

Revelation 14

Part 3

A large crowd of people, mostly men and women, are standing in a field. They are all wearing white robes and appear to be holding small objects, possibly flowers or gifts, in their hands. The background is a bright, hazy landscape with a yellowish-orange sky, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall scene is one of a large gathering or assembly.

144,000 Redeemed
Good News and Dire Warnings
Divine Harvest

Gadol Elohei – How GREAT is our God!

Gadol Elohai *(Great is our God)*

Shiru ki Gadol Elohai

(sing with me, how great is our God)

Kol echad Yirei *(all will see how great)*

Ki gadol Elohai *(how great is our God)*

Shem me'al kol shem *(Name above all names)*

Otcha raui le'halel *(Worthy of all praise)*


Libi yashir ki gadol Elohai

(My heart will sing, how great is our God)

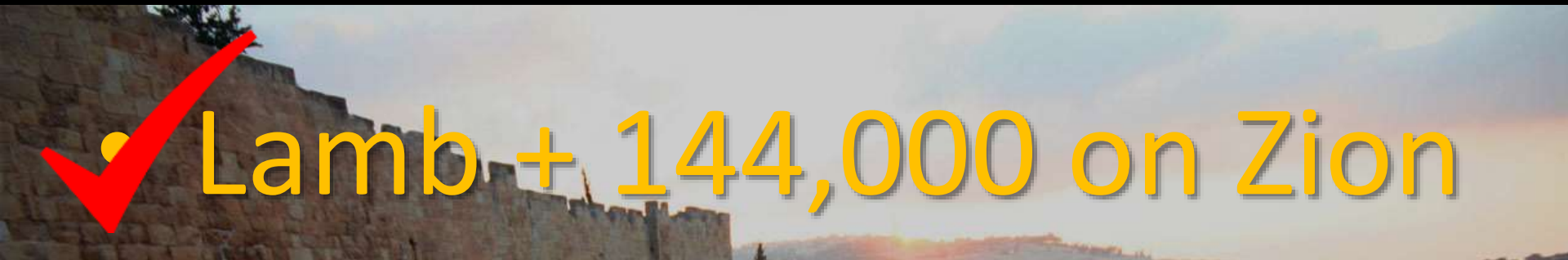


Revelation 14

3 Distinct “Scenes:”



- Lamb + 144,000 on Zion




- Messages from 3 Angels



- A Divine Harvest



Revelation 14

An angel with large white wings is the central figure, holding a large, rolled-up scroll. He is looking towards the viewer with a serious expression. In the background, other angels are visible, some holding scrolls and others appearing to be in flight. The scene is set against a dark blue sky with stars and a view of the Earth's horizon at the bottom. The overall atmosphere is dramatic and celestial.

**Scene 2:
Angelic Proclamations
(v. 6-13)**

Revelation 14

1

First Angel...

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people— ⁷ saying with a loud voice, “Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.”

*“Fear God
and give glory
to Him...”*



Second Angel...

⁸ And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

"Babylon is fallen..."



Revelation 14

3

Third Angel...

⁹ Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.” ¹² Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

“If anyone..”




Revelation 14:6

1

First Angel

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people—

An angel with large, white, feathered wings is depicted flying through a dramatic, stormy sky. The sky is filled with dark, swirling clouds and bright, jagged lightning bolts. The angel is wearing a white, flowing robe and is holding a glowing, golden scroll in their hands. The overall scene is illuminated with a strong blue and purple light, creating a sense of divine power and urgency.

