

## Revelation Chapter 14

### The Lamb, The Living Saints & The Three Angels Messages

### Bible Study Notes

*'The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood,  
Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.  
And it shall come to pass that whoever **calls on the name of the LORD** shall be saved.  
For **in Mount Zion** and in Jerusalem **there shall be deliverance**, as the LORD has said,  
**Among the remnant whom the LORD calls.**'*

**Joel 2:31,32**

**H**ere we begin the study of Revelation 14. We have so far studied the history of the early Christian Church from chapters 1-10, we then looked at the interval chapters which give us a summary of chapters 1-10, namely, chapters 11 & 12. Now we will continue our look at the end time events of this world before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Jesus which we began in our study in Revelation 13.

It is very important to remember that the Book of Revelation is not written in chronological order but more in cycles, and as a result, it takes a lot of back and forth reading to truly get the full picture of what is being said. It is also important to remember that we must use Scripture as our guide and let it interpret itself; we must not put our own interpretation on Scripture, but rather, allow the Bible to be its own interpreter.

**vs.1**

*'Then I looked, and behold, a **Lamb** standing on **Mount Zion**, and with Him **one hundred and forty-four thousand**, having His **Father's name written on their foreheads.**'*

John sees in vision, Jesus, **the Lamb of God**, standing upon Mt. Zion, with the redeemed saints at the end of time. These are they which **'came out of great tribulation'**, **'they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb'**, These are **'they which are before the throne of God and serve Him day and night in His temple'**, they sing **'as it were a new song before the throne'**, they **'had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over the number of His name.'** **[Revelation 7:14-15; 14:3; 15:2]**

They all received the seal of the living God before probation had ended, before the **'four winds'** were allowed to blow upon the earth and bring with it the mark of the beast crisis.

They have the name of the Father written on their foreheads, that is, **they have the character of God.** They have gained the **victory over sin**, **'in their mouth was found no guile, for they are without fault before the throne of God.'** **[Revelation 14:5]**

The word **NAME** in verse 1 comes from the Greek word **ONOMA**, meaning a literal name or **representing character.**

*'There were all kinds of trees around the temple to beautify the place: the box, the pine, the fir, the oil, the myrtle, the pomegranate, and the fig tree bowed down with the weight of its timely figs—these made the place all over glorious. **And as we were about to enter the holy temple, Jesus raised His lovely voice and said, "Only the 144,000 enter this place,"** and we shouted, "Alleluia." Early Writings, page 18, par. 2*

**vs.2-3**

*'And I heard a voice from heaven, **like the voice of many waters**, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.'*

John hears the voice of the Son, Jesus Christ, sounding like the voice of many **waters**. **[Revelation 17:15]**

*'His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and **His voice as the sound of many waters**...'*

**Revelation 1:15**

To this majestic tune of the harps sang the 144,000, *those redeemed from the earth*.

They sang *'as it were, a new song before the throne'* [of God]. It was a song of their experience and a song of their deliverance; it is **the song of Moses and the Lamb** **[Revelation 15:2-3]**. Read more about the song of Moses, in the account of the Exodus and the crossing of the Red Sea by the Ancient Israelites. **Exodus 15:1-19**

As the Israelites were afflicted by the Egyptians for more than 400 years but were delivered supernaturally out of Egypt and across the parted Red Sea by the hand of God through His servant Moses, so will it be in the time of the end just before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Jesus. When the nations of the earth unite in handing their power and strength over to the beast [**the revived Roman Papacy**], **[Revelation 17:13-14]**, to persecute the Lamb through the person of His faithful end time remnant of believers, Jesus shall stand up in might and power to deliver His people. He shall put off His priestly robes and garb Himself in His kingly robes, to take up His position as King of kings and Lord of lords. No longer shall He be the great High Priest of the Heavenly Sanctuary, **Hebrews 4:14**, for the plan of salvation shall be fulfilled, but He shall come in the clouds, with the multitude of the angels of Heaven, in full glory, to deliver His people from the clutches of satan and his human agents as the *'King of kings and Lord of Lords.'*

*'And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS'** **Revelation 19:14-16***

**vs.3-4**

*'These are the ones who **were not defiled with women**, for **they are virgins**. These are the ones who **follow the Lamb wherever He goes**. These were redeemed from among men, being **first fruits** to God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are **without fault before the throne of God**.'*

Here we see more aspects to the character of the 144,000.

