"¹⁴ Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat *One* like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle.

Revelation 14:14

Sh'ma Yisrael, Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad Baruch Shem k'vod malchutto, I'olam va'ed

Hear, O Israel: the LORD is our God The LORD is One. Blessed be the name of His glorious kingdom for ever and ever.

3 Distinct "Scenes:" • Lamb + 144,000 on Zion

Messages from 3 Angels

Divine Harvests

Scene 3: Divine Harvests (v. 14-20)

¹⁴ Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. ¹⁵ And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle" and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." ¹⁶ So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.



Another Harvest

¹⁷ Then another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.

¹⁸ And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe." ¹⁹ So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. ²⁰ And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs.

¹⁴ Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle.

- Complete scene change, different action, different characters (from earlier part of this chapter).
- <u>Preview of final judgment</u>
- Chapter 14 like overview of what is still to come.
- Chapter 6 like <u>outline of conditions</u> present during tribulation - a synopsis of entire plan of God to end of time of judgment.
- Timeline of tribulation advanced to end here. Detail in coming chapters, this chapter serves as high overview.

- *"One like the Son of Man,..."* <u>Know who this is</u>. Comes from Daniel 7:13: *"I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him."* **No one but Jesus!**
- *"Son of Man,"* Jesus' <u>favorite title for Himself.</u>
- Sitting on a white cloud. When Jesus ascended, He disappeared into clouds. He will return same way.
- Luke 21:27 states: "Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory."

- "...a golden <u>crown</u>..." not expected diadema, crown of kingly authority. Instead, "stephanos" = <u>victor's crown</u>.
- Jesus King of Kings, wears many crowns, including crown of victory. "His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns..." (19:12a)



DIADEMA



- This crown <u>golden</u>, not normal crown of laurel leaves for athletic victor. <u>Permanent</u> <u>crown of victory</u>.
- We will wear this crown, too.

STEPHANOS

COMMENTARY: "How different it will be to see him with a crown of gold upon his head from what it was to see him wearing that terrible crown of thorns which the cruel soldiers plaited, and thrust upon his brow! The word used here does not usually refer to the diadem of power, but to the crown won in conflict; and it is very remarkable that it should be said that, when Christ comes to judge the world, he will wear the garland of victory, the crown which he has won in the great battle which he has fought. How significant of his final triumph will that crown of gold be about those brows that were once covered with bloody sweat when he was fighting the battle for our salvation!" (Spurgeon)

¹⁵ And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." ¹⁶ So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

Harvest

- Next verse another angel/another sickle also harvesting. Most think <u>different harvests</u>.
- Differences suggest this harvest, by "One like Son of Man," (obviously Jesus) = <u>harvest of believers</u>.
- May reference "catching up," OR <u>final harvest of believers</u> (*Tribulation Saints*) before Millennium.
- Since chapter may be larger overview to show disposition of <u>all</u> people (believers and unbelievers) timing of first harvest before next could indeed indicate "catching up" (even prior to Tribulation).

- Harvest of believers will ALWAYS happen before harvest of unbelievers (no matter when it occurs on a timeline regarding Tribulation – Pre-Mid-Post).
- Because of timing here (after assumed mid-point of tribulation) some point to mid-tribulation rapture.
- Important: <u>angel not giving Jesus command</u>. Angels do not command God. Proclamation: "now is the time!"
- No other details regarding <u>how</u> accomplished, or what kind of harvest.
- May be related to story of wheat and tares and final harvests of righteous and wicked. (Matthew 13:39-43)

"... Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field." ³⁷ He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. 39 The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. ⁴⁰ Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, ⁴² and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

(this passage may reference next harvest)

"So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped."

- "He who sat on the cloud" = Jesus. He does harvest in this passage.
- "...and the earth was reaped." not told WHO here, but in contrast to next harvest, likely = believers. Very simple, unexplained statement.
- God's "MO" to remove faithful before dealing with wicked.



- arves

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¹⁷ Then another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. 18 And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe."

• Note differences between harvests.

- One "Like the Son of Man" vs angel
- Unidentified harvest vs harvest of over ripe grapes
- Grapes often used to symbolize "cup of wrath"
- Very clear as passage unfolds this NOT harvest of believers.

