

Revelation 14:1-20 (NIV)

1 Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads.

2 And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of rushing waters and like a loud peal of thunder. The sound I heard was like that of harpists playing their harps.

3 And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth.

4 These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they kept themselves pure. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among men and offered as firstfruits to God and the Lamb.

5 No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless.

6 Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth--to every nation, tribe, language and people.

7 He said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water."

8 A second angel followed and said, "Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great, which made all the nations drink the maddening wine of her adulteries."

9 A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: "If anyone worships the beast and his image and receives his mark on the forehead or on the hand,

10 he, too, will drink of the wine of God's fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. He will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb.

11 And the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever. There is no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and his image, or for anyone who receives the mark of his name."

12 This calls for patient endurance on the part of the saints who obey God's commandments and remain faithful to Jesus.

13 Then I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them."

14 I looked, and there before me was a white cloud, and seated on the cloud was one "like a son of man" with a crown of gold on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand.

15 Then another angel came out of the temple and called in a loud voice to him who was sitting on the cloud, "Take your sickle and reap, because the time to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is ripe."

16 So he who was seated on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was harvested.

17 Another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle.

18 Still another angel, who had charge of the fire, came from the altar and called in a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, "Take your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of grapes from the earth's vine, because its grapes are ripe."

19 The angel swung his sickle on the earth, gathered its grapes and threw them into the great winepress of God's wrath.

20 They were trampled in the winepress outside the city, and blood flowed out of the press, rising as high as the horses' bridles for a distance of 1,600 stadia.

REVELATION 14

2-25-24

Revelation 14:1-20 (NIV) Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. **2 And I** heard a sound from heaven like the roar of rushing waters and like a loud peal of thunder. The sound I heard was like that of harpists playing their harps. **3 And they** sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth.

The 144,000 were noted in ch. 7, and it is assumed that this is the same group, only later in the Tribulation (144k Jewish "evangelists." Not Jehovah's Witnesses, but witnesses for Jehovah (God).

There is a loud song of victory being sung... as Jesus stands on Mt. Zion – another name for Jerusalem...or heaven— a heavenly Jerusalem – a heavenly city of God!

These believers are with the Lord...He is standing in victory!

Songs, many times, come out of a believer's experience. Christian songs out of relationship/experience with God.

There's something special about these 144k that this song comes out of their own very special time with God.

4 These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they kept themselves pure. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among men and offered as first fruits to God and the Lamb.

5 No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless.

NOTE the importance of the 144k... they did NOT defile themselves with women—kept themselves pure.

Their focus is Jesus and Jesus alone – would not be distracted by temptations to sin or stray.

No lie (guile/deceit/trickery) found in them—God Himself knows they are blameless.

Watch as several glorious announcements are made:

6 Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth--to every nation, tribe, language and people. **7 He said** in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water."

Jesus is and will be victorious over the world. His kingdom will reign!

An angel with the eternal gospel!!! Proclaims to ALL! Fear God and give Him glory! Worship Him!

The hour of judgment has come!!!

Ecclesiastes 12:13 "Here now is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey his commands, for this is everyone's duty. ¹⁴ God will judge us for everything we do, including every secret thing, whether good or bad."

8 A second angel followed and said, "Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great, which made all the nations drink the maddening wine of her adulteries."

Announcement #2 – Babylon the Great has fallen! This is the ungodly government and godless/corrupt religion!

In OT, Babylon was the great enemy of Israel. It was a geographic area. It still is.

In the Tribulation it is probably BOTH a geographic area AND a political, economic, religious center.

Remember— "that no man may buy or sell unless he has the mark!"

Religion (worship) will be tied to government... whose power will be economic! **Spiritual warfare being played out in the geopolitical & religious world!**

THE ANGEL ANNOUNCES THAT BABYLON HAS FALLEN! ALL BELIEVERS WILL SPONTANEOUSLY REJOICE!

Babylon will be destroyed because it "made all the nations drink the maddening wine of her adulteries."

NOTE: Everyone's doing it...will NOT be a good thing!

Revelation 9:20 (NLT2) "But the people who did not die in these plagues still refused to repent of their evil deeds and turn to God. They continued to worship demons and idols made of gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood — idols that can neither see nor hear nor walk!

Immorality in the end times will be over the top! You see it growing now! Both physical AND spiritual! Babylon, the godless society of the antichrist will seduce the world to drink the juice! **She thinks** her wine leads to pleasure,

a utopian state. Well, the justice and fury of God will fall on all who join together with her. Remember, in Daniel's day, his 3 friends were cast into a fiery furnace for refusing to bow down to the reigning leader.

