

# Revelation

Chapter 14

Lesson 15

# Revelation 14:1-2

- ◆ <sup>1</sup> And I looked, and behold the lamb was standing upon Mount Zion, and with him were the one hundred forty-four thousand, the ones having his name and the name of the Father written upon their foreheads. <sup>2</sup> And I heard a sound out of heaven, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of a great thunder; and the sound which I heard was like harpists playing the harp on their harps.



# Revelation 14:3

- ◆ <sup>3</sup> And they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living beings and the elders, and no one was able to learn the song except the one hundred forty-four thousand, the ones having been bought from the earth.

# Revelation 14:4-5

- ◆ <sup>4</sup> These are the ones who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones following the lamb wherever he goes. These were bought from humankind as the firstfruit of God and the Lamb, <sup>5</sup> and in their mouth there is not found a lie, they are blameless.

# First Fruits

- ◆ “In ancient Israel, the first of the crops (vegetables, grains, fruits) to ripen were to be given as an offering to God (Exod 23:19; Lev 23:9-14; Deut 26:1-11). The first of the wine and oil produced, as well as the first born of the livestock, were also to be offered to God (Deut 18:4). These offerings given to the priests represented a “tithe” of the worshiper’s harvest and new livestock. By offering the first fruits to God, one gave thanks for the harvest and encouraged God to bless the remainder of the crops. Thus the first fruits were, in part, a token of the coming abundant harvest. The New Testament uses “first fruits” metaphorically to symbolize the idea of something that is the first in sequence and the harbinger of more to come (cf. Rom 8:23; 11:16; 1 Cor 15:20, 23; 16:15; Jas 1:18).”

- ◆ Mitchell Reddish, Revelation, in the Smyth and Helwys Bible Commentary Series, (Macon GA: Smyth & Helwys, 2001), p. 275.

# Revelation 14:5

- ◆ <sup>5</sup> and in their mouth there is not found a lie, they are blameless.

# 2 Esdras 2:42-48

- ◆ I, Ezra, saw on Mount Zion a great multitude that I could not number, and they all were praising the Lord with songs. In their midst was a young man of great stature, taller than any of the others, and on the head of each of them he placed a crown, but he was more exalted than they. And I was held spellbound. Then I asked an angel, "Who are these, my lord?" He answered and said to me, "These are they who have put off mortal clothing and have put on the immortal, and have confessed the name of God. Now they are being crowned, and receive palms." Then I said to the angel, "Who is that young man who is placing crowns on them and putting palms in their hands?" He answered and said to me, "He is the Son of God, whom they confessed in the world." So I began to praise those who had stood valiantly for the name of the Lord. Then the angel said to me, "Go, tell my people how great and how many are the wonders of the Lord God that you have seen."



# Revelation 14:6-7

- ◆ <sup>6</sup> And I saw another angel flying in midheaven, having an eternal gospel to proclaim to those dwelling upon the earth and upon every nation, and tribe and language and people, <sup>7</sup> saying in a great voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgement has come, and fall down and worship the one who made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and the springs of water.

# Gospel

- ◆ What is the bad news?
- ◆ What then is the good news?

# Revelation 14:6-7

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# Revelation 14:8

- ◆ <sup>8</sup> And another angel, a second one followed saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, who has given a drink from the wine of wrath of her fornication."

# Jeremiah 51:7

- ◆ Babylon was a golden cup in Yahweh's hand, making all the earth drunken; the nations drank of her wine, and so the nations went mad.

# Revelation 14:9

- ◆ <sup>9</sup> And another angel, a third one followed them saying in a great voice, "If anyone falls down to worship the beast and his image and receives a mark upon his forehead or upon his hand,

# Revelation 14:10-11

- ◆ <sup>10</sup> he will drink from the wine of God, poured unmixed from the cup of his wrath, and he will be tormented in fire and sulfur before the holy angels and before the lamb. <sup>11</sup> And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever, and the ones falling down and worshipping the beast and his image will not have rest day or night also if anyone receives the mark of his name.

# Revelation 14:12

- ◆ <sup>12</sup> Here is a call for endurance of the holy ones, the ones keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.



# Revelation 14:13

- ◆ <sup>13</sup> And I heard a voice out of heaven saying, "Write, blessed are the the dead, the ones dying in the Lord from now on." "Yes," the Spirit says, "so that they will rest from their labors, for their works will follow after them."

# Wang Zhiming



# Harvest

- ◆ Joel 3:13 - Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Go in, tread, for the wine press is full. The vats overflow, for their wickedness is great.

# Revelation 14:14-15

- ◆ <sup>14</sup> And I looked, and behold there was a white cloud and upon the cloud was seated one like a son of mankind, having upon his head a golden crown and in his hand a sharp sickle! <sup>15</sup> And another angel came out of the Temple crying out in a great voice to the one seated upon the cloud, "Send your sickle and reap, because the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth is ripe."

# Revelation 14:16

- ◆ <sup>16</sup> And the one who sat upon the cloud cast his sickle upon the earth and reaped the earth.

# Revelation 14:17-18

- ◆ <sup>17</sup> And another angel came out of the Temple in heaven having also a sharp sickle. <sup>18</sup> And another angel [came] out of the altar, [the] one having authority over the fire, and he shouted in a great voice to the one having the sharp sickle saying, "Send your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of grapes of the vine of the earth, because its clusters of grapes are ripe."

# Revelation 14:19-20

- ◆ <sup>19</sup> And the angel cast his sickle upon the earth and gathered the vines of the earth and cast them upon the great winepress of the wrath of God. <sup>20</sup> And the winepress was trampled outside the city and blood came out of the winepress up to the bridle of the horses for a distance of one thousand six hundred stadia (200 miles).

# Isaiah 63:3

- ◆ “I have trodden the wine press alone, and from the peoples no one was with me; I trod them in my anger and trampled them in my wrath; their juice spattered on my garments, and stained all my robes.



# Lamentations 1:15

- ◆ The LORD has rejected all my warriors in the midst of me; he proclaimed a time against me to crush my young men; the Lord has trodden as in a wine press the virgin daughter Judah.

# Revelation 19:15

- ◆ From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron; he will tread the wine press of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

# Wine Press

