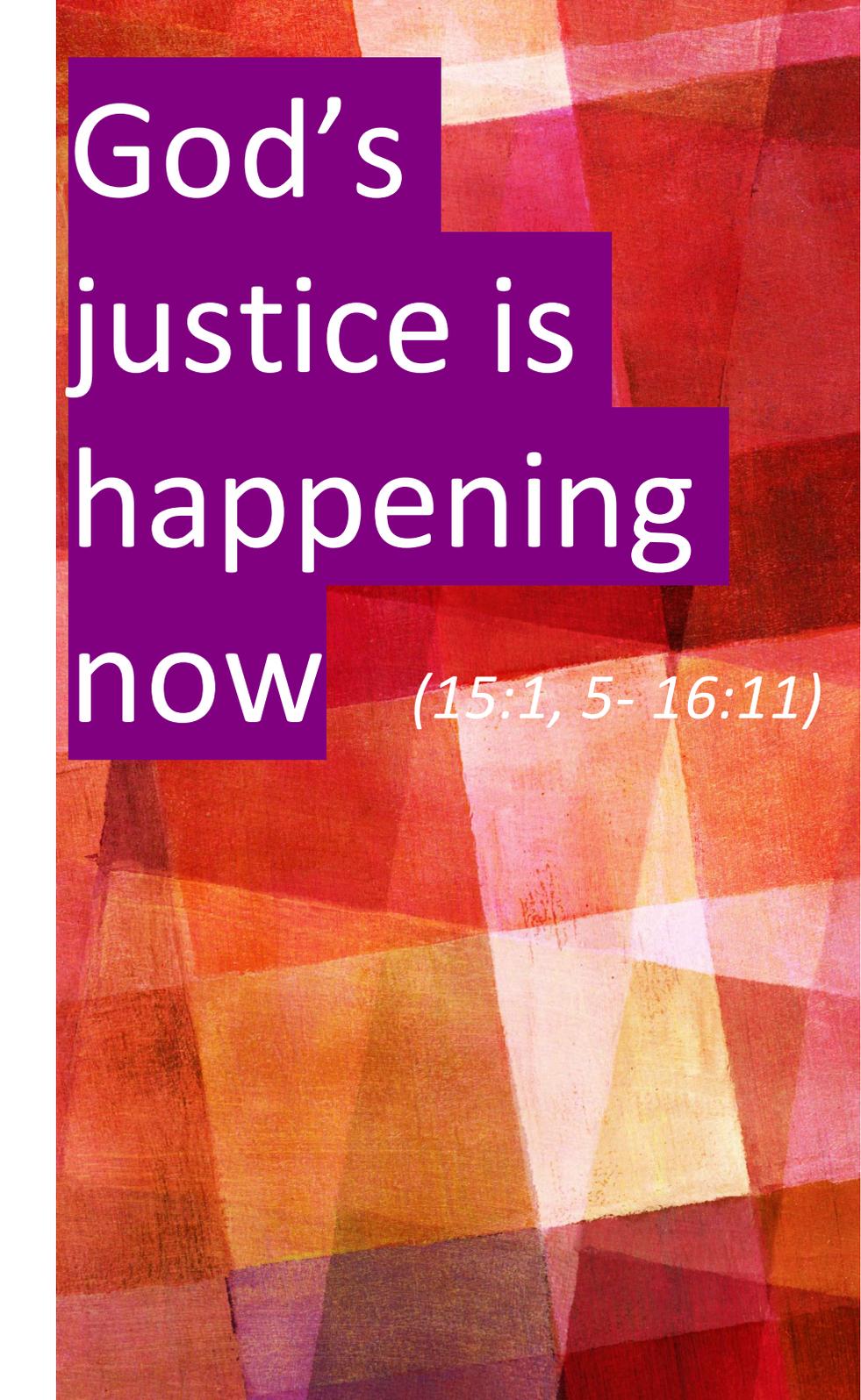


God's
justice is
happening
now

(15:1, 5- 16:11)

