

Lesson 27

Revelation 15:1-8 (NASB)

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**.

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.

³ 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, O Lord God, the Almighty; Righteous and true are Your ways, King of the nations!

⁴ "Who will not fear, O 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."

⁵ After these things I looked, and the temple of the tabernacle of testimony in heaven was opened,

⁶ and the seven angels who had the seven plagues came out of the temple, clothed in linen, clean and bright, and girded around their chests with golden sashes.

⁷ Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls 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 one was able to enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were finished.

E. THE SEVEN ANGELS INTRODUCED ([15:1-8](#))

[15:1-2](#). With the background of the scene in heaven described in [chapter 14](#), John then recorded more details of God's judgment. He wrote that he **saw in heaven another great and marvelous sign**. **Seven angels**—each having a plague which all together were described as **the seven last plagues**—were introduced as the final step in the outpouring of **God's wrath** on the earth. This final "sign" relates to the preceding great signs of the woman in [12:1](#) and the red dragon in [12:3](#). **These seven angels should not be confused with the two groups of three angels in the preceding chapter** ([14:6-20](#)) or with any other previous group of angels.

John also **saw what looked like a sea of glass mixed with fire**. This is probably the same sea that was described in [4:6](#). **Beside this sea** John saw the martyred dead, the same group described in [7:9-17](#).

[15:3-4](#). The victorious saints **sang** with harps **the song of Moses... and the song of the Lamb**. These may be two separate songs, the first referring to God's faithfulness to Israel and the second referring to their present situation in the Great Tribulation. Some, like Walter Scott, refer the song of Moses to [Exodus 15](#) where Israel triumphed over the Egyptians (*Exposition of Revelation*, p. 315). Others, such as J.B. Smith, suggest that this is the song of [Deuteronomy 32](#), which gives a comprehensive review of God's faithfulness to Israel (*A Revelation of Jesus Christ*, pp. 224-25). In this song in [Revelation 15:3-4](#) God is praised for His great deeds, justice, truth (cf. [16:7](#)), glory, and holiness (see [4:8](#) for a [chart](#) of the 14 doxologies in Rev.). Then a prediction is made that **all the nations will worship** God.

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This description of praise to God and prediction of universal worship is in keeping with many other Scriptures and relates, of course, to the second coming of Christ and worship of God by the entire world in the millennial kingdom ([Pss. 2:8-9; 24:1-10; 66:1-4; 72:8-11; 86:9; Isa. 2:2-4; 9:6-7; 66:18-23; Jer. 10:7; Dan. 7:14; Zeph. 2:11; Zech. 14:9](#)). The awful hour of wickedness and blasphemy against God, which will characterize the period leading up to the Second Coming, will be followed by a full vindication of God's judgment and holiness in the next period.

15:5-8. As John continued to look at the heavenly vision, he saw **the temple** described as **the tabernacle of Testimony**. The allusion to a temple **in heaven** seems to be the heavenly counterpart of the earthly temple. As it was opened, **the seven angels with their plagues** exited from it. The **clean, shining linen** of the angels indicates their purity, and the **golden sashes around their chests** point to the glory of God.

John saw **one of the four living creatures** give the **seven golden bowls filled with the wrath of God** to the seven angels. When this was done, **smoke** filled **the temple**, making it impossible for anyone to **enter it until the seven plagues** were poured out on the earth (cf. [Ex. 40:34-35](#)). Taken as a whole, [Revelation 15:5-8](#) presents a fearful picture of impending divine judgment on a wicked world. The judgments which are to be poured out ([chap. 16](#)) fully justify this ominous introduction.

The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures by Dallas Seminary Faculty.

Open it

1. Of what difficult accomplishment are you most proud?
Getting my license for Class 1 operator in one try, others took many.
2. What is your favorite hymn or worship song? Why?
The old rugged cross

Explore it

3. Why did John refer to the plagues he saw as the "seven last plagues"? ([15:1](#))
Because in them the wrath of God is finished
4. How did John describe the part of heaven revealed to him? ([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.
5. What were the saints in heaven doing? ([15:2-3](#))
standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God. 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, O Lord God, the Almighty; Righteous and true are Your ways, King of the nations!