Revelation 14

- ***“another angel...”*** What other angel has John seen? Word “angel” found **72 times** in book of Revelation! John sees many “angels.”
- Greek word for “angel” is ***aggelos***, literally means a messenger, an entity (human or divine?) bearing a message of some sort. **MANY** messages brought by “angels” in Revelation.
- Angels also facilitate much of this entire vision.
- Great debate about nature of these “messengers.” Helpful to look at where these messengers appear, and what they do. ***Are they non-human creatures?***

Revelation 14

CHAPTER	“ANGEL”
1	Entire vision sent and signified by an angel
1	Angels of 7 churches
2-3	Angels of 7 churches, each addressed individually
4	<i>None mentioned</i>
5	“strong” angel asks who is worthy to open scroll
5	John hears voice of “many angels” around throne
6	<i>None mentioned</i>
7	4 angels holding back 4 winds of earth
7	“another” (<i>allos, different</i>) ascends from east, has seal of living God, gives command to seal foreheads of 144,000

Revelation 14

CHAPTER	“ANGEL”
7	Angels around throne
8	7 angels with 7 trumpets (2 nd set of judgments)
8	“another” (different) angel with golden censer
8	7 angels preparing to sound
8	1 st angel sounds 1 st trumpet
8	2 nd angel sounds 2 nd trumpet
8	3 rd angel sounds 3 rd trumpet
8	“Eagle” (<i>aetos</i>) or “angel” (<i>aggelos</i>) [great debate, but either one “messenger”] flying mid-heaven delivers 3 “woes” to earth

Revelation 14

CHAPTER	“ANGEL”
9	5 th angel sounds 5 th trumpet
9	Angel of the bottomless pit (abyss), “Abaddon”
9	6 th angel sounds 6 th trumpet
9	4 “other” angels released from being bound in River Euphrates
10	“mighty” angel with scroll, coming down from heaven
10	7 th angel with 7 th trumpet mentioned
11	An angel instructs John to measure Temple of God
11	7 th angel sounds 7 th trumpet, proclamation - <i>“kingdoms of earth now kingdoms of God”</i>
12	War between Michael/his angels and dragon/his angels. Dragon/his angels thrown out of heaven.

Revelation 14

CHAPTER	“ANGEL”
13	<i>None mentioned</i>
14	“another” angel flying mid-heaven with everlasting gospel to preach to “inhabitants of the earth”
14	“another” angel cries “ <i>Babylon is fallen!</i> ”
14	“Third” angel, “ <i>if anyone worships the beast...</i> ” (consequences)
14	“holy” angels with the Lamb mentioned
14	“another” angel gives command to harvest
14	“another” angel comes out of temple, w/sharp sickle
14	“another” angel comes out from altar, commands another harvest
14	Angel with sickle harvests

Revelation 14

CHAPTER	“ANGEL”
15	7 angels with 7 last plagues (bowls of wrath) mentioned several times
16	7 angels with 7 bowls of wrath
16	1 st angel pours out wrath
16	2 nd angel pours out wrath
16	3 rd angel pours out wrath
16	Angel “of the waters” proclaims (<i>“you are righteous”</i>)
16	4 th angel pours out wrath
16	5 th angel pours out wrath
16	6 th angel pours out wrath
16	7 th angel pours out wrath – <i>“it is done!”</i>

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CHAPTER	“ANGEL”
17	One of the 7 angels show John the harlot, talks/him
18	“another” angel from heaven with great authority, earth illuminated by his glory
18	“mighty” angel throws great stone into sea, announces sudden destruction of Babylon
19	Angel “standing in the sun” – call to bird feast
20	“an” angel with key to bottomless pit and great chain
21	One of angels who had the bowls, calls John to show him the Bride, the Lamb’s wife
21	12 angels at the gates of “new Jerusalem”
21	Measure of a man, measure of an angel (clarification)

Revelation 14

CHAPTER	“ANGEL”
22	“His” angel, sent to show His servants things which must take place
22	“an” angel, John falls down to worship (no!!!)
22	“My” angel, Jesus’ angel to testify to you those things in the churches

- Wow! Lots of angelic activity! Most of the action in this vision John sees is facilitated by angels.
- We are given reference about both God’s angels (*those who have not fallen*) and followers of the Dragon, or fallen angels doing the evil of the enemy.

Revelation 14

- No references in Revelation to angels (*messengers*) can be understood as normal human beings.
- Clearly these are **spiritual entities**. (*some debate over angels of the churches in letters to the churches, but there are no other examples in this book where the word “angel” can be understood as a mere human*).
- The work these “messengers” do is beyond human capability.

