

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 5/23- 24/2022 *Revelation Chapter 15*

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN CLASSROOM HS107, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).

THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN THE FAMILY ROOM, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER

Revelation Chapter 15 – Prelude to the Seven Bowl Judgments - The Sign; The Song; The Sanctuary – (vs. 1-8)

The Seven Angels with Seven Plagues

Rev 15:1 Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete.

Rev 15:2 And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God.

Rev 15:3 They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints!"

Rev 15:4 Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. For all nations shall come and worship before You, For Your judgments have been manifested."

Rev 15:5 After these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened.

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

Rev 15:7 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.

Rev 15:8 The temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power, and no one was able to enter the temple till the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.

The Woman and the Dragon

- **Chapter fifteen is a little interlude** between the fourteenth chapter, where he begins to talk about the Battle of Armageddon and the sixteenth chapter where he gets into the subject more fully. Chapter fifteen is filling in of some of the blanks, all preceding the actual occurrence of God's wrath being poured out in the seven bowls.
- **We have moved from the earthly scene, entering the heavenly scene once again.** Now it is not the church that we see in heaven. But what we see in chapter fifteen are those people who have been saved out of the Great Tribulation.
- **I believe there may be a broken-hearted brevity to this chapter.** The wrath of God comes to completion, being filled up! Humankind will find there is no redemption left! No one that will turn to the Lord after this. The heart of our Father, broken, short, concise, brief. He puts this before us. As we study through this chapter, we have **the Sign!** - great and marvelous; **the Song!** And **the Sanctuary,** all brought before us!
- **There is a fullness, a completion, to the different things.** He says in His angels, the wrath of God is filled, has come to completion in this chapter. It is number seven, the number of completion, mentioned eight times in this chapter. It is just an interesting picture, great pathos, great sadness, as we look through it and see the things that are here. There are these seven bowls of God's wrath, which are put before us.
- **Now, this is the heavenly scene, again, behind the scenes.** Chapter sixteen will show us what happens on earth, relative to these seven bowls. Chapters seventeen and eighteen will show us the judgment of Babylon, relative to these bowls. Then chapter nineteen, the actual return of Jesus Christ to earth at Armageddon, relative to these bowls.
- **This is the completeness of God, in regard to the dealing with the sin of mankind,** in rebellion and so forth. Some very important things as we go through, because you and I have friends, or we know people that say, well, if God is a god of love, how could this be happening? If God is a God of love how could this happen? It is almost like, well, God is not fair! If He is up there, I have a beef with Him. I am going to take Him to whatever the court is up there that I can take Him to. This kind of puts it all in front and says, He is not fair!
- **He is not fair, but not from our standpoint, but from His!** Because **He put His Son to death in our place!** He is not fair because **He loves us, and we do not deserve it!** He is not fair because **He has given us what we could never be worthy of, or earn, of ourselves!** He is absolutely fair for the reasons unbelievers are giving.

The Seven Angels with Seven Plagues - The Sign:

Rev 15:1 Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete.

Then I saw another sign

- This is the third great sign! **sign** - not just something visual, merely to be seen, but it demands to imply something. It makes a statement!

in heaven, great and marvelous

- The only time in Revelation these two words are used together, here in verses 1 & 3, (for His works):
- (Rev 12:1, 3) **Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon**

under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. [3] And **another sign** appeared in heaven: behold, **a great, fiery red dragon** having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.

- **We are back in the heavenly scene.** We have been on the earth; we have watched the judgments on the earth but now we are returning back to the heavenly scene.

seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath (*thumos* – fierceness, indignation, wrath) **of God** (wrath of God – 5X in Rev.) is **complete** (finished).

- (Rev 21:9) Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the **seven last plagues** came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife."
- (Rev 14:10) he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.
- **This will end the tribulation period at the end of the pouring out of these golden bowls** that are filled with *the wrath of God*. Chapter seventeen and chapter eighteen we will again be going backwards and filling in the details of God's destruction of the false religious system called Mystery Babylon.
- **In chapter eighteen, we see God's destruction of the commercialism** that grew out of Babylon. In the eighteenth chapter. But chapter sixteen carries you out to the end of God's wrath in the seven bowls that will be poured out upon the earth. He "saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous sign, there were seven angels who had the seven last plagues and in them the completion of God's wrath that is to be poured out."

