

# The Seas and Those Who Dwell in Them

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God mentions a number of different seas in His word, and sometimes He uses symbolic language to describe them. Depending on the context, these seas can be literal bodies of water, or they can represent spiritual realities. The writer of Hebrews mentioned that the physical creation mirrors spiritual realities in many ways,

For if he (Christ) were on earth, he would not be a priest, since **there are priests** who offer the gifts according to the law (of animal sacrifice); <sup>5</sup>**who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things** ... (Heb. 8:4-5a; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted).

Therefore it was necessary that **the copies of the things in the heavens** should be purified (cleansed) with these ... (Heb. 9:23a; Ed, note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

Even the city of Jerusalem is just a physical representation of a spiritual city that exists in the heavenly realm,

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, **the heavenly Jerusalem**, to an innumerable company of angels (Heb. 12:22; emphasis added).

With this in mind, there should be a spiritual sea, from which all other seas are copied in one way or another,

**Before the throne** (of Almighty God) **there was a sea of glass, like crystal**. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back (Rev. 4:6; cf. Eze. 1:5-28; 10:3-22; Isa. 6:2-3; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

**And I** (John) **saw** something like (similar to) **a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have victory over the beast** (symbol associated with Satan and his activities), over his image and over his mark (NU, M omit *over his mark*) and over the number of his name, **standing on the sea of glass**, having harps of God (Rev. 15:2; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

By counterfeiting as many things as possible that are related to Almighty God, Satan is able to deceive mankind more effectively (Rev. 12:9). Therefore, it should be no surprise that Satan has his own throne and he is often associated with the sea,

**I** (Christ) **know your works, and** where you dwell, **where Satan's throne is**. And you hold fast to my name, and did not deny my faith even in the days in which Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells (Rev. 2:13; cf. Isa. 14:13; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

God compared King Ithobaal I, who ruled over the sea trading nation of Tyre, to Satan because both were guilty of breaking God's law and commandments. In fact, King Ithobaal's daughter Jezebel worked diligently to make her husband, King Ahab, sin against Almighty God and, by extension, lead the entire nation of Israel into the worship

of pagan gods (see: [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ithobaal\\_1](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ithobaal_1)),

The word of the Lord came to me (Ezekiel) again, saying, <sup>2</sup>'Son of man, say to the prince of Tyre, Thus says the Lord God: Because your heart is lifted up (proud; cf. Eze. 28:17), and you say, 'I am a god, I sit in the seat of gods (cf. Eze. 28:14), **in the midst of the seas,**' Yet you are a man (Satan after he is changed into a flesh and blood man for the purpose of judgment; Isa. 14:16-17; cf. Eze. 28:18; Mal. 4:3; Rom. 16:20), and not a god (in the same sense as Almighty God), though you set your heart as the heart of a god (cf. Isa. 14:12-14). <sup>3</sup>Behold you are wiser than Daniel! There is no secret that can be hidden from you (cf. Gen. 3:1; Mt. 10:16)! <sup>4</sup>With your wisdom and your understanding you have gained riches for yourself, and gathered gold and silver into your treasuries (Eze. 28:18); <sup>5</sup>By your great wisdom in trade you have increased your riches, and your heart is lifted up because of your riches, <sup>6</sup>Therefore thus says the Lord God: 'Because you have set your heart as a god, <sup>7</sup>Behold, therefore, I will bring strangers against you, the most terrible of the nations; and they shall draw their swords against the beauty of your wisdom, and defile your splendor. <sup>8</sup>They shall throw you down into the Pit (Isa. 14:19; cf. Rev. 20:1-3), and **you** (Satan – now a flesh and blood man at the end of Christ's millennial reign on earth; cf. Rev. 20:3) **shall die the death of the slain in the midst of the seas.** <sup>9</sup>Will you still say before him who slays you, 'I am a god?' But you shall be a man, and not a god, in the hand of him who slays you (at the end of the millennium). <sup>10</sup>You shall die the death of the uncircumcised by the hand of aliens; for I have spoken,' says the Lord God (Eze. 28:1-10; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

It is from these seas that Satan and the fallen host of heaven will be resurrected for judgment, and this will occur after Christ's one thousand year reign on earth,

**The sea gave up the dead who were in it,** and death and hades (the grave) delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works (Rev. 20:13; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

In the early church there were some false teachers under the influence of the fallen host. Therefore, it is no coincidence that the language used to describe them identifies the source of their rebellious actions,

These are spots (hidden reefs or stains) in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving only themselves; they are clouds without water (symbol of God's Spirit), carried about (along) by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots; <sup>13</sup>**raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame** ... (Jude 12-13a; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

Because Jesus Christ has authority given to him by his heavenly Father (Mt. 28:18), those who inhabit the seas are subject to Christ. This truth was evident through miracles that Christ performed during his earthly ministry,

Now when he (Christ) got into a boat, his disciples followed him. <sup>24</sup>And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But he was asleep. <sup>25</sup>Then his disciples came to him and awoke him, saying, 'Lord, save us! We are perishing!' <sup>26</sup>But he said to them, 'Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?' Then he arose and rebuked the winds and the sea. And there was a great calm. <sup>27</sup>And the men marveled, saying, 'Who can this be, that **even the winds and the sea obey him?**' (Mt. 8:23-27; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

There is a second witness to the fact that Christ has authority over those in the seas, and it is a hidden mystery to most of Christianity,