IF WE CAN'T STAND UP TO PEOPLE WHO DO EVIL TODAY AND REFUSE TO JOIN IN, WHEN THE CURRENT OF MOST OF THE WORLD IS GOING DOWNSTREAM, WE'LL BE SWEEPED AWAY!

9 A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: "If anyone worships the beast and his image and receives his mark on the forehead or on the hand, **10** he, too, will drink of the wine of God's fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. He will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. **11** And the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever. There is no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and his image, or for anyone who receives the mark of his name."

Angel with a loud voice (shouting)... Those who worship the beast... and his image... receives the mark... will drink the wine of God's fury—poured FULL STRENGTH into the cup of His wrath!



In one of the most terrifying passages of all of Scripture, the anger/wrath of God is stated! Eternal torment...burning sulfur...smoke of torment rises forever!!! NO REST... EVER!

Justice will triumph!



The MARK will show a person declares his allegiance, worships the state and secular society before God. That person will seal their eternal fate!

THE ANSWER TO THE ILLS OF PEOPLE...OF SOCIETY... IS NOT GOVERNMENT, SOCIAL PROGRAMS, EDUCATION. Humans try to help... but without God! Jesus is the answer!

12 This calls for patient endurance on the part of the saints who obey God's commandments and remain faithful to Jesus.

Again—believers will have to have patient endurance. Believers must stay the course—no matter what they say... no matter how many stray... **IF NONE GO WITH ME, I WILL STILL FOLLOW JESUS!**

13 Then I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them."

In contrast to the ungodly, the next voice said those who die "in the Lord" will rest from their labor—**REST means to be refreshed, revitalized, restirred, recharged, and rejuvenated. BODY...MIND...SPIRIT!**

"their deeds will follow them," refers to the rewards they will get for their godly deeds.

14 I looked, and there before me was a white cloud, and seated on the cloud was one "like a son of man" with a crown of gold on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand. **Now the** Lord is seen with a sharp sickle in His hand. Jesus is referred to as the Son of Man -- **Matthew 24:30-31 (NKJV)** "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. **31** And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Crown of gold = Jesus' royal power and glory.

15 Then another angel came out of the temple and called in a loud voice to him who was sitting on the cloud, "Take your sickle and reap, because the time to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." **16** So he who was seated on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was harvested.

Coming from the temple – the holy throne of God? When the sickle is swung, the "harvest," There is differing opinions of whether this is a good harvest (believers) or bad (judgment). But it will be swift/quick!

The word "ripe" means shriveled/dry/shrunken

17 Another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle.

18 Still another angel, who had charge of the fire, came from the altar and called in a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, "Take your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of grapes from the earth's vine, because its grapes are ripe." **19 The angel** swung his sickle on the earth, gathered its grapes and threw them into the great winepress of God's wrath. **20 They** were trampled in the winepress outside the city, and blood flowed out of the press, rising as high as the horses' bridles for a distance of 1,600 stadia.

In Bible times a farmer would put grapes in a vat and people would jump up and down on them with their bare feet. A lower vat would catch the grapes' juice. The OT used the treading out of the wine as a figure of speech for God's bringing the fury of His judgment and wrath on the ungodly.

<https://tenor.com/view/grapes-stomp-gif-22246112>



Zechariah 14:1-4 (NLT2) "Watch, for the day of the LORD is coming when your possessions will be plundered right in front of you! **2 I will** gather all the nations to fight against Jerusalem. The city will be taken, the houses looted, and the women raped. Half the population will be taken into captivity, and the rest will be left among the ruins of the city. **3 Then the** LORD will go out to fight against those nations, as he has fought in times past. **4 On that** day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem. And the Mount of Olives will split apart, making a wide valley running from east to west. Half the mountain will move toward the north and half toward the south.

THIS IS A PICTURE OF THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON.

THE FINAL EARTH WAR BEFORE JESUS BODILY RETURNS TO EARTH!

Rev. 14:20 – Note that wine does NOT come out of these grapes, blood does!

Rising as high as the horses; bridles (approx. 5-6 feet)

For 1600 stadia = approximately 180 miles

One writer says this is the blood of over 123,000,000 people.

Unfortunately, a world who rejects God, gets the devastation that comes with an evil world.