



Revelation With Daniel

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Verse 1 - This is the only time the KJV uses the phrase “sign in heaven.” A similar phrase is used twice in the Revelation, “wonder in heaven” (**12:1, 3**). All three of these signs or wonders are “in heaven.” One shows a woman, the other shows a dragon, while this last one shows seven angels with seven last plagues. Does this phrase connect chapters **12** through **15**? We’ve seen that the chapters **12-14** show the first coming of Christ through His second coming, but can chapter **15** have a part to play as well? Yes! Including chapter **16**, which both go from the close of human probation until the coming of Christ after the plagues. It’s as though chapters **15-16** illustrate what’s going on in Heaven and on earth just before Christ comes in the clouds of glory. (The words “wonder” and “sign” are both the same word, G4592, which is used seven times in the Revelation.)

Mentioned in this verse are the seven ‘last’ plagues—the first three in Exodus were on everyone living—including the people of God—but the seven ‘last’ of the Exodus plagues were only for the nonbelievers. (See **Exodus 7-12**.)

The phrase “wrath of God” can be found in ten Bible verses (notice how many are in the Old Testament): **Psalms 78:31, John 3:36, Romans 1:18, Ephesians 5:6, Colossians 3:6, Revelation 14:10, 19, 15:1, 7, 16:1**. (Wrath and God in the same verse yields eighty search results in the KJV.)

Looking in the Revelation for sections of Scripture that correlate with the timing of the seven last plagues, look to the sixth and seventh churches, seals and trumpets, including their interludes. This is when the four angels are free to let loose the four winds of the earth (**7:1**), when the servants of God are completely sealed with God’s seal and name on their foreheads (**7:3**), when there will be great tribulation with hunger, thirst and great heat (**7:14, 16**), when the nations are angry and God’s wrath is come (**11:18**), when the dragon is expressing its wrath against the woman who keeps the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus (**12:17**), when there will be persecution unto death from those who have the mark, number, or name of the beast toward those who are patient saints who keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus (**14:7-13**), and when soon after we will all see Christ coming in the clouds of Heaven (**14:14**). Remember from the study of chapter **14**, there is natural, moral, religious, civil and economic trouble just before the plagues.

Verse 2-4 - The phrase “sea of glass” appears three times in the Bible, **4:6** and here. This is the only verse that uses both the words glass and fire. Could the “sea of glass mingled with fire” be a reflection of God’s physical glory from Heaven’s transparent gold? (**1 John 1:5** says, “God is light.”) Also, here is a list of the ways the enemy is and will be working to deceive God’s people. We need “victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name” (which in **13:18** is “the number of a man”). “The beast” mentioned in this message, whose worship is enforced by the two-horned beast, is the first, or leopard-like beast of **Revelation 13**—the papacy. The “image to the beast” represents that form of apostate Protestantism which will be developed when the Protestant churches shall seek the aid of the civil power for the enforcement of their dogmas” (The Great Controversy, 445). The “mark of the beast” is dealing with worship, as in **Revelation 14:9-12**, where those who “worship the beast and his image” will received the beast’s mark, as those who “keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus” will not. The true Sabbath versus Sunday will be the deciding factor to define who’s authority worshippers surrender to. This idea can be illustrated in the story of Cain and Abel, **Genesis 4:1-15**. We will either worship

God the Father and His image—His Son—or we will worship the beast and his image. There are only four players on the side of evil: the dragon, the beast, the image, and those who worship the beast and his image in their lives. Also, there are only four players on the side of right: the Father, the Son, the holy angels, and those who worship the Father and His Image in their lives. (These thoughts have been extracted from chapters **12:3-14:12**.)

The harps are found only in **5:8**, **14:2**, and here. Each time, those who have gained victory have one. They sing the song of the redeemed from Egypt, the song of Moses. Not only were they redeemed from Egypt with Moses, but also from the slavery of sin by the Lamb. God's people, at this point, will have come out of spiritual Egypt and Babylon to serve "the only true God, and Jesus Christ" (**John 17:3**). The words Moses and lamb together lead the mind to the sanctuary service of the Old Testament. The purpose of the lamb was to bring forgiveness to anyone who had broken the law of the Lord, the moral law of the ten commandments found in **Exodus 20** and **Deuteronomy 5**.

