

Revelation_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. 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 marvelous 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. 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 lives forever 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.

1-2] 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. And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and his image, over his mark and the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. In these first two verses two visions are revealed; each relates to the other explains it. The vision of judgment comes first; the vision of salvation follows: this reveals our Creator's dealing with man since the beginning. Our Lord first warned Adam not to violate good order and after the fall, God told Adam that God's Word must be fulfilled. God first admonished Cain how to open his heart for God's favor through obedience. After Cain's deliberate murder, the consequences of Cain's wickedness are unavoidable and God's judgment is inescapable. The Everlasting Gospel of salvation in Christ, the only Savior, has been preached since the beginning [1st Peter's 1: 25 & Revelation 14: 6]; but since our Savior

appeared in the flesh, it is declared world wide – to all nations... The complete number of angels appointed to execute our God's judgment is prepared. They stand still till the next vision gets fulfilled: all redeemed are safe and blessed in the glory of their King of kings. These two visions reflect our Father's loving care and perfect justice. In Genesis 6 we can see the world's rapidly expanding sin and corruption. The nominal "godly people" are mixing in marriages with the openly godless sinners. Later in the verse 12, human decadence accelerates and floods almost the entire world. Before our God allowed His massive sign of judgment to destroy that world, He called Noah, the righteous preacher, to deliver Noah's family and to make them His witnesses. In Genesis 19 the last hours of corrupted cities cannot expire before our Lord's calling Lot to lead his family and relatives out of the destruction zone. In the Revelation 15 before the final, last, judgment starts, all God's children celebrate salvation in Christ our Savior and His victory over dark evil forces that must collapse before God's Lamb. The Lord delivers the godly out of temptations, and reserves the unjust for the judgment day to punish them that walk after the filthy, fleshly, lust. They despise government; they are self-willed, presumptuous, and speak evil of dignities [2nd Peter's 2: 9&10]. Our Creator is perfect in all His ways: mercy, salvation, justice and condemnation. In the 1st verse God's wrath is "filled up". Our God is very limited in His judgments: always to the limit of His divine justice, or, partial judgment as a stark warning to repent and seek His mercy and deliverance before the day of grace expired and the time of last judgment has arrived. He calls us: Proclaim **My** grace and herald **My** judgment. In the 2nd verse no shore of that Sea of Crystal is evident: Many are called, but few chosen... Our Lord calls all men to Him: Go ye therefore, and teach all nations [Matthew 20: 16 & 22: 14]. Before closing the Book, His Holy Spirit calls once more: Who is athirst, come. And whosoever will, take the water of life freely [23: 17]. We see a detailed description of victory in the 2nd verse: not only over the beast alone, but also over every aspect of the dragon's soul-entrapment. In such victory we see our Savior's grace. The same Spirit, that prevailed fasting forty days in wilderness, endured the agony & grief of judgment we deserved; as we see manifest on Golgotha. The same Savior and Lord of lords prevailed in the hearts of these victors and in their testimony all the way. This Sea of glass like unto crystal is in

front of the throne in the chapter 4: 6. Here, in the 2nd verse the sea is mingled with fire.

In the chapter 1: 15 the feet of the glorified Son of man appeared like fine brass as if burning in a furnace. Brass melted in fire resembles gold. When the Gold from the heavenly treasure of the Most High is melting in the heat of the greatest testing, He offers Himself for our Ransom, nothing else but pure gold through and through is seen. As He walks through the fiery trials in His faithful witnesses His beautiful likeness and power is evident. Now, they are in glory. Past sufferings are replaced with present joy and the heat of trials with flames of adoration. They have harps of God. Can we feel joy and thrill of these fervent worshipers? This is not submission to a tyrant, but fervent adoration in deepest gratitude. Behold the glory of David, Solomon, and the temple in Jerusalem [I Chronicles 28 & 29]. All of the past glory of Israel is eclipsed by this splendor of the heavenly beauty and holiness. Yet this is only a vision, a revelation: we must be transferred and transfigured before we can begin to fully participate in the reality our souls now desire. The harps sound the perfect harmony of loving adoration with the fragrance of the highest reverence. This is the endless offering of this heavenly throng to the full embrace of our souls' Bridegroom – the One Who loves us in His everlasting love. What a marvelous encouragement: the praises His Spirit generates in the hearts of His children are that delightful fragrance to our Heavenly Father. Our soul and body, mind and heart, we owe to Him forever & ever.

