

REVELATION CHAPTER 15

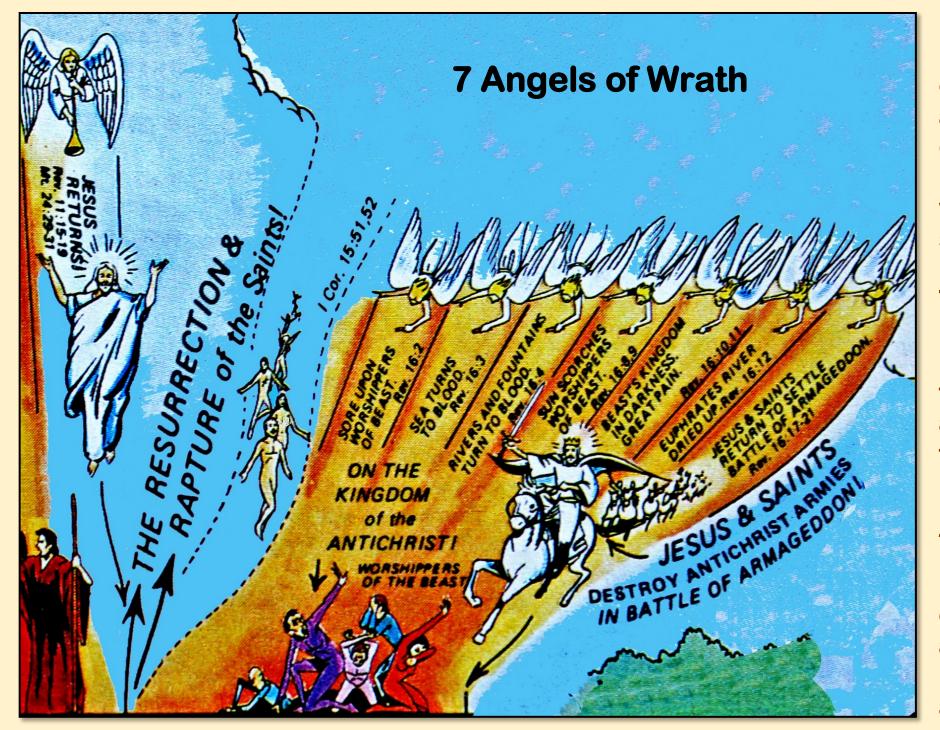
Basic and General Study of Revelation,

compiled by Gaetan.

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

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.

In this 15th chapter God introduces these seven angels of wrath having the Seven Last Plagues! The same miraculous Second Coming of Christ, which will rescue God's Children, will also begin God's righteous judgments on the wicked, many of whom will be drowned in a flood of catastrophes, described in verse 7 as "seven golden vials full of the wrath of God".



"Seven angels" will "pour out" these vials onto the earth (Rev.16:1) after Jesus Christ has gathered His Own, His people of faith, those who love Him and are saved by His blood and His sacrifice on Calvary. There won't be anybody left behind except the living dead, in the Hell that both Satan and God are going to bring upon this Earth!

God will pour out His judgements upon the Beast and his earthly kingdom and will destroy that final, futile attempt by the forces of Darkness to tyrannize and rule the Earth!

The "sea of glass" was mentioned before in REV.4:6: And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts...

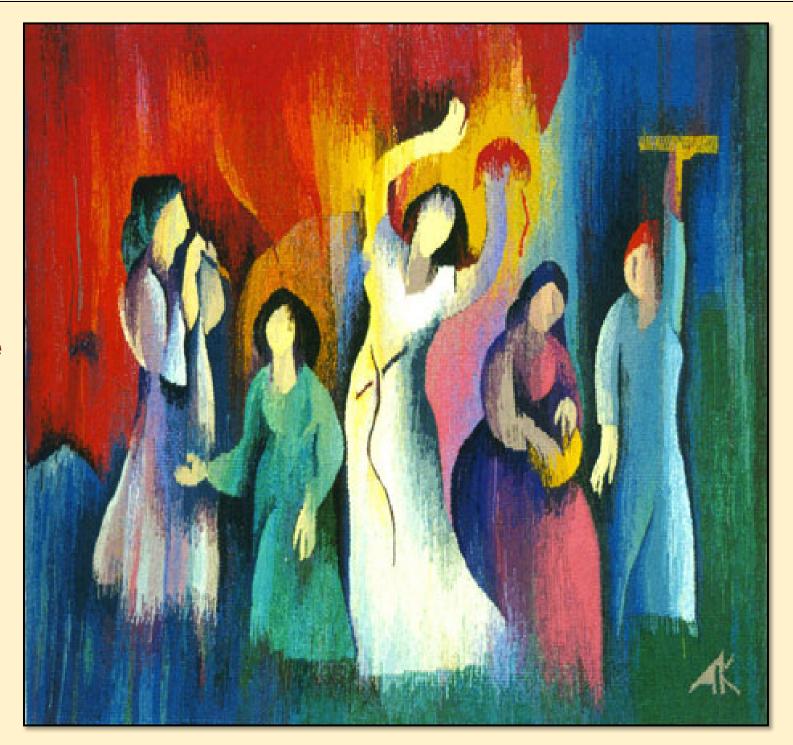
About the "sea of glass", this is a technical term borrowed from the Old Testament use of the



