

God's Last Message to the World

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The Great Commission

Matthew 28:18 “Then Jesus came up and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, **20** teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” NET

Matthew 24:14 “And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached throughout the whole inhabited earth as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.” NET

Talking to His disciples Jesus said that the gospel would be preached to the entire world before His return. The age that He referred to is the age of this mortal world. The new age that is to come is the age of immortality that is to begin at the Second Coming of Christ.

According to Jesus the gospel will be proclaimed to the entire world as a witness to all nations and then the harvest of the earth will take place at His return. In the book of Revelation we have an interesting picture of just such an event. Known as the three angels' messages and the harvest.

THE THREE ANGELS' MESSAGES (Revelation 14:6-20)

Revelation 14:6-7 “Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, and he had an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language, and people. **7** He declared in a loud voice: “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has arrived, and worship the one who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water!” NET

Revelation 14:8 “A second angel followed the first, declaring: “Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great city! She made all the nations drink of the wine of her immoral passion.” NET

Revelation 14:9-12 “A third angel followed the first two, declaring in a loud voice: “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and takes the mark on his forehead or his hand, **10** that person will also drink of the wine of God's anger that has been mixed undiluted in the cup of his wrath, and he will be tortured with fire and sulfur in front of the holy angels and in front of the Lamb. **11** And the smoke from their torture will go up forever and ever, and those who worship the beast and his image will have no rest day or night, along with anyone who receives the mark of his name.” **12** This requires the steadfast endurance of the saints—those who obey God's commandments and hold to their faith in Jesus.” NET

Revelation 14:13 Then I heard a voice from heaven say, “Write this: ‘Blessed are the dead, those who die in the Lord from this moment on!’” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “so they can rest from their hard work, because their deeds will follow them.” NET



The Return of Christ

Revelation 14:14-16 “Then I looked, and a white cloud appeared, and seated on the cloud was one like a son of man! He had a golden crown on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand. **15** Then another angel came out of the temple, shouting in a loud voice to the one seated on the cloud, “Use your sickle and start to reap, because the time to reap has come, since the earth's harvest is ripe!” **16** So the one seated on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was reaped.” NET

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Revelation 14:17-20 “Then another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle. **18** Another angel, who was in charge of the fire, came from the altar and called in a loud voice to the angel who had the sharp sickle, “Use your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of grapes off the vine of the earth, because its grapes are now ripe.” **19** So the angel swung his sickle over the earth and gathered the grapes from the vineyard of the earth and tossed them into the great winepress of the wrath of God. **20** Then the winepress was stomped outside the city, and blood poured out of the winepress up to the height of horses’ bridles for a distance of almost 200 miles.” NET

When God sends to men warnings so important that they are represented as being proclaimed by holy angels flying in the midst of heaven, He requires every person endowed with reasoning powers to heed the message. They describe exactly what God himself wants his people to know and understand to be ready for the harvest of the earth at the Second Advent of Christ. God’s last true church and last true messengers will know, understand, and preach these last messages proclaimed by the three angels.

God wants us to know about:

- (1) The Everlasting Gospel. (Righteousness by Faith)
- (2) The Judgement
- (3) End time Babylon (false religion)
- (4) The Beast and his Image. (The 666 Antichrist)
- (5) The Mark of the Beast
- (6) The keeping of the commandments of God.
- (7) The Correct knowledge of the Second Advent of Christ - The harvest.

The fearful judgements denounced against the worship of the beast and his image, should lead all to a diligent study of the prophecies to learn what the mark of the beast is, and how they are to avoid receiving it. We need to accept the everlasting gospel; prepare for the judgement; come out of Babylon (false religion); and to oppose the Beast and his Image to avoid receiving the Mark of the Beast. Those people who accept these three last heaven sent messages are described in Rev 14:12.

Revelation 14:12 “This requires the steadfast endurance of the saints—those who obey God’s commandments and hold to their faith in Jesus.” NET

The First Angel’s Message

Revelation 14:6-7 “Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, and he had an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language, and people. **7** He declared in a loud voice: “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has arrived, and worship the one who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water!” NET

Eternal gospel. It is not something new or strange, not something man has invented. It is the truth of *Righteousness by faith*. Righteousness through the Spirit of God purchased for us by the sacrifice of Christ. The gospel that was revealed to Adam and reaches down to the return of Christ. From the time that man was expelled from the Garden of Eden until his return to it. This same gospel that was taught by the Apostle Paul and preached to Abraham.

His Judgement has arrived. The statement “has arrived” is very significant. It indicates the arrival of the judgement. Not something to occur in the future. The judgement (Gk. *Krisis*) mentioned here refers to a decision that is handed down by a judge in a court. Thus the judgement that has arrived is the Judgement where God Himself is the Judge. This judgement is pictured in Daniel 7:9-10, &22, 26-27. The “Ancient of Days”, God himself, is seated on His throne ready to judge just prior to the return of Christ.

Worship the one who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water! Worship the Creator who made heaven and earth. The fact that God is Creator is the foundation of all true religion. At a time when most of the world believes in the theory of evolution God calls us back to worship Him as the creator. Also at this time the religious world will be involved in worshipping the Beast and his image, and stealing from God His right to be worshipped.

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The Second Angel's Message

Revelation 14:8 “A second angel followed the first, declaring: “Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great city! She made all the nations drink of the wine of her immoral passion.” NET

A call to come out of Babylon. What is Babylon? In the Old Testament ancient Babylon was a powerful city that not only opposed God's people but was also the home of false religion. In Revelation end time Babylon describes a worldwide system of false religion and worship.

