

REVELATION: CHAPTER 15

Rev 15:1 And I saw another sign in Heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.

- plagues- judgments to be visited on Jerusalem as they were on Egypt.
- seven- complete: Lev 26:18, 21, 24, 29.
- last- this is the final display of God's wrath on the apostate city of Jerusalem. Her spectators will survive her (18:15, 20).

Rev 15:2 And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

- sea- (4:6; 6:9-11; 15:2-3) separation. See notes on 20:13.
- glass- calm. (As opposed to Isaiah 57:20-21. See also Rev. 12:12; 13:1)

G5193- ὑάλινος- hualinos- *hoo-al'-ee-nos*

From G5194; *glassy*, that is, *transparent*: - of glass.

- mingled with fire- 1 Pet 1:7.
- them that had gotten the victory- martyred and/or those who died faithful (2 Tim 4:8- *The crown here is one of victory*).
- beast- Caesar. (13:12)
- his image- idol bust of Caesar (13:14).

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- number of his name- 666 (see notes of 13:18) concerning Neron Caesar.
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- on the sea of glass-

G1909- ἐπι- epi- ep-ee'

A primary preposition properly meaning *superimposition* (of time, place, order, etc.), as a relation of *distribution* [with the genitive case], that is, **over, upon**, etc.; of *rest* (with the dative case) *at, on*, etc.; of *direction* (with the accusative case) *towards, upon*, etc.: - about (the times), above, after, against, among, as long as (touching), at, beside, X have charge of, (be-, [where-]) fore, in (a place, as much as, the time of, -to), (because) of, (up-) on (behalf of) over, (by, for) the space of, through (-out), (un-) to (-ward), with. In compounds it retains essentially the same import, *at, upon*, etc. (literally or figuratively). (*Emp. added*)

Luk 23:43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with Me in Paradise.

Php 1:21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. 22 If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. 23 I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is **to depart and be with** Christ (*Gk.4862- by association, i.e., beyond the physical in the spirit realm*), for that is far better. 24 But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. (*Emp. added*) (*ESV*)

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- These include the 144,000 of 14:1 along with those “under the altar” in 6:9 who have received their white robes, with the “great multitude” of 7:10, but specifically in this context of those who had conquered during the Jewish/Roman conflict. (*harps- 14:2*)

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Rev 15:3 And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvelous are Thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are Thy ways, Thou King of saints.

- The martyrs here are victorious as were the Israelites leaving Egypt (*Ex. 15:1-19*). The song of Moses is here being sung by those of 6:9 and the “144,000” (7:4-8) along with the song of the Lamb by them and including those of 7:9-10 (*both songs of victory*). Both groups have been covered by the N.T. blood of the Lamb (*Mat 26:28*). Having seen God’s purpose, only after becoming victorious in death, could the victorious dead of both Covenants sing this song (14:3). Through their deaths they conquered Satan and now share the victory with Christ over the beast (*Caesar, and thus Satan*).

- King of saints- the Sovereign of the blameless saints (*or angels*).

G40- ἅγιος- *hagios- hag’-ee-os*

From ἅγιος *hagos* (an *awful* thing) compare G53, [H2282]; *sacred* (physically *pure*, morally **blameless** or *religious*, ceremonially *consecrated*): - (most) holy (one, thing), **saint**. (*Emp. added*)

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Rev 15:4 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.

- nations- here, in context, referring to those who were in support of persecuting the church. Quite an encouragement to the living saint. God’s warnings of justice on the persecutor have been made known (14:9-11).

G1484- ἔθνος- ethnos- *eth'-nos* Probably from G1486; a *race* (as of the same *habit*), that is, a *tribe*; specifically, a *foreign (non-Jewish)* one (usually by implication *pagan*): - Gentile, heathen, nation, people.

Read Ps 111:9; Rom 14:11-12; Php 2:10-11.

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Rev 15:5 And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in Heaven was opened:

- the temple- (Most Holy Place) of the tabernacle (tent of meeting) which contained the testimony (O. T. ten commandments). This is indicative of separation but where God communed with Moses. Here it refers to Heaven (11:19) where Christ, as our High Priest, is “seated at the right hand of God” (Col 3:1). Read Heb 8:1; 9:11, 24-26.

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Rev 15:6 And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles.

- From the presence of God (14:15) seven angels with the final seven plagues (*v. 1*). Arrayed in white linen (*because of being in God's presence- Ex. 34:29-35*) and golden sashes (*part of the priests' wardrobe but different from the high priests- Heb.73/2805*). This is in fulfillment of Daniel's prophecy (Dan 9:24).

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Rev 15:7 And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, Who liveth for ever and ever.

- One of the four living creatures (4:7) hands the instruments of destruction to those who would carry out God's judgment against the apostate Jews, who spurned the Law of Moses, and on the city that defined

their now divorced relationship with God, Jerusalem.
(*Jer 3:20; 23:14*) God is eternal.

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Rev 15:8 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, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.

Read Ex 40:34-35; 1 Ki 8:10-11; 2 Chr 5:14; Ex 40:36-37.

- God would be steadfast in His judgment on Jerusalem (*16:17*). Until the seven bowls were emptied, none could enter into the temple to divert God's attention away from fulfilling His just wrath; demonstrating the fact that when God makes a final judgment where repentance doesn't exist, He exacts His righteous anger against His enemies. It is too late to repent once God's patience runs out (*22:11*).

Worksheet
Revelation: Chapter 15

1. Having to do with numbers, “seven angels with seven plagues” means what? (*v. 1*)
2. What was the significance of this “sea of glass” being “mingled with fire”? (*v. 2*)
3. Who were standing “beside [on] the sea of glass” and what was “in their hands”? (*v. (v. 2)*)
4. What four things did they “conquer” and what “song” did “they sing”? (*vs. 2, 3*)
5. What “in Heaven was opened” and what came “out of” it? (*v. 5*)
6. Explain the “seven golden bowls of the wrath of God”. (*v. 7*)
7. How does “the sanctuary” here being “filled with smoke” relate to Ex 40:34-36? (*v. 8*)