

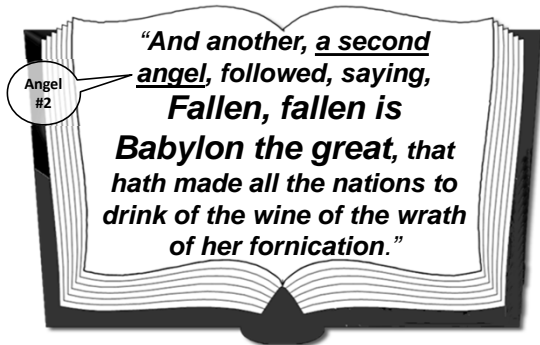
A Study Of The Book Of Revelation

March 21, 2021

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Revelation 14

Revelation 14:8



Revelation 14

Judgment of Wicked Babylon. Revelation 14:8

- **Consequences – More in Chapters 17, 18**
- **Brought by “another angel”**
 - “*Fallen, Fallen*”
 - “*Babylon the Great*”
 - “Babylon” used six times in the book of Revelation. (14:8; 16:19; 17:5; 18:2,10,21)

Revelation 14

Judgment of Wicked Babylon. Revelation 14:8

- **Consequences – More in Chapters 17, 18**
 - Old Testament Babylon was a place of arrogance and rebellion against God.
- **NOTE: Isaiah 13:17-22; 21:9; 47:5-9; 48:14; Jeremiah 50:32, 38; 51:7-8**
- It was so wicked God overthrew it completely; it was never rebuilt.
- Repetition for tragic emphasis (prophetic)

Revelation 14

Judgment of Wicked Babylon. Revelation 14:8

- Babylon is symbolic for Rome.
- Seducer of the world (Jeremiah 51:1-7)
- All nations made to drink of the wine of “*the wrath of her fornication.*”
- Defeat is so certain, victory can be claimed before the battle is even fought!

Revelation 14

Judgment of Wicked Babylon. Revelation 14:8 cf. Chapters 17-18

- It is true that Jerusalem was described by the Jewish prophets as a “*harlot*” (Ezekiel 16), [Samaria “*Oholah*” and Jerusalem “*Oholibah*” Ezekiel 23], but she is not the only Old Testament city to wear such a name.
- Nineveh was called a “*harlot*” (Nahum 3:4), as was Tyre (Isaiah 23:15-16; Ezekiel 26, 27), and Babylon (Isaiah 47; Jeremiah 50, 51).
- Much of the imagery found in Revelation 18 is that which is found in these Old Testament references of pagan cities which had committed spiritual harlotry.

Revelation 14

Judgment of Wicked Babylon. Revelation 14:8

- “Some expositors identify Jerusalem as the Babylon / harlot of the book of Revelation, and they see the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70 at the hands of the Romans as the battle of Armageddon.
 - Such an interpretation radically changes the thrust of the visions.
- “NOTE: The beast (Roman Empire) and the false prophet (paganism) are the ones being punished by God.
- “Other Scriptures did prophesy that God would use the Romans to destroy Jerusalem (Matt. 24; Luke 17, 21), but those are different contexts than Revelation.
- “The point is that what may be true of one context does not necessarily mean that every other context using the same words has the same application.”

(Robert Harkrider, *Revelation*, Truth Commentaries, Page 322)

Revelation 14

Judgment of Wicked Babylon. Revelation 14:8

- The **ONE** great conflict in Revelation is between Satan and his allies against Christ and His army.
 - NOTE: That conflict was **not** between the Roman Empire and Judaism; instead, it was the Lord versus Satan with his allies, the beast (Rome) and false prophet (Paganism) of Revelation 13.
 - This conflict draws to a climax in Revelation 16:12-17 when the forces of evil are described as gathering for **“the battle of that great day of God Almighty”** (16:14) at Armageddon.

Revelation 14

Angel Number 2**Judgment of Wicked Jerusalem?**

- While it is true, the prophet Isaiah referred to apostate Jerusalem as *“the faithful city become an harlot! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers.”* (Isaiah 1:21; cf. Matthew 23:34ff)
- Why would the vision be sidetracked from its major theme to present alleged details of conflict between Rome and Judaism?
- More in Chapters 17-18

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Revelation 14:9

Angel #3

“And another angel, a third, followed them, saying with a great voice, If any man worshippeth the beast and his image, and receiveth a mark on his forehead, or upon his hand”

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Revelation 14:10

“he also shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is prepared unmixed in the cup of his anger; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb”

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Revelation 14:11

“and the smoke of their torment goeth up for ever and ever; and they have no rest day and night, they that worship the beast and his image, and whoso receiveth the mark of his name.”

Revelation 14

Emperor worshippers judged

- **Consequences – Mark of the Beast** (Chapter 19:19-21; 20:10; cf. Daniel 7:11)
- Brought *“a third angel”*
- Proclaimed ... Revelation 14:10-11
 - *“If any one ...”* (conditional and all inclusive)
 - *“Worships the beast and his image”* (civil persecuting power – sea beast)
 - *“Receives a mark on his forehead or upon his hand”*

Revelation 14

Emperor worshippers judged

Consequences – Mark of the Beast (Chapter 19:19-21; 20:10; cf. Daniel 7:11)

- Proclaimed ... Revelation 14:10-11
 - He will *“drink of the wine of the wrath of God.”*
 - God's wrath is often pictured in the Old Testament as a cup of wine (Job 21:20; Ps. 75:8; Isaiah 51:17; Jeremiah 25:15-38).
 - *“unmixed”* – full strength nothing held back!
 - *“He will be tormented with fire and brimstone”*
 - In the presence of the holy angels.
 - In the presence of the Lamb.
 - Just as the saints who were tormented before by them.

