

The Revelation of Jesus Christ



Revelation 15

¹ Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels who had seven plagues, which are the last, because in them the wrath of God is finished.

² And I saw something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had been victorious over the beast and his image and the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, holding

Chapter 15

THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES

- John now sees seven **angels**...
 - ...who had seven **plagues**
 - When you hear the word “plagues” in a biblical setting what do you usually think of?
 - Is there a connection here?
 - What makes you think so?
 - ...which are the **last**
 - In what sense are these plagues “the last”?
 - What does it mean that the wrath of God will be finished in these plagues?
- What does a sea tend to represent in the Bible?
 - What is different about this sea?
 - What does this sea being “like” glass imply?
 - What does fire often represent?
 - What would the mixture of the sea being “like a sea of glass mixed with fire” tell us?
- Who is standing on this sea of glass?

harps of God. ³ And they
*sang the song of Moses,
the bond-servant of God,
and the song of the Lamb,
saying,

- Victory over the **beast**
- ...and his **image**
- ...and the **number** of his **name**
- So...when is this scene (vvs. 2,3) happening?
- What is this scene (vvs. 2,3) anticipating?
- What are they holding?
- What does this indicate?
- Although holding harps, they “sang” (ado) the song of Moses
 - What is the Song of Moses? (see Ex. 15:1ff)
 - What was Israel singing about in the song of Moses?
- Given the context here, would you expect to be some similarity between the song of Moses and the song of the Lamb?
 - How would they be similar? (**in celebratory praise, because of victory**)
- These words are not part of the song of Moses, so what do these words belong to?

“Great and marvelous
are Your works,

O Lord God, the
Almighty;

Righteous and true are
Your ways,

- What is great and marvelous (amazing) about this victory?
- Why, in the context of this victory, is God called “the Almighty”?
- What would be righteous (in this context) of God’s ways?

King of the nations!

4 “Who will not fear, O
Lord, and glorify Your
name?

For You alone are holy;

For ALL THE
NATIONS WILL COME
AND WORSHIP
BEFORE YOU,
FOR YOUR
RIGHTEOUS ACTS
HAVE BEEN
REVEALED.”

5 After these things I
looked, and the temple of
the tabernacle of testimony
in heaven was opened, ⁶
and the seven angels who
had the seven plagues came
out of the temple, clothed

- What would be true (in this context) of God’s ways?
- Why is God being called “King of the nations”?
- What is implied in the praise, “Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name?” (**God’s superiority over all beings**)
- The word “for” is the Greek word “oti”, which is translated “**because**” most of the time
- In what way **S** is God holy?
- How is this paralleled in Philippians 2:10,11?
- From the perspective of this section of Scripture (Rev. 15:2-4) what righteous acts have been revealed?
- After what things? (**the parentheses of vv. 3,4**)
- Just a reminder: What is the temple; what will it represent?
- What is the “tabernacle of testimony”?
- What does it mean that the seven angels with the seven plagues are coming out of the temple?
- Clothed in **linen**...
- The clothing of the **priests** of the **temple** (a linen “**ephod**”), considered a **holy** type of garment

in linen, clean and bright, and girded around their chests with golden sashes. ⁷ Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever. ⁸ And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power; and no one was able to enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were finished.

- Golden sash (girdle) — **Jesus** is also pictured as wearing a golden sash (Rev. 1:12 / Dan. 10:5ff)
- What is the meaning of these angels being dress this way?
- The four living creatures are **cherubim**. (see Ezek. 1:1-29 / 10:1-22 — **These living creatures are not specifically called cherubim, however, they fit the descriptions found in Ezek. 1:1-28 and Ezek. 10:1-22. Cherubim are the angels which hover over the Mercy Seat of the Ark of the Covenant. Their nearness to the throne in Rev. 5 along with their proximity to God's throne makes it fairly certain that this one of the four living creatures is a cherubim.**)
- Where are they located? (Ex. 25:18 **over the Mercy Seat**)
- So, what is the meaning of one of the four living creatures giving the seven angels seven bowls full of the wrath of God?
- What would be the meaning of the temple filling with smoke so that no one would be able to enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were finished? (**No intercession can be made to mitigate the coming judgment. Jer. 15:1 — “Then the LORD said to me, “Even though Moses and Samuel were to stand before Me, My heart would not be with this people; send them away from My presence and let them go!”**)