Revelation 14

- “Another” in Greek is *allos*, which means another, but different. Merely means John sees another angel, a different angel.
- Some debate that he is referencing (***“Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven...”***) another angel who flew in the midst of heaven. If so, this was the one from chapter 8: ***“And I looked, and I heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, “Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!” (8:13)***

Revelation 14

- This is the angel (ch 8) that is often translated “eagle.” All kinds of debate about this word, not worth pursuing. Either way, an angel or an eagle, it is still a messenger with a very sobering message.
- ***“in the midst of heaven”*** is an interesting single word in Greek (*mesouranēma*). 2nd time used (ch 8). Literally is “mid heaven,” mostly understood as “in the middle of the sky (or heavens)” but some speculate it can have more meaning, which has given rise to some interesting speculation.

Revelation 14

- Our “heavens” are composed of various parts, including a number of layers of atmosphere and “outer space.”
- Some speculate this could mean a TV satellite bringing the gospel message around the world (in the “mid heaven”)
- We can’t imagine what form this will take, or what it will look like on earth, but many still speculate!



Revelation 14

- Others say this merely means that the angel is seen when the sun is in the “middle of the heavens” meaning midday.
- This is NOT what the words say, however. **We continue to speculate.**
- When it actually happens, it will be clear what this means.

Revelation 14

- Now **entering into a warning stage**, which previews judgment. Time is running out.
- A **“do this...or else,” message**. Receive the gift and good news of Jesus, or face God’s judgment. Everyone on earth will have adequate warning.
- No one will be able to stand at the **Great White Throne judgment** (chapter 20) and say *“I never heard...”* Apparently here there is **still some chance** that people will receive the good news and believe, and be saved from the coming judgment.

Revelation 14

- Gospel will be **preached to entire earth**. Everyone will hear.
- Even now, God's grace is still available, but not for long, according to angels.
- The **“loud” voice insures all will hear**. They warn earth dwellers to give glory to God, *not beast*, because He is the One who should be feared most.
- Worship God, not the beast (*don't take the beast's mark!*).
- This is a **severe warning to a world not willing to listen**. God is graceful even here. There will be no valid excuses.

Revelation 14

- Disagreement about word “**gospel**” (*euaggelion*)
Literally, “good message.” We understand “gospel” to be good news about Jesus and His gift to us.
- In this context, however, doesn’t seem appropriate. (*i.e., warning to “inhabitants of the earth” who are unsaved?*).
- Message is a “**perpetual good message**” (*literal translation*) but that message is *perhaps* not about available salvation, but about the righteousness of God and coming judgment for those who do NOT fear God. **All truths about God proclaim a “good message,” even judgment.**

Revelation 14

THIS message is
an ultimatum.
Fear God
or die, *forever.*

Revelation 14:7

7 saying with a loud voice, “Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.”

Revelation 14

- ***“Fear God and give glory to Him...”*** The word fear here is not the word to be impressed, inspired or awed by God, it is the word ***phobeo***, which is to be terrified! It means to be terrified and afraid so that one is startled into respect and reverence out of fearful realization.
- ***“...for the hour of His judgment has come.”*** Good news to believers struggling in this terrible time. Deliverance, and judgment, is near. BAD news to unbelievers who don't heed it.
- ***“Better wake up to fact that you didn't just evolve. This earth did not just happen. You aren't just an animal. You and all creation were crafted by an awesome God for His purpose and His glory. You are accountable to Him!”***

