



THE BOOK OF REVELATION

GREAT & MARVELOUS

Introduction: In Revelation 15, the Apostle John envisions seven angels who bear the final seven plagues. Each angel holds a bowl filled with God's wrath. We will see in the proceeding chapter (Rev. 16) that, one by one, each vial is poured out upon the earth to serve judgment upon all those who deny and defy God Almighty. Chapter 15, however, serves as a brief introduction of John's description of this "great and marvelous" sign—the righteous judgments, deemed so by the "overcomers" mentioned in verses 2-4.

THE SEVEN ANGELS (v 1)

- **The Angels bearing the final plagues (vials) are referred to as a "great and marvelous" sign.**
- **Each vial is described as "filled up."** The imagery of the vials being "filled up" underscores the inevitability of God's judgment. Every drop, every ounce of divine wrath, will be emptied out upon those who have rejected God's grace. There will be no escape, no reprieve from the consequences of sin.

THE OVERCOMERS (vs 2-4)

- **They are described as...**
 - STANDING...
 - ...on a sea of glass. (v 2)
 - ...mingled with fire (v 2; I Pet. 1:7; Jas. 1:12)
 - VICTORIOUS over the Beast (v 2)
 - REJOICING.
 - They have the harps of God. (v 2)
 - They sing the song of Moses. (v 3)
 - NOTE:** The Song of Moses (Ex. 15) celebrates God's mighty deliverance of His people, God's elect.
 - They sing the song of the Lamb. (v 3)
 - NOTE:** The Song of the Lamb celebrates the deliverance of the soul from the power of death. (Heb. 2:9-18; 9:22; I John 1:7; Rev. 7:14-15)

THE VIAL JUDGMENTS REVEALED (vs 5-8)

- **The vials come from the "temple of the tabernacle of the testimony." (v 5)**
 - NOTE:** The "seal" judgments and the "trumpet judgments" all proceed from the Throne of God, but these last "vial" judgments will proceed from the Temple of God. From Rev. 11:9 through Rev. 19, all actions upon earth will come from the temple, not the throne.
- **The seven angels are described. (vs 6-7)**

(CONTINUED)

- Their attire is pure, white, having a golden girdle across their chests.
- From one of the four beasts, they receive and bear the final judgments, which are contained in seven golden vials. (v 7)
- God is glorified. (v 8)

Lesson Conclusion: The "great and marvelous" judgments described by John in Revelation 15 should provoke us to consider our own spiritual state. Are we the cause for God's impending judgment? From scripture, we know that God is always just and will deliver righteous judgment. Are we truly prepared for the day of the Lord? Let us heed the warnings of Scripture and seek to live a life that is pleasing to God. In doing so, we can join the host of overcomers and avoid the wrath to come, experiencing the eternal blessings of His kingdom.