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 servant and the Savior praise the Father in one tune of everlasting adoration fulfilling the promise in 1st John 3: 2 we shall see Him as He is and we shall be like Him. These worshippers share the gratitude and praise with Moses and partake of the Lamb's adoration. They worship their Heavenly Father not having a single word referring to their own worthiness or merit. They praise God for their victory in the hostile world governed by the dragon and the beast. They experienced cruel persecution, shackles and martyrdom. Our Lord tells us: A woman when she is in travail has sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child,

she remembers no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world. And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man takes from you. [John 16: 21- 22] They are transformed into the perfect likeness of the Son and see the Father and the Son in the splendor of God's glory and Majesty. God our Father is great and marvelous in His works of grace in our Savior. He is just and true in all His ways: the King of saints and the Judge of all unrighteousness. These victors worshipped God in suffering and adore Him in joy.

4] Who shall not fear Thee, O Lord, and glorify Thy Name? Thou only art holy. All nations shall come and worship before Thee; for Thy judgments are made manifest. These are praises of the redeemed and faithful that now are in the state of perfect spiritual restoration into the image of their Creator and they see Him as He is [Colossians 3: 10 & 1st John 3: 2]. For them it is only reasonable and natural to have the highest reverence, the deepest gratitude and endless adoration for our God and Savior. Their entire being is filled and adorned in the awareness of His holiness beauty and grandeur. God alone is the Source, Foundation and the highest degree of Holiness. In His grace He made them holy as He is holy. God's grace and mercy is manifest in Christ our Deliverer. His judgments have been foretold by His heralds. All who trust and obey Him are saved; all who reject His mercy have only His judgment left to them. In the end all the redeemed are rejoicing in His glory. All the rebels face His judgment and fall before Him in horror. There is no joy in horror worship.

5-6] After that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened. The seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, adorned in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles. Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Israel and Moses had a sky temple where God talked to them. When the image of the heavenly tabernacle was built up in Israel, God confirmed and sanctified it as the place of godly worship. God confirmed His designation of the temple building to Solomon. In every nation he that fears Him, and works righteousness, is accepted with Him; says Peter in Acts 10:35. Our Lord Jesus is our Temple without any manmade walls. Our God's Temple is open to all who trust and obey Him. His grace is proclaimed. His judgments are announced till

now. Many partial judgments have been executed in the past: some of them foretold and accomplished; others foretold and postponed; some others unexpected sudden calamities... The great flood was a prophecy for a long time. Sodom and Gomorrah perished in one day. Jonah's prophecy in Nineveh resulted in repentance and God had mercy to the penitent. Later, in the book of the prophet Nahum, our God's judgment came upon Nineveh. We know not how many partial signs of our God's judgment will happen while the final and general judgment of God is being still in the prophecies. This one factor is clear to us: His Word never fails. These seven angels have similar apparel as our Lord Jesus had in the chapter 1. They are revealed here in Christ's garments of love and holiness. In their hands are signs of our God's judgment; the only outcome of rejecting our Lord's grace. That is the reward impenitent rebels reserved for their wickedness. God's eternal Kingdom of love, joy, peace, everlasting celebration and adoration of God is closed for all pollution, sin, and wickedness.

7-8] One of the four living beings gives unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of **God, who lives forever and ever**. And the temple is filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from His power; and no man is able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels are fulfilled. In the chapter 4 we see all four beings.

These four beings are so blending together not only among them four, but also with the throne: they are in and around the throne. John is in the spirit and called up higher to see the revelation: so, he can see and know the first, second & on. When we follow God's guidance, we are on the path of His Revelation. The four beings, almost covered with eyes, appear to be full of life and power: they glorify our Lord on & on. Before we let our imagination loose, let us remember: **this is** a part of the Revelation, **a vision**. The omniscience and omnipotence of the Holy Spirit is glowing through the Gospel of salvation in Christ. The mighty Spirit of the Lion-Lamb, our **King, is looking at us** through the entire recorded Word of God. **He watches over us** through [what we named] the circumstances. **He guards us** through that part of our conscience that has been already trained by our genuine understanding of the Gospel teaching. **The Lord corrects us** continually; **He encourages us** by His new revelation to understand His Word clearer, deeper, wider and higher. **He**