Revelation 14

Emperor worshippers judged

Consequences – Mark of the Beast
(Chapter 19:19-21; 20:10; cf. Daniel 7:11)

- Fate of all those individuals who participated in the worship of the emperor
- Shared in Babylon's fornication
- God's **undiluted wrath** will pour out on all who helped in the persecution of the church – the saints!

Revelation 14

Emperor worshippers judged

Consequences – Mark of the Beast
(Chapter 19:19-21; 20:10; cf. Daniel 7:11)

- No worse fate could be imagined!
- Compromise with emperor worship will bring horrific results!
- Holy angels, the Lamb, and the faithful will witness God's retribution on the wicked!

Revelation 14

Emperor worshippers judged

Consequences – Mark of the Beast
(Chapter 19:19-21; 20:10; cf. Daniel 7:11)

- The smoke from such men's torture will ascend for timeless ages.
- **There will be no rest day or night!**
- **Torment as age-lasting as that suffered by Satan himself!** (Revelation 14:11; 20:10; Matthew 25:41, 46; Mark 9:43-48).

Revelation 14

Revelation 14:12

Revelation
13:10

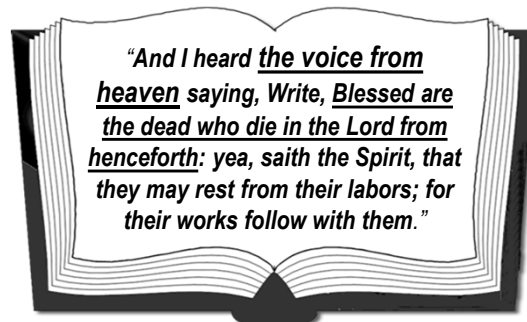
“Here is the patience of the saints, they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.”

Revelation 14

Perseverance of the Saints

- The true Christian's hope of the day is not in compromise, but in:
 - Remaining faithful, which brings steadfast hope!
 - Keeping God's commandments
 - Having faith in Christ
- This brings "REST," versus "NO REST!"
- Keeping God's commandments while suffering for righteousness is certainly better than the alternative!
 - Their suffering is temporary, whereas their tormentors will agonize eternally.

Revelation 14

Revelation 14:13

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Christian's triumph. Revelation 14:13

- **Rewarded for steadfastness (Chapters 20-22)**
- **A "voice from heaven ..."**
 - **"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord"**
 - **"That they may rest from their labors"**
 - **"For their works (deeds) do follow them"**
 - What do you take with you when you die? cf. 2 Peter 1:5-11
- **Contrast: Revelation 14:8-12**

Revelation 14

Contrast**Emperor Worshipers Judged.
Revelation 14:8-12**

- **Cursed ...** He will *"drink of the wine of the wrath of God."*
- *"unmixed"* – full strength nothing held back!
- *"He will be tormented with fire and brimstone"*
- *"and the smoke of their torment goeth up for ever and ever; and they have no rest day and night"*

**Christian's Triumph.
Revelation 14:13**

- **"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord"**
- **"That they may rest from their labors"**
- **"For their works (deeds) do follow them"** (cf. 2 Peter 1:5-11)

Revelation 14

NOTE: John 8:51, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my word, he shall never see death."

Born ONCE ... Die TWICE

- Revelation 20:14-15, *"And death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the **second death**, (even) the lake of fire. And if any was not found written in the book of life, he was cast into the lake of fire."*

- Revelation 21:8, *"But for the fearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and fornicators, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, their part (shall be) in the lake that burneth with fire and brimstone; which is the **second death**."*

Born TWICE ... Die ONCE

- John 3:3, 5, *"Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be **born anew**, he cannot see the kingdom of God ..."*

- *Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God!"*

- Hebrews 9:27, *"And inasmuch as it is appointed unto men once to die, and after this (cometh) judgment"*

Revelation 14

Christians' Triumph. Revelation 14:13

- **Rewarded for steadfastness (Chapters 20-22)**
- **Encouraged to remain steadfast!**
- **Die in the Lord – critical for those who were facing death that "very hour!"**
- **Be refreshed from their toils and labors.** cf. 1 Corinthians 15:58
- **The quality of their deeds follows them – a divine record!**
- **Testimony of their faith in Christ!**

From Revelation 13:18

Contrast: The Number 666

The number 666 falls short of perfection ...

- It means that **the combined forces of evil** – dragon, Roman political power, and false religion – equal the number of “**man**” and “**the beast**” ...
- Evil to the highest degree – will not win!
- All who trust in man are destined to lose!
- The **fundamental difference** between the lost and saved is the one in whom one places his **trust** – **God or man?**
- This was true at this time – and it remains true in our time!

Revelation 14

Revelation 14:14-20

- Judgment is coming!
- Reaping takes place.