



THE
REVELATION
of Jesus Christ

Chapter 15: 1 – 8

House of Intercessory Prayer Ministries

www.hipm.org

Recap Ch.14

The vision of the lamb and the 144,000, v.1-5

- The person of the vision
- Place of the vision
- Who are these 1,44,000?
- Praise of the vision: (V 14:2 & 3)

First Message V 6 & 7 – Declaration of the Gospel

Second message V 8 - Destruction of Babylon

Third message V9-11 - The doom of the defectors(converts/rebels)

Message four V 12 & 13 - The death of the saints

Message Five V 14-16 - The Division of the people, the harvest

Message Six V 17- 20 - The devastation of Armageddon,
destruction of the ungodly

Recap Ch.14

The theme of the chapter is “Dichotomy (contrast) between false and truth, the real and the counterfeit”.

- V 6 & 7 angel preaching the true Gospel to the world taken over by the false Gospel
- V 8 Reminded of Babylon, the false religious system of the false prophet and the beast
- V 9 Either the mark of the beast, or the mark of Christ
- V 12 & 13 Blessing to those die in the Lord as suppose to those who choose to live by denying the Lord
- V 14 & 16 Harvest that separates the tares from the wheat
- V 17-20 – God puts an end to all the false system of the world.

Ch. 15 Introduction

Ch. 15 & 16. brings to a conclusion.

- Ch. 4 & 5 – Seal judgment
- Ch. 8 – Trumpet judgment
- Ch. 15 & 16 – Vial judgment
- Entire book of Revelation is organized around the seven
- Seven seal, Seven trumpet, Seven vial judgments.

Chronologically Ch.15 & 16 are the events to take place before Christ returns.

- Christ's return is found in Ch. 19:11-13
- Ch. 17 & 18 a parenthesis. It is all about Babylon, has nothing to do with the onward flow of the book.

It is crucial to understand this.

- The entire book of Revelation is organized chronologically. But periodically the book stops as there is a little parenthesis that gives the explanation of certain dynamic truth about the topic. While the parenthesis is going on the chronologic action stops and starts again once the parenthesis is over.

Ch. 15 Introduction

- The next event after 16th is the second coming of Jesus.
- All seven vial judgments take place in Ch.16.
- They happen one after another, in a rapid succession.
- They come as last plagues upon this earth.
- Ch15. is a kind of little introduction to the 16th chapter.

Ch. 15 Outline

Outline of Ch. 15

1. Sign in heaven V1.
2. The sea of Glass V2.
3. The song of Moses and of the Lamb V 3 & 4.
4. The sanctuary in heaven V 5 & 6.
5. The seven vials V 7.
6. Smoke in the temple V 8.

Ch. 15:1

1. Sign in heaven V1.

- Word seven occurs eight times in Ch.15
- God's cup of wrath is filled up completely and it is about to be poured upon this land.
- The message here is consistent with the prophets of the OT. The prophets of God have predicted there coming a day of reckoning or settlement for those who have denied the son and violating God's holiness.
- He is a God of vengeance and justice.
- Remember what we are going to see comes at the end of the age. God gave multiple opportunities for everyone to be saved.
- After God sending His Prophets, His own son Jesus, His Apostles, Preachers to Gospel over the years, sending Missionaries all over the world, the 1,44,000 preachers and two witnesses to tell that there is a way of escape. But still man refused His mercy.

Ch. 15

- He can't be any other God than a God of justice, a God of vengeance.
- It is not a negative things, it is simply the nature of a Holy Righteous God.
- Someone said, "A high tension wire over head is nothing to fear, if it is broken and come in contact with some object through the current is grounded, it will burn or melt that object to nothing". The Holiness of God is beneficial to normal conductors, but it will blast and wither those lives are evil.
- In the Greek text, it is very clear that these are indeed the final judgment of God.
- In Greek New Testament we read, Having the seven plagues, the last ones.
- Last – the Greek word "Eschatos".
- Prophecy – Doctrine of Eschatology, the study of last things.

Ch. 15:2

2. The sea of Glass V2

He is not seeing a “sea of glass”, he is seeing “like a sea of glass”.
In Rev 4:6 Before the throne *there was* a sea of glass, like crystal
It is a human attempt to describe the environment around the throne of God.

Four fold description of the people gathered there.

- those who have the victory over the beast
- those who have the victory over his image
- those who have the victory over his mark *and*
- those who have the victory over the number of his name

Who are these people?

- These are the people who have gone through the tribulation.
- These are the people who got killed as a martyr and now standing the sea of glass.
- Now these people are having the harps of God.

