

## Angelic Messengers

### Revelation 14:6-11

#### I. Introduction:

##### A. Review and context

1. This chapter contains John's vision of Jesus standing on Mount Zion with the 144,000 Jewish saints who will serve Him during the tribulation.
2. These 144,000 were chosen by God and sealed so they could not be harmed.
3. God chose 12,000 out of each of the 12 tribes of Israel.
4. Purpose: They were chosen by God to serve as His witnesses throughout the tribulation
5. While antichrist & false prophet are spewing lies & deception, these 144k will proclaim the truth of God's word & invite lost people to be saved by faith in Jesus.
6. In the midst of most wicked period in human history, God still extends mercy & grace.
7. Reminder: God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their evil way and be saved (Ezek. 33:11).

#### II. Angels (Revelation 14:6-7)

##### A. Introduction:

1. While the 144k are proclaiming the gospel, God will also send 3 angels w/ 3 specific messages to the world. It's appropriate that angels be involved in spreading God's word.
2. The Greek word for angel is *angelos* which means messenger.

##### B. The gospel messenger

1. The first angel is a messenger of the gospel.
2. Most of the people who enter the tribulation will be deceived by the false prophet and will willingly follow and worship the antichrist.
3. Yet, throughout the entire seven-year period God will continue to extend the gospel and offer to save anyone who will confess their sin and accept Jesus.
4. The 144k will be preaching the gospel & two witnesses will be preaching the gospel.
5. Then God will send an angel to fly around the world preaching the gospel.
6. Notice two things about the gospel.
  - a. – It is the eternal gospel.
    - (1) Every human being born of man is a sinner. (Romans 3:23)
    - (2) The eternal penalty for sin is death. (Romans 6:23a)
    - (3) God provided forgiveness for our sin. (Romans 5:8)
    - (4) How to receive it. (Romans 10:9-10)
  - b. Every nation, tribe, tongue, and people.
    - (1) Preached to the whole world before the end comes (Matthew 24:14)
    - (2) No Respector of Persons: God does not favor one person over another regarding salvation. (Romans 2:11)

##### C. Warning of judgment (Revelation 14:7)

1. – Fear God.
  - a. To fear God means to reverence and worship Him.
  - b. It means to humble ourselves before Him & acknowledge His rightful place as God.
  - c. To reverence God means to give Him all honor and glory.

- d. The people in the tribulation will be reverencing the antichrist.
- e. This angel calls on the world to fear and reverence God.
- 2. – The hour of His judgment has come.
  - a. The gospel is like a two-sided coin. On one side is forgiveness of sin & eternal life in Jesus Christ, but the other side of the coin is condemnation for those who reject the gospel & fall under God's righteous judgment.
  - b. Those who reject Jesus are rejecting the only begotten Son of the Father who was sacrificed for their sin. There will be no mercy for those who reject Jesus!
- 3. – He who is the creator.
  - a. We should fear God and reverence Him because He created all things.
  - b. The universe declares God's existence and is the basis of our worship to Him.
  - c. See how king David said it: (**Psalm 19:1-4**) God creates & gives life to every human
  - d. He deserves our worship and reverence.

### **III. Babylon is fallen. (Revelation 14:8)**

#### **A. Babylon**

- 1. Babylon in this verse is not referring to a single city.
- 2. Antichrist will have a capital city, but this judgment is not limited to one city.
- 3. The word Babylon here means worldwide political, economic, & religious system of antichrist. It's called Babylon from the ancient city of Babel that later became Babylon.
- 4. In Genesis 10 we read of a leader called Nimrod who led his generation to reject God.
- 5. He is the one who organized a false religion and began building the tower of babel.

#### **B. Babylon is fallen.**

- 1. 2<sup>nd</sup> angel announces impending judgment of God upon antichrist & all who follow him
- 2. Jesus will soon return and destroy his kingdom.
- 3. The entire world system of rebellion against God will be destroyed.
- 4. Antichrist and his kingdom will be wiped from the face of the earth.
- 5. Babylon will be destroyed under the judgment and wrath of God.
- 6. Application: The wickedness of Babylon is alive and active in the world today.
- 7. Secular humanistic world view exalts man & rejects God has infected every part of life

### **IV. Judgment of those who follow antichrist (Revelation 14:9-11)**

#### **A. Strong warning**

- 1. 3<sup>rd</sup> angel will deliver a strong warning to anyone who chooses to follow antichrist.
- 2. It is a strong warning to anyone who chooses to reject the gospel.
- 3. Those who follow antichrist & take the mark of the beast will doom themselves to eternal suffering and torment. They will drink God's wrath, poured out in full strength.
- 4. Thus they'll suffer full wrath of God's indignation against their sin without compassion
- 5. God's wrath will be undiluted. God's wrath will be felt in its full effect.
- 6. Notice the description given here:
  - a. – Fire and brimstone
    - i. Those who follow the antichrist will be tormented in fire and brimstone.
    - ii. Those who reject God's offer of forgiveness will be tormented in fire & brimstone
  - b. – Notice the duration of this judgment. (Verse 11)
    - i. Once a person dies in their sin and enters hell, they will never get out.
    - ii. Punishment for sin is forever!
    - iii. All who reject Jesus and die in their sin will spend eternity in the lake of fire.