Revelation chap. 15

The wrath of God

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. 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. 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. 5 And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened: 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.

We touched on the wrath of God in the previous chapter for those who worship the beast and his image and receive his mark. Satan in the guise of Christ will conquer the world and establish his capital in Jerusalem from which he will force the mark of the beast on the whole world. Everyone great and small, free and bond, rich and poor will take the mark because they will honestly believe that Satan is Christ. This will not be a Benny Hinn miracle crusade, it will be a larger than life and in your face spectacle where the whole world believes the 2nd coming has happened. The bible has warned us of this deception is so many different ways that all will be without excuse - 'Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness' 2Thess. 2:9-12.

The next picture in heaven is the sea of glass that is before the throne and those who have gotten the victory over the beast and his image and they sing the song of Moses. This appears to be a jump forward in time past the tribulation and 2nd coming to the time when the redeemed especially those who have gone thru the tribulation stand rejoicing before God. The song of Moses is mentioned twice in the OT. The first being when the children of Israel had escaped the hands of Pharaoh and the ten plagues that were poured out on Egypt (Ex. 15). It speaks of Pharaoh's chariots and horses being cast into the sea. This was a happy song of deliverance when Israel was in favor with God. The second is a song that Moses was commanded to teach the children of Israel that speaks of rebellion and a bitter departure from the living God (Deut. 32). A people who have no faith and would be provoked to jealousy with a foolish nation who were not God's people. Both songs have parallels to the last days when the flaming chariots of fire take the field of battle and humble the earth and the latter song that speaks of those who sacrifice unto devils or demons whom their fathers knew not.

And after this the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened. All throughout Daniel and Revelation we are given glimpse after glimpse of the temple in heaven. Beginning with Daniel 7 and then 8, 9 and chapter after chapter in Revelation. This temple is where the throne of the Father is and where Jesus ministers as our great high priest. The Jewish temple of the OT was a model or pattern of the heavenly so it is very useful in our understanding of what is taking place in heaven. The fall feasts with the trumpets, day of atonement and tabernacles will all be fulfilled in the last days just as the spring feasts were fulfilled at the first coming of Christ. The trumpets of Revelation 8 and 9 are judgments that will come to warn the inhabitants of the earth that the great day of judgment is coming and they need to get ready. The judgment scene of Daniel 7 & 9 and then the most holy with the ark of the testimony in Rev. 11 will be the fulfillment of the day of atonement or Yom Kippur. And finally the woman flees into the wilderness when the seven last plagues are poured out will be the antitype of the feast of tabernacles similar to when the children of Israel lived off the land.

And the seven angels came out of the temple having seven plagues and one of the beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God. And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and no man was able to enter the temple until the seven plagues were fulfilled. When Solomon dedicated the first temple there is a record of the Glory of God filling the temple like smoke so that no priests could minister in the temple 2Chron. 5:14, 1Kings 8:11. This happened in the seventh month when the ark of the covenant was brought from the city of David to the most holy of the new temple. While there is no record of Yom Kippur being kept at the dedication of the temple it is noteworthy that the glory of God

filled the temple when it should have occurred. The Glory of God that fills the temple like smoke will be a sign that the heavenly temple has been cleansed and the final members of Christ's kingdom have been made up. There will be nothing more that can prevent the wrath of God which is unmixed with mercy from falling on the rejecters of God's grace and love.