Ch. 15:2

Sometime we get an idea that everyone who goes to heaven will play a harp.

No.. it is only three groups who play. If we are not one of these group, we can sing but we can't play a harp.

1. Those who are raptured and taken up to Glory (Rev 5)
2. The 1,44,000 who are gathered at mount Zion (Rev 14)
3. These martyrs of the tribulation (Rev 15)

In heaven these tribulation saints gather together around the throne and start singing a song – Song of Moses and the song of the Lamb.

Ch. 15:3&4

3. The song of Moses and of the Lamb V 3 & 4.

- They are singing the song of Moses. What the song of Moses is?
- Ex. 15:1-21 If we look into the song, it doesn't fit here.
- What else the song of Moses could be? Deuteronomy 32:39-43
- Many students of the word of God used Ex 15. as the song of Moses. On crossing the red sea and after the deliverance of children of Israel from the hands of Pharaoh sang the song of Moses. Here in Rev 15, they will sing the same song after escaping the tribulation.
- The first song recorded in the Bible is in Ex 15, the song of Moses and the last recorded song in the Bible is in Rev 15, the song of Moses.
- See the joy and excitement in the life of people who are singing this song.

Ch. 15:3&4

- Great message in this song is “Worship”, a review of how God worked.

For His works – marvelous are His works,
(acknowledging God’s works)

For His ways – just and true are your ways
(acknowledging God’s ways)

For His worth – you alone are holy
(acknowledging the worth of God, thank you for who you are.)

For His worship – all nations shall come and worship
(just a pure worship)

It is a good outline to follow even in our worship.

Ch. 15:5&6

4. The sanctuary in heaven V 5 & 6

- Whenever we see the phrase “*I looked and behold*” in the book of Revelation it always is an introduction to something we have never seen yet.
- Temple of the tabernacle – the inner most place, holy of holies.
- Testimony - tables of stone containing the law is there.
- It was a fearful thing even for the high pries to enter in to the Holy of holies on the day of atonement.
- But here we don't see a high priest, instead coming out of the holy of holies is the seven angels.
- Holy of holies is the place where the judgment emanates.
- The reason for God's judgment upon the earth is His holiness.
- The justice and judgment emanates form God's holiness.
- God wants to take us to heaven, but he can't take us as we are and maintains His holiness unless the sin and wickedness is destroyed.

Ch. 15:5&6

- He sent His son Jesus, they rejected Him, sent the prophets they rejected and killed them, sent apostles, two witnesses, 1,44,000 evangelists, sent His angels to preach the Gospel, they spurned them all.
- Now the holy, just and righteous God has to execute judgment upon the earth as he will continue to be revered as holy and just.
- He is such a kind of God that I can respect and worship today.

Ch. 15:7

5. The seven vials V 7

- Size of a small frying pan, sensor it is used in the tabernacle, to take the coal and add incense for sacrifice.
- The bowls were filled with wrath of God.
- The seals were opened, the trumpets were blown and now the bowls are about to be poured on the land as they are getting filled with the wrath of God.
- No one could escape the wrath of God.

Ch. 15:8

6. Smoke in the temple V 8.

Smoke in the temple from the Glory of God and His power.

We see smoke appearing quite often in the Bible

- When the Lord came down to give the law, smoke in mount Sinai, Ex 19:18.
- Isaiah was cleansed in the temple, the post of the door moved and the house was filled with smoke, Isaiah 6:1-4
- When Aaron and his successors offered the sacrifice on the day of atonement, the burning coal from the altar in the temple, there was smoke in the temple.

Whenever we see judgment, we see smoke.

- The message of Ch.15 is simple, the man who refused to drink of the cup of salvation will drink the cup of His wrath.
- We see that happening in Ch. 16.
- Jesus said in Matthew 24 & 25, “Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place,”

Ch. 15 Conclusion

- Jesus said, “the generation that sees the signs will see the coming of Christ”.
- Most of these signs are already present.
- What we read in 15th chapter as detailed in Ch.16 might be as close as seven years from now.
- It is not irrelevant, it is not some time going to happen later in the future.
- We don't allow this truth to grab us as it should.
- What is needed today to the church is a greater, more intense, more daily, more prayerful concern for people who do not know Jesus Christ.
- We read these scriptures with our lips as a lip service, and study this subject with our mind for the excitement of knowing prophecy getting fulfilled, but deep inside our heart we may not believe it. If we believe, how do we allow the days go by sitting in silence without making any impact for Jesus Christ in our lives.