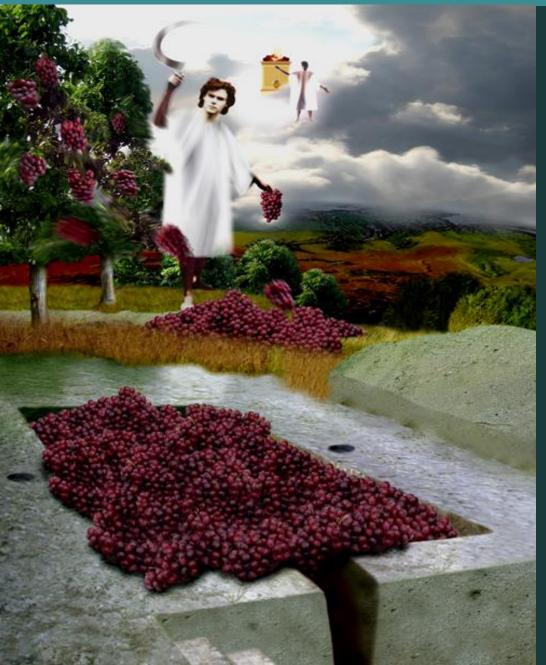
- Repeatedly told "sharp" sickle. Will not fail intended task. <u>Prepared, sharpened, for this harvest</u>.
- <u>No one will escape this harvest</u>, who does not follow the Lamb. A certain "violence" here, unlike previous harvest.
- Gathering "clusters of the vine of the earth," or grapes.
 Some speculate "the vine" often = Israel, so this harvest only directed at Israel's unbelieving Jews.
- <u>However</u>, more likely representing filling of God's cup of wrath, complete to overflowing, <u>for all wicked</u>.

"Ripe" here <u>different than ripe in v. 15</u> (previous harvest). This implies "fully mature." (earlier, dry, starting to wither) These bursting with juice. The perfect moment.

- **Evil of unbelievers fully mature now, ready to be cut off.** *Perhaps even beyond ripe. God waits until His fulness achieved in everything before acting.*
- Concept in scripture where <u>God waits for "fullness</u> of evil" before acting in judgment. ("iniquity not yet complete..." Genesis 15:16)

 "Power over fire..." may be angel who ministers in heavenly Temple. Recall Revelation 8:3-5, right before Trumpet judgments:

"Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand. Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake."



¹⁹ So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. ²⁰ And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs.

- Obvious allusion to final battle, Armageddon, when remaining unbelievers will be "harvested."
- Prophet Joel warned of this: "Assemble and come, all you nations, And gather together all around. Cause Your mighty ones to go down there, O LORD. Let the nations be wakened, and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; For there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations. <u>Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe</u>. Come, go down; For the winepress is full, The vats overflow— For their wickedness is great." (Joel 3:11-13)
- Word here for "great" also = "full."

- "...the winepress of the wrath of God." Welldeveloped symbol in scripture of wrath of God at end.
- Referenced in Revelation 14, Joel 3 and Isaiah 63.
- "...trampled outside the city..." Most believe battle of Armageddon will rage outside city of Jerusalem, Valley of Jehoshaphat, also called Valley of Megiddo (Har Megiddo in Hebrew, Armageddon in Greek).
- Jesus crucified <u>outside city</u>, and battle for ultimate control and authority waged outside city, won by the One wearing victor's crown.

- "...blood...up to the horses' bridles..." Horrible sight, difficult to take literally.
- <u>Does not have to mean blood will literally be 4-5 feet</u> <u>deep</u>. Means battle will result in much blood spilling and <u>spattering</u>, as high as horses' bridles.
- Speaks of destruction, slaughter of those opposed to God, will be literal battle. Picture may be literal, may be figurative. May be both.
- Though we dislike these images, <u>sin must be removed</u>
 <u>before Yeshua takes His throne on earth</u>.

- "…one thousand six hundred furlongs."
 Precise measurement, most likely literal.
- ~180 miles, about length of Valley of Megiddo, scene of many Biblical battles, + final world battle.
- Verses clearly show this particular harvest most *definitely* <u>NOT</u> harvest of believers.

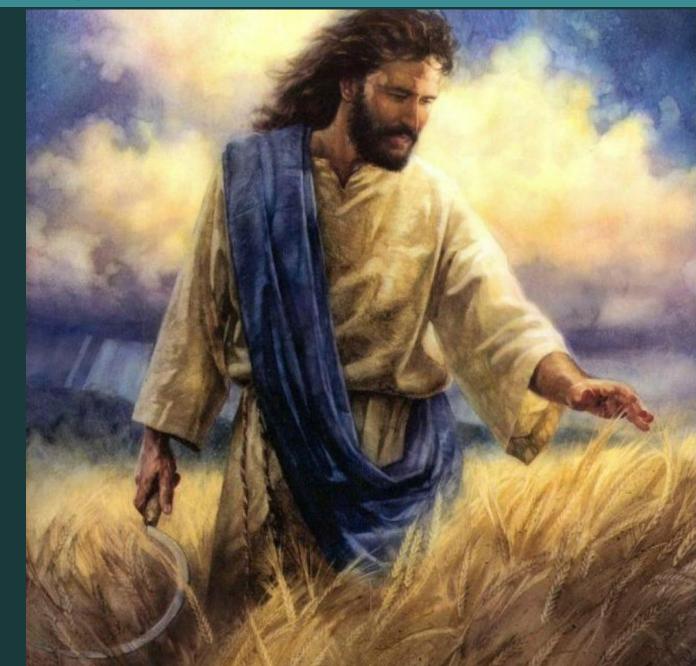
COMMENTARY: In ancient times, a battle area extending one thousand six hundred furlongs (approximately 200 miles) was beyond all known conflict - but not in modern warfare. "The area covered, 1,600 furlongs, is approximately 200 miles, and specifies that the area within a 200-mile radius from Jerusalem will be gathered at the time of the second coming of Christ." (Walvoord)

Likely <u>outline summary</u> (overview) of events yet to happen in Tribulation.

