Revelation 15, 16 Tom Tillman

We're about to witness the end of the 7 year Tribulation... the end of the 70th Week of Daniel... the end of the 'Times of the Gentiles.' This is the 'Grand Finale' of God's Wrath poured out on the 'World of Men' which has hated and rejected Him and His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, since the time of Adam and Eve's first sin... 6000 years ago... and throughout these 6000 years, God has created and called out for Himself a people for His own possession... all of whom He chose as His own, long before the 6000 years even began.

He kept and preserved for Himself a direct line of men from Adam to Noah. Then He called out Abraham to Himself; He created the nation of Israel, His special possession among all the nations of the Earth.

But when Israel rejected their Messiah and King, the Lord Jesus Christ, at His first coming, 2000 years ago... God set them aside, creating a 2000 year gap of time between the end of the 69th Week of Daniel and the beginning of the 70th week of Daniel. During this time He has created the Church, the Body and Bride of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

After He removes the Church, at the Rapture, God the Father will once again turn His full attention to His wife, the apple of His eye... Israel.

As we've been watching, through John's eyes, these 7 years of the Tribulation, God has been gradually awakening Israel and drawing them to Himself while at the same time, punishing and pouring out His Wrath on the unbelieving world of Gentiles.

First we saw the Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ, opening the 7 Seals of the Scroll...

When He opened the 1st Seal, we saw the White Horse with the Antichrist going out conquering.

The 2nd Seal... the Red Horse... war and death

The 3rd Seal... the Black Horse... famine and disease

The 4th Seal... the Pale Horse... death and Hell following

The 5th Seal... We saw many Souls under the Altar in Heaven

The 6th Seal... a Great Earthquake and God's Seal on His 144,000... 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel.

Then the 7th Seal was opened which would encompass all 7 Trumpet judgments and all 7 Vial judgments.

The 1st Trumpet... third of trees and grasses burned up

The 2nd Trumpet... third of sea creatures die and a third of all ships destroyed

The 3rd Trumpet... third of all fresh waters made bitter and poisoned

The 4th Trumpet... the light of the Sun, Moon and Stars darkened by one third

The 5th Trumpet... Demonic Locusts from the Bottomless Pit, the Abyss

The 6th Trumpet... 4 Angels released from the Euphrates and 200,000,000 Demonic Horsemen

Then John heard 7 Thunders, the messages kept hidden from us and God's 2 Witnesses

7th Trumpet... encompasses all 7 Vial Judgments... God's Wrath poured out in Full.

A Great Sign in Heaven... a Woman clothed with the Sun and the Dragon seeking to devour her Child who was taken up to Heaven.

The Antichrist and the Mark of the Beast... an Angel flying in Heaven preaching the Everlasting Gospel Another Angel warning... 'Don't take the Mark of the Beast or you'll receive God's Wrath in full measure.'

Chapter 15:

Prelude to the Bowl Judgments

15:1 Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for *in them the wrath of God is complete.*

These seven angels are ready to pour out God's judgments... finally... what all of Heaven and every martyr down through all the ages has waited for... everyone who has ever said, 'How long, oh Lord... how long will you allow evil to continue... how long will you allow the wicked to prosper?'

No more!

Verse 2: And I saw *something* like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark *and* over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. ³ They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying:

"Great and marvelous are Your works,
Lord God Almighty!
Just and true are Your ways,
O King of the saints!

Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name?
For You alone are holy.
For all nations shall come and worship before You,
For Your judgments have been manifested."

These ones standing on the sea like glass... they have the victory over the Antichrist... they refused the Mark of the Beast... they were killed for their faith.

They are singing praise and worship to God Who has redeemed them. Remember, the 144,000 sang a new song unto God which only they could learn and sing. These songs, the Song of the Lamb and the Song of Moses are apparently for everyone to sing.

The Song of Moses is in Deuteronomy 32... Most of that chapter is the Song of Moses... it was the last message of Moses to the Israelites before He died on MT Nebo and the rest then crossed the Jordan River and entered the Promised Land

That 40 years in the wilderness was a picture of Israel's future wandering for 1900 years and then being brought back into the land of Israel... it was also a picture of the Church... most dying, waiting, looking for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ but in the end, the remnant being taken up alive into glory through the Rapture...

Also, the end of this song of Moses is a picture of this future time of Tribulation as God 's Wrath is poured out on the World... ... here are the last few verses of the Song of Moses...

Deut 32:39 God says,

'Now see that I, even I, am He,
And there is no God besides Me;
I kill and I make alive;
I wound and I heal;
Nor is there any who can deliver from My hand.

40 For I raise My hand to heaven,
And say, "As I live forever,

41 If I whet My glittering sword,
And My hand takes hold on judgment,
I will render vengeance to My enemies,
And repay those who hate Me.

42 I will make My arrows drunk with blood,

And My sword shall devour flesh,
With the blood of the slain and the captives,
From the heads of the leaders of the enemy."'

43 "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people;
For He will avenge the blood of His servants,
And render vengeance to His adversaries;
He will provide atonement for His land and His people."

God was looking forward to this very time in Revelation from 3500 years ago. Now we are about to see the Song of Moses fulfilled...