brings additional support through godly concerns of our fellow believers. Our Heavenly Father makes us aware of His looking at us through numberless eyes and watching over us. He, personally, needs none of these “eyes” to see us: He is omniscient; nobody and nothing can hide from His awareness. God is using all these “eyes” for our understanding of His marvelous Fatherly care for us. All His ways and manners exclaim to our soul, mind and heart: **“Holy, Holy, Holy is our Almighty God”**. Through the multitude of these “eyes” we grow in the holy awareness that God knows the past – since before the beginning, every detail of the present time & situation; and the future through all of eternity. As soon as we absorb this transformation, **our souls join the shout: Holy, Holy, Holy is Christ, God’s Son! Our Heavenly Father delights in His Son’s resurrection and transformation in our souls; and so do we.** Which of the four beings gave the vials to the seven angels? It did not matter. Our God’s judgment has been foretold in all four Gospel books. The ever-living One patiently waits for all His redeemed souls to turn away from sin in sincere repentance and receive His mercy, but He will make end of evil at His appointed time; and that time is in the next chapter; but first, one more sign is revealed here. Our God’s glory and power is signified by the appearance of a cloud that fills the temple. None can enter in. It seems obvious that the seven angels are ready to execute our God’s judgment. The judgment of divine justice will never bring any sinner into the presence of our God’s Holiness. Far less a sin can bring us closer to God. Who can enter into the holy presence of His grace and salvation **after His judgment?** Let us look through the chapter 6. In the first eight verses the Lamb opens four seals: many events, changes, turbulences, and much suffering passes over humanity in the past, in the present, and in the future times. 9] Opening the fifth seal reveals **the redeemed sufferers’ destiny: under the altar; the blessed Presence of the Almighty Creator and Savior. All is in His care; under His control.** 12–17] The sixth seal opens: earthquakes, disasters, calamities; rebellious humanity panics as the basic structures of the universe and human societies collapse and crumble. The redeemed sufferers’ destiny is in the blessed Presence of the Almighty Creator and Savior. All is in His care; all is under His control. Our Christ’s patient suffering is triumphant. All of the Satan’s fury and rage is defeated. All our

God's children in Christ are safe in His care and destined for His glory; but only after the cloud [of His glory and holiness] is "satisfied" by complete execution of the divine justice upon the LAMB of GOD on behalf of all His children. There is no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus.

They walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit [Romans 8:1]. All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose [Romans 8: 28]. Now, let us consider Revelation chapter 8. 1] When the Lamb opens the seventh seal, there is silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. 2] I see seven angels. They stand before God; and to them are given seven trumpets. 3] Another angel comes & stands at the altar. He has his golden censer. To him is given much incense to offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which is before the throne. 4] The incense smoke out of the angel's hand with the prayers of the saints ascends up before God. 5] The angel takes the censer, and fills it with fire of the altar, and casts it into the earth: and there are voices, and thundering, and lightnings, and an earthquake. 6] And the seven angels having the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. 7] The first angel sounds, and hail and fire mingled with blood fall upon the earth. The third part of trees and all green grass is burnt up. 8] The second angel sounds; a great mountain burning with fire is cast into the sea. The third part of the sea becomes blood. 9] The third part of the creatures in the sea died; the third part of the ships is destroyed. 10] And the third angel sounded, a great star falls from heaven, burning as a lamp. It falls upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters. 11] The name of the star is Wormwood. The third part of the waters becomes wormwood; and many men die of the bitter waters. **All is in our God's care; all is under His control. Amen.** In the chapter 15: 1 we see the seven again: another sign in heaven, great and marvelous; seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God. 15: 6] The seven angels come out of the temple. 7] To them are given seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever. 8] God's glory and power fill the temple. No man is able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels are fulfilled in the offering of God's own Lamb on behalf of all sinners who trust and obey God's Son. All sinners stubbornly rejecting His mercy and grace reserve their place in our Creator's

condemnation. Not a single violation of our God's Law can escape the consequences. When I read about the wrath of the Lamb or about God's wrath I don't see the Almighty suddenly falling into some rage losing balance and breaking some of His standards or any of His dignity. He warns man not to violate God given order. He announces the consequences of sin. He heralds His judgment from afar. He calls to repentance and promises mercy. He allows some signs of His judgment at times. He even permits partial judgment of some sinners or groups of sinners. He allows His children to suffer in the world of sin and iniquity for a testimony to the wicked. He gives His Own Son to be a Ransom for all penitent sinners. Sometimes suddenly, but usually slowly and surely His judgment reaches every sin. No sinner can say in truth: I wanted to repent, but God rejected me; and no righteous person will ever say: I saved myself or God elected me since I was better and worthier than the other sinners. We see the seven angels again in the chapter 16.