In Collapse of Trusted Social Economic, Cultural and Political Systems

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 agony



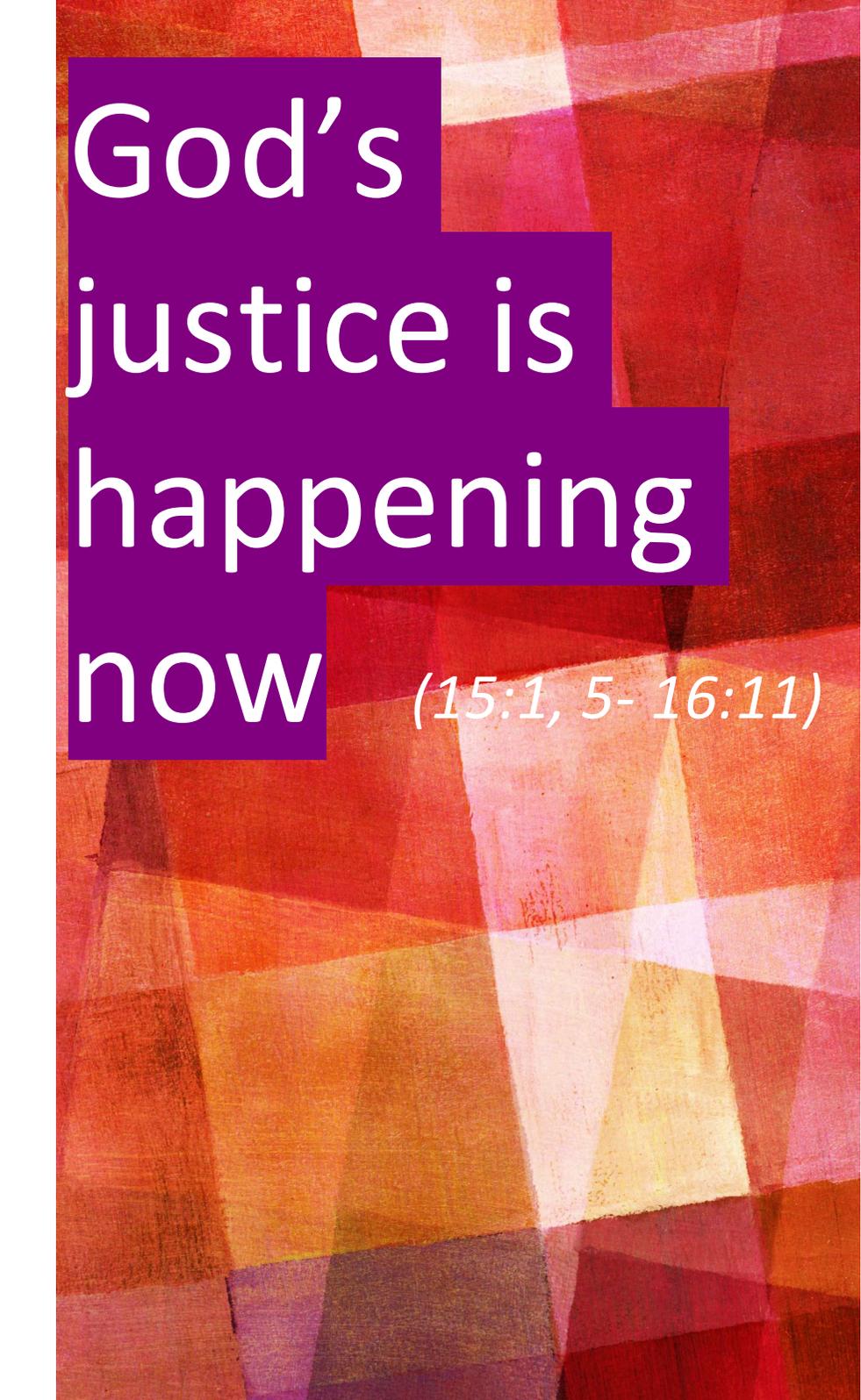
God's
justice is
happening
now

(15:1, 5- 16:11)

Only Produces Blasphemy and Anger

⁸ they cursed the name of God, who had control over these plagues, but they refused to repent and glorify him.

People gnawed their tongues in agony 11 and cursed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, but they refused to repent of what they had done.