Rev 15:2 And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God.

And I saw something like a sea of glass

- (Rev 4:6) Before the throne there was a **sea of glass**, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.
- **What does this look like?** It was a great and marvelous sign! Back in chapter four when John was taken into the heavenly scene, he saw the throne of God, the cherubim about the throne of God. "The twenty-four lesser thrones upon which sat the twenty-four elders. Before the throne of God, there was the sea of glass and proceeding from the throne of God, the lightnings, the thunders, the voices" (Revelation 4:5). How many will be here? An awesome sight!

mingled with fire (judgment), ***and those who have the victory over the beast,***

- ***The victory is not that the beast was defeated by them, but their victory was that they were not defeated by the beast. They did not give in to the commands and to the orders of the beast to worship him and to worship his image and to take his mark. That was their victory, their victory was in (Rev 12:11) And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death, but dying rather than submitting to his orders, to his kingdom. They "have the victory over the beast," (Rev 14:13) Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."***

over his image and over his mark and

- (Rev 13:14-15) And he deceives those who dwell on the earth—by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. [15] He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass,

- (Rev 13:17) and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name
- **We got that back in chapter thirteen, the number of his name** is the number of a man, six hundred and sixty-six. They refused to take the mark or the number of his name.

having harps (the only musical instruments mentioned in the praise and worship) ***of God.***

- *(Rev 5:8) Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints*
- **They are standing before the throne of God.** That is where we find them back in chapter seven. They are in His temple, and they do worship Him day and night continually, this great multitude which no man can number who came up out of the Great Tribulation.
- **Just imagine what that looks and sounds like!!**

The Song:

Rev 15:3 They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints (nations)!"

- *These are the points of the Song. First it says, Your works, then it says, Your Ways! Then it says, You are holy! Then it says Your purposes are manifest!*

They sing the song of Moses, the servant (duolos, slave) of God, (The Song of Moses)

- *(Exo 15:1-2, 11-13, 17-18, 21) Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to the LORD, and spoke, saying: "I will sing to the LORD, For He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea! [2] The LORD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation; He is my God, and I will praise Him; My father's God, and I will exalt Him.*
- **Back in Exodus chapter fifteen, you have the song of Moses.** That spontaneous singing of praises unto God for **delivering them from** the Egyptians. They had just watched the sea as it had drowned the Egyptian army and they realized that they were now truly free from the bondage that they had experienced there in Egypt. There is that rejoicing in song for God's power, for God's deliverance, for God's destruction upon their enemies. They are singing the song of Moses.
- **This, no doubt, is the hundred and forty-four thousand who are there in heaven** as of the fourteenth chapter. As they are singing the song of Moses. In Deuteronomy 32, again you will find the song that Moses taught the children of Israel. The children were to learn this song in Deuteronomy 32. It was one of those songs that was taught to the children from an early age. In the song in Deuteronomy 32, it is interesting because in the song, there are warnings. It is a song of victory again and deliverance but also it is a song of warnings. Should they turn their back on God, the things that would transpire, the judgments that would come.
- **Folk songs have a way of sort of sticking in your mind and years later,** you can still be singing that folk song that you learned as a child. Many times, it is just the melody, and you are not really thinking about what you're singing. But the whole purpose of the song of Moses that was taught to the children was that in the days to come when they forsook the Lord and forsook the Law, and they would go into captivity. They would listen to the lyrics. They realize, Wow, we are in captivity! Yes, that is what the song says. If we forsake the Lord and all, and it was to be one of those things that would in the time would really grip their hearts and they would realize, Wow, we are experiencing God's judgment because we forsook the Lord!
- **The Song of Moses was sung at the Red Sea.** The Song of the Lamb is **sung on the glassy sea!**
- **The Song of Moses is the first song in the Bible.** The **Song of the Lamb, here, is the last song** in the Bible. Remarkably, all of our experiences are between these two songs!
- **The Song of Moses is the song of triumph over Pharaoh in Egypt!** The **Song of the Lamb is the song of triumph over the Beast in Babylon!**
- **The Song of Moses talks about God's ability to bring people out!** The *Song of the Lamb* is a song about **God's ability to bring His people in!**
- **How incredible** is this going to be?

the song of the Lamb, saying:

- *(Rev 5:9-12) And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, [10] And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall*

reign on the earth." [11] Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, [12] saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!"

