

Daniel & Revelation End-time Prophecies Sermon Series
Study #65: Sea Of Glass Mingled With Fire!
Revelation 15:1 - 8
Bible Sermon Study Notes by Cary Rodgers, pastor

After John sees the completion of the fifth vision, what did he see next in heaven which begins the sixth vision?

Revelation 15:1

1 And I saw another **sign in heaven**, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; **for in them is filled up the wrath of God.**

Remember, what group of people will receive the wrath of God, seven last plagues?

Revelation 14:9-10, 19

9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If **any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,**

10 The same shall drink of the wine of the **wrath of God**, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

19 And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the **wrath of God.**

Revelation 16:1-2

1 And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the **wrath of God** upon the earth.

2 And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the **mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.**

Before the wrath of God is poured out upon the earth, Jesus gives us another glimpse of the future of the 144,000 in Heaven who go through the seven last plagues, sealed with the seal of the living God, what does John see next in heaven that should give us all great encouragement?

Revelation 15:2

2 And I saw as it were a **sea of glass mingled with fire**: and them that had **gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.**

God gives us a glimpse of a vision of our position IF we endure until the end. This heavenly vision scene of the 144,000, the last days disciples and apostles depicts their deep faith in Jesus and the persecution and trails they had to go through for standing up against the beast (Papal Rome), his image (modern fallen churches), his mark (false Sunday sabbath), and the number of his name, 666 (the head of Papal Rome, the pope.)

Sea of glass (Greek) = glassy, that is, transparent: - of glass.

The water that the 144,000 are standing on in John's vision is so quiet and calm it appears to be glass.

Where is this sea of glass located in heaven?

Revelation 4:6

6 And **before the throne** [God's] *there was* a **sea of glass like unto crystal**: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, *were* four beasts full of eyes before and behind.

So we are standing on a sea of glass before the throne of GOD as soldiers before the King!

Let's get an even better understanding this powerful scene in heaven.

Notice we, 144,000, are standing on the sea that is so calm that it reflects like glass! It's not solid glass, but water! We are standing on water mingled with fire! Don't miss it!

Why are we able to stand on water mingled with fire?

Let's go to the story of Jesus walking on water in Matthew 14:24 – 33. After the miracle of the feeding of five thousand men plus women and children, Jesus commanded his disciples to take the boat and cross the sea to the other side. When Jesus went to a secluded place to pray a great hurricane like storm came upon the sea. The disciples were caught in the midst of this stormy sea. As they struggled through the storm of strong winds, lightning and thunder, Jesus comes to them walking on that stormy sea.

Matthew 14:26 – 33

26 And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.

27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, **Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.**

28 And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.

29 And he said, **Come.** And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth *his* hand, and caught him, and said unto him, **O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?**

32 And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.

33 Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

Why did Peter sink? Little Faith! Little faith is not enough. Little faith will sink in the time of trouble. Peter took his eyes off Jesus because he was more concerned about the storm and feared his life instead of trusting in Jesus.

How did Jesus walk on water in the midst of a storm? Great Faith!

John 5:19, 30

19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, **Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.**

30 **I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.**

Why must we walk by faith?

2 Corinthians 5:7

7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

Hebrews 10:36 - 39

36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

37 For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.

38 Now the just shall **live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.**

39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

1 John 2:5, 6

5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

Jesus leaves us this great real lesson of “walking” on water. The lesson that Jesus is teaching us here is that it takes great faith in Jesus for us to walk in Christ in the midst of the storms of life's trials and persecution, especially in the last days.

Your faith is NOT built because of the storm, it built on Jesus to take you through the storms!

We must have faith in Jesus in order to have the faith of Jesus!

Revelation 14:12

12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

Why did Jesus tell the disciples to be of good cheer and be not afraid as He was walking on the stormy sea toward the boat?

Remember the storm on the sea depicts trials and persecution. The rough stuff we all must go through.

First, while we are going through storm, we MUST be of GOOD Cheer. Why? Jesus is near!

1 Peter 4:12, 13

12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

13 But **rejoice**, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be **glad also with exceeding joy**.

God wants us to cheerfully endure, keeping our eyes of faith on Jesus not the “storms”.

Fear cancels Faith

Jesus also tells his disciples not to be afraid in the midst of the storm because he knows that fear will cancel out all faith and cause you to sink!

The law of fear – when you fear you are going to get what you feared. Think about it! If you compromise God's truth (God's true Sabbath) because you fear death by the hands of man, you will receive death anyway; eternal death by the hands of God.

Going back to Revelation 15:2 to the heavenly scene with the 144,000 standing on water. Why are we able to stand on water mingled with fire before the throne of God?

Remember “**fire**” = represents the fiery trials, especially the seven last plagues that the 144,000 must go through. The three Hebrews boys in the Daniel chapter 3 were tossed in the midst of the burning flames for standing up for truth, Jesus was with them in the midst of the fire. He did not allow the fiery trials to consume them. The same is true for the 144,000 that go through the last days sealed with the seal of the living God.