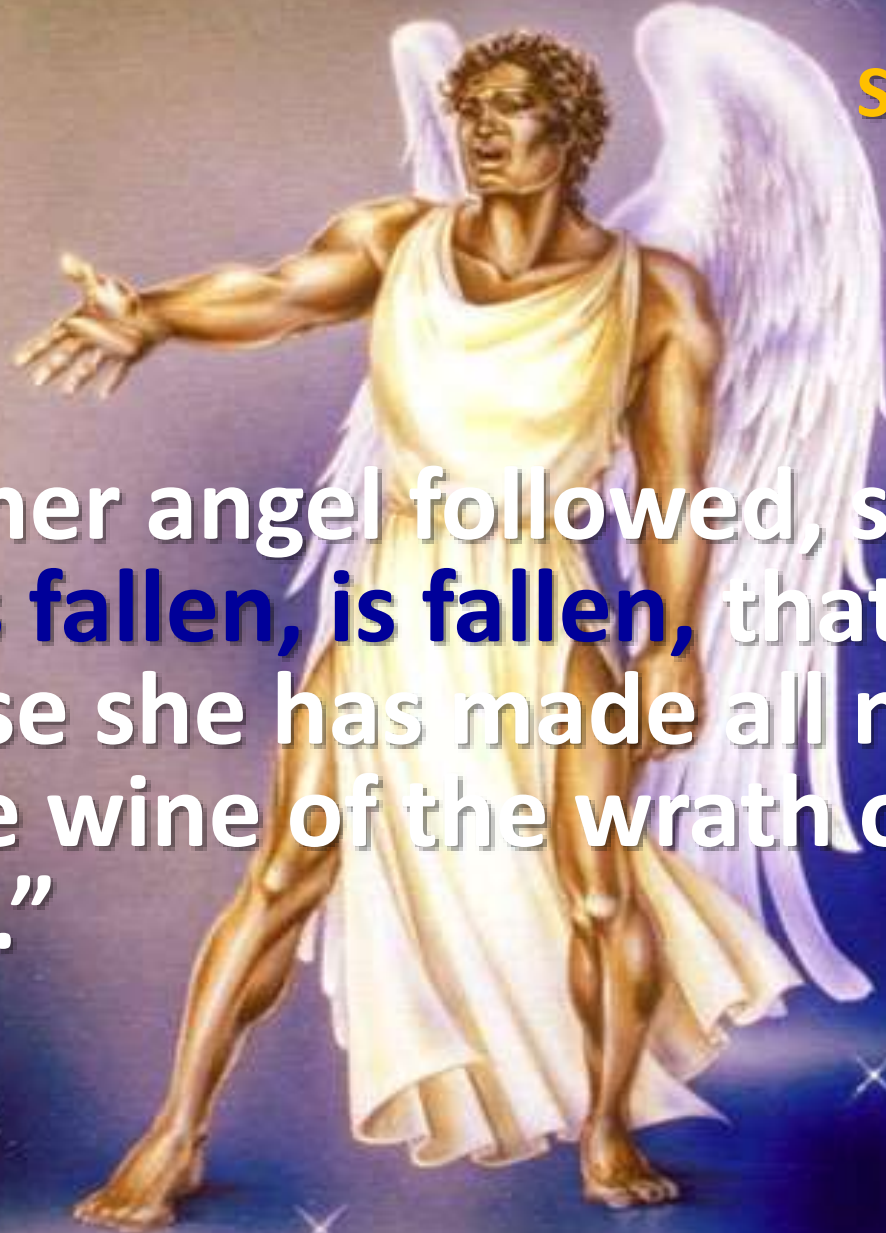
Revelation 14

- Reference to “sea and springs of water” interesting, especially considering what is coming in last 7 plague judgments.
- The 2nd and 3rd plagues turn the waters into blood (*all of them, not partial like trumpet judgments*), first in the seas, then in the springs of water. Life cannot continue like this.
- This is a warning of what is to come. God is the Almighty, all powerful One, who controls these things, *not the beast, and not mankind.*
- ***“When you see the waters turn to blood, remember the awesome, powerful God who created them, and will also judge you!”***