They sing the song of praise for God's judgments, which are great, marvelous, just, and true. The saved will come and worship before God because His judgments will be made manifest before all those who are there. We will know of a surety that what God has done is good, and we will praise Him for His decisions. It will be a special work for the redeemed to judge what God has decided: **Matthew 19:28**, **Luke 22:28-30**, **1 Corinthians 6:1-3**. God, during this time, will be on trial. How? Because we will be looking over the records of those who God (through Christ, **John 5:22**) had judged before the second coming. We will be able to say, "Thy judgments are made manifest."

There will be three surprises when we get to Heaven. 1) Those who you thought should be there will not be. 2) Those who you thought should not be there are there. 3) You're there! Because of the questions these scenarios will raise, God will have to expose all the judgments He made before sending His Son to earth to take His own back to Heaven with to be with Him. "For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known" (**1 Corinthians 13:12**).

Verse 5 - The temple that contained the tabernacle of the testimony was opened in Heaven (the 'testimony' refers to the ten commandments. See **Exodus 40:20**). In the Old Testament, only during the Day of Atonement was the temple opened for the High Priest to access the Most Holy Place (**Leviticus 16:2**). This points again to the time of judgment. ("The hour of His judgment has come." **Revelation 14:7**) This, with what follows, is when the judgment hour is completed.

Verse 6-7 - These verses, showing angels dressed as priests (**1:13**), recall a similar experience in **Ezekiel 9**. They are both end time scenarios, are both dealing from different perspectives, and the imagery is astounding. Notice that in **Revelation 7:1-3** and **Ezekiel 9:1-4** it is the angels who have been commanded to place a seal upon God's people.

Verse 8 - When the sanctuary was filled with smoke in **Exodus 40:34-35**, Moses was unable to enter. **1 Kings 8:10-11** and **2 Chronicles 5:13-14** both say that ministers could not do service in the temple when the cloud of the Lord filled the place. Therefore, in the Revelation during the time of the seven last plagues, we see a people without an Intercessor, without a Mediator between God and man. "Says the prophet: "Who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: and He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness." **Malachi 3:2, 3**. Those who are living upon

the earth when the intercession of Christ shall cease in the sanctuary above are to stand in the sight of a holy God without a mediator. Their robes must be spotless, their characters must be purified from sin by the blood of sprinkling. Through the grace of God and their own diligent effort they must be conquerors in the battle with evil. While the investigative judgment is going forward in heaven, while the sins of penitent believers are being removed from the sanctuary, there is to be a special work of purification, of putting away of sin, among God's people upon earth. This work is more clearly presented in the messages of **Revelation 14**" (The Great Controversy, 425).

We are living in solemn times. Prophecy speaks of and to people who will have victory, and those who will not. I choose to follow Christ with a full heart of love, respect and reverence. I choose to learn from Him daily of His desires and purposes for my life from the study of His holy Word, the Bible.

Currently, most likely while you're reading this, we are under the leadership of Jesus Christ as He sits upon the "throne of grace." The "throne of glory" has not yet been established. According to the times in the New Testament where these phrases are used, it is now the time to make a decision before it's too late, while Christ is still on the "throne of grace." The decision would include giving your life to God entirely, taking time every day (for as long as time and sense allow) to study His holy Word, and to commit to asking for yourself and others in prayer to be renewed and used of God in His service to save others from sin. Every work, whether good or evil, will be brought into judgment before the day of His appearing, and if we have chosen to serve ourselves over God, that will become evident—which will determine where we want to be for eternity—either perished, or as partakers of eternal life (see **John 3:16**).

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Matthew 19:28 And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Matthew 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

In this chapter, when the ministry of Heaven's forgiveness and transformation of human lives is complete, when Jesus Christ is done with His intercessory ministry and leaves the temple that has been opened, He will change from His priestly garments into His kingly attire to come for His own (see **19:11-16**).

Today I accept Christ as my Priest, and will continue serving Him as my Lord.

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