Along with having the Father's name in their forehead, i.e., the character of God, they also are not defiled with women. Women here is not to be taken literally, but instead symbolic. We have covered multiple times before that **a woman in prophecy represent a Church**. A pure woman represents God's faithful followers

whereas a prostitute or harlot represents a backslidden and apostate church, **Jeremiah 6, Revelation 12, Revelation 17, Matthew 25.**

**The 144,000 are not defiled by the false teachings of Babylon [Roman Catholicism] and her daughters [Apostate Protestantism],** that is, they know and understand Bible truth and prophecy and are not deceived by the false and apostate teachings of apostate Christianity, headed by the Papacy and enforced by the fallen Christian denominations.

They are **virgins**, that is **they are pure**, they are faithful followers of Christ, **holding fast to Bible truth and not the doctrines of man**, they know the truth and hold steadfast to the Truth of God's Word. See the parable of the 10 virgins in **Matthew 25**, for a better understanding on what 'virgins' in prophecy represent.

*"They follow the Lamb wherever He goes."* By faith **they follow Jesus throughout His journey in the Heavenly Sanctuary.** They understand the prophecies and the movement of Jesus from the Camp, to the Court, to the Altar of Sacrifice, to the Laver, into the Holy Place and finally into the Most Holy Place, where He now makes intercession on our behalf and cleanses the Sanctuary from sin.

They follow Him wherever He goes and they understand the purposes he undertakes at each aspect of the Sanctuary.

*'In their mouth was found no guile: for **they are without fault before the throne of God.**'* They have gained the victory over sin and thus are able to stand in the presence of the Lord Almighty.

### **The Three Angel's Messages**

**vs.6**

*'And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, **having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth,** and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people...'*

John looks and sees an angel flying in the midst of Heaven and with him is the everlasting gospel that must go out to all people from all nations before Jesus comes again. The word of God must be preached in its entirety proclaiming the good news of the Messiah who was sent for the salvation of this world that *'whosoever believeth in Him, shall not perish but have everlasting life.'*

This is a worldwide message of warning to all who dwell upon the face of the earth in these last days, to repent of their sins and turn back to the one true God. However, it is also a message of love, as God wants us to be saved and to be gathered together to Him, to spend eternity with Him so that we will not be destroyed when He comes again, for all sinners shall be destroyed at the 2nd Coming of Christ.

God's faithful remnant of believers in these last days will proclaim a message of warning to a dying world by the power of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

*'The three angels of **Revelation 14** represent the people who accept the light of God's messages and go forth as His agents to sound the warning throughout the length and breadth of the earth.'*

Councils for the Church pg.58 par.5

*'So you, son of man: I have made you **a watchman** for the house of Israel; therefore **you shall hear a word from My mouth and warn them for Me.**' **Ezekiel 33:7***

*'And **this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world** as a witness to all the nations, and **then the end will come.**' **Matthew 24:14***

**vs.7**

*'Saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment is come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."*

The first angel proclaims his message with power as it goes forth with 'a loud voice'. We are not to think that this message by the first or any of the other two angels are literal angels flying around in the sky shouting a message to the inhabitants of the world. This is not the case. As we have covered in a previous study, the original Greek word for ANGEL is AGGELOS (G32), which means *messenger*. In the Greek mindset *aggelos* not only means those heavenly beings but it also can refer to anyone who is sent by God to deliver a message to His people.

Therefore we understand that this message which is proclaimed by the first angel represents God's faithful remnant of believers who accept the light revealed to them by the understanding of the Scriptures and go forth as His 'messengers' to sound the warning of Jesus' soon coming throughout the world.

We see that this first message warns us of a judgement which 'is come'; this judgement first commenced at the proclamation of the first angel's message.