Revelation 14:8

2

Second Angel



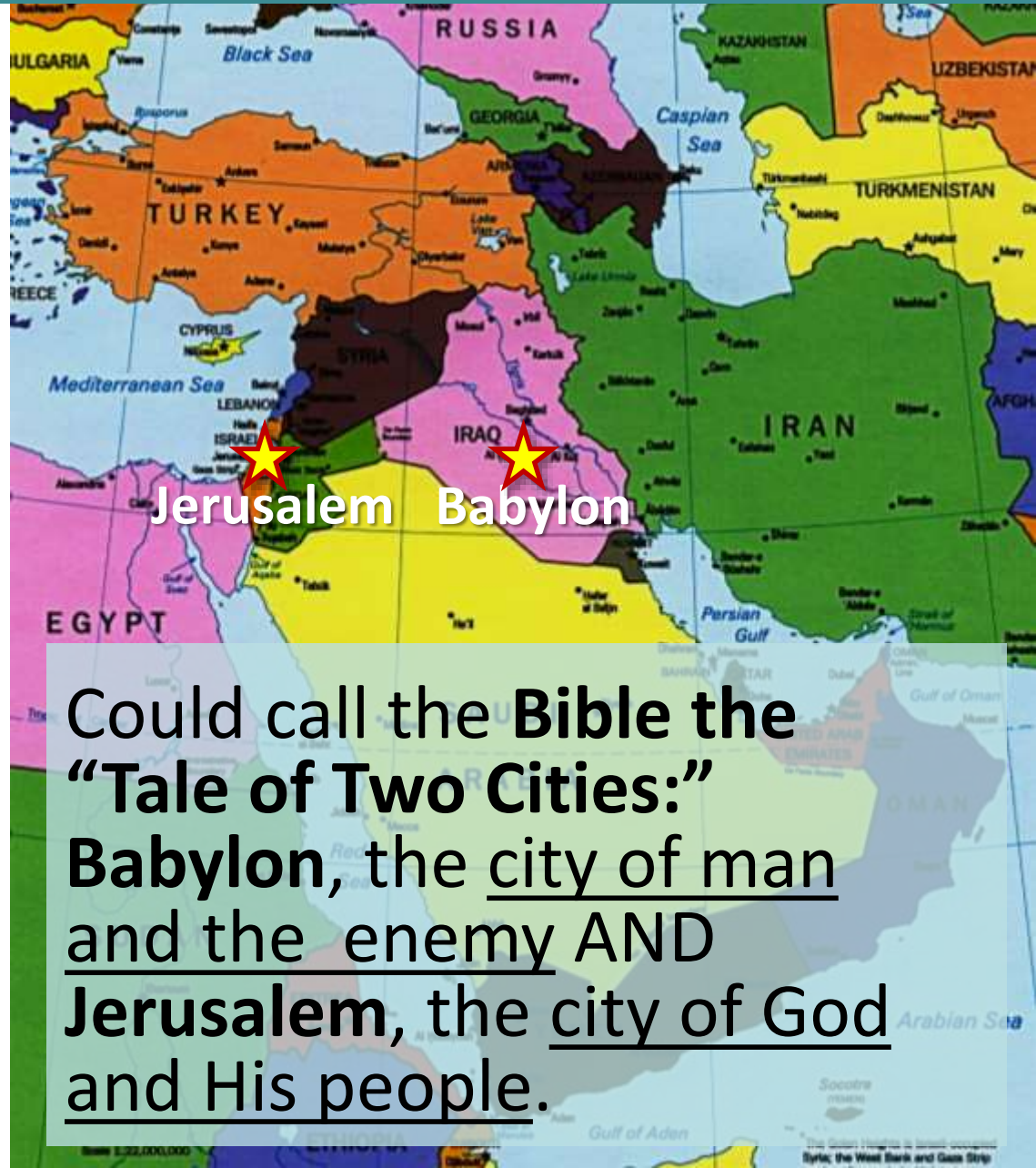
⁸ And another angel followed, saying, **“Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.”**

Revelation 14

- First mention of Babylon in Revelation, but two entire chapters are dedicated to her fall later (chapters 17 and 18).
- We do not actually “see” the fall of Babylon until chapters 17 and 18. But here the angel is announcing its destiny, before the fact. In God’s economy it is already done. **Remember, *He inhabits eternity and sees the end from the beginning*** (Isaiah 57:15, 46:10)!
- Babylon has been enemy’s headquarters from beginning of time (Genesis 11, Nimrod, Tower of Babel, etc.) ***Origin of all false religions, and false or pagan rituals. All comes from Babylon.***

Revelation 14

- Babylon, a real place, about 62 miles south of Baghdad, Iraq. *(About 500 miles as crow flies from Jerusalem)* But also a highly developed spiritual symbol in scripture. **Represents everything that is in opposition to God.**



Could call the **Bible the “Tale of Two Cities:”** Babylon, the city of man and the enemy AND Jerusalem, the city of God and His people.

