

REVELATION SERIES - LESSON 20

REVELATION 15

Chapter 15 is actually somewhat a preview of things that are to come in Chapter 16.

Ch 15:1-8

This is a heavenly vision of us, says it's in heaven. It's not occurring here on earth but it's in heaven.

“7 angels with 7 last plagues”.

The # 7 is used here actually 8 times in chapter 15.

It's a number in scripture that refers to perfection and completion. So it's an indication that something here is coming to completion.

The last of the plagues are coming to an end.

“For in them the wrath of God is complete”.

Complete = same greek word Jesus used on the cross to say it is finished.

Here it's used in reference not to “redemption” but to “wrath”.

The wrath is about to be done.

Ps 85:5-9

Vs 2 - “Sea of glass” = “Sea” almost never refers to a body of water but a sea of humanity.

“Mingled with fire” = indication of judgement.

So he sees this portion of people who have victory over the beast, over his image and mark.

Who are “those”? I believe these are the saints that received Christ during tribulation here on earth but they were martyred for their faith and now John sees them in heaven.

“Playing harps and singing”.

It’s a beautiful picture of redemption and praise.

Death for them was not the last chapter.

Though there will be a day we die physically there will be no death spiritually or ultimately.

These tribulation Saints are with the Lord and they are in heaven, and John sees them in heaven, around the throne “playing harps and they are singing”.

“Singing the song of Moses”
Singing “song of the Lamb”.

2 places in O. T. where Moses wrote songs and sang:

1) Exodus 15

2) Deut 32

It's also a beautiful combination that we see here between Moses and the Lamb.

Some would say Moses represents the Law and that the Lamb (Jesus) represents Grace.

Ponder the deep connection and picture / foreshadows of Moses to Jesus.

1. Moses delivered Israelites from slavery in Egypt.
Jesus delivered people from slavery of sin.
2. Moses stood between God and Israel interceding for people.
Jesus stands now as the mediator of ALL humanity.
3. Moses brought the law.
Jesus fulfilled the law and brought grace.
4. Moses instituted passover where lambs blood spared Israel.
Jesus is the Lamb whose sacrifice spared ALL who will believe.
5. Moses by God's power provided manna, water from rock.
Jesus called himself Bread of Life and gives living water.

6. Moses prophesied God would raise up a prophet like him
(Deut 18:15)
Jesus fulfilled that in Acts 3:22.

7. Moses repeatedly pleaded with God to forgive Israel.
Jesus continually intercedes for believers (Heb 7:25)

8. Moses led the old covenant.
Jesus established a new covenant.

9. Moses lifted a bronze serpent so those who looked at it
would live.
Jesus said he would be lifted on the cross so ALL who would
look in faith could be saved.

10. Moses was described as “very humble”.
Jesus is the ultimate humble leader.

The song itself in verses 3 - 4.

3 things it magnifies

1) Works of God

2) Ways of God

3) Worth of God

Works - "Great and mighty are your works"

"Just & true are your ways".

Vs 4 "You alone are Holy".

They are singing about God's works, ways & worth.

Vs 5

Vs 6

This is a scene of 7 angelic creatures being dispatched by God and they are coming out of a place of holiness.

These golden bowls are probably like the golden incense bowls of the priest.

They are given to the angels by “4 living creatures”.

“4 living creatures” - we were introduced to these creatures back in chapter 4. They were very different and unique.

They have been entrusted to give the bowls to the angels and assign them the task of pouring them out.

Vs 8

It's quite a heavenly scene here with sights and sounds and God's final wrath to be revealed.

This is a very intense scene in heaven but what's about to happen on earth is intense as well.

Ch 16

Vs 1

This is symbolic and an indication of God's judgement being poured out in 7 successive events.

When you look at chapter 16, it seems as though each bowl is being poured out very rapidly.

Vs 2 - 1st Bowl

This is very similar to some of the plagues in the Israelites' deliverance from Egypt.

This 1st bowl compares to the 6th plague in Egypt.

6th Plague - "Boils and sores" broke out on people.

Whatever it is that breaks out on people, it is limited to those that have taken the mark of the beast.

If a person takes the mark, they are pledging loyalty to the Antichrist and NOT to God.

Bowl # 2

Vs 3 - This is very similar to the 2nd Trumpet Judgement.

2nd Trumpet = $\frac{1}{3}$ of sea becomes blood.

In this case though all the seas become blood and every sea creature in the sea has died.

Remember by the time we get here to the Bowl Judgements, more than $\frac{1}{2}$ of the world's population is gone.

The sea is a tremendous food source for the people.

So there will be a huge lack of food, not to mention the smell and stench.

3rd Bowl

Vs 4 - 7

It's one thing for the seas to be polluted but now drinking water is gone.

These angels are also affirming that as God, you are just and true to turn the waters to blood.

Why? Cause these very people "killed the prophets and the saints".

Interesting to note that the earth is covered by about 70% by water.

97% of that is salt water.

3% is locked in polar ice caps & glaciers.

Humanity basically survives by 1% of water on earth.

1% sustains humanity.

1st plaque in Exodus when the Nile turned to blood.

Bowl # 4

Vs 8 - 9

“They did NOT repent and give him Glory”.

2 times in Revelation that phrase is found.

It's here in vs 9 and again in vs 11.

They also "Blaspheme Name of God".

3 times in Revelation, it talks about how people "blaspheme the name of God".

All 3 times, it's here in vs 9, 11 & 21.

In this 4th Bowl, people are being scorched by the intense heat of the sun.

Isaiah 30:26 - Isaiah saw this day!

So when you compare Isaiah 30 to Revelation 16, it seems the sun gets taken up 7 times as hot.

Dr. Henry Morris died in 2006, his book "Revelation record". He calculated the effects if the sun were intensified 7 times.

“Great ice sheets on Greenland and entire continent of Antarctica would melt. When all that melts and the polar ice caps and glaciers melted, it would raise the sea level by 200 feet.”

Cities under 100 ft.

New York 33 ft. (above sea level)

Miami 6.5 ft.

San Diego 62 ft.

New Orleans 7 ft. below

Galveston - 7 ft.

Savannah - 49 ft.

Jacksonville - 16 ft.

Tampa - 48 ft.

Orlando - Mickey is going to drown

Bowl # 5

Not sure how much of globe it will effect.

Matt 8:12 - Hell is a place of darkness. So it's a preview of Hell.

Similar to plaque # 9 in Egypt.

Bowl # 6

Vs 12 Vs 13 Vs 14 Vs 15 Vs 16

What is happening here? The Euphrates River dries up in ancient Mesopotamia (Iraq).

When that river dries up, it makes a pathway so that Kings from middle east and far east can come against Israel.

Ezekiel prophecies about Nations coming against Israel and in Ch 38 & 39, it speaks of Russia, Turkey, Eastern Europe and Northern African Nations, like Libya, Ethiopia and Northern Sudan.

They will attack but Ez 38 & 39 is talking about the beginning of tribulation.

So Ez. 38 - 39 - Beginning.

This is at the END.

This time they are crossing the dry river bed of the Euphrates.

More than likely Middle Eastern Nations.

IRAQ, IRAN, AFGHANISTAN, PAKISTAN, INDIA, CHINA

They come to wage war, not against Jews really, but against the God of the Jews.

They will gather at the Valley of Megiddo.

It's there where they will gather, also known as the Valley of Jezreel.

That is where this battle will happen. It's about 14 miles wide and 25 miles long.

It's the end time FINAL battle against the God of Israel.

