The Book Of The Revelation of Jesus Christ Chapter Fourteen

Behold Their End

Focus Verses: Revelation 14: 11; Psalm 37:37,38

11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

I. Lesson - Behold Their End

CONTEXT: In our study, John has taken us through the time of the Tribulation _______times so far: The first from the angle of the SEVEN SEAL JUDGMENTS upon this earth. The second time from the angle of the SEVEN TRUMPET JUDGMENTS upon this earth. And the third from the angle of the SEVEN PERSONS that will be the main focus of these seven years. Each one of these different angles are followed by a brief thing called a PARENTHETICAL, or an "Oh, By the way..." description. Chapter 14 here is another one of these PARANTHETICALS preceding the beginning of the SEVEN VIAL JUDGMENTS of Chapter 15.

A. A Lamb (14:1)

- 1. The central *person* of Scripture from cover to cover (Gen 3:21; Cf Gen 3:7; Heb 10) is "_____
 - a. This Lamb is THE Sacrifice for our sins (14:1; John 1:29,36; Cf 13:8)
 - b. This Lamb is a *Person* not a church, feeling, or symbol
 - c. This Lamb is _____ (14:3; Cf 5:8,9) He must be GOD!
- 2. The current home of the Lamb _____ (Cf Heb 12:22,23) He is not staying there though!

B. An 144,000 (14:1-5)

- 1. These stand WITH the Lamb (14:1)
- 2. These have the name of God Almighty (JEHOVAH) written visibly on their foreheads (14:1), which is the MARK of their Father.
- 3. These at this point have been "redeemed ______ the earth"
- 4. These 144,000 are MALE VIRGIN JEWS (14:4; Cf 7:4) NOT Jehovah Witnesses!
- 5. These are in a sinless state in Heaven (14:5), no longer on the earth

NOTE: Something has happened to these 144,000 witnesses between Chapter 7 and Chapter 14 since in 7, they are on this earth, and in Chapter 14, we find them WITH Jesus in Heaven.

- C. A Song (14:2,3)
 - 1. This is a NEW song (14:3; 5:9,10; Cf Psalm 40:1-3). These songs are ALL songs of DELIVERANCE (Cf Ex 15; Judges 5)
 - 2. This is an exclusive song (14:3). Not just anybody can sing the songs of deliverance and redemption. Note how that the Jews hung there harps up when there was no deliverance (Psalm 137).
- D. An Announcement (14:6-12) *Three* Announcements to be Exact

At this point, the 144,000 Witnesses are no longer on this earth, but God will always have a witness declaring His glory (Cf Psalm 19), and His word (Rev 14:6-11), and so He sends out three angels to make three announcements that will be heard world-wide:

- 1. The Everlasting Gospel is Preached (14:6,7). Here is the only place in the Bible where an angel is commissioned to preach the Gospel. 'Gospel' means 'Good News'. There are four Gospels:
 - a. <u>The Gospel of the Grace of God</u> (Acts 20:24) Its subject is Christ, and the salvation that is found only in Him (Eph 2:8,9). When someone refers to "the Gospel", it is this Gospel that they are usually referring to.

- b. <u>The Gospel of the Kingdom</u> (Matt 24:14) Its subject is "the Kingdom", not Christ or Salvation. This Gospel announces the setting up of the millennial Kingdom of Jesus Christ on this earth (Matt 4:23).
- c. <u>The Everlasting Gospel</u> (Rev 14:6) Its subject is COMING JUDGMENT. It is Good News to Israel, but condemnation to the world.
- d. And then, there is "<u>another gospel</u>" (Gal 6:6-12), which is a perversion of the first Gospel. Anyone who preaches this "gospel" is CURSED (Gal 1:8,9)!
- 2. The Fall of Babylon is Predicted (14:8)
 - a. The city of Babylon will be rebuilt
 - b. Babylon will be instrumental in the success of the Anti-christ's world economic system (18:9-19)

NOTE: The fall of Babylon is discussed in the past tense as if it had already taken place, but it is not described unto Chapter 17. *This shows that Revelation is giving us multiple accounts of the same event from different angles.*

- 3. The Judgment of the Beast-Worshippers is Proclaimed (14:9-12)
 - a. These people are "religious", but damned!
 - b. These people will receive the wrath of God!
 - c. These people will meet the One who wanted to save them!
 - d. These people receive **ETERNAL** torment of fire for rejecting the Lamb, and turning to worship the Beast:
 - 1) The lake of fire: Rev 19:20, Rev 20:10, Rev 21:8
 - 2) Darkness: Matt 25:30, Jude 13, 2 Pet 2:17
 - 3) Prepared for the devil: Matt 25:41
 - 4) Everlasting punishment: Matt 25:46
 - 5) This Is NOT the grave: John 5:28,29

NOTE: These people have chose to "drink" the cup that Christ already drank for them at the cross (Matt 26:39; Cf Ps 75:8)

E. A Blessing (14:13) - To Die in the Lord, and not continue to be tormented!

Death is part of the curse (Gen 2:17), and was passed upon all men when Adam disobeyed God's clear command (Rom 5:12). At the same time, death is a blessing. This is because, if man had obtained eternal life as a sinner, he would forever had been separated from God (Gen 3:22-24). God had to deal with man's flesh through the death of that flesh so that man, if he so choose, could obtain new flesh that could not sin (1 Cor 15:50-54)! It therefore is a blessing to be able to die "in the Lord." The opposite is not so great - to die in your sins (Ezek 3:20).

- _____(14:14-20) This is some Rough and Complex Scripture
- 1. The First Harvest (14:14-17)
 - a. The Harvester Jesus Christ (14:14,15)
 - b. The harvest The rapture of the Tribulation Saints. Spiritually, you can compare with Matt 9:37,38
- 2. The Latter Harvest (14:18-20)
 - a. The harvester The death angel (Exodus 13)
 - b. The harvest Those destined for the "wine press" of the wrath of God (Compare Rev 19:13,15)
- 3. These two harvests take place seemingly one right after the other at the END of the Tribulation.

F.

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IV. Conclusion - Some Questions

- A. What is the central theme or subject of Scripture from cover to cover?
- B. What happens to the 144,000 Witnesses in the middle of the Tribulation?
- C. What Gospel is preached by the angel in 14:6,7?
- D. List the *four* Gospels of Scripture: _____
 - 1. _____
 - 2. _____ 3. _____
 - 4.
- E. What is instrumental in the success of the antichrist's economic plan?
- F. Those who worship the beats will receive what (14:9-12)?
- G. Who is the harvester of the First harvest, and what is he harvesting?