UNVEILING THE BEAST · WEEK 19

Righteous Justice

Revelation 15:1–8 · Pastor Raul Granillo · November 15, 2026

Today's Text

"Great and amazing are your deeds, Lord God the Almighty! **Just and true are your ways, King of the nations!** Lord, who will not fear and glorify your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, **for your judgments have been revealed.**"

— Revelation 15:3–4

Big Idea

The God of love and the God of wrath are not in opposition. God's final judgment is His last act against evil, and like Israel at the Red Sea, those who endure respond with a song.

Key Truth

Love is the motive, but justice is the instrument. Love means nothing if it does nothing about evil.

What John Sees in Revelation 15

SCENE	WHAT JOHN SEES	WHAT IT MEANS FOR US
SEVEN LAST PLAGUES (v.1)	Seven angels with seven plagues, "which are the last, for with them the wrath of God is ended."	Seals, trumpets, and bowls are not three separate events. They are one final judgment seen from different angles. Evil's end is certain.
THE SEA OF GLASS (v.2)	Those who conquered the beast, its image, and the number of its name stand beside a sea of glass mixed with fire, harps in hand.	All of it comes from the throne room, under God's watchful eye. Enduring and living a holy life is how we conquer the beast, and only by the Holy Spirit.
THE SONG OF MOSES AND THE LAMB (v.3–4)	"Just and true are your ways, King of the nations!… All nations will come and worship before you."	Like Moses at the Red Sea (Exod 15), when we realize what God has done, praise is the natural response. God's justice is worth celebrating.
THE TEMPLE OPENED (v.5)	The temple of the tent of witness in heaven is opened (cf. Mark 15:38; Rev 11:19).	The opening of heaven is God's kingdom coming into the world, for restoration and for judgment.
SEVEN GOLDEN BOWLS (v.6–8)	Angels in pure bright linen receive bowls full of God's wrath. Smoke fills the temple; no one can enter until the plagues are ended.	A final reckoning that nothing evil can escape. It must happen before we enter fully into God's life-giving presence.
BIRMINGHAM, 1963 (Rev 6:9–11)	Klansmen bomb Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, killing four girls. The last conviction came 39 years later.	Love seeks justice for the victims of injustice: not out of hatred, but out of love for the ones who were harmed.

Define This

The Wrath of God — Not rage or blood lust, but God's righteous opposition to the evil that destroys what He loves. Love necessitates wrath against those who hurt the ones we love; without it, it is not love.

Quote to Remember

"Love is the motive, but justice is the instrument." — Reinhold Niebuhr, with James Baldwin, after the Birmingham bombing (1963)

Take It Home

- Where have I seen God's love and God's justice as opposites? What changes if love is the motive and justice is the instrument?
- Who around me is crying out “How long?” What would love that actually does something about evil look like this week?
- What has God brought me through that should make me sing, like Israel on the far shore of the sea?

My Notes