- **There was also, the song of the Lamb.** Now the song of the Lamb we find in the fifth chapter of the Book of Revelation. **It is sung there by the church. It is at the time when there is the scroll in the right hand of Him who is sitting upon the throne and the angel proclaims with a strong voice, Who is worthy to take the scroll and to loose the seals?** It had seven seals. Who is worthy to take the scroll and loose the seals thereof? The scroll is the title deed to the earth. That was forfeited by Adam over to Satan and he has held it, lo, these six thousand years. But now the time has come for the redemption. "Who is worthy to take the scroll and loose the seals? John said, I began to sob because no one was found worthy in heaven or earth or under the sea to take the scroll or look thereon. One of the elders sidled up to him and said, John, do not weep. **Behold the Lion of the tribe of Judah has prevailed. He is going to take the scroll and loose the seals. John said, I turned, and I saw Him as a Lamb that had been slaughtered. The song of the Lamb.**
- **He came forth and He took the scroll out of the right hand of Him** who sat upon the throne. When He did, the twenty-four elders came with their little golden bowls full of odors, which are the prayers of the saints, the incense. They offered it before God and **they began to sing, the church. Worthy is the Lamb to take the scroll and to loose the seals. For He was slain, and He has redeemed us by His blood out of every kindred, tribe, tongue and people and He has made us unto our God kings and priests, and we will reign with Him upon the earth.** That is the song of the Lamb. It is the song of rejoicing in that Jesus paid the price to redeem the world from the power of darkness, from Satan. The purpose of redeeming the world was to obtain the bride, His church. **Thus, we sing, and we rejoice that He loved us so much that He redeemed this world that He could take us out of it.**
- **Jesus said, The kingdom of God is likened to a man going through a field** and discovering a treasure. Who, for the joy immediately goes and sells everything he has so that he can buy the field that he might obtain the treasure? Now in the parables, the field is the earth, the world. Jesus talked about the sower who went forth to sow the seed and it fell on the various types of soil and as He was explaining that parable, He said, Now the field is the world. So, the question is, Who gave everything to purchase the world? Of course, the answer is Jesus. For what purpose? That He might take the treasure What is the treasure? Fasten your seatbelt. It is you!
- **Peter says that we are God's special people.** How special it is that God would treasure you! And even more special that He would treasure me! But oh, how grateful I am that God sees me as His treasure.
- **Paul when he was praying for the church of Ephesus said** that he prayed that God would give to them the spirit of wisdom and understanding in the knowledge of God. That they may know the hope of their calling and what is the riches of His inheritance in the saints. Not really the riches that you have as a child of God. But the value that God puts upon you. If you only knew the value that God puts upon you! He so loved you that He sent His only begotten Son to redeem the world that you might be His. That He might take you out of the world. His treasure. And God treasures you. You are a special treasure unto God.
- **The song of the Lamb. The song of redemption. The song of deliverance from the powers of darkness** through the redemption that we have in Jesus Christ. John sees Him there in heaven and they are singing the song of Moses, the servant of God, the song of the Lamb,

Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty!

- *(Deu 32:3-4) For I proclaim the name of the LORD: Ascribe greatness to our God. [4] He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He.*
- ***Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! How great and how marvelous is God's work of redemption?*** That God would send His only begotten Son. Great and marvellous, the work of redemption. Redeeming man from sin.
- ***Great and marvellous is the work of God in judgment.*** These people have been on the earth during the Great Tribulation. They have seen the judgment of God coming upon the earth. They have seen the cataclysmic catastrophes of nature, convulsions of nature and the destruction it has brought to the earth. They sing, Great and marvellous are Your works, the works of God in judgment against a Christ-rejecting, God-rebelling earth.

