Revelation – The Return Harvest (Revelation 14)

The unholy trinity

- The Antichrist will establish a world government.
- The False Prophet will form a world religion.
- Satan will use both for his evil purpose to steal, kill, and destroy.
- People will be required to worship the Antichrist and take the mark of the beast in order to participate in the world's economy.
- Faithful Christians will refuse the mark and will be killed.

The redeemed

The Lamb of God stands in power on Mount Zion.

- Revelation 14:1 Review the mark you want to take _____
- The 144,000 are Christians protected by the seal of God, the Holy Spirit.
- Despite the beast's persecution, Christ's followers will worship.
 o Revelation 14:2-3

List 7 components of Christ followers in vs.1-5 Sealed, worshipers....,

- Even in our worst circumstances, we have <u>victory</u> in Jesus.
 - Philippians 1:21-23 to live is Christ to die is gain...to be with Jesus is much better
- Heaven sings the song of redemption.
 - Revelation 5:9-10
- The redeemed are to be faithful to Jesus.
 - o Revelation 14:4-5
- Our Redeemer deserves our full devotion:Rom.12-1-2 We offer ourselves as a living sacrifice . We are not conformed to this world but transformed by the renewing of our minds in Jesus

The three angels

The first angel will proclaim the gospel and will call the world to repent.

Revelation 14:6-7

Why and how do we need to proclaim the gospel?_____

The second angel will proclaim the fall of Babylon the Great=one world order=adultery.

The third angel will proclaim God's judgment.

- Revelation 14:9-11
- Anyone who worships the Antichrist or takes the mark will face God's wrath.(What was supposed to save was really a road to prison)Ex.
- Hell is a real place of <u>eternal</u> torment, of fire and darkness, of weeping and gnashing of teeth, of isolation and separation.

God's justice may not be immediate in this life but it will come.

- \circ Revelation 14:12-13
- Christians are called to patiently endure and remain faithful.
- Christians will be given rest and rewards for their godly works.
- Matt 11:28²⁸ Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavyladen *and* overburdened, and I will cause you to rest. [I will @ease and relieve and @refresh @your souls.]²⁹ Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am gentle (meek) and humble (lowly) in heart, and you will find rest (@relief and ease and refreshment and @recreation and blessed quiet) for your souls.

How can you find rest_____

The harvests

Jesus will judge the world.

- \circ Revelation 14:14-16
- Harvesting in the Bible usually points to judgment.
 - Joel 3:13 refers to this in OT
- The wheat harvest is overripe because God will patiently wait for everyone who will to repent.
- God's patience will come to an end and judgment will follow.
 - Acts 10:4042 God ordained Jesus to judge
- God doesn't send people to hell. They willingly choose it.

John's vision of the grape harvest points to the bloody aftermath of Armageddon.

- o Revelation 14:17-20
- Satan's most effective tool is deception.
- We may suffer for a while but eternal victory is ours!

The wrath of God intended for us isn't cancelled but was instead poured out on Jesus.

-Rom. 5:9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

Action Steps

- Ask God to help you to patiently endure and remain faithful to Jesus. Encourage someone else to do the same.
- Share the eternal gospel with someone this week.
- Invite someone to join us next week.

Rev.14 NIV Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had <u>his name and his Father's name written on their</u>

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 <u>they sang</u> a <u>new song</u> 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 <u>who did not defile themselves with women</u>, for they <u>remained virgins</u>. <u>They follow the Lamb wherever he</u> <u>goes</u>. <u>They were purchased from among mankind and offered</u> as firstfruits to God and the Lamb. ⁵ <u>No lie was found in their</u> <u>mouths; they are blameless.</u>

The Three Angels⁶ Then I saw <u>another angel</u> 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 <u>second angel</u> followed and said, "'Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great,'^{III} which made all the nations drink the maddening wine of her adulteries."⁹ A <u>third angel</u> followed them and said in a loud voice: "If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives its mark on their forehead or on their hand, ¹⁰ they, too, will drink the wine of God's fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. They will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment will rise for ever and ever. There will be no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and its image, or for anyone who receives the mark of its name." ¹² This calls for patient endurance on the part of the people of God who keep his commands and remain faithful to Jesus.¹³ Then I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write this: 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."

Harvesting the Earth and Trampling the Winepress¹⁴

looked, and there before me was a white cloud, and seated on the cloud was one like a son of man^{III} 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.^[]