And when he (Christ) had sent the multitudes away, he went up on a mountain by himself to pray. And when evening had come, he was alone there. <sup>24</sup>But the boat (with Christ's disciples in it) was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. <sup>25</sup>Now in the fourth watch of the night **Jesus went to them, walking on the sea** (Mt. 14:23-25; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

It is from the sea that symbolic beasts arise throughout man's history (Dan. 7:1-3; Rev. 13:1), but Christ can overpower them because he has more power and authority than Satan and the fallen host who are represented by these beasts coming out of the sea. Therefore, it is no coincidence that Christ sent some demons into the sea during his earthly ministry because that is where they belong until their final judgment,

When he (Christ) had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes (Gadarenes) there met him two demon-possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass that way. <sup>29</sup>And suddenly they cried out, saying, 'What have we to do with you, Jesus, you Son of God? Have you come here to torment (interrogate as in judging guilt or innocence) us before the time (i.e. second resurrection; cf. Rev. 20:4-6)? <sup>30</sup>Now a good way off from them was a herd of many swine feeding (unclean animals suitable for unclean spirit-beings to enter). <sup>31</sup>So the demons begged him (Christ), saying, 'If you cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine.' <sup>32</sup>And he said to them, 'Go.' So when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And suddenly **the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea**, and perished in the water (Mt. 8:28-32; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

This is a good example of a parallel universe where the swine went into a physical sea and drowned, while the demons went back to their sea, which is a spiritual place for the fallen host to await their final judgment. According to the language in the next scripture, there may be a connection between sinful mankind and the sea in which the fallen host dwell,

But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for **he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind** (Jas. 1:6; emphasis added).

In other words, the spiritual condition of those who do not trust Almighty God is the same as the fallen host. This may be the reason that Christ used figurative language of a fisherman going to sea and taking men, instead of fish, away from the influences of the sea,

And he (Christ) said to them (Peter and Andrew), 'Follow me, and **I will make you fishers of men**' (Mt. 4:19; Mk. 1:17; cf. Jer. 16:16a; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

Those people who are under Satan's deception are compared to fish without a leader. These fish are caught unaware through various devices used by the fallen host. Almighty God allows this to occur due to the rebellious choices that mankind makes and until they repent and begin seeking God and His way of living, He will leave them in Satan's sea, or area of influence,

**Why do you** (God) **make men like fish of the sea**, like creeping things that have no ruler over them? <sup>15</sup>They (the fallen host) take up all of them with a hook, they catch them in their net, and gather them in their dragnet. Therefore they rejoice and are glad. <sup>16</sup>Therefore they sacrifice to

their net, and burn incense to their dragnet; because by them their share is sumptuous and their food plenteous (through false religious practices the fallen host catch many).<sup>17</sup> Shall they therefore empty their net, and continue to slay nations without pity? (Hab. 1:14-17; Ed. notes in parentheses; cf. Isa. 14:16-17, 20).

Eventually, the sea in which the Adversary operates will be destroyed by God. When this occurs all Satan's methods of gathering power to himself, through manipulation and deception, will come to an end. These methods are explained metaphorically by comparing them to the riches gained through trade and commerce,

**When your** (Satan's) **wares went out by sea**, you satisfied many people; you enriched the kings of the earth (leaders within the realm of the fallen host who influence those on the earth) with your many luxury goods and your merchandise.<sup>34</sup> **But when you are broken by the seas in the depths of the waters, your merchandise and the entire company** (Satan's system) **will fall in your midst** (Eze. 27:33-34; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

As with any trade and commerce, it must involve both the sea and land; hence the reference to Babylon being destroyed,

For in one hour such great riches came to nothing (have been laid waste). And every shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and **as many as trade on the sea**, stood at a distance<sup>18</sup> and cried out when they saw the smoke of her burning saying, 'What is like this great city?' (Rev. 18:17-18; emphasis added).

Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and **threw it into the sea**, saying, 'Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down and shall not be found anymore (Rev. 18:21; emphasis added).

This judgment of Satan's system was predicted a long time ago using the following symbolic language that includes a reference to the sea,

In that day (of judgment) the Lord with his severe sword, great and strong, will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan that twisted serpent (cf. Gen. 3:1); and **He** (God) **will slay the reptile that is in the sea** (Isa. 27:1; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

So the sea can be used symbolically to describe the activities of Satan and the fallen host as they work to deceive and manipulate everyone under their influence. A great part of Satan's merchandising involves focusing mankind's attention on purchasing gifts for the holidays that Satan has orchestrated (see study: Pagan Practices). Even though God removed ancient Israel from the pagan practices of Egypt, they still were prepared to give up their wealth in order to celebrate foreign gods rather than obey Almighty God and keep the holy days He had just given them (cf. Ex. 23:10-19),

And Aaron said to them, 'Break off the golden earrings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me' (Ex. 32:2).

And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, 'This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!'<sup>5</sup> So when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, 'Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord' (Ex. 32:4-5).

Most Christians today cannot make the connection that they are doing exactly the same thing when they proclaim a feast to the Lord and call it Christmas or Easter. These are not God's appointed festivals. Instead, they are pagan days of worship with God's name applied to them in some manner. This alone is proof that mankind is under the influence of Satan's sea and those who dwell in it.

This document is the collaborative work of individuals who believe God's truth should be given freely (Mt. 10:8; 1Cor. 2:12; 2Cor.11:7; Rom. 10:14-21) and the message of the one true God should be made available to all nations (Mt. 24:14) as a prerequisite to the return of Jesus Christ as King of kings (Mt. 17:10; 19:17; Mk. 9:11; Lk. 1:17; Rev. 19:11-16).

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