THE CHOIR BY THE CRYSTAL SEA - Rv 15:2-3

INTRODUCTION

- Evil has a God-determined point of completion: Gn 15:16; Mt 23:32; 1Th 2:16 Gn 6 -> Flood; Gn 19 -> Sodom; last days is such a time -[Lk 17:30.
- 2. <u>Rv 15:1</u> Discern "Progressive Parallelism"
 - i. On the one hand: parallelism another cycle begins, layered over others. Wrath is being revealed - Rm 1:18; Jn 3:36.
 - II. On the other hand, progress emphasis is given to jdgmnt as we move to FJ. The bowls are the *last* in wh/ the revelation of wrath is finished.
- 3. <u>Rev 15:1-6</u> literary hinging: joining 4th & 5th cycle. Literary "Selah"

1st: Another Observation About the Literary Structure

- 1. Note how Jn repeatedly shows how we are refreshed & renewed in worship in each cycle. Recall what we've seen thus far in the firt 4 cycles.
- 2. We are worshiping warriors in a fallen world of demonic lies & idolatry 2Tim 3:12-13. Like Habakkuk: "How long?" "Why?" We overcome: worship & witness & Jesus shows us our certain destiny in glory.

2nd: The Choir Takes Its Position to Sing - <u>v2-3a</u>

- 1. <u>Ex 14:26-15:3</u> [-v18]. Songs of victory prophetic & judicial Dt 31:19-22.
- 2. Victors sing sea of glass, crystal sea
 - i. heaven \Rightarrow calm result of jdgmnt associated w/ throne <u>Rv 4:5-6</u>
 - ii. earth = realm of evil: chaotic antagonism against Christ Ps 2:1-2; Ps 74:12-15; Rv 13:1; 21:21
 - iii. *mixed w/ fire* Exodus: light for God's people & terror to Egyptians
- 3. Overcomers had been victorious. Our already & the not-yet victory.
- **4.** Victorious over Beast & all associated w/ the Beast. <u>Rv 13:15-17</u> we need *wisdom* [v18] 666. Interp *overcome*. Killed by Beast [Rv 11:7] but desth issues into resurrection victory. Overcomers sing in Christ's choir.
- 5. *standing* [Rv5:6]: *on sea w/ harps* <u>Rv 14:1-3</u> worshiping warriors.

- **3rd:** The Title of the Song Sung <u>v3a</u>
 - 1. Moses the bond-servant of God but no qualifier for the Lamb. Hb 3:1-6
 - **2.** Song of Moses and song of the Lamb: 2 songs or 1? The song of Moses was, the song of the Lamb. Passover Lamb Exo 4:22-23. Typology: prophetic pictures pointing to the person & work of Jesus.
 - **3**. The Exodus pt of reference in Rv 15.

Applic #1: Grapple With the Challenges of Interpreting Revelation

- **1.** <u>Rv 1:3</u> read => understand [13:18]
- 2. Progressive parallelism and symbols in visions!
- 3. Already & not-yet:
- 4. earthly & heavenly:
- 5. *overcome*: defined by Bst = we die; defined by X = we die & rise in res victory
- 6. typology
- 7. Love Lord w/ mind: 2Pt 3:16b-18 hard to understand

Applic #2: The Necessity of Churchmanship & Discipleship

- 1. Rv 15:1-4 [our] heavenly worship; Rv 2-3; Gal 6:2
- Corporate means of grace; personal piety. We're on a battlefield: a battalion. Our individual discipleship affects the group. Careless Xns are in grave danger & weaken fellow-soldiers. We overcome as worshiping warriors.
- **3.** Review: 1] the Exodus. 2] How we overcome. By faith $\underline{Rv 17:14}$