When we remember the Sanctuary in the Book of Exodus and Leviticus, we remember that the period of judgment for **the people of Israel**, *God's people in the Old Testament*, took place on a certain day within the Hebrew year. This day was called 'The Day of Atonement' **Leviticus 16**, and it was on this day in which the earthly sanctuary was 'cleansed'. We also read of another 'cleansing' in **Daniel 8:14** which we have studied in the study notes called '*The 2300 Days & the 70 weeks of Daniel*' which goes into much more detail on this 'cleansing of the sanctuary' & 'judgement' and what it really means, therefore I won't go too in-depth on that here. I suggest getting a hold of those previous notes for a deeper study on that topic.

Once we study the Sanctuary we will notice that the same judgment which the people of Israel went through in the day of atonement in the days of Aaron, *the earthly high priest*, is the same judgment that the people of God in these last days must go through before the Great High Priest of the Heavenly Sanctuary, Jesus Christ, comes to redeem His faithful people. It was this judgment which began at the end of the 2300 days of **Daniel 8:14**, that began in the fall of 1844 at the blowing of the 6th Trumpet. [*go back to the study notes on the Trumpets*]

*'For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?' **1st Peter 4:17***

It was at the blowing of the 6th trumpet that we see the type meet the anti-type. The true Heavenly Day of Atonement began in the Most Holy Place of the Sanctuary, where Jesus, the Great High Priest, entered to begin His final work in the plan of salvation, as did Aaron, the earthly high priest, did in the earthly sanctuary.

This message of the first angel brings our attention to fearing God and giving glory to Him, it calls us to worship the Creator of the heavens and the earth and the fountains of water and everything therein, for His 2nd coming is soon at hand, even at the door.

It takes us back to the creation account in the Book of Genesis and it takes our attention to the 4th Commandment of God's Holy Law.

This warning message of the first angel by God's faithful messengers brings us back in line with the validity of God's Law and shows us that the God who created everything in the past is the same God today, He still sits upon His throne, He is still in charge and He is bringing His people back in line with His standards before His 2nd Coming. The breach that has been made in the Law of God must be repaired before He comes again for His people. This first angel's message brings us in line with all of God's commandments, **including the 4th**, which the majority of the Christian world today rejects and instead keeps holy, a day not sanctified by God.

It is therefore by the proclamation of this message, given by the first angel that we are brought back into harmony with the everlasting word of God, *'it endureth forever.'*

*'Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on **the seventh day** God ended His work which He had done, and **He rested on the seventh day** from all His work which He had done. Then **God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it**, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.'* **Genesis 2:1-3**

*'**Remember the Sabbath day**, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work, but **the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God**...For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore **the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.**'* **Exodus 20:8,9,11**

*'For whoever shall **keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all**... **So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty.**'* **James 2:10,12**

*'Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; **but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven**. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? **And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.**'* **Matthew 7:21-23**

**vs.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.**'*

John sees another angel flying in the midst of Heaven, following the first angel and proclaiming a 2nd great warning to the inhabitants of the earth.

The shout goes out, *'Babylon is fallen, is fallen.'* She is that great city which ruled during the 1,260 year period of Papal dominance, from **538 AD-1798 AD**, which caused a multitude of false doctrines and teachings to come into the Church. I refer here to the Roman Catholic System ruling from the Vatican in Rome. She is that *'great city'* who, in the time of her dominance ruled over the kings of Europe and by uniting the power of the Church with the power of the state, and executed judgment upon God's faithful believers during that time.

She is, **Mystery Babylon, The Great, The Mother of Harlots & Abominations of The Earth.**' **Revelation 17:5**

She is the *'great whore, which sitteth upon many waters'*, she is the one *'with whom **the kings of the earth have committed fornication and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.**'* **Revelation 17:1-2**

*'And **the woman** [the Church] whom you saw is that great city [Roman Papacy] which reigns over the kings of the earth.'* **Revelation 17:18**

To understand *Babylon*, we must go back to Genesis where we first see mention of the term Babylon or Babel because as we have mentioned before, what was literal and local in the Old Testament accounts becomes spiritual and global in the New Testament, especially in the Book of Revelation.

In **Genesis 11:1-9**, we see the account of how the entire population of the earth at that time all spoke one language, during the days just after the flood. It was at this time that the people, under the leadership of Nimrod, the great grandson of Noah, **Genesis 10:8-11**, decided to build a tower stretching to the heavens and a large city, that they may make a name for themselves in the earth, lest they *'be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.'*

However this was not to be as the Lord decided to come down from Heaven and confuse the language of the people and the rest is history.