WE will be thrown in the midst of the fire for standing up for truth! But in the end, those who reject the beast, his image, his mark and the number of his name will be able to stand on this sea of glass mingled with fire only by having the great faith of Jesus Christ! Wow! What a beautiful and powerful scene that depicts our great faith in God even in the midst of great fiery trials.

What songs are the 144,000 singing as they stand on the sea of glass before the throne of God?

Revelation 15:3, 4

3 And they **sing the song of Moses** the servant of God, and the **song of the Lamb**, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.

4 Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for *thou* only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest.

Song of Moses and the Song of the Lamb

What is the Song of Moses?

To learn more about the song of Moses we must go to the story of how Israel was delivered from the angry pursuit of Pharaoh's army in the wilderness after God miraculously freed Israel from Egyptian bondage.

Exodus 14:1, 2

- 1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
- 2 Speak unto the children of Israel, that they turn and encamp before Pihahiroth (the valley), between Migdol (High Mountain) and the sea (Red Sea), over against Baalzephon: before it shall ye encamp by the sea.

Israel camp was in the valley with high mountains on each side and the Red Sea in front of them.

Exodus 14:5 - 9

- 5 And it was told the king of Egypt that the people fled: and the heart of Pharaoh and of his servants was turned against the people, and they said, Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?
- 6 And he made ready his chariot, and took his people with him:
- 7 And he took six hundred chosen chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt, and captains over every one of them.
- 8 And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued after the children of Israel: and the children of Israel went out with an high hand.
- 9 But the Egyptians pursued after them, all the horses *and* chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army, and overtook them encamping by the sea, beside Pihahiroth, before Baalzephon.

Pharaoh's large army pursues after God's people in the wilderness. The same will be true during the seven last plagues, the 144,000 will be hunted down like animals when the universal death decree is passed. All who accepted the mark of the beast will have legal permission to kill the people of God because of their witness and refusal to submit to the beast power and his false Sabbath.

Exodus 14:10 - 14

- 10 And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD.
- 11 And they said unto Moses, Because *there were* no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt?
- 12 *Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness.*
- 13 **And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever.**
- 14 **The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.**

God's people were trapped! They were surrounded by mountains to their left and right, the Red Sea in front of them and an angry large Egyptian army behind them. Israel did not have any weapons or a military to fight against this super powerful army.

What were they to do? Answer: Faith or Fear

Faith or fear would determine their success or failure. God told them to "Fear ye not, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord" In other words have faith in God. He said that "The Lord shall fight for you!" and **He told**

them and us to keep our peace even in the midst of being trapped in the middle of a storm with NO WAY out. It appeared that Israel was doomed.

In the last days during the seven last plagues when the world-wide death decree is enforced against the faithful people of God who refuse to submit to the mark of the beast, they will be surrounded by an angry superpower of people. It appears that God's people will be totally destroyed. It appears that Satan will be victorious. It appears that they like Peter, will be swallowed up in the storm. It appears that they like the three Hebrews boys in Daniel will be consumed by the fiery flames. It appears that they like Israel in the wilderness will be overcome by Pharaoh's army.

What are some of the promises that the we must remember and act on by faith during this great, great time of trouble when the universal death decree is enforced?

Luke 1:37

37 For with God nothing shall be impossible.

Psalm 46:1

1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalm 91:1 – 7 [Psalms 90 begins another song of Moses]

- 1 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 I will say of the LORD, *He is* my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.
- 3 Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, *and* from the noisome pestilence.
- 4 He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth *shall be thy* shield and buckler.
- 5 Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; *nor* for the arrow *that* flieth by day;
- 6 *Nor* for the pestilence *that* walketh in darkness; *nor* for the destruction *that* wasteth at noonday.
- 7 A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; *but* it shall not come nigh thee.

What did God do for Israel in the midst of apparent defeat surrounded by and impossible way of escape?

Exodus 14:15, 16

- 15 And the LORD said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they **go forward**:
- 16 But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry *ground* through the midst of the sea.

Moses and the people did what God told them, God split open the Red Sea and the people of God went forward through the Red Sea on dry land to escape Pharaoh's army. With the Red Sea still opened Pharaoh's army decided to go through the Red Sea, but God released the walls of water on each side and destroyed Pharaoh's army in the sea. **The people of God were delivered! Satan was defeated and God was honored.**

After Israel saw how God miraculously delivered them from apparent doom they sung their testimony of deliverance

Exodus 15:1 - 7

- 1 Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.
- 2 The LORD *is* my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he *is* my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.
- 3 The LORD *is* a man of war: the LORD *is* his name.
- 4 Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea: his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red sea.

