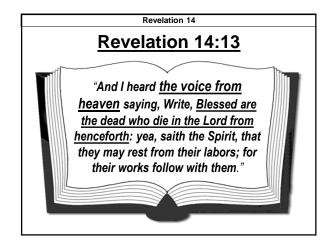
# A Study Of The Book Of Revelation

March 28, 2021



Revelation 14

#### 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 Worshippers 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 <u>for ever</u> <u>and ever;</u> and they have <u>no</u> <u>rest day and night</u>"

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)

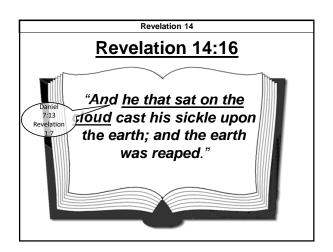
Revelation 14

#### Revelation 14:14-20

- Judgment is coming!
- Reaping takes place.

"And I saw, and behold, a white cloud; and on the cloud (I saw) one sitting like unto a son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle."





# <u>Sickle of Judgment – As Viewed by the Righteous</u>

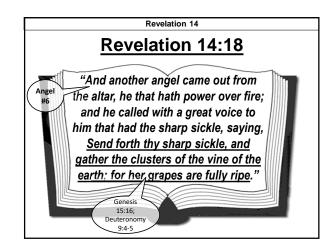
- Please keep in mind; this is NOT the scene of the final judgment, NOT the scene of the fall of Jerusalem, but a judgment against "Babylon." (ROME)
- When? The announcements of the first three angels have been fulfilled.
- . This is the execution of God's wrath over Rome.
  - The "one sitting on the cloud" having a "golden crown" and a "sharp sickle" is "one like unto a son of man" (Daniel 7:13)

Revelation 14

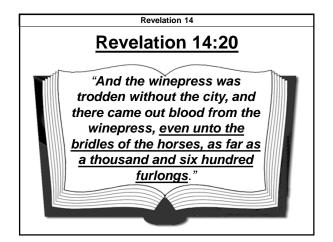
# Sickle of Judgment – As Viewed by the Righteous

- Angel announces "The harvest is right for reaping"
  - This first harvesting (grain) seems to refer to gathering righteous ones. (Matthew 3:12; 9:37-38; John 4:35-38)
  - God's messenger announces that the time for righteous judgment has arrived.
- Signals deliverance / vindication, for the righteous and defeat for the forces of evil (those who had tormented God's children.)
- This "reaping" is fearful for those who had been with the beast!









### Sickle of Judgment – The Fifth And Sixth Angels: The Time Is Come To Reap The Wicked (14:17-20)

- Another angel out of heaven, out of the temple, which is in heaven
  - "Thrust a sickle" (judgment)
  - Gathered the grapes
  - Threw them into the great winepress
- Trampled without the city
- GREAT JUDGMENT ... Blood came out of the winepress (for 200 miles)! NOTHING LITERAL! cf. Joel 3:9-17 (Nations);

Isaiah 63:1-6 (Edom); Lamentations 1:15 (Judah)

Revelation 14

# Sickle of Judgment – The Fifth And Sixth Angels: The Time Is Come To Reap The Wicked (14:17-20)

- Another angel out of heaven, out of the temple, which is in heaven
  - "Thrust a sickle" (judgment)
  - Gathered the grapes
    Threw them into the great winepress
  - Trampled "without the city" (verse 20)

What City?

Literal Jerusalem? "The Romans trod upon Jerusalem from the outside of the city as their weapons of war constantly bombarded its inhabitants with arrows, darts and stones until every drop of blood within it was removed ... The language is symbolic, yet it conforms somewhat to the literal descriptions given by Josephus of the destruction of the city." (Arthur M. Ogden, The Avenging of the Apostles and Prophets, Page 300)

Revelation 14

# Sickle of Judgment – The Fifth And Sixth Angels: The Time Is Come To Reap The Wicked (14:17-20)

What City?