- **Surely the earth is getting ripe for God's judgment. It is all around us.** It is very obvious. The world is ripening up for the judgment of God. The cup is filling and will soon overflow! God will pour out His judgment upon the earth. They will be there to see it.
- **But great and marvelous are His works in creation!** None of them were wrong! None were ever incomplete! The marvels of creation! It boggles the mind. We cannot grasp it. It is beyond us. The vast universe in which we live. A part in this little, tiny corner of the Milky Way galaxy. This little bit of dust that rotates on its axis as it revolves around the sun. Way down here in the corner of the Milky Way galaxy. When we peer out into space and we realize the vastness of space and we realize the size of many of the stars in our own galaxy, great and marvelous are Your works! It boggles our minds! We cannot really comprehend it! When we start talking in distances, in light-years, it is just beyond our ability to really grasp! We can talk about it, and we can conceptualize to a point but not really grasp the vastness of space, the vastness of the universe. Yet, the Bible says, *(Psa 104:2) Who cover Yourself with light as with a garment, Who stretch out the heavens like a curtain.*
- **"When I consider the heavens," the psalmist said, "(Psa 8:3-4) When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained, [4] What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him?** Great and marvelous, Lord, are Your works. You are mindful of this little speck of dust on this little speck called earth. Way down here in the Milky Way galaxy and yet God thinks about you!
- **David said, (Psa 139:18) If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still with You.** It is estimated that there are probably ten to the twenty-fifth power grains of sand. I do not know who figured that out. But that is an awful lot of thoughts that God thinks, concerning you. Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty. The fact that God thinks of me astounds me! But as we sing, "He knows my name. He knows my every thought. He sees my falling tear. And He hears me when I call." Great and marvelous are Thy works, Lord God Almighty!
- **When you look at the life forms and you consider the designs, the intricacies** of the many different forms of life, it is indeed so fascinating and so wonderful! It is so beyond anything we could think or imagine.

Just and true are Your ways,

- *(Psa 103:7) He made known His ways to Moses, His acts (works) to the children of Israel.*
- **Your ways! God made known His acts, His works, to the children of Israel, but He made known His ways to Moses! Moses was not content with His works. Moses saw all of those miraculous things.** Then Moses said, Lord, let me behold Your glory. I know it's not just in parting an ocean, not in just turning water into blood. There is something else Lord! Let me behold Your glory. And the Lord answered Moses, revealing His goodness, His love and His grace to Moses! (Exo 34:6-7) And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, [7] keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation." Those are His ways! Just and true! They are dependable! They are fair!
- **Because they have seen the hand of God in judgment** they sing, *just and true are Your ways, O King of saints!*
- **The declaration of the righteousness of God's judgements!** Several times as we are coming through the Book of Revelation here, we will get it again next week, but several times in the midst of the most awesome judgments, there will be that declaration of the righteousness of God's judgments. Next week as we are in the sixteenth chapter and the bowl of God's judgment is poured out on the fresh water supplies of the earth so that the fresh water supplies will be turned to blood, you will not be able to drink. They will have no fresh water to drink. The angel responds, Right on, Lord. They shed the blood of Your people. Now you have given them blood to drink. Boy, how fitting! But all the way through when God's judgments are coming, there is that acknowledgment that they are righteous judgments. It is the right thing.
- **No one can really accuse God of not being fair.** You may imagine that God is not fair but that is because you do not know the whole story. When the whole story is known, we will realize the absolute fairness and justice of God. There are a lot of things that the Bible does not tell us. A lot of things we do not know. Usually, it is the things that we do not know that trouble us and confuse us.

But whenever you come up against something you do not know, fall back on what you do know. I know that God is love. I know that God is fair. I know that God is righteous in His judgments.

- **The justice system that we have on the world is not always fair.** Many times, when you see the edicts of the court, you wonder if the judge got his appointment from a grab bag or something. Now there are good judges, and it is not to paint the whole judicial system with a black brush. There are excellent judges. Many judges really take their job to heart, and they are really concerned that justice is done. But there are always those who are open to pressure and other things, their own self-interest at times.
- **But God is fair. God is just! You can be sure of that!** So that person who has lived in the jungles of South America or of Borneo, New Guinea, the Congo, that person who has lived and died without ever hearing of Jesus Christ, the Son of God who died for their sins. When God disposes of their case, you can be sure that it will be absolutely fair. God will be just and true in His judgment. True and righteous are His ways.