Revelation 14

- Other scriptural allusions to Babylon are **Babel**, (*Bab-el*, “gateway to god”) **Shinar** and **Chaldea**.
- Much more detailed discussion about Babylon later in chapters 17 and 18.

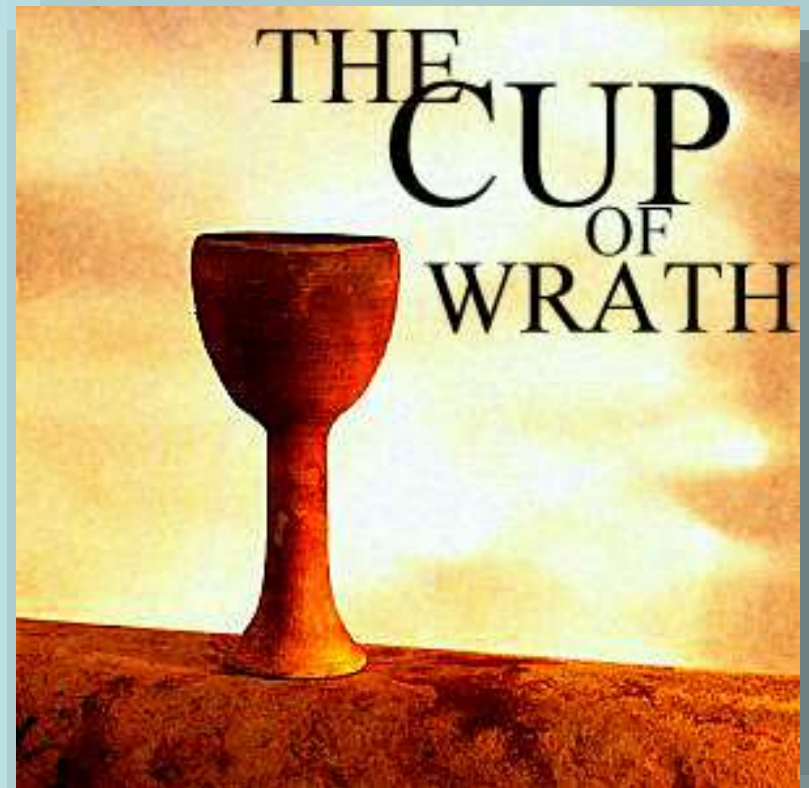
Revelation 14

- We are told that all nations will experience the judgment of Babylon, called a “she” here. She is the Harlot of chapter 17, who has enticed the entire world with her seductive, violent and anti-God ways.
- All nations will be judged, and experience “*the wrath of her fornication.*” (God’s anger over her sin.) This is a reference to Jeremiah 51:7, one of **six classic chapters in scripture that deal with the destruction and ultimate judgment of Babylon.** Those are Isaiah 13 and 14, Jeremiah 50 and 51, and Rev. 17 and 18).

Revelation 14

“...all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication...”

- God’s wrath is seen as a “**cup**” and a “cup of wine” in Psalm 75:8: *“For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup, And the wine is red; It is fully mixed, and He pours it out; Surely its dregs shall all the wicked of the earth Drain and drink down.”*



Cup of God's Wrath

- Cup of God's wrath is another of the common themes found in scripture that come together in Revelation.
- Previously said, **there is really nothing too new in this book**, but it brings all common thoughts, ideas and nature and plan of God (and man's sinful nature) together in one place.
- Cup of wrath also called cup of indignation, wine of God's wrath, among other things. **Concept seen repeatedly.** His wrath poured out many times before.
- Intent to understand YHWH is a righteous judge who will decisively destroy evil and bring righteous judgment to sinful humans.
- Thankfully, those who love Him are covered, hidden in the blood of Yeshua. Believers will not experience this wrath, which is poured out full strength.