Others prefer to interpret this city as spiritual "heavenly Jerusalem." "As the bodies of the sin-offerings were burned outside of the camp, and as a sin-offering Jesus 'suffered without the gate' (Heb. 13:11f); so it is appropriate that the world that rejected Him and His salvation should be trodden without the city. The blood which came out of the winepress to a depth reaching the horses bridles, and extending as far as sixteen hundred furlongs, about two hundred miles, is quite difficult to explain. Literalism is ruled out by the whole picture. If old physical Jerusalem is the city in the vision and the area of Palestine is the lake one cannot interpret the picture literally because that territory is not two hundred miles long or wide; also, the low depth of twelve hundred ninety feet below sea level at the Dead Sea makes any literal interpretation impossible. Probably the picture intends to indicate the magnitude and completeness of the judgment.

(Homer Hailey, Revelation – An Introduction and Commentary, Pages 315-316)

Revelation 14

### <u>Sickle of Judgment – Viewed by the Unrighteous</u>

- · Gathered the clusters and cast them into the "winepress" of the Almighty!
- Reflects a single event of divine judgment against Rome
- Came out of the altar why?
  - Final response to the saints prayers seeking vindication! (Revelation 6:9ff)

#### Sickle of Judgment - Viewed by the Unrighteous

- Not wine, but blood, flowing from the winepress ...
- Heaven's judgments against Rome would be severe!
  - Treading the winepress of God's wrath in time brought the Roman Empire (Revelation 13:1), its provincial kings, and Roman paganism (Revelation 13:11) to an end!
- Total destruction awaits those who oppose God and His people!
- For those who find themselves "beyond the pale of divine protection"

Revelation 14

#### Review

- Six angels ...
- Four great banners of coming events ...
- Two sickles of judgment ...
- Wicked and righteous have two totally different futures ...
- Consequences for both groups ...
- · One is far better than the other!

Revelation 14

#### Review

- Chapter 12 describes a battle with Satan.
- Chapter 13 describes Rome (an ally or tool of Satan) failing.
  - Two Beasts
    - The Empire
    - Roman Concilia (Paganism).
- Chapter 14 is a picture of victory for God and His people.

Revelation 14

#### Contrast

# Emperor Worshippers 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"

Choice is simple!

# The Book of Revelation: Chapter 15



Interlude:
Song of Victory
Seven Plagues Anticipated!

# Revelation

- I. Struggle on Earth (1-11)
  - A. John's Vision (1)
  - B. Letters to 7 churches (2-3)
  - C. God in control (4-5)
  - D. Opening of seven seals (6-11)

24

- II. Christ And The Dragon In Conflict (12-22) (Deeper Spiritual Meaning)
  - A. War (12-14)
  - B. Bowls of Wrath (15-16)
  - C. Fall of Babylon the Harlot (17-18)
  - D. Victory of God's people (19-21)
  - E. Warnings about the Book (22)

Revelation 15 and 16

"Seven Angels With Seven Bowls of Wrath"

**Outline of Chapter 15** 

- I. Seven Angels With Seven Plagues of Wrath (verse 1)
- II. The Victorious Saints on the Sea of Glass (verses 2-4)
  - A. Those that overcame (verse 2a)
    - 1. The beast
    - 2. The image of the beast
    - 3. The mark and number of the beast
  - B. Singing the song of Moses and the Lamb (verses 2b-4)

25

Revelation 15 and 16

#### "Seven Angels With Seven Bowls of Wrath"

**Outline of Chapter 15** 

III. Seven Bowls of Wrath Given to the Seven Angels (verses 5-8)

- A. Seven angels come out of the temple (verses 5-6)
- B. One of the four living creatures gave seven bowls of wrath to seven angels (verse 7)
- C. Temple filled with smoke of the glory of God (verse 8)

Revelation 15:1

"And I saw another <u>sign in</u>
<u>heaven</u>, great and marvellous,
seven angels having seven
plagues, (which are) the last,
for in them <u>is finished the</u>
<u>wrath of God</u>."

Revelation 15

# Another Angel ...

#### Anticipation ...

- The angels and the seven plagues
- Trumpets blown (chapters 8-11). Mercy mixed with wrath.
  - Only 1/3 part of men were given time to repent.
- The **narrow line** between His mercy and wrath has been **crossed**.
- Now His wrath will not be mixed with mercy!
- God is a consuming fire!
  - Hebrews 12:29