O King of the saints (nations)!

- ***(Jer 10:7, 10) Who would not fear You, O King of the nations? For this is Your rightful due. For among all the wise men of the nations, And in all their kingdoms, There is none like You. [10] But the LORD is the true God; He is the living God and the everlasting King. At His wrath the earth will tremble, And the nations will not be able to endure His indignation.***
- ***(1Ti 1:17) Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.***
- ***Because they have seen the hand of God in judgment they sing, just and true are Your ways, O King of saints!***

Rev 15:4 Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. For all nations shall come and worship before You, For Your judgments have been manifested."

Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name?

- ***(Exo 15:14) "The people will hear and be afraid; Sorrow will take hold of the inhabitants of Philistia.***
- ***Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name?*** The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. The question, "Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name?" It to me is very sad and tragic that there is no fear of the Lord in their hearts. There are people who are openly opposed to God. People who are openly opposed to the law of God, to the ways of God.
- ***Presently in the California State Legislature they are considering perverse sexual bills*** that are absolutely contrary to God. They are blasphemous to God. Yet, it looks like the majority of the Senate has already passed some of these bills and they are now again in Committee before they go to the next level and you think, God, is there no fear of the Lord in their hearts? How could they ever justify these kinds of legislation? In their own minds, in their own hearts, how can they justify these things that are so anti-God, anti-Scripture, and you think, My, I cannot conceive an elected body of officials. I cannot conceive of people who would elect officials that would consider and promote such legislation as is being considered right now in Sacramento. Surely, we as Christians need to pray.

For You alone are holy.

- ***(Lev 11:44a) For I am the LORD your God. You shall therefore consecrate yourselves, and you shall be holy; for I am holy.***
- ***For You alone are holy. That is the whole issue! The holiness of God is what man rebels against!*** It goes against our nature. Man by nature is a sinner. You are not a sinner because you sin, you sin because you are a sinner. There is the difference. As they used to say, stealing a horse does not make you a horse thief. Stealing a horse only proves that you are a horse thief. No one steals horses except horse thieves. The fact that you stole the horse only proves that you are a horse thief. It did not make you one. It only proved you were one. That is why you stole it.
- ***Sinning does not make you a sinner. Because we are sinners, we sin.*** The Bible says we were born in sin. We were "by nature," Paul said, ***(Eph 2:3) among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. the children of wrath, even as others.*** Thus, the holiness

of God goes against my nature. God is calling on me to deny myself, to take up the cross, to reckon my old nature dead, crucified with Christ that I might live unto God after the things of the Spirit. But that is contrary to the natural man and his desires. There are many who rebel against God because they do not want to surrender their evil nature. They delight in the things that they are doing and because the Lord condemns them, they turn against God.

- **They crucified Jesus. Why? Because He went against the grain. They did not like it.** They did not like the things He was teaching. They felt convicted in their hearts for what they were and what they were doing. They did not like that feeling.
- **People do not want to feel guilty. They want to make laws that would allow them** to live the kind of lives they want to live without feeling guilty. Thus, they rebel against God in their hearts and there is no fear of God before their eyes. That is why we have the Book of Revelation telling us of the consequences of this kind of living. The judgments of God that will be brought upon the earth as the result of man's rebellion against all that is righteous, all that is holy, and all that is pure.

For all nations shall come and worship before You, For Your judgments have been manifested."

- ***For all nations shall come and worship before You.*** Back in the twenty-second Psalm which is a psalm concerning Jesus Christ. It is actually a psalm that prophesies of His death upon the cross. It is a psalm that talks about them parting His garments among them, casting lots on His vesture. And in this psalm, ***(Psa 22:27-29) All the ends of the world Shall remember and turn to the LORD, And all the families of the nations Shall worship before You. [28] For the kingdom is the LORD's, And He rules over the nations.*** This is when Jesus returns and establishes God's kingdom upon the earth. ***[29] All the prosperous of the earth Shall eat and worship; All those who go down to the dust Shall bow before Him, Even he who cannot keep himself alive.*** So, the resurrection of the righteous to be with Christ, to worship Him in the glorious Kingdom Age.
- ***(Php 2:5) Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.*** Paul tells us in Philippians chapter two that we ought to have the "mind of Christ. Not we, exalting ourselves, not promoting ourselves." The Scripture seems to teach things that are sort of reversed. ***(Mat 23:12) And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted. The Scripture teaches that the way up is down. And the way down is up.*** So, the way up is down, and the way down is up. And He who will seek to save his life will lose it. He who will lose his life, Jesus said, for My sake will find it. The way to find your life is to lose it. The way to lose your life is to try to find it! You have these things that are sort of a reversal.
- ***What was the mind? (Php 2:6-8) who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, [7] but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. [8] And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.***
- ***The mind of Christ, humbling Himself, emptying Himself.*** But because of it, ***(Php 2:9-11) Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name, which is above every name, [10] that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, [11] and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.***
- ***For all nations shall come and worship before You***

