REVELATION – CHAPTER 15

Chapters 15 and 16 conclude the chronological ordered events leading up to the Second Coming of Christ.

The Seven Bowl Judgments ARE the Seventh Trumpet Judgment.

Vs 1 John sees "another sign in Heaven".

This follows two prior signs. Rev 12:1,3

- 1. Rev 12:1 Israel, the women
- 2. Rev 12:3 final World empire, headed by the beast
- 3. Rev 15:1 The final judgment upon the Satanic system and its ruler

John describes what he sees as "great and marvelous": Angels in groups of seven have been seen before. This must be a separate group because no article is used. One of these angels is seen after the judgments are completed. Rev 21:9

In the original it is stated that these angels "having seven plagues, the last ones" are about to pour them out. It also makes clear that the previous judgments were also plagues. Rev 9:18,20 11:6; 16:9; 18:8; 22:18

"In them the wrath of God is finished – wrath is not an attitude, but the expression of divine judgment." Rev 16:19

Vs 2 Those who had been victorious over....(died Rev 13:7 had defeated the dragon by denying him his desire) standing before a sea of glass mixed with fire. Rev 4:6

> Their ultimate reward is described in Rev 20:4-6, holding Harps of God – not all receive harps Rev 7:9-17.

> Both have come out of the tribulation, but rewards vary! (Not all people die under the same circumstances during the tribulation.)

Vs 3-4 The "Song of Moses" Ex 15:1-18 or Deut 32:1-43 Both songs picture God's faithfulness to Israel and the defeat of her enemies.

Great and marvelous are Your works – both up to the present and extending into Eternity.

Righteous and true is Your Person. He is both righteous in providing salvation Rom 3:21-26, and in judging every man that does not receive Christ's provision for them. 2 Cor 5:18-19

Christ is "King of the nations" and will be recognized as such By every created being. Phil 2:5-11 (Ps 2:8-9; 24:1-10; 66:1-4; 72:8-11; 88:9; Isa 2:2-4; 9:6-7; 66:18-23; Dan 7:14; Zech 14:9)

Vs 5-6 The Holy of Holies in the Heavenly Tabernacle is opened.

"Tabernacle of Testimony" refers to the entire tabernacle, which contained the Ark, which held the ten commandments. Ex 38:21; Num 1:50-54; 10:11, etc

What John sees is the curtain parting and seven angels coming out Of the Holy of Holies in Heaven.

Note: On earth only the high priest entered on the Day of

Atonement, after sacrificing for his own sins, Lev 16. The angels, who have no sin, apparently experience complete access to the temple in heaven.

As to the linen they are dressed in – see our prior notes. Their golden sashes may be the same as Christ is seen wearing in Rev 1:13.

Since angels do not possess imputed righteousness – Heb 2:14-16, the connection between the two passages is uncertain. No real explanation is found in the Bible.

Vs 7-8 In verse 6 the angels are differentiated by the fact that they are the angels who had the seven plagues.

In verse 7 we are told how they received them.

The word "wrath" is the word "anger". God's anger is satisfied from a temporal view here.

From an eternal view, it is never satisfied – Rev 14:10 – for

those who did not accept the means to satisfy His anger.

Rom 3:25

Once this final set of judgments is begun, no created being is able to enter the Temple (Holy of Holies) until they are completed. Ex 40:34-38

Note: Just as God lives forever and ever so does the judgment of the lost.