

## Study Notes – Revelation 15

- ✚ The Seals have been opened, the Trumpets of Judgement have been blown and the last seven angels are preparing their bowls for the final plagues to be poured out on the earth.
- ✚ The interludes are over. In the past few chapters God has taken us through time; from Satan's rebellion to Armageddon.

### Song of Moses to the Lamb Revelation

Rev 15:1 <sup>1</sup>Then I saw another great and wonderful sign in heaven: seven angels who have seven plagues—the last ones, for with them God's wrath is finished.

- ✓ great and wonderful sign – This is the third sign that John saw.
  - The first was “the woman” about to give birth to a male child (Israel/Yeshua). Rev 12:1-4
  - The second one a great red dragon waiting to devour her child as soon as he was born; satan using King Herod. Rev 12: 3-5
  - John is feeling a different emotion over the third sign and what he now sees. Why wonderful?
    - The word wonderful is the same as marvelous (thaumazo). Combined with great (mega) it takes on the meaning of awe – inspiring or breathtaking.
    - John is not saying the destruction of evil people is wonderful. Rather it is so huge & terrifying that it is remarkable!
    - John does understand the justice of all the wrath that God has and will carry out on the earth is necessary, but it's also a relief that the destruction was finally coming to an end.

15.2 <sup>2</sup>And I saw something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had overcome the beast and his image and the number of his name standing by the sea of glass, holding the harps of God.

- ✓ like a sea of glass - And before the throne was something like a sea of glass, like crystal. In the middle of the throne and around it were four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind. Revelation 4:6
  - The ones upon the Sea of Glass are seen after the beast has initiated his mark mandate, but before the angels pour out the bowls of God's wrath.
- ✓ those who had overcome the beast – the Great Tribulation overcomers are martyrs.
  - The antichrist and his evil followers persecute them to their deaths, but they remain faithful to God.
  - Now that the martyrs are in heaven and their suffering is over they break into praise and worship.

- ✚ Pre-Plague Worship: we are introduced to a song that seems to be a medley. The Song of Moses and the Song of the Lamb of God. This medley is being sung as part of the preparation for the final judgements of God that will bring great devastation to the earth and the earth dwellers. The Millennial Kingdom is coming soon!
- ✚ Moses not only wrote the first five books of the bible (the Torah), he also wrote several songs, one of those is Psalm 90. Why is Moses connected with these tribulation saints and this song? **Deliverance and praise.**

15: 3-4 <sup>3</sup> And they are singing the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and wonderful are Your deeds, ADONAI Elohei-Tzva'ot! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the nations! <sup>4</sup> Who shall not fear and glorify Your name, O Lord? For You alone are Holy. All the nations shall come and worship before You, for Your righteous acts have been revealed!"

- ✓ the song of Moses – his first song, A celebration of God's deliverance of the Hebrews from the oppressive hand of Pharaoh. God parted the waters to let the children of Israel cross over and then drowned the pursuing Egyptian army. God's deliverance from physical bondage! Exo 15: 1-18
  - <sup>1</sup> Then Moses and Bnei-Yisrael sang this song to ADONAI: I will sing to ADONAI, for He is highly exalted! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea. <sup>2</sup> ADONAI is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation. This is my God, and I will glorify Him, my father's God, and I will exalt Him. Exodus 15:1-2
  - Bnei Israel was sustained with Manna and water from a rock for 40 years in the wilderness until they entered the Promised Land.
    - Who does great things beyond comprehension, wonders without number. Job 5:9
    - God thunders wondrously with His voice; He does great things beyond our comprehension. Job 37:5
    - Who should not fear You, Ruler of the nations? For it is your due! For among all the wise of the nations and in all their kingdoms, there is none like You. Jeremiah 10:7
- ✚ There is another Song of Moses which he wrote to the children of Israel, just before his death. It refers to the "later days" and could be applied here. Deut 31:19-32:43 God used this song to remind them that despite their unfaithfulness, He would always remain faithful and ready to forgive when they were ready to return to Him with all their hearts.
- ✓ the song of the Lamb – who freed us from the penalty, power, and the bondage of our sin.
  - The Lamb rescued us from spiritual bondage and sustains us with the bread & water of life eternal with Him!
    - "For from sunrise to its setting My Name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to My Name with a pure grain offering, for My Name will be great among the nations," says ADONAI-Tzva'ot. Malachi 1:11
    - Thus says ADONAI-Tzva'ot, "Peoples and the inhabitants of many cities will again come. <sup>21</sup>The inhabitants of one city will go to another saying 'Let us go to entreat the favor of ADONAI and to seek ADONAI-Tzva'ot. I also am going.' <sup>22</sup> Indeed, many peoples and powerful nations will come to seek ADONAI-Tzva'ot in Jerusalem, and to entreat the favor of ADONAI." <sup>23</sup> Thus says ADONAI-Tzva'ot, "In those days it will come to pass that ten men from every language of the nations will grasp the corner of the garment of a Jew saying, 'Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.'" Zechariah 8:20-23

15:5-6 After these things I looked, and the Temple of the Tent of Witness in heaven was opened. <sup>6</sup> Out of the Temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues, dressed in pure bright linen and wearing wide gold sashes around their chests.