The Sanctuary

Rev 15:5 After these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven (Inner sanctuary of the heavenly holy of holies, Ark of the Covenant) ***was opened.***

- ***There is a temple in heaven or a tabernacle, the temple of the tabernacle.*** When Moses built the tabernacle, God gave to him the specifications, the measurements, the whole thing. He told him exactly how to make it. And having told him exactly how to make it, then He told him, Now be careful to make it according to what I have said. He was to make it exactly like God told him. Then God gifted some skilled men, gave them skills, to make it, just like God had ordered it to be. The reason for making it very carefully, we are told in Hebrews, that it is a model of the heavenlies. It is an earthly model of what heaven is like. If you want to know what heaven is like, then you can look

at the tabernacle and it was a model of heaven. Of course, the heart of it, the central feature is the mercy seat and the cherubim that are surrounding the mercy seat.

- **In the fourth chapter of the Book of Revelation, we see the throne of God,** the mercy seat before the throne of God and the cherubim surrounding it. Thus, in the holy of holies there was the mercy seat and the cherubim there in the holy of holies surrounding the mercy seat.
- **The angels, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony is open in heaven** of which the earthly tabernacle was a model.

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

And out of the temple came the seven angels.

- The symbolism or the idea is that there will be no mercy at this point. The angels come out of the temple to bring the judgments of God upon the earth. These “seven angels come out of the temple,”

Having the seven plagues, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands (breastplates of gold).

- ***(Exo 28:6) and they shall make the ephod of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine woven linen, artistically worked.***
- **This was the garment that the priest wore.** It was a pure linen, a white linen, that they wore in their daily ministry and in the tabernacle in the temple here on the earth.

Rev 15:7 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.

Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God .

- **The four living creatures that are around the throne of God** were introduced to back in chapter four, one of these four living creatures, who *gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls.* These are bowls. *They are full of the wrath of God!* And in these seven bowls are the plagues.

who lives forever and ever.

- ***(1Th 1:9) For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,***
- **The eternal God, who lives forever and ever!**

Rev 15:8 The temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power, and no one was able to enter the temple till the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.

The temple was filled with smoke

- ***(Exo 19:18) Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly. (Exo 40:34) Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.***

from the glory of God and from His power, and no one was able to enter the temple till the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.

- ***(2Th 1:9) These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,***
- **We remember when the temple that Solomon had built was dedicated to the Lord, that the glory** of the Lord came down and filled the temple and there was smoke and the priests were not able to stand because of the presence, the glory of God there in the temple. ***(2Ch 7:1-2) When Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the temple. [2] And the priests could not enter the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD had filled the LORD's house.*** Here in heaven the temple, filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power.

- **You had seven angels blowing seven trumpets.** We went through those judgments. This is it! This is the end. This is the culmination of the whole thing, of the judgments and the wrath of God against the sinning earth!
- **So next week in chapter sixteen we see the consequences** that will take place upon the earth when these angels pour out these bowls of God's wrath upon the earth.
- **The Lord God Almighty** (5x in the Bible, all in Revelation) **is holy!**

CLOSING SONG:

*Rev 15:3b "Great and marvelous are Your works, **Lord God Almighty!** Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints! [4] Rev 15:4 Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For **You alone are holy.***

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY – Reginald Heber, *London Orchestra Festival* (3:06)

*1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!*

*2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.*

*4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity. AMEN!*

CLOSING PRAYER:

For next week, read Chapter 16!