

Book of Revelation – A “Great and Marvellous” Revelation

--Revelation 15 Part II

Series REV-49

REVIEW (Rev 15:1, 2)

As we return to Revelation 15, let us first do a quick review.

In vs.1 we saw “seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.” We looked at this verse in comparison with the first mention of “seven angels” in Chp 8:2, 6. There, these angels (God’s people) were now sealed about ready to give the judgment hour message (3AM), but with **redemptive** significance (probation time still open). In both passages Rev 8 & 15, they are in a standing position, indicating their victory in the judgment. Further, we spent time exploring this phrase, “in them is filled up the wrath of God” and what it meant. It was stated that the O.T. drama of the ‘worship at the golden calf,’ when Moses came down and threw down the tables of stone and brought judgment to Israel.

In vs.2, we examined the phrase, the “sea of glass mingled with fire” representing the victory experience of the 144,000, first and the great multitude, next. We also looked at Rev 4:5, 6 in comparison with the first time the “sea of glass” was mentioned in the book. This one however was ‘clear as crystal’ indicating the opening of the Investigative Judgment as a transparent process, which Jesus invites His people to enter into. Especially is this true in the final aspect, known as the ‘Judgment of the Living’ which closes here in Rev 15. This is the backdrop to the next verses we will look at dealing with the song of Moses and song of the Lamb.

One last note on these first couple verses. This will come into focus again in verse 7. The SOP has this comment on it from 1 Testimonies p. 363—

Everything is preparing for the great day of God. Time will last a little longer until the inhabitants of the earth have filled up the cup of their iniquity, and then the wrath of God, which has so long slumbered, will awake, and this land of light will drink the cup of His unmingled wrath. The desolating power of God is upon the earth to rend and destroy. The inhabitants of the earth are appointed to the sword, to famine, and to pestilence.

Revelation 15:3-8 -A Great and Marvellous Song

Let us look closely at this song of Moses and the Lamb: (vs.3, 4)

GREAT AND MARVELLOUS, ARE THY WORKS, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY
JUST AND TRUE ARE THY WAYS, THOU KING OF SAINTS

WHO SHALL NOT FEAR THEE, O LORD AND GLORIFY THY NAME?
FOR THOU ONLY ART HOLY; FOR ALL NATIONS SHALL COME
AND WORSHIP BEFORE THEE; for Thy judgments are made manifest.

These two passages are the pinnacle of the chapter. {Note the chiasmus on page 4.) So we need to focus some time on them. We will now examine each of these texts and learn some things we may not have noticed before.

Great and Marvellous	{see Rev 12:1-What was this wonder? _____ _____ [and she was clothed with _____ cf Rev 14:6] _____ God's works accomplish [Rev 15:2] _____ _____
Thy works	
Just and true	refers to what? _____
Thy ways	The ways of God are [Ps.67:2; 77:13] _____ _____
Thou King of Saints	Why is He only the King of saints? [hint: ask whose song this is? _____
Who shall not (fear) Thee, O Lord, And (glorify) Thy name?	What is this referring to? [hint: it's a message the 144K are very familiar with?] _____
For Thou only art (Holy):	Because this King is holy, what does this enable Him to do? [Hint Ps.67:4] _____
For all nations shall come and worship before Thee,	What Scriptures would you use to show this involves the entire race, both the saved and lost? _____ _____
for Thy judgments are made manifest.	<i>Trick question:</i> Is this referring to the 7 last plagues or something else? [hint: we've spent much time on it] _____

How many elements in these verses above can you identify which are also found in an important message of the prior chapter? _____. Does this help you see how far-reaching this message really is, even extending into eternity?

Vs. 5

What reason do you think can be arrived at why John wrote

- 1) these words next, in the narrative and
- 2) gave specific detail rather than just saying, "...the temple in heaven was opened? [hint: examine closely the 3 Ts]

"...and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened."

- 1) _____

- 2) [cf Ex. 30:26; 31:7; 38:21:Numb 1:50] _____

In looking at the last half of the chapter we discover again, the biblical concept, that modern scholars have noted as “eschaton.” This idea is related to eschatology (referring to the last days or end times), but its meaning is different. Eschaton in essence looks forward or describes first “the end of a matter, the end of a prophecy”, etc., before coming back to show the reader what leads up to that end, that conclusion. We see it here also in Rev 15, as we’ve seen elsewhere in the Bible, especially in the prophetic books.

Verse one gives this picture. Note the facts: 7 Angels having 7 last plagues. It doesn’t tell us anymore, like--where they got them from, what they will do with them, just that they have 7 plagues and they are filled up with “the wrath of God.” This is part of an end of a matter first—eschaton. We also see taking place in these verses the principle of repeat and enlarge.

Verse 2-4 tells us who has gotten the victory over the beast, image, etc. But it doesn’t tell us directly that the seven angels are the people of God. Why? Because your precious Advocate and Teacher wants you to do some of the digging yourself {for the pursuit of a hidden treasure and its discovery, truly brings joy, especially biblical truth. Self-discovery is what God knows brings satisfaction to us. This is part of our sanctification process}. He wants us to be excited in those hidden gems.

We know from Rev 1:20 and other verses in the Bible, that the 7 angels are God’s people.

It is not until verse 5 and 6 that we learn that the “seven angels” come out of the temple having these 7 plagues. So including verse 7, what do you make of these lines that follow:

- They are “clothed with pure and white linen” _____

- “girded with golden girdles” _____

- “one of the four living creatures” gives “the 7 angels seven golden vials which are “full of the wrath of God.” What are these 7 golden vials?

More deep truths are still to come out, especially in verse 8, but we are out of time, so

*We will discuss verse 8 in our Monday night study.
May the Captain of our Salvation continue
to lead us into all truth.*

Revelation 15

Great and Marvellous Sign

A Seven angels having

B seven last plagues;

C in them filled up wrath of God

D they got the victory, stand on sea of glass,

*They sing song of Moses the servant of God,
and the song of the Lamb, saying,*

E Great and marvellous thy works, Lord God Almighty;
just and true thy ways, King of saints.

E Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name?
...all nations shall...worship; for thy judgments manifest.

*And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the
tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened:*

D they came out of temple, clothed in white linen

C seven angels full of the wrath of God,

*And the temple was filled with smoke from the
glory of God, and from his power; and no man
was able to enter into the temple,*

B till the seven plagues of

A the seven angels fulfilled.