

THE REVELATION

LESSON 24: THE SONG OF TRIUMPH

Intro:

BIG IDEA: God's _____ in judgment is met with _____ from His people.

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.

- It is _____ in many senses.
- He sees another _____. On _____, not on earth. This is from _____ perspective, not earth's.
- 7 angels with 7 plagues- God's wrath is about to be _____.

The Song of Moses and the Lamb

² 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. ³ 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!
⁴ 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.”

- John explains some of this as best he can. It looks like a sea of _____, with _____ (4:6).
- This is the _____ before the _____.
- Those who _____ the beast by the testimony of the Lamb are there.
- They are beside the sea, with _____ at the ready.
- They sing the song of _____.

THE REVELATION

- The _____ is the One who made _____ victorious. Christ's _____ is the _____ cause of Israel's redemption.
- The coming plagues are similar to the plagues used by God to judge Egypt!
- God's deeds are amazing and great, the exercise of His infinite _____.
- God's deeds are also _____. God is not being _____ in judging the nation(s).
- As King of the nations, He has the _____ to do this!
- Those who fear the Lord glorify the Lord in _____ and _____.
- There is no one like Him; He is set apart, _____.
- But all the _____ will worship Him. There is a worldwide _____ that expressed even though we see that many worship the Beast.
- The worship is _____ to His righteous acts. His justice and righteousness is on _____ eliciting worship from His people from every tribe, nation, tongue and language.

Historicist	Preterist	Futurist	Idealist
<p>The announcement about these being the last plagues does not necessarily mean the final judgment, but the last plagues upon the Beast and his cohorts.</p> <p>The overcomers are those who were not corrupted by the Papacy.</p>	<p>This is parallel to the scenes in chapters 4-5, and 8:1-6. These are the last plagues upon Jerusalem at the end of the Jewish War.</p> <p>This does not preclude more wrath at the end of time.</p> <p>The overcomers are those who prevailed over apostate Jerusalem.</p>	<p>This is preparation for the final judgment at the end of time.</p> <p>The overcomers are Jewish believers converted after the Rapture. They were slain by the Beast.</p> <p>Some thing there are 2 songs here, the Song of Moses and the Song of the Lamb.</p> <p>The latter predicts that all the nations will worship in the millennial kingdom. (weren't they all destroyed at Armeggedon?)</p>	<p>Many take this to refer to the Final Judgment as God wrath is completely poured out upon rebellious humanity.</p> <p>Others see this as part of the pattern that continues thru this age which culminates at the final judgment.</p> <p>The song is one song, not two as the Exodus foreshadowed what is to come. The OT provides the pattern for NT judgment.</p> <p>The gospel prevails worldwide, though not over every person.</p>

Talk It Out: What are significant differences between the views? Which make more sense in the context?

THE REVELATION

“From an earthly perspective, the beast overcame God’s witnesses, the saints. But the reality is that they overcame their enemies by the blood of the Lamb, holding fast to their testimony.”

Dennis Johnson⁸⁷

“Terrible disasters do not come by accident, but according to the just judgment of God. They are harbingers of the final judgment of the Second Coming.” **Vern Poythress**⁸⁸

“The same combination, ‘great and marvelous,’ described the plagues that God inflicted on Egypt in preparation for the Exodus (Deut. 28:59 LXX).” **Dennis Johnson**⁸⁹

Heaven Opened, Again

⁵ After this I looked, and the sanctuary of the tent of witness in heaven was opened, ⁶ and out of the sanctuary came the seven angels with the seven plagues, clothed in pure, bright linen, with golden sashes around their chests. ⁷ 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, ⁸ 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.

- This indicates another _____ vision. It views the judgment from another _____.
- The tent of _____ is the reality upon which the _____, built in the wilderness, was modeled.
- It is where God met with His people. It was filled with _____, hiding God’s _____ like the Tabernacle.
- Mere mortals cannot bear the _____ of God.
- The 7 angels leave the sanctuary with the 7 plagues in 7 golden _____.
- They received the bowls from one of the 4 living _____ in God’s presence.

Historicist	Preterist	Futurist	Idealist
These plagues are contained in the 7 th trumpet from 8:1. The bowls will be poured out in the next chapter. The events take place during the French Revolution into the unseen future. The reveal the destruction	Chilton thinks the bowls are more like chalices to emphasize a “negative sacrament”, the wine of his wrath (14:10). No intercession was permitted for them to avert God’s wrath on Jerusalem.	In 5:8 bowls held the prayers of God’s people. So this may point us to the judgment as the result of the prayers of God’s persecuted people.	The Temple was opened to let the angels out, not people in.

⁸⁷ Johnson, pp. 215.

⁸⁸ Poythress, pp. 154.

⁸⁹ Johnson, pp. 216

THE REVELATION

of papal Rome. No one is allowed in to intercede for them and divert God's wrath.			
---	--	--	--

Talk It Out:

“Nothing happens without God willing it to happen, and willing it to happen *in the way that it happens*, and willing it to happen *before* it happens.” **Derek Thomas**⁹⁰

“The beleaguered church on earth, so seemingly weak and outnumbered, must never forget the mystery of God's kingdom growing powerfully through our frailty” **Dennis Johnson**⁹¹

Conclusion:

⁹⁰ Thomas, pp. 126.

⁹¹ Johnson, pp. 217.