6. By what names was God called in the heavenly hymn heard by John? ([15:3-4](#))

Great and marvelous are Your works, O Lord God, the Almighty; Righteous and true are Your ways, King of the nations! "Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy

7. What did John see opened in heaven? ([15:5](#))

the temple of the tabernacle of testimony in heaven was opened,

8. How did John describe the heavenly beings he saw? ([15:6](#))

the seven angels who had the seven plagues came out of the temple, clothed in linen, clean *and* bright, and girded around their chests with golden sashes.

9. What was given to the seven angels? ([15:7](#))

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

10. What events took place in the heavenly temple after the angels were dispatched with their plagues? ([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.

Get it

11. How would you answer someone who complained that heaven is "boring because people just sit on clouds and play harps for eternity"?

Tell them to read Revelation and see how different it is

12. What are some ways to praise or worship God?

In your speaking, actions, deeds, singing, reading, dealing with others, how you do your job

13. How can we use singing in our worship of God?

As a pray, or praise to God

Apply it

14. What God-given provisions can you use today in your battle to be victorious over the devil?

In my studies and teaching

15. What is one practical step you can take to include singing more in your worship of God?

By helping in the worship of God and the worship time of our church.

Revelation 12:1 (NASB)

¹ A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars;

Revelation 12:3 (NASB)

³ Then another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads *were* seven diadems.

Revelation 14:6 (NASB)

⁶ And I saw another angel flying in midheaven, having an eternal gospel to preach to those who live on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people;

Revelation 14:7 (NASB)

⁷ and he said with a loud voice, "Fear God, and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come; worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters."

Revelation 14:8 (NASB)

⁸ And another angel, a second one, followed, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who has made all the nations drink of the wine of the passion of her immorality."

Revelation 14:9 (NASB)

⁹ Then another angel, a third one, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand,

Revelation 14:10 (NASB)

¹⁰ he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

Revelation 14:11 (NASB)

¹¹ "And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

Revelation 14:12 (NASB)

¹² Here is the perseverance of the saints who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.

Revelation 14:13 (NASB)

¹³ And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Write, 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them."

Revelation 14:14 (NASB)

¹⁴ Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and sitting on the cloud *was* one like a son of man, having a golden crown on His head and a sharp sickle in His hand.

Revelation 14:15 (NASB)

¹⁵ And another angel came out of the temple, crying out with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Put in your sickle and reap, for the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth is ripe."

Revelation 14:16 (NASB)

¹⁶ Then He who sat on the cloud swung His sickle over the earth, and the earth was reaped.

Revelation 14:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, and he also had a sharp sickle.

Revelation 14:18 (NASB)

¹⁸ Then another angel, the one who has power over fire, came out from the altar; and he called

with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Put in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, because her grapes are ripe."

Revelation 14:19 (NASB)

¹⁹ So the angel swung his sickle to the earth and gathered *the clusters from* the vine of the earth, and threw them into the great wine press of the wrath of God.

Revelation 14:20 (NASB)

²⁰ And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses' bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles.

Revelation 4:6 (NASB)

⁶ and before the throne *there was something* like a sea of glass, like crystal; and in the center and around the throne, four living creatures full of eyes in front and behind.

Revelation 7:9 (NASB)

⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and *all* tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches *were* in their hands;

Revelation 7:10 (NASB)

¹⁰ and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

Revelation 7:11 (NASB)

¹¹ And all the angels were standing around the throne and *around* the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,

Revelation 7:12 (NASB)

¹² saying, "Amen, blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, *be* to our God forever and ever. Amen."

Revelation 7:13 (NASB)

¹³ Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and where have they come from?"

Revelation 7:14 (NASB)

¹⁴ I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Revelation 7:15 (NASB)

¹⁵ "For this reason, they are before the throne of God; and they serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will spread His tabernacle over them.

Revelation 7:16 (NASB)

¹⁶ "They will hunger no longer, nor thirst anymore; nor will the sun beat down on them, nor any heat;

Revelation 7:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ for the Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life; and God will wipe every tear from their eyes."

Zechariah 14:9 (NASB)

⁹ And the LORD will be king over all the earth; in that day the LORD will be *the only* one, and His name *the only* one.

Exodus 40:34 (NASB)

³⁴ Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

Exodus 40:35 (NASB)

³⁵ Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.