word for the "laver" in the ancient Jewish temple. And here the heavenly reality appears, of which the ancient Jewish "laver" was a mere symbol. The word "laver" means a bath or wash basin containing water for the purpose of washing. The Jewish priests were commanded to continually wash their hands and feet during tabernacle service. (Ex 30:17-21) Just as for the ancient Jewish priests, so in this heavenly vision, the overcomers, the saved and those washed by the water of the Word, are seen as standing over this sea, this "laver", singing, praising and serving God.

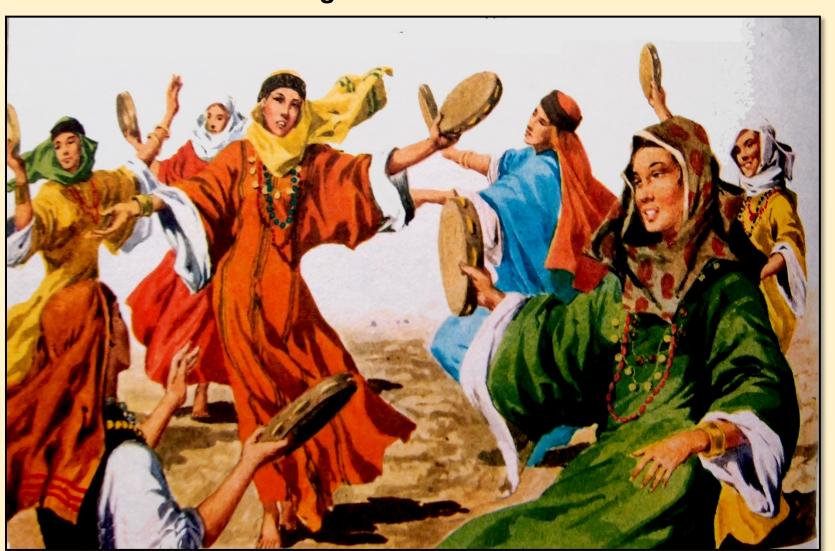
"Them that had gotten the victory over the beast." John saw the Tribulation saints in Heaven just before the Wrath of God was to begin, which again shows clearly that the Church will be on earth through the Tribulation but will be in Heaven during the Wrath. It is so important to realize there is a chronological difference between the Tribulation and the Wrath periods. They are two distinct series of events. (1Thes.5:9)

REV.15:3 And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.



In the Old Testament, *Exodus Chapter 15*, Moses of old sang his song of victory when God delivered Him and the children of Israel out of Egypt by a miraculous parting of the Red Sea and then destroyed all his enemies with the same sea by letting its waters return on the Egyptians, drowning them in a flood.

** Exo.15:1-18 Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake,



saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea. The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.

Now in Chapter 15 of Revelation the End Time children of God are singing the song of Moses and Jesus (the lamb), who rescued them at the Rapture from the clutches of their modern pharaoh, the Antichrist! 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.

There we stand, we who love Jesus, who have suffered through all of this hell on earth and the opposition and persecution of our enemies! There we will be with Christ at last, supreme, glorious, radiant, happy, singing the songs of Moses and of the **Lord! And they** will praise the Lord and say,



"Who shall not fear thee, O Lord".

