

Intro:

Revelation 15 is a disturbing chapter not because of what it says about God but because of what it says about evangelical Christianity.

Problem:

Rev 14:14-20; Matt 3:11-12

John might have had the timing wrong but he had the picture right

He had no trouble delighting in this true picture of Jesus - a picture that seems alien to us.

our God looks a lot more like us - Psalm 50:16-21

we think of God as one of us - which is why we can so confidently say my God would never be full of wrath...which makes sense because for most people their God is a magnified view of themselves - oh what a false picture that is

how long will we love being simple minded about Jesus - Prov 1:20-33

Revelation 15 is a picture of Jesus that we are to delight in...but unfortunately I fear it is a picture we are embarrassed by

the problem is that the Jesus of Revelation is the only Jesus that exists and if we don't know the Jesus of Revelation we surely don't know the Jesus of the gospels.

Main Idea:

A sign reveals His wrath is marvelous

A song reveals His wrath is monumental

A sanctuary reveals His wrath is matchless

Implication:

marvelous, monumental, matchless, embarrassing

The simple truth is that the wrath of God is marvelous, monumental and matchless but we think it is embarrassing

if you are embarrassed of His wrath you are embarrassed of God - and frankly I fear for the church that neglects this lesson -Rev 1:3; 22:16-19

Application:

so how should we take this? 1 Th 5:9-10

if we are embarrassed by His wrath we are embarrassed by His grace for like the saints of Rev 15:3

the song of the Lamb is more than a song of love, mercy and grace

it is a song of love that triumphs over sin through wrath

it is a song of mercy that triumphs over punishment through wrath

and it is a song of grace that triumphs over law through wrath

Text:

A sign reveals His wrath is marvelous

Rev. 15:1 ¶ 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.**

another sign

- Rev 12:1, 3

introducing the last plagues

- Rev 16:17 (it is done)

wrath of God (7x's)

Rev 14:10, 19; 15:1, 7; 16:1, 19; 19:15

synonymous with the wrath of Jesus

- Rev 6:16

amazing

- 1 Pet 2:9 (**His wrath is marvelous**)

A song reveals His wrath is monumental

Rev. 15:2 ¶ 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.

Rev. 15:3 And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying,

“Great and amazing (marvelous) are your deeds,

O Lord God the Almighty!

Just and true are your ways,

O King of the nations!

Rev. 15:4 Who will not fear, O Lord,

and glorify your name?

For you alone are (supremely) holy.

All nations will come

and worship you,

for your righteous acts have been revealed.

sea of glass

- Rev 4:6 (present before throne)

Conquered the beast

- Rev 12:11; 13:5-10; (martyrs)

song of Moses

- Exodus 15:1-18 (to save His people)

true and just

- Rev 16:7; 19:2 (**His wrath is monumental**)

righteous acts revealed

- Rom 3:21-26 (it reveals His righteousness)

A sanctuary reveals His wrath is matchless

Rev. 15:5 ¶ After this I looked, and **the sanctuary of the tent of witness** in heaven was opened,

Rev. 15:6 and out of **the sanctuary** came the seven angels with the seven plagues, clothed in pure, bright linen, with golden sashes around their chests.

Rev. 15:7 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,

Rev. 15:8 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**.

bowls full of wrath-

Rev 5:8; 6:10 (His wrath is an answered prayer)

tent of witness

- Acts 7:44; Num 9:15 (it cannot be ignored)

sanctuary filled with smoke

-Exodus 40:34-35 (it cannot be stopped)

no one could enter

- 1 Kings 8:10-11 (It cannot be changed)

Heb 12:28-29 (**His wrath is matchless**)

Articles for further study: <https://bible.org/seriespage/7-wrath-god>