

Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.
Rev. 1:3

Verse by Verse Through the Book of Revelation

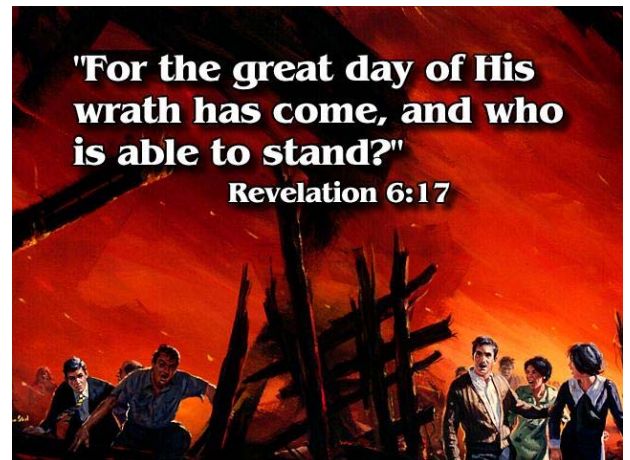
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REVELATION CHAPTER 15

Chapter 15 introduces the seven last plagues, a manifestation of Heaven's unmingled wrath, in its full measure upon the last generation of the wicked. The work of mercy is then forever past.

The 15th chapter of Revelation carries us back to a new series of events. The whole chapter is but an introduction to the most terrible judgments of the Almighty ever to be visited upon this earth—the seven last plagues. What we behold here is a solemn preparation for the outpouring of unmixed vials of wrath. These plagues will be poured out on the unrighteous! Those who love and serve God will not be touched by the plagues.



- I. **And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous,** This term signifies its far-reaching effects

seven angels Remember that seven is a symbolic number

having the seven last plagues; They are the “last” because Jesus will then come and sin will be wiped out of existence.

for in them is filled up the wrath of God. The special punishment reserved for the worshipers of the beast and his image (ch. 16:2) is summed up in the seven last plagues (See ch. 14:10).

2. **And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire:** This is the clear crystalline appearance of the surface on which the throne of God stands. Mingled with fire means that it was shining brightly most likely from reflection from the throne of God.

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. Preceding a description of the fearful seven last plagues, John is given a view of the triumph of the church of God over all her enemies. The saints will not be swallowed up in the overflowing scourge, but will be delivered.

These people stood loyal to God even when the death penalty was pronounced. Now they stand safe on the sea of glass. The victory is complete, the struggle is over. They overcame, they triumphed, and now in the heavenly kingdom they sing the anthem of victory.

3. **And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God,** This is undoubtedly a reference to the song of deliverance after Israel crossed the Red Sea (Ex. 15:1-21). That song celebrated the deliverance from Egyptian oppression; the new song, deliverance from the tyranny of “Babylon the great.” (Rev. 17:5.)

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 deliverance of the saints was wrought by Christ, the Lamb of God. (ch. 17:14) and it is natural that he should be adored and exalted in the song of deliverance.

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.** These judgments are the seven last plagues on the beast, his image and his worshipers.

5. **And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened:** This name apparently applies to the most holy place in Num. 17:7. The wilderness tabernacle was a type of the true tabernacle which the Lord pitched and not man. See Heb. 8:2

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.** Their dress—symbolizing righteousness is noted.
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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.** “Vials” from the Greek phialai meaning bowls such as might be used for boiling liquids. Some translations say “basin.”

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.** This undoubtedly means that the time for intercession is past; no one can enter and have access to the mercy seat. The time of preparation is over; now the time has come for the pouring out of the unmingled wrath of God.