What we do learn from this account is that the term *Babel* from which the city of **Babylon** was later founded came to represent **confusion** as God so confused the languages of the earth in the days of Nimrod.

*'So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. Therefore its name is called **Babel**, because there the LORD **confused** the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.'* **Genesis 11:8-9**

This points us back to spiritual Babel or Babylon in the Book of Revelation where we understand that the *'great city'* mentioned by the 2nd angel is primarily representative of the Roman Catholic Papacy, who, during its dominion, **538-1798AD**, because of its false doctrines and teachings which it promulgated, brought a period of spiritual darkness into the Church and **spiritual and religious confusion**, as we have studied before with the 4th trumpet & the 4th Church. See: **Revelation 8:12 & Revelation 2:18-29**

She has made all the nations of the world drink of the *wine of her fornication* for she commits spiritual adultery against her Husband, Jesus Christ. The Church is married to Christ, **Ephesians 5:25-27**, and this *fallen* Church has promulgated idolatry, false worship, false teachings, sought to change times and laws and as a result has broken the covenant relationship with her Husband, Jesus Christ. She has committed adultery with the kings of the earth by uniting the Church with the State and using the governments of the world, first during the 1,260 year period and again when the mortal wound is healed, to persecute all who choose to worship God according to their conscience and reject her doctrines. The false teachings and religious confusion of the papacy have influenced social doctrine, global government policies, and even present day Church doctrine and as a result of this, she has become the *'the Mother of Harlots'*, **Revelation 17:5**. The professed Christian world and Protestant Churches, who initially broke away from the Roman Catholic Church during the Protestant Reformation in the 1500s and 1600s have kept many of *'their Mother's'* teachings and practices, choosing rather to *'teach for doctrine the commandments of men'* **Matthew 15:9**, rather than the Commandments of God.

Doctrines such as the immortality of the soul, veneration and praying to the dead, Sunday sacredness, transubstantiation, 1,000 years of world peace, the infallibility of the Catholic Church and the Pope, and the worst of them all, the position of the Pope taking the place of Jesus Christ on earth or the vicar of Christ. The Protestant Churches of today have held on to many but not all of these doctrines and as a result have taught these doctrines in their churches and thus *'the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk on the wine of her fornications.'*

Hence why the warning goes out to the world and to God's people that *'Babylon is fallen, is fallen.'* First by the Roman Catholic Church and again by the apostate Protestant Churches of the Christian world. God will have a remnant of believers in these last days who will not be *'defiled with women'* [harlots/apostate churches], they shall hold fast to Bible truth, worshipping God in spirit and in truth and as a result the dragon, [satan], will be wroth with these believers and seek to destroy them using his human agents; it is they *'who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.'*

**Revelation 12:17/ Revelation 17:12-14.**

However, despite this, the Lord Almighty is a God of mercy and He is a God of love. Therefore, He gives a warning to His people in these fallen churches to come out lest they continue in the sins of Babylon, to heed the truth, to get back to Bible truth and the keeping of His Commandments lest they receive of the His wrath.

***'Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury. And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues. For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.'*** **Revelation 18:2-5**

The proclamation of this 2nd angel's message then leads us directly into the 3rd and final angels' message.

**vs.9-10**

***'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, 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.'***

Here the third angel follows behind the second and the first and proclaims his message with a loud voice; we understand that these messages which are proclaimed by the three angels represents God's faithful remnant of believers who accept the light revealed to them by the understanding of the Scriptures and go forth as His 'messengers' to sound the warning of Jesus' soon coming throughout the world.

This message brings us to the subject which we covered in Revelation 13, which is, the proclamation of the identity of the beast power, his image and his mark. In our previous study we learned that the 'False prophet' also known as the 'beast out of the earth', here representing apostate Christianity in America, will create an image to the Papacy, the 'beast out of the sea'. By creating this 'image' [**church uniting with the state, as it was during the days of the dominion of the first beast**], the Protestant Churches in America will join forces with the state/government, to enforce the mark of the 'first' beast, and 'cause' or 'force' all, 'both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand or in there forehead.'