Just a few references...

The terrible cup of God's wrath...

Upon the wicked He will rain coals; Fire and brimstone and a burning wind Shall be the portion of their cup.

Psalm 11:6

...he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. Revelation 14:10

Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath. Revelation 16:19

Cup of Wrath

Awake, awake! Stand up, O Jerusalem, You who have drunk at the hand of the Lord The cup of His fury; You have drunk the dregs of the cup of trembling, And drained it out. Isaiah 51:17

From Jeremiah 25 – ***this is sobering...***

¹⁵ For thus says the LORD God of Israel to me: “Take this wine cup of fury from My hand, and cause all the nations, to whom I send you, to drink it. ¹⁶ And they will drink and stagger and go mad because of the sword that I will send among them.” ¹⁷ Then I took the cup from the LORD’s hand, and made all the nations drink, to whom the LORD had sent me: [specifies all of the following: Jerusalem and Judah, Egypt, Uz, lands of Philistines, Askelon, Gaza, Ekron, Ashdod, Edom, Moab, Ammon, Tyre, Sidon, Dedan (SE of Edom, N of Arabia), Tema and Buz (also N of Arabia), all in farthest corners, Arabia, Simri, Elam, Medes, all kings of the north, Sheshach]

Cup of Wrath

Jeremiah 25 continues...

*27 “Therefore you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: **“Drink, be drunk, and vomit!”** Fall and rise no more, because of the sword which I will send among you.’”* *28 And it shall be, if they refuse to take **the cup** from your hand to drink, then you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts: **“You shall certainly drink!”**’* *29 For behold, I begin to bring calamity on the city which is called by My name, and should you be utterly unpunished? You shall not be unpunished, for I will call for a sword on all the inhabitants of the earth,” says the LORD of hosts.’*

*Babylon was a **golden cup in the Lord’s hand**, That made all the earth drunk. The nations drank her wine; Therefore the nations are **deranged**. Jeremiah 51:7*

Cup of Wrath

*You are filled with shame instead of glory. You also— drink! And be exposed as uncircumcised! **The cup of the Lord's right hand** will be turned against you, And utter shame will be on your glory.*
Habakkuk 2:16

*“Behold, I will make Jerusalem a **cup of drunkenness** to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem. Zechariah 12:2*



The Most Horrifying Cup of All...

“Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.”

Luke 22:42

This cup was supposed to be for us.
Yeshua drank it all instead.

Revelation 14

- Babylon still exists physically, and has never been completely destroyed. It has undergone extensive rebuilding by various people, notably Saddam Hussein.
- It was occupied by US Coalition forces during the Iraq war, and is now of interest to the world community to rebuild as a tourist attraction.
- **Stay tuned on this one!**



Revelation 14:8

3

Third Angel

⁹ Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.”

Revelation 14

- The message here is pretty plain, bluntly simple and *completely chilling*: **Don't worship the beast, and don't take the beast's mark**, or you will die and be tormented forever in the place of eternal horror.
- All of the judgments, as well as eternal separation from God, will be given to anyone who does the opposite of worshiping and fearing God Almighty. (*As the Borg say, "Resistance is futile!"*)
- ***"...poured out full strength..."*** This is a **last call**, so to speak. After this warning, there will be no more mercy. Today, God's wrath is diluted with mercy and grace. Not here. It will be poured out full strength.

Revelation 14

- There are only **two kinds of people** in the world, especially at this point (*actually, anytime!*).

1

1) Those who **believe and love God and have received His gift of salvation and eternal life** with Him (Saved, believers) AND

2) those who **do not believe, love the beast, and have rejected God's gift**, and will therefore spend an eternal existence apart from God in torment (UNSAVED, unbelievers).

2

Revelation 14



Fence-sitting is not possible any longer.