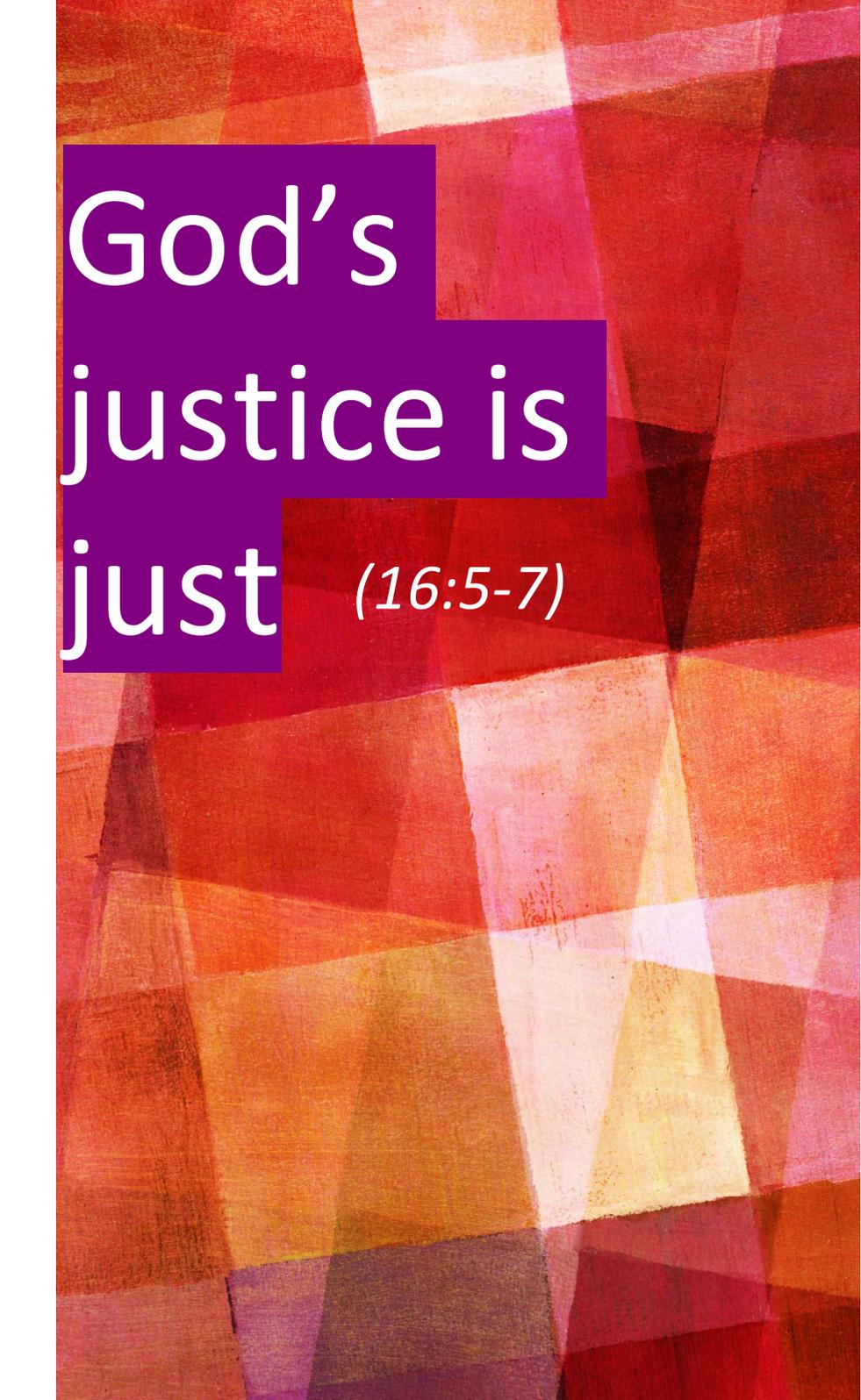


God's
justice is
happening
now

(15:1, 5- 16:11)

All in God's control

⁹ ..the Name of God who had control over these plagues



God's
justice is
just *(16:5-7)*

⁵ Then I heard the angel in charge of the waters say: 'You are just in these judgments, O Holy One, you who are and who were; ⁶ for they have shed the blood of your holy people and your prophets, and you have given them blood to drink as they deserve.'

⁷ And I heard the altar respond: 'Yes, Lord God Almighty, true and just are your judgments.'

God is
preparing
for his final
act of
justice

(16:12-21)

16:12-14, 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.

¹³ Then I saw three impure spirits that looked like frogs; they came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet. ¹⁴ They are demonic spirits that perform signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the great day of God Almighty.

¹⁶ Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.