- 5 The depths have covered them: they sank into the bottom as a stone.
 6 Thy right hand, O LORD, is become glorious in power: thy right hand, O LORD, hath dashed in pieces the enemy.
 7 And in the greatness of thine excellency thou hast overthrown them that rose up against thee: thou sentest forth thy wrath, which consumed them as stubble.

Note: the song ends at verse 21.

This is known as the Song of Moses. This was a song of their testimony of deliverance! The song of Moses is a song of great deliverance.

The 144,000 will also sing their testimony of deliverance. It will be their own song of Moses that reflects the experience that they went through during the seven last plagues and their final deliverance at the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Remember the 144,000 will go through an experience that NO one else will go through. They will have their own unique experience. Only they can sing this song of deliverance.

This is the song that the 144,000 will sing! When death appears to be our fate, Jesus will come to deliver us who are in the midst of the terrible death decree! When we, the 144,000, get to heaven we will sing this song of Moses as a memorial and praise to Jesus for His great deliverance.

Revelation 14:2-3

- 2 And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps:
 3 And they sung as it were **a new song** before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and **no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.**

Going back to Revelation 15:3 and 4 not only will we be singing the song of Moses (song of the Great deliverance), but we will be singing the song of the Lamb (song of Victory)!

The song of the Lamb is in verses 3 and 4.... see again:

Revelation 15:3, 4

- 3 And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the **song of the Lamb**, saying, Great and marvellous *are* thy works, **Lord God Almighty; just and true *are* thy ways, thou King of saints.**
 4 Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for *thou* only *art* holy: **for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest.**

This is a song of victory for enduring to the end! Song of the Lamb is the song of Jesus, who shed his blood for us to save us from the destruction of sin. But it was Jesus who comes in the midst of the death decree to deliver us! There is only victory through Jesus. Victory over sin and worldliness. **Victory over the beast and his image.**

The end of the song of the Lamb in verse 4 is reflective of the first angel's message in Revelation 14:7. This is how we have victory over the beast and his image!

The song of Moses is the song of deliverance and the song of the Lamb is a song of victory over the beast and his image!

After John was privileged to see the future of the 144,000 in heaven singing the song of Moses and the song of the Lamb, the scene in heaven changes to the heavenly temple. What did he see?

Revelation 15:5

5 And after that I looked, and, behold, the **temple of the tabernacle (sacred dwelling) of the testimony in heaven was opened:**

In first half of Revelation in Revelation 11:16 John also saw the doors of the temple of God wide open.

Revelation 11:19

19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his **temple the ark of his testament...**

“Temple of the tabernacle of testimony” in Revelation 15:5 and the “temple of the ark of his testament” are the same thing.

Testament is the same as covenant. Where is the ark (dwelling) of the covenant located in the temple of God?

Most Holy Place. Why was it called the ark of the covenant? Because it contain the testimony or the covenant, the Ten Commandments written on two tables of stone written by the finger of God.

Exodus_34:28

28 And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words **of the covenant, the ten commandments.**

John sees directly in the Most Holy Place in Heaven, in which the commandments of God are again brought to our attention. Those who love Jesus will keep ALL God commandments and are set free from destruction, but those who don't keep them will be condemned by them.

Revelation 22:14

14 Blessed *are* they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

After John see the 10 commandments in the Most Holy Place in Heaven, the tabernacle of the testimony, what does he see next?

Revelation 15:6 - 8

6 And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles.

7 And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who liveth for ever and ever.

8 And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.

When Moses and the children of Israel completed the earth temple in the wilderness during it's dedication what did God do?

Exodus 40:34, 35

34 Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

35 And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

What happened in the temple when Solomon dedicated the permanent structure?

1 Kings 8:10, 11

10 And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy *place*, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD,

11 So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD.

When Smoke fills the Temple in Heaven Intercession ceases

When the smoke from the glory of God fills the temple, NO man can enter spiritually through prayers. The intercession of Jesus as our High Priest is complete. The investigative judgment is over. Access to the mercy seat is forever closed. The time has come for the pouring out of the unmingled wrath of God.

Remember: Jesus our High Priest is now interceding on our behalf in the Most Holy Place with the censer filled with sweet incenses of the prayers of the saints, but during this time of intercession will also be a time of investigative judgment.

When Jesus investigative judgment and intercession as our High Priest is complete, what will He do and what will happen as a result?

Jesus will declare:

Revelation 22:11, 12

- 11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.
 12 **And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.**

Jesus throws down his censer to the earth!

Revelation 8:5-6

- 5 And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings, and an earthquake.
 6 And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

As we already learned in the first half of Revelation in Revelation 8:5 Jesus will fill His censer with fire and throw it down to the earth; at that time the pleading is over! At that time the seven last plagues will be poured out on the earth...

Appeal

But NOW THE DOOR OF MERCY IS STILL OPEN. The choice is yours.....

In our next study we will review the seven last plagues in Revelation 16....