**Revelation 13:16**

The Bible tells us that Lucifer wanted worship in Heaven and because of this, he stirred up a third of the angels to rebel against God. This then led to them being cast out of Heaven, to this earth.

**Ezekiel 28:13-18, Isaiah 14:12-14, Revelation 12:4,7-9.**

However, even though lucifer, now the devil, was cast out of Heaven, does not mean that his desires have changed. Satan still seeks worship to this day and this will play out as the final great crisis before the second coming of Jesus.

Satan having used the Papacy to promulgate a **false sabbath**, i.e., Sunday, during the time of Papal dominion from **538 AD-1798 AD**, he will again use the Protestant Churches in America, to influence the state to enforce Sunday worship by law. This is evidenced by the fact that the beast will 'cause all... to receive a mark.' He will cause 'as many as would not worship the image should be killed.' **Revelation 13:16,15**

Observe in the world today how the global community is working tirelessly to idolise Sunday, and to make it a common day of rest for the people of the earth. To those who have an understanding of Bible prophecy and who are blessed with discernment, can see that something very strange is going on in the world today, all one

has to do is to search in google for anything pertaining to **'global Sunday rest, green Sunday or climate Sunday'**, the results are startling.

All of the above we covered in our study in **Revelation 13** in more detail, so I would advise referring to those notes.

What we do notice however is that the message of the third angel counteracts directly against the beast and its mark, by proclaiming a warning against worshipping the beast or his image or receiving his mark. It is those who *'keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ'* who will proclaim this message with power to *'all nations and kingdoms and tongues and people' 'as a witness to all nations'*. It is these faithful believers who make up God's last day Church who will proclaim the loud cry message of Revelation 18, crying, *'come out' of Babylon, 'my people'*, for ***"If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his [right] hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God."***

But what is the wrath of God you may ask? The answer is found in **Revelation 15 & 16**, where we see the judgements of God are poured out upon all who refused to heed His message of mercy and warning which was proclaimed by His faithful remnant of believers in the first, second and third angel's messages.

These judgements are the seven last plagues which we will cover in more detail in the next two studies. However, what I will say at this point about the plagues is this, in order to understand God's wrath upon the wicked in the last days, that is, *the seven last plagues*, we must first study the account of the plagues in Egypt during the days of Moses & Aaron.

The wise king, Solomon tells us:

*'That which has been is what will be, that which is done is what will be done and there is nothing new under the sun.'* **Ecclesiastes 1:9**

Therefore, there is much to be learnt about the plagues in Egypt as well as the experience of God's people during that time.

**vs.11-12**

*'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.'*

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

When the plagues are falling upon the wicked, all *'who receive not the love of the truth'* **2nd Thessalonians 2:10**, for them it shall be a time of great perplexity and torment. **Revelation 16:9** tells us that when the



plagues are falling, the wicked will 'blaspheme the name of God' and they will refuse to repent and 'give Him [God] glory'.

This will also be a great testing time for God's faithful remnant of believers, all those who are sealed with the seal of the living God, all whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of life. We read, 'here is *the patience of the saints*...' That word patience is translated from the Greek word **HUPOMONE**, which is a type of patience that grows and develops under severe trial, chastisement and affliction. When the plagues are falling upon the wicked, and great calamities are falling upon the earth and we, God's faithful last day Church, will not be able to buy or sell because we refused to honour the beast, or worship his name or receive his number, our faith will truly be tested. It will be a time of great trial and tribulation for God's people, it will be '*a time of trouble such as never was...*' **Daniel 12:1**, it will be '*the time of Jacob's trouble*' **Jeremiah 30:7**.