The Third Angel's Message

Revelation 14:9-10 “A third angel followed the first two, declaring in a loud voice: “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and takes the mark on his forehead or his hand, **10** that person will also drink of the wine of God's anger that has been mixed undiluted in the cup of his wrath, and he will be tortured with fire and sulfur in front of the holy angels and in front of the Lamb.’ ” NET

Here is a warning against the worship of the beast and his image and receiving his mark. This is the most fearful warning in the entire bible. Those people who receive the mark of the beast suffer the undiluted wrath of God poured out without mercy. It is important that we understand who the beast is and what the mark is so that we can avoid them both.

Keeping the Commandments of God

Revelation 14:12 “This requires the steadfast endurance of the saints—those who obey God's commandments and hold to their faith in Jesus.” NET”

The people who accept the three angels' messages are described as keeping the commandments of God and having the faith of Jesus. They stand out in marked contrast to the rest of humanity who receive the mark of the beast. This is a clear indication that the mark of the beast has something to do with not observing the commandments of God.

The Loud Cry

Revelation 18:1-4 “After these things I saw another angel, who possessed great authority, coming down out of heaven, and the earth was lit up by his radiance. **2** He shouted with a powerful voice: “Fallen, fallen, is Babylon the great! She has become a lair for demons, a haunt for every unclean spirit, a haunt for every unclean bird, a haunt for every unclean and detested beast.**3** For all the nations have fallen from the wine of her immoral passion, and the kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have gotten rich from the power of her sensual behaviour.”**4** Then I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, so you will not take part in her sins and so you will not receive her plagues,” NET

In Revelation chapter 18 we see another picture of the world wide proclamation of the 3 Angels messages. This scene is the known as the “The loud Cry”. The three angels proclaim their message's as described below.

The first angel ‘**He declared in a loud voice**’

The second angel is ‘**declaring**’

The third angel ‘**declaring in a loud voice**’

But the mighty angel of Revelation 18:1- 4 has great authority and *illuminates the earth with his glory* and *shouted with a powerful voice*.

This same message is preached again only this time in such a mighty way that the entire earth hears it, calling God's people out of false religion and false worship. This must mean that the entire Christian world is also involved in false religion, with the exception of those people who preach the three angels messages calling God's people out. It is this false system of religion that forces the world to receive the Mark of the Beast.

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The Harvest of the Earth

The harvest of the wicked and the harvest of the righteous both take place at the same time, at the Second Advent of Christ. This is in fulfillment of the words of Christ who spoke of the harvest at the end of the age.

Matthew 13:36-43 “Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him saying, “Explain to us the parable of the darnel in the field.” **37** He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. **38** The field is the world and the good seed are the people of the kingdom. The poisonous weeds are the people of the evil one, **39** and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. **40** As the poisonous weeds are collected and burned with fire, so it will be at the end of the age. **41** The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather from his kingdom everything that causes sin as well as all lawbreakers. **42** They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. **43** Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. The one who has ears had better listen!” NET

In this harvest that takes place at the return of Christ the angels are going to gather out of the Kingdom of God all those people on the earth who break the law of God. They're going to be destroyed in the lake of fire. Only those people who obey God's law will be spared. The righteous are compared with the law breakers who are thrown into hell. This indicates that the righteous ones are law keepers. Darnel is known as wheats evil twin, it looks and behaves like wheat. In a big enough dose it can kill a person. When people eat its seeds they get dizzy, off balance and nauseous. If an enemy wanted to ruin a farmers crop they would scatter darnel seeds in with the wheat.(1)

Rev 14:14-16 “Then I looked, and a white cloud appeared, and seated on the cloud was one like a son of man! He had a golden crown on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand. **15** Then another angel came out of the temple, shouting in a loud voice to the one seated on the cloud, “Use your sickle and start to reap, because the time to reap has come, since the earth's harvest is ripe!” **16** So the one seated on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was reaped.” NET

This describes the harvesting of the people of God by Christ. Jesus the Son of Man is pictured as harvesting the earth. These people are saved and will live with God forever. The next few verses describe the harvest of the wicked, which takes place at the same time.

Rev 14:16-20 “Then another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle. **18** Another angel, who was in charge of the fire, came from the altar and called in a loud voice to the angel who had the sharp sickle, “Use your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of grapes off the vine of the earth, because its grapes are now ripe.” **19** So the angel swung his sickle over the earth and gathered the grapes from the vineyard of the earth and tossed them into the great winepress of the wrath of God. **20** Then the winepress was stomped outside the city, and blood poured out of the winepress up to the height of horses' bridles for a distance of almost 200 miles.” NET

The reference to blood rising up to the horses bridles stresses the severity of the execution of God's wrath. It's world wide in its scope and extends to all the people on the earth who find themselves outside the umbrella of the protection of God. It is highly important for Christians who live in the last days to understand and obey these last messages. The purpose of this impressive picture is to drive out the fear of the beast and his image by a stronger fear that the day of God's mercy is nearly closed. Christ is returning 'clothed in a robe dipped in blood.' (Rev 19:13) accompanied by the heavenly armies. He will tread the winepress of the wine of the anger of the wrath of God Almighty. And he has on his thighs a name written: 'King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.' (Rev 19:16).

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(1) <https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/wheats-evil-twin-has-been-intoxicating-humans-for-centuries>