Revelation Chapter 15

Preparation of the Seven Plagues

1. **The Seven Angels and their task: (verse 1)**
   1. Identification
      1. Seven angels of the seven churches (Rev. 2,3)?
      2. Seven trumpet angels (Rev. 8-11)?
         1. The purpose of the third sevenfold vision (Rev. 15 and 16) is similar to the second vision, with the seven trumpet angels, in which we see God’s judgment and wrath against His enemies who attack the church.
2. **The glassy see mixed with fire: (verse 2)**
   1. Horrific warfare and suffering of the church on earth.
   2. Chapter 15 emphasizes the beast of the sea (political/society) that attacks the church on earth.
   3. Victory over the beast
      1. This victory on earth is by faith alone.
         1. It is fully realized when one dies and is taken from earthly suffering to God’s heavenly throne.
         2. It is fully realized at the End with God’s judgment on earth and the resurrection of the bodies of believers.
3. **The victory Song: (verses 3 and 4)**
   1. The song of Moses in the Old Testament
      1. Exodus 15
         1. Song of thanksgiving for God’s redemption through the waters (1-10)
         2. Song of confidence that God will deliver His people from future enemies (11-16).
         3. Song of confident hope that God will in the end bring His people to His eternal abode (17 and 18).
   2. God’s righteous judgments
      1. These are the actions which shows His anger and displeasure over the sins of those who refuse his gracious invitation to mercy in Christ.
         1. To those who follow the beast and attack the church on earth.
      2. God’s righteous judgments take the form of plagues which are carried out by the seven angels.
4. **The Tabernacles and the bowls of wrath: (verses 5-8)**
   1. “Tent of meeting/assembly”
      1. God would meet with Moses personally here.
         1. The tabernacle was the focal point of Israel’s life with God.
            1. God’s holy presence is the center and core of the life of His saints in His heavenly glory.
   2. The sanctuary full of smoke
      1. In the Old Testament smoke was part of God’s aweful majesty.
         1. God’s descent on Mount Sinai in Exodus 19:18-20 and 40:34:
            1. Smoke covered the mountain like smoke from a furnace.

God descended on it like a furnace.

* + - 1. In Isaiah 6:1-5 there’s Isaiah’s vision where God appears and the temple shook and was filled with smoke.
  1. Entrance into the sanctuary
     1. No one can enter until the seven plagues of the seven angels are finished.
        1. Maybe John was reminded of the tabernacle of Moses when the cloud of God’s glory filled it and Moses could not enter it as long as God’s glory rested upon it.
           1. Exodus 40:34,35
           2. In 1 Kings 8:10,11 the priests cannot enter Solomon’s temple because it filled with a cloud, God’s glory.