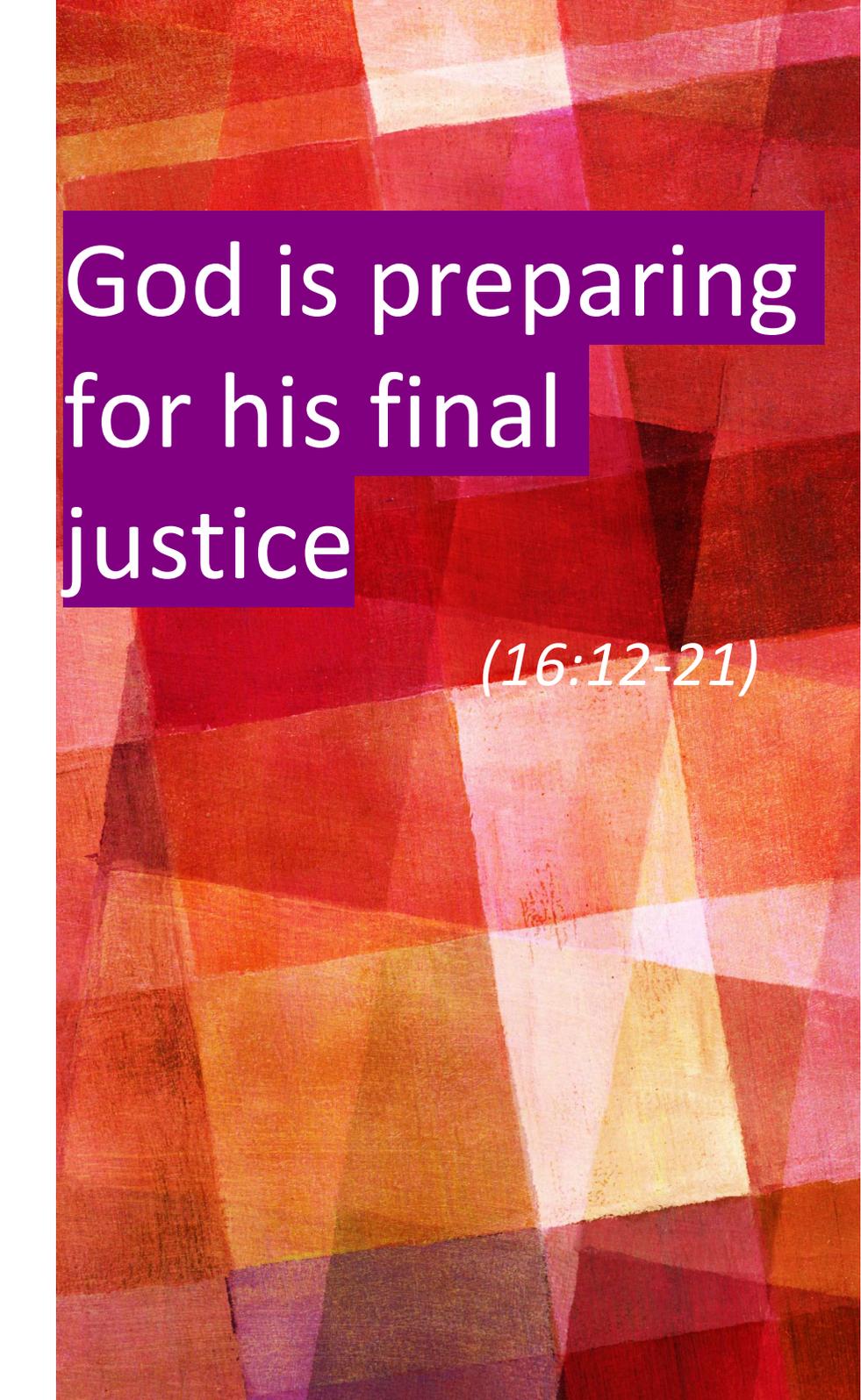
God is
preparing
for his final

(16:12-21)

act of
judgement

16:17-21

¹⁷ The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and out of the temple came a loud voice from the throne, saying, 'It is done!' ¹⁸ Then there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder and a severe earthquake. No earthquake like it has ever occurred since mankind has been on earth, so tremendous was the quake. ¹⁹ The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations collapsed. God remembered Babylon the Great and gave her the cup filled with the wine of the fury of his wrath. ²⁰ Every island fled away and the mountains could not be found. ²¹ From the sky huge hailstones, each weighing about forty kilograms fell on people. And they cursed God on account of the plague of hail, because the plague was so terrible.

