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By Dan Maines

Revelation 15

Revelation 15:1

Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels who had seven plagues, which are the last, because in them the wrath of God is finished.

† The seven last plagues correspond to the covenant curses of Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28. These plagues complete God's wrath, signifying the final judgment on apostate Jerusalem.

† Proof, Jesus declared, "All these things will come upon this

generation" (Matthew 23:36). The destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70 is the historical fulfillment.

Revelation 15:2

And I saw something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had been victorious over the beast and his image and the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God.

† The sea of glass reflects God's throne, as in Revelation 4:6. The fire mixed with it symbolizes judgment. The faithful stand victorious, showing that even in death, they overcame the beast.

† Proof, Tacitus (Annals 15.44) records Christians enduring persecution under Nero, showing their triumph through martyrdom.

Revelation 15:3-4

And they sang the song of Moses, the bond-servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God, the Almighty; righteous and true are Your ways, King of the nations! Who will not fear You, Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy; for all the nations will come and worship before You, for Your righteous acts have been revealed."

† The song of Moses recalls Exodus 15, when Israel celebrated deliverance from Egypt. The song of the Lamb celebrates deliverance from the old covenant's bondage and judgment on Jerusalem.

† Proof, the merging of both songs shows continuity and fulfillment, the old covenant shadow and the new covenant reality. Philo wrote of Israel's songs of deliverance as rehearsals of God's greater redemption (Philo, On the Life of Moses 1.19).

Revelation 15:5-6

After these things I looked, and the temple of the tabernacle of

testimony in heaven was opened, and the seven angels who had the seven plagues came out of the temple, clothed in linen, clean and bright, and their chests wrapped with golden sashes.

† The heavenly temple, not the earthly, is the source of true judgment. The angels are clothed in priestly attire, showing that judgment is holy and righteous.

† Proof, Josephus (Wars 5.5.7) notes that the temple priests wore white linen garments, paralleling the angelic attire here.

Revelation 15:7

And one of the four living creatures gave the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever.

† Golden bowls recall temple vessels used in worship, now filled with wrath instead of incense. This signifies the transfer from worship to judgment.

† Proof, the Mishnah (Tamid 5:4) describes priests using golden bowls for offerings. John reverses this imagery to show that Jerusalem's offerings now result in wrath.

Revelation 15:8

And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power; and no one was able to enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were finished.

† The smoke recalls the Shekinah glory filling the tabernacle (Exodus 40:34-35). Here it shows God's presence in judgment. No one could enter until judgment was complete, meaning intercession had ended.

† Proof, Jeremiah 7:16 shows God forbidding intercession for Jerusalem when its judgment was sealed. Revelation echoes this finality.

How it applies to us today

† God's judgments are righteous and complete, leaving no doubt of His sovereignty.

† The saints' victory song shows that even in death, faith conquers the beast.

† The merging of Moses' song and the Lamb's song proves that all of God's promises are fulfilled in Christ.

† We live in the reality of the new covenant temple, where God's presence is not in stone buildings but in His people.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

Source Index

† Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 28 – covenant curses

† Matthew 23:36 – all judgment on that generation

† Exodus 15 – song of Moses

† Philo, On the Life of Moses 1.19 – songs of deliverance

† Josephus, Wars 5.5.7 – priestly garments

† Mishnah, Tamid 5:4 – golden bowls in worship

† Exodus 40:34-35 – glory filling the tabernacle

† Jeremiah 7:16 – no intercession for Jerusalem

† Tacitus, Annals 15.44 – Nero's persecution of Christians

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