



## THE BOOK OF REVELATION

"Song of Moses"  
Revelation 15:1-8

### Introduction

1. The previous chapter ends with the great battle of Armageddon. It is the time of the final cataclysmic end of man's rebellion against God in the Tribulation. The seal, trumpet, and vial judgments are all preliminary to this. The apex of judgment has been reached.
2. The "wrath of God" is really what takes place during the Tribulation. It is the "wrath of the Lamb" which comes at the end of the Tribulation. The latter is most terrible.
3. There are both build up elements and prophetic ones in this chapter. Of all that is mentioned, four major events stand out. Study them:

#### 1. A SIGN v. 1.

a. Noted The word "sign" occurs at least 77 times in the New Testament. It is a favorite with John (20:30, 31). It means a pointer to some event or person. Here it is "great and marvelous" which means it arouses wonder.

b. Identified There is no doubt as to the "sign" being known. It relates to seven specific angels who bring the seven final plagues of the Tribulation.

c. Described The word "wrath" occurs six times in this book (14:10, 19; 15:1, 7; 16:1; 19:15). It is related to God, as opposed to the final expression of wrath being related to the Lamb's presence on earth (14:14-20). The Lamb comes for two purposes: 1) to prevent any attempt to cut off Israel as a nation and 2) to demonstrate that He stands with beleaguered Israel in their final hour of need. Here the "wrath of God" is stated to be "filled" which means "completed." His accumulated wrath is poured out at last!

#### 2. A SEA v. 2.

a. Stated It is marked as a "sea of glass" and "mingled with fire." In one sense, it is linked with an earlier reference (4:6), but in another, it relates to judg-

ment and fiery trials. Apparently, those involved in the sea have experienced difficult times. They have come through the fire! But, glory to God, they "stand" on the sea of glass! This is their victory position.

b. Detailed The unique use of the preposition "over" indicates that these who stand on the sea have gotten victory "out of" the beast, his image, mark, and number of his name. What had seemed an impossible situation has resulted in a glorious final victory! The victors stand with harps, indicative of worship. That is the ultimate for those who cast their lot with the Lord.

### 3. A SONG vv. 3, 4.

a. Related Two persons are singled out in connection with the song: Moses and the Lamb. The former is drawn in because the whole affair relates to redemption (Ex. 15: 1-22). For Moses it was the overthrow of the Egyptians at the Red Sea. That was a demonstration of God's power. But the song is also related to the Lamb (5:8-10). Here the emphasis is on the grace of God. The noun for "Lamb" is "little Lamb" (cf. other word for lamb in John 1:29, 36; Acts 8:32; 1 Pet. 1:19).

b. Included Major aspects of God's person are included in the song. In the first instance, both His "works" and His "ways" are mentioned (Psa. 103:7). Of the attributes of God mentioned, the following are given: God's greatness, justice, truth, and holiness. What a magnificent testimony to the character of God!

c. Addressed The song is addressed to God Who is 1) Lord God Almighty noting Him as Jehovah, Elohim, and Shaddai! 2) King of saints. The word "saints" may be "nations" or "ages." He is indeed Lord of all!

d. Intended The purpose of the song moves in several directions: 1) fear; 2) glory; 3) worship; 4) judgment. Truly, this is a song to be anticipated. So be it!

### 4. A SMOKE vv. 5-8.

a. Concerns--the temple v. 5. This is the dwelling place of God, so the events proceed from Him. It is always related to judgment in this book. The reality of it comes from the Word (Ex. 25:40; Heb. 9:23; Rev. 8:3; 11:19).

The ark of the testimony is opened in the temple (Rom. 9:5). This points to God's faithfulness to keep His promises and covenants with Israel as a nation. Hence, it is back to Old Testament grounds in the Tribulation period. All His patience is ended now.

b. Involves--angels and beasts vv. 6, 7. The seven angels are the agents of God to dispense the seven plagues. The pure and white linen speaks of judgment without mercy, while the golden girdles speak of the righteousness of their acts. One of the beasts mentioned (4:6, 7) distributes the vials of wrath to the angels. The vials are thus identified with the plagues. Judgment is the reverse side of salvation. God's eternality is mentioned to show the solemnity of the occasion.

c. Purposes--magnification of God v. 8. The smoke notes the presence of God (Ex. 40:34, 35; 2 Chron. 7:1-4). With the majority in Israel in a covenant with Satan (Dan. 9:27; John 5:43) and the nations in a hellish league with him too, the smoke here is a sign of judgment. No man is allowed to enter the temple because His wrath has not yet run its course. When God turns to anger all else ceases, even in heaven! Wrath at that time will be the only business (Psa. 76:7). It is the time for His eternal power and glory to be shown and it is!

Conclusion With the truth of these events assured, it behooves all to be reconciled with God through Christ now. God has done this already (2 Cor. 5:18). It is up to us to believe the fact of this affirmation. Salvation is available now. Receive it! If not, there is nothing but an eternal punishment awaiting the unbelieving. May God move your heart today to believe! Amen.