*'Though the people of God endure privation, and even suffer for want of food, they are not left to perish. While God's judgments are visited upon the earth, and the wicked are dying from hunger and thirst, angels provide the righteous with food and water. Said Jesus, in his lessons of faith to his disciples: "Consider the ravens; for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them; how much more are ye better than the fowls?" [Luke 12:24.] "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows." [Matthew 10:29-31]' 4SP, page 448 par.1*

Speaking of those faithful followers of Christ, Isaiah says '*... bread shall be given him, his water shall be sure.*' **Isaiah 33:16**

And the psalmist says of the last days, '*a thousand may fall by your side and ten thousand at thy right hand, but it shall not come nigh thee, only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked... there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.*' **Psalms 91:7,10**

Truly God will have a people who will go through a serious time of trial and tribulation while the plagues are falling and catastrophic mayhem will be engulfing the earth, these are the 144,000. They would have gotten victory over sin by the grace of God, for '*in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God*'. They have the character of God fully revealed in them for they have '*the Father's name written in their foreheads*', they have '*gotten the victory over the beast and over his image and over the number of his name*', it is they that '*keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.*' They '*follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth*' and truly possess the '*faith of Jesus*' to put their full trust and faith in God despite their time of trouble. They say '*let not mine will but thine will be done.*'

**vs.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 labours, and their works follow them."*

John hears a voice from Heaven saying to him that those who die in Christ shortly before this great time of trouble shall come upon the earth are blessed. They shall rest from their labours and their efforts in the proclamation of the gospel and the winning of souls for the kingdom, shall follow them. They '*shall receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those that love Him.*' **James 1:12**

*'They are taken away in compassion, that they may not see the evil, nor share in it, nor be tempted by it. The righteous man, when he dies, enters into peace and rest.'* Matthew Henry Concise Commentary

*'The righteous perishes and no man takes it to heart; Merciful men are taken away while no one considers that the righteous is taken away from evil. He shall enter into peace; They shall rest in their beds, each one walking in his uprightness.'* **Isaiah 57:1**

**vs.14-20**

I will not go to in-depth here on these last few verses but what we see here is that immediately after the proclamation of the 3 angel's messages, Jesus is seen coming in the clouds and the end of this earth is compared to a great harvest. Jesus comes in all His Kingly glory, no longer as the High Priest but now as the King of kings and Lord of lords. In His hand is a sharp sickle and with it He shall harvest the righteous. The latter rain has been poured out during the the great time of trouble and the harvest for God's barn has been made ready. His people have been fully converted and the *'bride of Christ'* has made herself ready for *'the marriage supper of the Lamb.'*

John also sees another harvest, but this time it is the harvest of the wicked. They are bundled up into bundles to be cast into the great winepress of God's wrath to be destroyed by the Word of God. They have received not the love of the truth and as a result, have chosen to honour the beast and by implication giving honour to the dragon, satan; for this they shall perish.

*'Why is Your apparel red and Your garments like one who treads in the winepress?*

*'I have trodden the winepress alone and from the peoples no one was with Me.*

***For I have trodden them in My anger and trampled them in My fury;***

*Their blood is sprinkled upon My garments and I have stained all My robes.*

***For the day of vengeance is in My heart and the year of My redeemed has come.*** **Isaiah 63:2-4**

*'Listen! The voice, the cry of the daughter of my people from a far country:*

*'Is not the LORD in Zion? Is not her King in her?'" "Why have they provoked Me to anger with their carved images— with foreign idols?" **"The harvest is past, the summer is ended and we are not saved!"***

**Jeremiah 8:19-20**

*'But when the grain ripens, **immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.*** **Mark 4:29**

*'He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, the **good seeds are the sons of the kingdom,** but **the tares are the sons of the wicked one.** The enemy who sowed them is the devil, **the harvest is the end of the age,** and the reapers are the angels. Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. 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, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. **He who has ears to hear, let him hear!**' **Matthew 13:37-43***

Friends, we are living in a time of perplexity, and *'men's hearts as failing them for fear and for looking after those things which are coming upon the earth.'* Let us heed the message of truth and the message of warning that God has given to us in His mercy.

Let us *'fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgement is come'*, we are living in that time of judgment for God's professed people, for judgement first starts with the House of God and if it begins firstly with us, what then shall be the end of them that obey not the gospel of God?

*'Babylon is fallen, is fallen'* so *'come out of her'* is the loud cry being proclaimed to all parts of the earth. For if you remain in the apostate and confusing religions of Babylon, you shall *'continue in her sins and receive of her plagues'* and thus shall drink of the cup of the wrath of God.

Let us therefore *'come out from amongst them and be ye separate says the Lord'*.

*'And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.'*

**Revelation 22:12**

