



## **“Justice Will Be Served.”**

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### Revelation 15

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and amazing, seven angels with seven plagues, which are the last, for with them the wrath of God is finished.

<sup>2</sup> And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mingled with fire—and also those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name, standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands. <sup>3</sup> And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying,

“Great and amazing are your deeds,  
O Lord God the Almighty!

Just and true are your ways,  
O King of the nations!

<sup>4</sup> Who will not fear, O Lord,  
and glorify your name?

For you alone are holy.

All nations will come and worship you,  
for your righteous acts have been revealed.”

<sup>5</sup> After this I looked, and the sanctuary of the tent of witness in heaven was opened, <sup>6</sup> and out of the sanctuary came the seven angels with the seven plagues, clothed in pure, bright linen, with golden sashes around their chests. <sup>7</sup> And 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, <sup>8</sup> and the sanctuary was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power, and no one could enter the sanctuary until the seven plagues of the seven angels were finished.

### Revelation 16

<sup>1</sup> Then I heard a loud voice from the temple telling the seven angels, “Go and pour out on the earth the seven bowls of the wrath of God.”

<sup>2</sup> So the first angel went and poured out his bowl on the earth, and harmful and painful sores came upon the people who bore the mark of the beast and worshiped its image.

<sup>3</sup> The second angel poured out his bowl into the sea, and it became like the blood of a corpse, and every living thing died that was in the sea.

<sup>4</sup> The third angel poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of water, and they became blood. <sup>5</sup> And I heard the angel in charge of the waters say,

“Just are you, O Holy One, who is and who was,  
for you brought these judgments.

<sup>6</sup> For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets,  
and you have given them blood to drink.  
It is what they deserve!”

<sup>7</sup> And I heard the altar saying,

“Yes, Lord God the Almighty,  
true and just are your judgments!”

<sup>8</sup> The fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and it was allowed to scorch people with fire. <sup>9</sup> They were scorched by the fierce heat, and they cursed the name of God who had power over these plagues. They did not repent and give him glory.

<sup>10</sup> The fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom was plunged into darkness. People gnawed their tongues in anguish <sup>11</sup> and cursed the God of heaven for their pain and sores. They did not repent of their deeds.

<sup>12</sup> The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, to prepare the way for the kings from the east. <sup>13</sup> And I saw, coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs. <sup>14</sup> For they are demonic spirits, performing signs, who go abroad to the kings of the whole world, to assemble them for battle on the great day of God the Almighty. <sup>15</sup> (“Behold, I am coming like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake, keeping his garments on, that he may not go about naked and be seen exposed!”) <sup>16</sup> And they assembled them at the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.

<sup>17</sup> The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple, from the throne, saying, “It is done!” <sup>18</sup> And there were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, and a great earthquake such as there had never been since man was on the earth, so great was that earthquake. <sup>19</sup> The great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell, and God remembered Babylon the great, to make her drain the cup of the wine of the fury of his wrath. <sup>20</sup> And every island fled away, and no mountains were to be found. <sup>21</sup> And great hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, fell from heaven on people; and they cursed God for the plague of the hail, because the plague was so severe.

## SUMMARY

Revelation 15 and 16 provide the final outpouring of God's justice against the Antichrist and all who follow him. The scene begins in heaven as the courts of heaven glorify God for His justice. Then, the scene changes to the earth as the seven bowls of wrath are poured out. The judgment of the wicked is certain. Therefore, believers are called to stay awake, clothed in righteousness, ready to witness to the Lamb. He is the only One who can save people from God's justice.

## PASSAGE OUTLINE

God's Final Wrath is Glorified - Revelation 15:1-8

God's Final Wrath is Finished - Revelation 16:1-21

## BECAUSE OF HIS FINAL WRATH...

- God is Glorified by His Redeemed.
- God is Justified by His Holiness.
- God is Vilified by His Enemies.

"One truth of God comes out of this passage more plainly than any other: Judgments, even the most terrible of them, do not in themselves produce a satisfactory repentance in the midst of of people. The punishment drove them into still more furious rebellion."

Charles Spurgeon, "The Spurgeon Study Bible", p. 1712

### **1 Corinthians 3:10-17**

<sup>10</sup> According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. <sup>11</sup> For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

<sup>12</sup> Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw—

<sup>13</sup> each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. <sup>14</sup> If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup> If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

<sup>16</sup> Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? <sup>17</sup> If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

"Since no one can fly from God, let them fly to him. As no one can resist the power of his justice, let him flee to the power of his mercy."

Charles Spurgeon, "The Spurgeon Study Bible", p. 1712

## TO THE UNBELIEVER

- Will you flee to the power of his mercy?

## TO THE UNBELIEVER

- Did my life stir anyone to glorify God last week?
- Will my life stir anyone to glorify God this week?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What effect do songs have on crowds at sporting events? What are examples? Why do they have such a stirring effect?
2. What does worship look like in your daily practice?
3. Read Revelation 15:1-4. What is the significance of the parallels between this passage and the exodus of God's people from Egypt?
4. Read Revelation 16:5-7. What would you say to someone who told you he did not believe that God's judgment was just?
5. Why do the people remain unrepentant in the face of such horrifying judgments?
6. Read Revelation 16:15. Why do you think this verse is included in the midst of a passage about God's wrath on the wicked?
7. How do we, as followers of Christ, stay awake and keep our garments on?
8. What was your takeaway from the sermon?

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