7 events listed this chapter:

- 1. Presentation of 144,000 Godly Jews (perhaps preserved thru Tribulation)
- 2. Preaching of Gospel/warning of coming judgment
- 3. Notice of ultimate destruction of Babylon, *literally,* + all in opposition to God

- 4. Warning: don't take mark of the beast
- 5. Blessing of martyred saints
- 6. Harvest of believers by King of Kings
- 7. Harvest of unbelievers, + destruction at battle of Armageddon

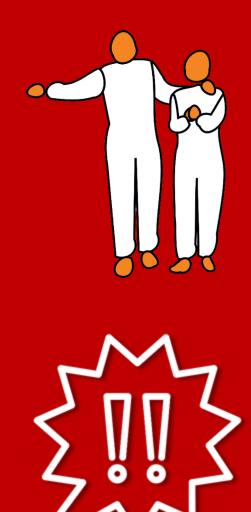


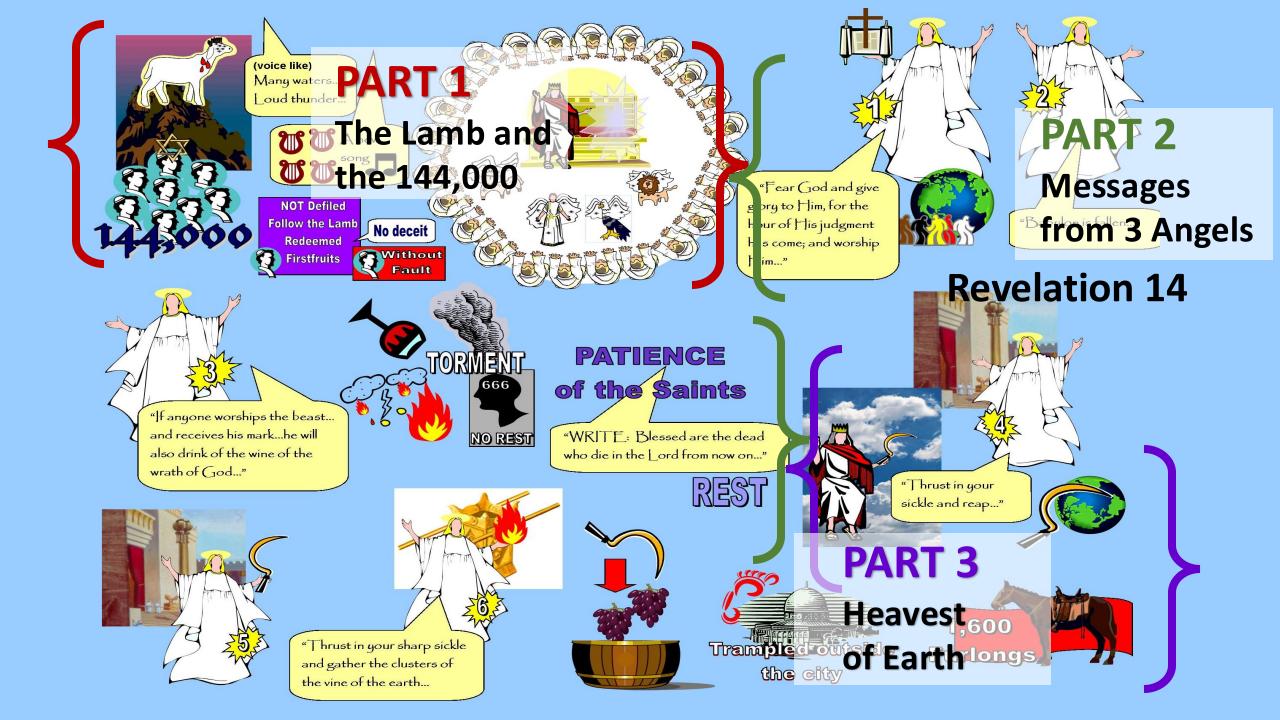
- At end of chapter 13, begins to feel like beast from sea (antichrist) and beast from land (false prophet) might just win this conflict.
- However, chapter 14 shatters that thought. God, and all believers, will definitely win. Some battles difficult, some even lost on physical level, but ultimately, Jesus has overcome the world, and everything in the universe that stands against Him and us. We win. It is done.



In addition to providing an overview for remainder of God's plan for this time, chapter 14 serves as huge encouragement to all believers, both then, now and in the future.

And, a huge warning to the "inhabitants of the earth."





Revelation 14



Yevarekh-kha Adonai veyishmerekha May the LORD bless you and keep you

Ya'er Adonai panav elekha viņunneka May the LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you

Yissa Adonai panav elekha viyasem lekha shalom.

May the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