Revelation 14

- ***“...in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.”*** **We don't like this part.** We hate to hear of suffering “in the presence” whether ours or God's. One commentator (Barclay) said: *“A feature of the last days will be ‘the spectacle of righteous judgment in the presence of the righteous.’”* (from the apocryphal book of Enoch 27:2-3)
- Refutes false teaching that wicked will merely be destroyed, with no future existence. **Not true.** *They do have a future,* and eternal existence. They will live in torment forever with no rest.

Revelation 14

- Many people think there is nothing beyond physical death. They will be terribly surprised.
- **This is a double, underscored warning not to take the mark of the beast. It is a mark of doom.** Those who take this mark are choosing eternal separation from God.
- Although God is merciful, He does not mix mercy with this judgment. It is a cup of final wrath.
- The fire and smoke here **relate to the Lake of Fire** referenced first in Revelation 19.

Revelation 14

- The Lake of Fire is the ultimate destination of all those who oppose God or refuse His gift of eternal life through His Son.
- Another indicator that what we call “hell” is a literal place.
- Jesus refers to it as the **“furnace of fire”** in Matthew 13, and His words indicate the reality of this place. “Hell” is not symbolic, it is real.
- *(For more information on “hell” see lessons from Revelation chapter 6. Will discuss more about Lake of Fire when we get to chapter 19.)*

Revelation 14

Another voice...

12 Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'"

"Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."



Revelation 14

- Followers of the beast, and followers of the Lamb, are two different groups, headed to two different destinations.
- In previous verses, warning is to those who follow the beast, and tells of their ultimate destination. Here, the **word is to the saints**, those who follow the Lamb, and is meant to encourage them to stay true to the end.
- And if they do, even in death they are blessed because their ultimate destination is with God, and eternal rest.

Revelation 14

- Addressed to tribulation saints, not Church.
- **Another warning** to choose temporary death by the beast rather than **eternal death with the beast** during this “time of Jacob’s trouble.”
- *Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on....* In Greek, statement could also be translated ***“Blessed from the moment of their death are those who die in the Lord.”***
Immediately ushered into presence of the Lamb.
- This verse also indicates **only two ways to die:** **IN** the Lord, or **NOT IN** the Lord. The “way” you die determines *where you go*. **IN** and **WITH** Him, or **OUT** and **APART** from Him.

Revelation 14

- Verses reinforce fact that many, if not most, will be **martyred** for their “patience” and steadfastness with the Master Yeshua.
- These words do make it appear as if there is yet more time left in the Tribulation.
- Perhaps not much, but what there is will be horror-filled, and what comes next will either be blessings, **or “cursings”** forever.



Revelation 14

- “***...voice from heaven...***” Interesting to note there are seven such voices from heaven (*unidentified*) and also seven blessings. The **heptadic** (7's) structure of this book is remarkable.
- “***...rest from their labors...***” **Death brings rest to those who know the source of their salvation.** We don't have to work at life anymore. The work has been completed for us.
- “***...their works follow them.***” NOT an indication that salvation is by works. Merely a statement that says the works, or lives, of these saints are evidence of their faith.

Revelation 14

WE are either at the end of the Tribulation (*or very near it*), OR at the midpoint. Either way, it is very clear from these warnings that **final judgment lies just ahead** and things are going to get very ugly for everyone, including believers, over whatever time is left. Their faith will be tested to the max in this time. They will receive **wonderful reward if they stay true to the Messiah.**

Revelation 14

For those who refuse to know Him, their future is the worst. The joy that awaits the believer reunited with Jesus is beyond our ability to conceive. **So also is the horror awaiting the unbeliever beyond what anyone can imagine.** These words from the angels are final warnings before judgment.

The Aaronic Blessing: Birkat Kohanim

May the LORD bless you and keep you

יְבָרֶכְךָ יְהוָה, וַיִּשְׁמְרֶךָ

Yevarekh-kha Adonai veyishmerekha

May the LORD make His face shine
upon you and be gracious unto you

יָאֵר יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ, וַיַּחַנֶּנְךָ

Ya'er Adonai panav elekha vihunneka

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

יִשָּׂא יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ, וַיַּשֵּׂם לְךָ שָׁלוֹם

Yissa Adonai panav elekha viyasem lekha shalom.