Verse 5: After these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened. ⁶ And out of the temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands. ⁷ Then 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 The temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power, and no one was able to enter the temple till the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.

Everyone in Heaven... men and angels... they are the rapt audience for this final awesome spectacle...

Once again... God glorifying Himself before all men and angels in Heaven... the redeemed of all ages. Every one who looks down at this coming judgment... none will be cheering... everyone will be horrified beyond measure... everyone will know... 'That should have been me down there. I should be among them... God's Wrath should have been poured out on me! Thank you, Lord Jesus for saving me... thank you Father, for choosing me and loving me and preserving me throughout my whole life down there... thank you that I am here with You and not down there.'

We will be among them... at the Lamb's side, as His bride. But don't forget... not all God's chosen are in Heaven looking down at this judgment. There are still many down on the Earth. Many Jews and many Gentiles... there are, still on Earth, those whom God has chosen and called to Himself from every nation, tribe and tongue who will continue to be protected and preserved through all this coming final judgment on the Earth... all those who are believing on the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who have refused the Mark of the Beast, who will still remain alive when the Lord Jesus Christ returns at Armageddon... all those who will be living, mortal humans, not having received eternal bodies who will go into Christ's Millennial Kingdom to repopulate the Earth for 1000 years.

We, on the other hand, will have received eternal glorified bodies like that of the Lord Jesus Christ and we will have accompanied Him back to Earth as His bride. We will rule and reign with Him for 1000 years throughout that Earthly Kingdom.

Here is what we will be watching as the unbelieving world is finally judged...

Chapter 16: Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the bowl of the wrath of God on the earth."

First Bowl: Loathsome Sores

Verse2: So the first angel went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.

Just like the demonic locusts from the bottomless pit when the 5th Trumpet was sounded... they were not permitted to harm the 144,000 who had been sealed by God. These terrible boils and sores only form on the bodies of those who have taken the Mark of the Beast and worshipped his image.

They were warned... the first angel in Chapter 14, flying in Heaven with the Everlasting Gospel... and the third angel warning against worshipping the Beast or receiving his Mark... God's chosen and elect are being protected from these judgments... but that's not to say this is a place anyone would want to be... the elect will also go through what will seem like Hell on Earth, but God will preserve them for Himself.

Second Bowl: The Sea Turns to Blood

Verse 3: Then the second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood as of a dead *man*; and every living creature in the sea died.

Third Bowl: The Waters Turn to Blood

Verse 4: Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood.

All the waters... salt and fresh... blood... not 'like blood'... blood!

Can we even imagine... covered with terrible sores... no water to drink or wash... only blood

⁵ And I heard the angel of the waters saying:

"You are righteous, O Lord,

The One who is and who was and who is to be,

Because You have judged these things.

⁶ For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets,

And You have given them blood to drink.

For it is their just due."

And they will drink blood. After the next bowl is poured out, it becomes very hot. They will be thirsty, they will be dying of thirst. A starving man will eat anything. A man dying of thirst will drink anything liquid. Just imagine!

⁷ And I heard another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous *are* Your judgments."

These angels are saying, 'Yes, Lord! Don't stop now... don't let Your mercy get in the way of Your judgment... this is not the time for love to shine... this is judgment time... this is what we've all been waiting for... this is what You've been waiting for! Continue! Finish it!'

Fourth Bowl: Men Are Scorched

Verse 8: Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. ⁹ And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.

This is true global warming!

Fifth Bowl: Darkness and Pain

Verse 10: Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. ¹¹ They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.

Imagine... covered with terrible painful sores... no water to drink or wash... it's all blood... horrible stifling heat... no rest or comfort... complete darkness... how could it get any worse...

But wait! There's more!

Sixth Bowl: Euphrates Dried Up

Verse 12: Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared. ¹³ And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *coming* out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. ¹⁴ For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, *which* go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

"Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame."

All the armies of the Earth... probably everyone who has taken the Mark of the Beast... all of them are being drawn to the Plains of Megiddo in the Valley of Jezreel... Armageddon! This is the final battle where God will utterly destroy all His remaining enemies.

Then a quick verse, a message that seems out of place...

Suddenly in the middle of telling about the demons which are performing signs and gathering the armies of the Earth to Armageddon... the Lord Jesus Christ inserts a quick word of encouragement to those looking for His coming. 'I'm coming soon... be ready!'

Seventh Bowl: The Earth Utterly Shaken

Verse 17: Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "<u>It is done!</u>" ¹⁸ And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was <u>a great earthquake</u>, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. ¹⁹ Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath. ²⁰ Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. ²¹ And great hail from heaven fell upon men, *each hailstone* about the weight of a talent. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great.

A huge earthquake... Jerusalem is split into 3 parts... cities all over the /Earth are destroyed... Babylon as a city, a world system and a religious system is completely destroyed.

And in final destruction... huge hailstones weighing almost 100 pounds... almost 3 feet in diameter... imagine the destruction when huge balls of ice like that come crashing down all over the Earth... nothing will be able to stand before such bombardment.

But what do those who remain alive do? They curse and blaspheme God.

¹⁶ And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.