

# The REVELATION of JESUS CHRIST

## Chapter 14

### “THREE VISIONS!”

**Intro:** Chapter 14 is parenthetical passage; this speaks of several events that will take place within the “Great Tribulation” period. The order of events may not be chronological.

> **Observe and understand *THREE VISIONS*:**

#### > VISION #1 – A VISION OF THE 144,000 (v1-5)

(v1) **Where are the 144,000?** Mt. Zion (**Jerusalem**); who are they with? **The LAMB (JESUS)**.

(v2-3) **What are they doing? Worshipping GOD!** (Henry Morris, the creation scientist writes, “Although the words of the song of the 144,000 are not recorded, it surely dwells in part at least on the great truth that they had been “redeemed from the earth.” Although in one sense all saved people have been redeemed from the earth, these could know the meaning of such a theme in a more profound way than others. They had been saved after the rapture, at that time in history when man’s greatest persecution and God’s greatest judgments were on the earth. It was at such a time that they, like Noah (Gen. 6:8), had “*found grace in the eyes of the Lord*” and had been separated from “*all that dwell upon the earth*” (Rev. 13:8). Not only had they been redeemed spiritually, but precursively as it were, they had been redeemed from the very curse on the earth (Gen. 3:17), being protected from pain and death by the guarding seal. (Rev. 7:4; 9:4).”)

#### > VISION #2 – A VISION OF THREE ANGELIC PROCLAMATIONS (v6-12)

(v6) **First Angelic Proclamation:** **An angel proclaims the EVERLASTING GOSPEL to the whole world!** C.I. Scofield defines the “gospel” accordingly: “The word “gospel means good news. This is the good news that Jesus Christ died on the cross for the sins of the world; that He was raised from the dead on account of our justification, and that by Him all who believe are justified from all things. It is described as the Gospel “of God” (Rom. 1:1) because it originates in His love; “of Christ” (2 Cor. 10:14) because it flows from His sacrifice , and because He is the object of faith; “of the grace of God” (Acts 20:24) because it saves those whom the law curses; “of the glory of Christ” (2 Cor. 4:4; cp. 1 Tim. 1:11) because it concerns Him who is in the glory and who is bringing many sons to glory (Heb. 2:10); “of your salvation” (Eph. 1:13) because it is “the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes” (Rom. 1:16); and “of peace” (Eph. 6:15) because through Christ it makes peace between the believing sinner and God, and makes inward peace possible. The “everlasting gospel” (Rev. 14:6) is described as the announcement of divine judgment upon the wicked in the coming great tribulation. It is good news for the suffering believers as it heralds their coming deliverance and reward (cp. v12).

(v7) **In view of this those who “dwell on the earth” are exhorted to fear God and to worship Him!** (Psalm 19:1-4; Is. 40:21-26). Here the Bible declares that God “*made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water,*” whereas, the world says we evolved, along with the Catholic church and liberal theologians; this mindset follows **Romans 1:16-32**. (Pope John Paul II addressed the question of evolution in a 1996 message to the *Pontifical Academy of Sciences*; John Paul II said: “Today, almost half a century after publication of the encyclical, new knowledge has led to the recognition of the theory of evolution as more than a hypothesis. It is indeed remarkable that this theory has been progressively accepted by researchers, following a series of discoveries in various fields of knowledge. The convergence, neither sought nor fabricated, of the results of work that was conducted independently is in itself a significant argument in favor of the theory.”)

(v8) **Second Angelic Proclamation:** **An angel proclaims the destruction of Babylon!** Babylon symbolizes evil and rebellion against God. In the beginning Nimrod founded Tower of Babel of which it has always existed as Babylon (the city) and *mystery Babylon* (spiritually influences the world). It has been the home of idolatry, immorality and false religions. God confounded their languages at the ***Tower of Babel*** and they were scattered throughout the world and now we see it’s culmination as a world empire ruled by Antichrist, empowered by Satan. The word “*wrath*” in Greek is “*thumos*” this means the world will be drunk with ***lust and passion*** of her fornication, in other words, the world will be intoxicated with immorality, idolatry and rebellion against God.

(v9-11) **Third Angelic Proclamation:** **Announcing judgment to all who receive the mark of the beast!** Did Jesus talk about Hell? Turn to **Matthew 18:1-14**, also **Matthew 25:41** – *Then He will also say to those on the left hand, “Depart from Me, you cursed, into the EVERLASTING FIRE prepared for the devil and his angels. “ And, **Matthew 25:46** – *And these will go away into EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT, but the righteous into ETERNAL LIFE.)**

(v12) **“Here is the patience of the saints” – Jude writes in verses 5-7 - But I want to remind you, though you once knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. What are the COMMANDMENTS OF GOD? Turn to Mark 12:28-37; Jesus said in John 15:12 – This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. What is the **FAITH OF JESUS?** 1 John 5:3-5 declares, for this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?**

(v13) **“Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord”** – When a Christian dies they go home to be with our Lord Jesus Christ. Paul writes in 2 Cor 5:7-8 - For we walk by faith, not by sight. We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. Jesus said in John 14:1-4 - "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. And where I go you know, and the way you know." Notice, also, that our **“works follow us”** faith produces works (James 1:18); and as we bear fruit in this life, our fruit *remains* (John 15:16).

### **> VISION #3 – A VISION OF ARMAGEDDON (v13-20)**

(v14-16) **Jesus will reap the grain harvest – Luke 3:8-17** (remembering what John the Baptist said); **Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43.**

(v17-20) **An ANGEL will reap the grape harvest – This is the vision of Armageddon (Rev. 16:16).** That battle will take place in the north of Israel on the *Plain of Esdraelon* near *Mount Megiddo* (about 60 miles north of Jerusalem). It will range the entire length of Israel as far south as Bozrah in Edom (cf. **Isaiah 63:1-6** - *Who is this who comes from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah, this One who is glorious in His apparel, traveling in the greatness of His strength? — "I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save." 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. I looked, but there was no one to help, and I wondered that there was no one to uphold; therefore My own arm brought salvation for Me; and My own fury, it sustained Me. I have trodden down the peoples in My anger, made them drunk in My fury, and brought down their strength to the earth."*). **Joel 3:13-16** - *Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, go down; for the winepress is full, the vats overflow — for their wickedness is great." Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. The sun and moon will grow dark, and the stars will diminish their brightness. The LORD also will roar from Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem; the heavens and earth will shake; but the LORD will be a shelter for His people, and the strength of the children of Israel.*

**Conclusion: Jerusalem** will be spared to become the capitol of Christ's Kingdom. This event will take place at the **Second Coming of Christ (Rev. 19:11-21)**. **Psalm 2:12** – *Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way, for His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!*