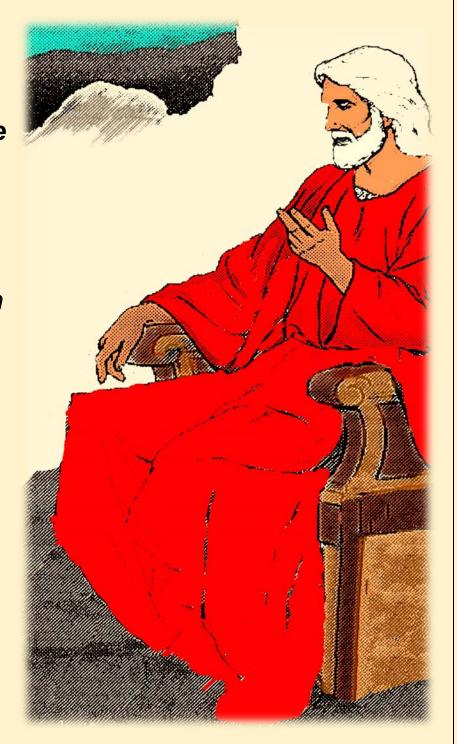
Who in the World could not fear God after all of this? In the 13th chapter we read about the whole World worshiping and wondering after the Beast. But after God's "judgments are made manifest", they wonder after Jesus and worship Him! Praise God!

** **REV.13:3** ...and his deadly wound was healed: **and all the** world wondered after the beast... And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him?

** **JER.10:7 Who would not fear thee**, O King of nations? For to thee doth it appertain: forasmuch as among all the wise men of the nations, and in all their kingdoms, **there is none like unto thee**.

** **PSA.86:9 All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee**, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name.

** PHI.2:10-11 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



REV.15:5 And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened:

In REV.11:19 also, we read, "And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail."



Where has the Tabernacle of the Testimony been, the Ark of the Covenant, the Ark of God which symbolized the presence of God upon Earth and once symbolized the presence of God in the old Jewish Temple? Where is it now? It's been a mystery for ages! This is the second time it's been mentioned in the book of Revelation, remember? And there it is, John sees it standing right there in the Temple of God in Heaven. Is this the actual Ark of the Covenant that was on Earth, or is it the Heavenly reality, of which Moses' Ark was only a symbol?

That is a question that has puzzled many. But regardless, the main thing to remember is this: we don't need an Ark of the Covenant to communicate with God. Through the Name of Jesus anyone can have access to and communicate with the Father.

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.

REV.15:7 And one of the four beasts (also translated as "living creatures") gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who liveth for ever and ever.

Those vials are sometimes pictured by great artists as looking like test tubes of wrath, but a better word might have been "bowls of wrath". In olden-days people ate and drank out of bowls,

and a "bowl" could symbolize the "cup" of God's Wrath. As the cup of mankind's iniquity gets full to the brim, God must then serve out His cup of Wrath, seven bowls



or vials of Wrath upon the Earth and its evil-doers after rescuing His Own children in the Rapture as you will recall from *chapter 14*!

And they took these vials of wrath from one of these four living creatures. We never got into trying to explain to you what these four living creatures were. We've heard scholars try to explain them, and we don't think any satisfactory explanation has ever been given! They've appeared several times in the Book of Revelation. What are they? Well, all kinds of theories have been given. They seem to symbolise the great powers of God by which He runs the universe, great

powers having the appearances of an ox, an eagle, a lion, and a man!--All various symbols of great power!

Here they're all gathered around the throne of God, giving glory to God, worshipping God, making great announcements to God, saying "Amen" to God, doing certain



duties for God! Who are they? We don't know. We can only theorize.

In a mysterious vision clear back in the book of Ezekiel, there were also four living creatures which bore the Throne of God. God is pictured riding in some sort of great "flying saucer" - like vehicle with wheels! Just read Ezekiel, first chapter, and you'll see the four living creatures there.



** EZE.1:5 and 10 Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of **four** living creatures...As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a *lion*...and they four had the **face** of an ox ...also had the face of an **eagle.**



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.

The earthly temple of the Jewish people in the Old Testament was a symbolic representation of this temple in Heaven.

** 2 CH.5:13-14 It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD; So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God.



We will read the description of these seven plagues in the next chapter.

Be ready for what is coming. You can receive Jesus at this very moment. It is a free gift of God. Jesus says:

"Behold, I stand at the door (of your heart), and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. Rev.3:20

Please pray this simple prayer:

"Jesus, please forgive all my faults and sins. I accept that You are the Son of God and that You died for me. I invite You into my heart and life. Thank you for your gift of eternal life and please fill me with Your Holy Spirit. Help me to read and understand Your Word. Amen"

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