

Morning Sermon / 1/16/2022 / “Another Great Sign” Revelation 15:1

15 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. Revelation 15:1

The Greek word translated “great” in Revelation 15:1 is the word μέγα / mega. Mega means big, or huge, even in English, for instance, the mega-millions lottery is a lot of money!

The sign in Revelation 15:1 is a mega-sign, mega in size? Maybe? Mega in IMPORTANCE, definitely!

What is it about this SIGN that makes it so important? Worthy of our attention!?

I. *It is a sign in heaven, Heavenly, from God, also since it is in God’s Word, it is Biblical –*
15 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. Revelation 15:1

When a sign is said to be “in heaven” especially in the context this one is, in the Book of Revelation, a book “signified” Revelation 1:1, by God and Christ, we should see this as an important sign, meaning –

1. *A sign to slow down for ...*

2. *A sign that is meant to grab our FULL ATTENTION! When E. F. Hutton speaks, people listen, when God, Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd speaks, His people, His sheep LISTEN –*

²⁷ **My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. John 10:27 (NKJV)**

3. *Miracles and Visions are called “signs” in Scripture, because just like our road signs and billboards, they are meant to grab our special attention! This one is also great, or mega, because God knows the topic is one, we don’t like, –“wrath” – this is a sign, though huge, we too often miss –*

¹² **I have written for him the great things of My law, but they were considered a strange thing. Hosea 8:12 (NKJV)**

4. *The more we don’t like any topic in Scripture, the more we probably really need it!*

II. *The second thing that makes this sign great, mega, important, is it is a sign about plagues and wrath –*

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1. *This is why I have the yellow sign which I do on the front of your bulletin, it is a WARNING sign –*

A. *This is part of the blessing of Scripture, it warns us –*

¹¹ **Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward. Psalm 19:11 (NKJV)**

B. *Reading, or hearing Revelation read is a blessing to us, because it warns us to avoid God’s wrath –*

³ **Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near. Revelation 1:3**

What time is near? The time of God’s wrath, destruction –“the seven last plagues” Revelation 15:1 the wrath of God is complete. Revelation 15:1

2. *Should Christians fear God? Should Christians / Believers fear wrath or hell?*

A. *We should definitely fear God more than we might fear men, and hell more than death –*

⁴ “And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. ⁵ But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him! Luke 12:4–5 (NKJV)

If you look at the context of this verse you will see Luke 12:1-3, that Jesus was speaking first to His disciples, but also to a larger group of hearers. However, disciples are included in the group that needed to fear God more than men. Hell, more than death!

B. *Though God is gracious to save the ungodly –*

⁵ But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, ⁶ just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works: ⁷ “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, And whose sins are covered; ⁸ Blessed is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin.” Romans 4:5–8 (NKJV)

C. *As salvation is from sin Matthew 1:21, we should be fearful, not confident about remaining in sin -*

¹² Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. Philippians 2:12–13 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; ¹¹ for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 1:10–11 (NKJV)

3. *Hell / God’s wrath are fearful things, they are mentioned in Scripture for the benefit of believers, who will fear them and accordingly fear sin because of them. Reading or hearing of God’s wrath / Hell should also motivate us to greater concern for the lost, both prayer and evangelism.*

III. *The third thing about this sign that should make us take notice is it “marvelous” -*

¹⁵ 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. Revelation 15:1

1. *Marvelous θαυμαστός / thanmastos – wonderful, amazing, like a miracle –*

2. *What is wonderful is these plagues, like the plagues of Egypt, are part of the salvation, from earthly terror of God’s people, remember –*

A. *The beast had power to defeat God’s people, just as Pharaoh had over God’s people who were his slaves in Egypt –*

⁷ It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. Revelation 13:7 (NKJV)

B. *Because of this many of the “saints” die at the hand of the beast, and yet they are blessed –*

¹³ Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.’ ” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.” Revelation 14:13 (NKJV)

C. *Yet there are passages in Scripture and indication in Revelation 16 that not all remaining saints are killed by the beast, the plagues in Revelation 16 stop him before he is able to kill all of God’s people and these meet Jesus when He returns –*

¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words. 1 Thessalonians 4:16–18 (NKJV)