

The Study of Revelation Pt. 12

Review & Chapter's 15,16 &17



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Time for
review



The Book of Revelation
“The Seven Last Plagues”

Chapter 15

Revelation chapter 15 begins the preparation for the **last seven vials.**

The wrath of God began with the seven seals (in chapter 6), and will be finished with the last seven vials being poured out on the people.

Chapter 15 is an introduction to these last seven and final plagues on mankind.

15 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.

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.

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.

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.

Verses 2-4: The “sea of glass” was before God’s throne in 4:6.

The “victory over the beast” is **won through faith in Christ** (2:7, 11, 17, 26; 3:5, 12, 21; 1 John 5:4-5), and **refusal to submit to the Antichrist.**

The “song of Moses” may refer either to (Exodus chapter 15 or Deut. Chapter 32).

The deliverance of Israel from Egypt prefigured the deliverance of the Tribulation saints from the Antichrist. They praise and worship God for His power and His righteousness. “All nations” will “come and worship” God in the millennial kingdom.

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

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.

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.

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.

Verses 5-8: The “seven angels” prepare to administer the last seven Great Tribulation judgments of Christ: the “seven vials”.

The vials are actually shallow bowls, used for pouring **libations** (5:8; 1 Chron. 28:17; Jer. 52:18; Zech. 9:15, 14:20).

The bowls are “full of the wrath of God” (2 Thess. 1:7-9). God has the right to judge, because He is the Eternal One, the Almighty.

The “**temple**” represents the presence of God Himself. The “**smoke**” is like the incense that filled the Holy of Holies in the tabernacle.

Until the “**seven plagues**” are finished, no one is “**able to enter into the temple**”. The time for intercession is past; God’s judgment will now be completed.

An aerial photograph of a coastline. The water is a deep, dark red color, contrasting sharply with the green of the islands and the white of the sandy beaches. The islands are elongated and narrow, with some showing signs of vegetation. The overall scene is dramatic and surreal.

revelation 16

16 And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.

2 And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell **a noisome and grievous sore** upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.

3 And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea.

4 And the third angel poured out his vial upon **the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood.**

The seven last plagues are connected to the plagues of Egypt during the time of Moses in the book of Exodus.

Of the seven plagues, five are repeated from the 10 plagues that were put upon Egypt and Pharaoh.

Everyone with the mark of the beast, everyone who has sided with Satan will be not only marked with the mark of the beast, but will also be marked with the curse of the boils and sores put upon them by the first angel and the first vial. It is interesting to me that the men who decided to accept the mark of the beast, now were marked by the curse of God.

5 And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, **which art, and wast, and shalt be,** because thou hast judged thus.

6 For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy.

7 And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, **true and righteous are thy judgments.**

8 And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire.

9 And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory.

10 And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and **his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain,**

11 And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, **and repented not of their deeds.**

12 And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; **and the water thereof was dried up,** that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.

Verses 4-7: The third “vial” turns all fresh “water” to “blood”, so that no pure water for drinking is left on earth. This again parallels the first Egyptian plague, but also the third trumpet (8:10-11). That it is “righteous” for God to judge the earth thus, is shown by the fact that the Beast and his followers “had shed the blood of saints and prophets”. Those who shed the blood of God’s people must now “drink” blood (compare Isa. 49:26).

Interesting that the Sun becomes so hot that
people are scorched.

We see some of the preliminary signs of this
with global warming and skin cancer

Verses 8-9: The fourth “vial” scorches the earth
with “fire” from the “sun”. This is the opposite of
the fourth trumpet (8:12).

The followers of the Beast are scorched as well.

Since they have by now made a permanent
decision to reject God and follow the Beast, they
blaspheme “the name of God” and refuse to
repent. Like Pharaoh, their hearts have become
hardened.

Verses 10-11: The fifth “vial” produces “darkness” on the “seat” and “kingdom” of the “beast”. His seat is his throne or headquarters, probably either Rome or Jerusalem. His followers suffer “pain” agony, and fear. There are parallels with both the ninth plague on Egypt (Exodus 10:21-29), and the fourth trumpet (8:12). The “sores” of the first vial continue, and the Beast’s followers continue to blaspheme God and refuse to repent of their sins.

13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

15 **Behold, I come as a thief.** Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.

16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue **Armageddon.**

17 And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done.

18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was **a great earthquake**, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great.

19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.

20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.

21 And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.

Verses 17-21: The seventh “vial” produces the destruction of Babylon, “the great city. Babylon” is further described and identified (in chapters 17 and 18). The statement **“It is done”** shows that with this vial and the return of Christ Himself, the judgments are now finished. A tremendous “earthquake” destroys the great city and “the cities of the nations”. The “cup” symbolizes the “wrath” of God (14:10). The large “hail” (a “talent” weighing about 60 to 100 pounds), may help to destroy the “cities” (Joshua 10:11; Ezek. 38:18-22). But unbelieving mankind still blasphemes “God” and has **no opportunity for repentance**. The seventh vial is the last of the seven plagues (15:6-8), and also completes both the seventh trumpet (11:15), and the seventh seal (8:1).

Revelation chapter 17



17 And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters:

2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.

3 So he carried me away **in the spirit** into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

4 And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication:

5 And upon her forehead was a name written, Mystery, Babylon The Great, **The Mother Of Harlots** And Abominations Of The Earth.

6 And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.

The Vision of the Woman - Ten details describe this woman:

The great prostitute;

Who sits on many waters;

With her the kings of the earth committed adultery;

The inhabitants of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her adulteries;

A woman sitting on a scarlet beast;

Dressed in purple and scarlet;

Glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls;

She held a golden cup in her hand, filled with abominable things and the filth of her adulteries;

On her forehead: Mystery Babylon the Great, the Mother of Prostitutes and of the Abomination of the Earth;

Drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of those who bore testimony to Jesus.

7 And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns.

8 The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into **perdition**: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names **were not written in the book of life** from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

9 And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

10 And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.

11 And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.

12 And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

13 These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.

14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

15 And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.

16 And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

17 For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

18 And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.