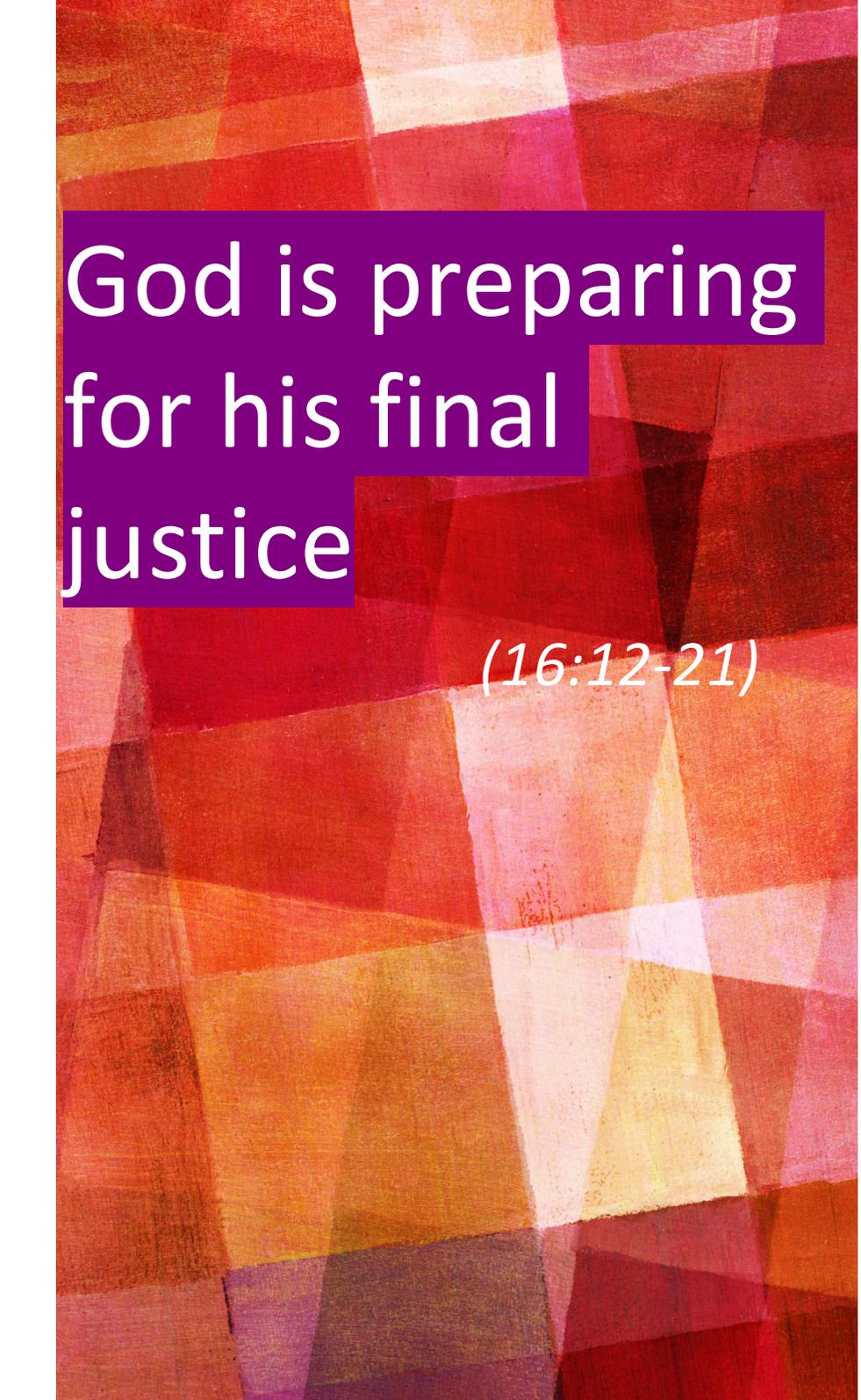


God is preparing
for his final
justice

(16:12-21)

¹⁵ 'Look, I come like a thief!
Blessed is the one who stays
awake and remains clothed,
so as not to go naked and be
shamefully exposed.'

Are we ready?



God is preparing
for his final
justice

(16:12-21)

² And I saw what looked like a sea and, standing beside the sea, those who had been victorious over the beast and its image and over the number of its name.

***Are we on the
road to
victory??***

God is preparing
for his final
justice

(16:12-21)

***Are we on
the road to
praise?***

They held harps given them by God³ and sang the song of God's servant Moses and of the Lamb: 'Great and marvellous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the nations.⁴ Who will not fear you, Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed.'