

REVELATION—UNVEILING THE END, ACT III: THE FINAL CURTAIN

THE ORIGINAL TEMPLE OF DOOM

REVELATION 15:1–8



The Heart of the Matter

The seven bowl judgments will be poured out as the final expression of God's wrath. Revelation 15 provides a prelude to these judgments, recording a remarkable contrast between the triumphant, surviving saints singing their "song of the Lamb" (Revelation 15:3) and the seven angels holding "bowls full of the wrath of God" to be poured out on the earth (15:7).



Discovering the Way

1. A Brief Review: The Series of Judgments in Revelation

Thus far, we have encountered the seven seal judgments (6:1–8:6) and the seven trumpet judgments (8:7–9:21). Only the seven bowl judgments remain (15–16).

2. A Glorious Scene of Triumph and Joy (Revelation 15:1–4)

On the eve of their tormentors' judgment, the Tribulation saints will gather for worship and thanksgiving. A song of praise will replace their previous anguished cries for justice (6:9–11).

3. A Dreadful Scene of Wrath and Doom (Revelation 15:5–8)

While the believers rejoice in heaven, those who have rejected the Lord's free offer of eternal life will suffer horrific judgment. At long last, the earth, groaning under the oppression of evil, will finally see the permanent triumph of good.



Starting Your Journey

John's vision of the triumph of good over evil gives future events a present significance. His contrasting visions of joy in heaven and sorrow on earth suggest at least two appropriate responses for us today:

1. We should be grateful for God's promise of protection.
2. We should be concerned for those who choose to reject Christ.



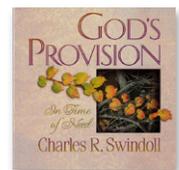
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