- ✚ We are entering the last 3 ½ years of the Tribulation.
- ✓ the Temple of the Tent of Witness in heaven – (marturion) "in the phrase 'the Temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in Heaven' the 'testimony' is the witness to the rights of God, denied and refused on earth, but about to be vindicated by the exercise of judgements under the pouring forth of the seven bowls or vials of divine retribution. *Vines Complete Expository Dictionary*

15:5-6 After these things I looked, and the Temple of the Tent of Witness in heaven was opened. <sup>6</sup> Out of the Temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues, dressed in pure bright linen and wearing wide gold sashes around their chests. (continued)

- ✓ of the Temple – Why is it important to see the Temple involved in Judgements?
  - “In Exodus, the Lord instructed Moses to build a tabernacle, which would serve as a visual representation of the fact that God was always with His people. In the tabernacle, Moses was to place the Ark of the Covenant. In the Ark, Moses placed three items that were testimonies to the faithfulness of God: the Tablets with the Ten Commandments, Aaron’s rod that budded, and a jar of manna (Hebrews 9:4). Often we think of the judgements in Revelation coming from Jesus Christ, the Lamb, who opens the seals. But the “Temple of the Testimony in Heaven” is the domain of the Father, whose place was upon the Mercy Seat.” *Revealing Revelation*, Amir Tsarfati
  - The Ten Commandments now stand as a “witness” against the immoral and wicked actions of the Earth Dwellers who have rejected God and embraced satan. They have not sought Yeshua for refuge from God’s wrath.

15: 7 <sup>7</sup> Then one of the four living creatures gave the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever.

- ✓ the seven angels – Are these the Seven Great Angels that stand before God or 7 chosen out of the myriad of angels? We are never told.
- ✓ Bowls – (phialas) “a bowl used in offerings” considered the equivalent of a mizraq, the bowl used for sprinkling the alter. Exo 27:3-38:3
- ✚ "If you, in spite of these things, will not listen to Me, then I will chastise you seven times more for your sins. Leviticus 26:18 – written to Israel.
- ✚ The seven angels were sent out of the Temple in Heaven by the Lord Almighty and then He sends one of the four living creatures hands out the Golden Bowls full to the top of God’s wrath one by one to the angels.

15.8 <sup>8</sup> And the Temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power. No one was able to enter the Temple until the seven angels' seven plagues were finished.

- ✓ smoke from the glory of God
  - In the year of King Uzziah's death, I saw ADONAI sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the Temple. <sup>2</sup> Seraphim were standing above Him. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. <sup>3</sup> One called out to another, and said: "Holy, holy, holy, is ADONAI-Tzva'ot! The whole earth is full of His glory." <sup>4</sup> Then the posts of the door trembled at the voice of those who called, and the House was filled with smoke. Isaiah 6:1-4
  - Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of ADONAI filled the Tabernacle. <sup>35</sup> Moses was unable to enter into the Tent of Meeting, because the cloud resided there and the glory of ADONAI filled the Tabernacle. Exodus 40:34-35
- ✓ No one was able to enter the Temple – why was no one able to enter the Heavenly Temple?
- ✚ Tabernacle, The Tent of Meeting, dwelling place of God, shekina glory of God.
  - The first structure which was designed to house the Shekinah was the tabernacle in the wilderness.

- The Hebrew word for tabernacle is Hamishkhan, having the same root as Shekinah; translated as “the dwelling place of the Shechinah”.
  - Although God is omnipresent, He has chosen to physically manifest His presence in certain locations – this is called Shekinah: “dwelling or abiding”. So we ask ourselves “where is God Abiding?” Wherever the Shekinah is, there is relationship with God in a more intimate way. The presence of God is an incredible blessing. However, in this verse He is in the smoke filled tabernacle and no one can enter in, not even the angels.
  - Is this a period of great privacy as God has the final judgements poured out on an unrepenting people?
    - Then ADONAI saw that the wickedness of humankind was great on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of their heart was only evil all the time. <sup>6</sup>So ADONAI regretted that He made humankind on the earth, and His heart was deeply pained. Genesis 6:5-6 (just prior to the “flood”)
    - Then said ADONAI to me: "Even if Moses and Samuel stood before Me, My soul could not be toward this people. Cast them out of My presence, and let them go out!" <sup>2</sup> It will come to pass, when they say to you, 'Where should we go?' Then You will tell them, thus says ADONAI: "Those for death—to death! Those for the sword—to the sword! Those for famine—to famine! Those for exile—to exile! Jeremiah 15:1-2
  - Perhaps there is sadness knowing that nothing further can be done, no more will turn to God & repent. All that remains is judgement.
    - The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some consider slowness. Rather, He is being patient toward you—not wanting anyone to perish, but for all to come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9
- ✚ As believers in Yeshua, marked by the Holy Spirit we are not going to suffer God’s wrath poured out upon the Earth Dwellers. The time is very short for non-believing family, friends & associates to accepted Yeshua as their Lord & Savior, repent and turn from their sin.
- As it is said, "Today if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." Hebrews 3:15
  - For He says, "At a favorable time I listened to you, in a day of salvation I helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time. Behold, now is the day of salvation. 2 Corinthians 6:2