



~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



Vol. 15 Issue 277

Oct. 13, 2011

Lord, I want to be moved with compassion toward people. Help me to truly feel compassion for what other people are going through, and teach me how to let mercy flow from my spirit to strengthen people. I know that my spirit is filled with everything people need in moments of difficulty, so I want to know how to release those good things from my spirit to strengthen and edify people. Holy Spirit, please help me to be moved with compassion toward people. Teach me how to treat them as being more important than myself, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Scripture

Revelation 14

Revelation 14:1-20 (AMP) : 1 THEN I looked, and behold, the Lamb stood on Mount Zion, and with Him 144,000 [men] who had His name and His Father's name inscribed on their foreheads. 2 And I heard a voice from heaven like the sound of great waters and like the rumbling of mighty thunder; the voice I heard [seemed like the music] of harpists accompanying themselves on their harps. 3 And they sang a new song before the throne [of God] and before the four living creatures and before the elders [of the heavenly Sanhedrin]. No one could learn [to sing] that song except the 144,000 who had been ransomed (purchased, redeemed) from the earth. 4 These are they who have not defiled themselves by relations with women, for they are [pure as] virgins. These are they who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These are they who have been ransomed (purchased, redeemed) from among men as the first fruits for God and the Lamb. 5 No lie was found to be upon their lips, for they are blameless (spotless, untainted, without blemish) before the throne of God. 6 Then I saw another angel flying in midair, with an eternal Gospel (good news) to tell to the inhabitants of the earth, to every race and tribe and language and people. 7 And he cried with a mighty voice, Revere God and give Him glory (honor and praise in worship), for the hour of His judgment has arrived. Fall down before Him; pay Him homage and adoration and worship Him Who created heaven and earth, the sea and the springs (fountains) of water. 8 Then another angel, a second, followed, declaring, Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She who made all nations drink of the [maddening] wine of her passionate unchastity [idolatry]. 9 Then another angel, a third, followed them, saying with a mighty voice, Whoever pays homage to the beast and his statue and permits the [beast's] stamp (mark, inscription) to be put on his forehead or on his hand, 10 He too shall [have to] drink of the wine of God's indignation and wrath, poured undiluted into the cup of His anger; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. 11 And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no respite (no pause, no intermission, no rest, no peace) day or night—these who pay homage to the beast and to his image and whoever receives the stamp of his name upon him. 12 Here [comes in a call for] the steadfastness of the saints [the patience, the endurance of the people of God], those who [habitually] keep God's commandments and [their] faith in Jesus. 13 Then I heard further [perceiving the distinct words of] a voice from heaven, saying, Write this: Blessed (happy, to be envied) are the dead from now on who die in the Lord! Yes, blessed (happy, to be envied indeed), says the Spirit, [in] that they may rest from their labors, for their works (deeds) do follow (attend, accompany) them! 14 Again I looked, and behold, [I saw] a white cloud, and sitting on the cloud One resembling a Son of Man, with a crown of gold on His head and a sharp scythe (sickle) in His hand. 15 And another angel came out of the temple sanctuary, calling with a mighty voice to Him Who was sitting upon the cloud, Put in Your scythe and reap, for the hour has arrived to gather the harvest, for the earth's crop is fully ripened. 16 So He Who was sitting upon the cloud swung His scythe (sickle) on the earth, and the earth's crop was harvested. 17 Then another angel came out of the temple [sanctuary] in heaven, and he also carried a sharp scythe (sickle). 18 And another angel came forth from the altar, [the angel] who has authority and power over fire, and he called with a loud cry to him who had the sharp scythe (sickle), Put forth your scythe and reap the fruitage of the vine of the earth, for its grapes are entirely ripe. 19 So the angel swung his scythe on the earth and stripped the grapes and gathered the vintage from the vines of the earth and cast it into the huge winepress of God's indignation and wrath. 20 And [the grapes in] the winepress were trodden outside the city, and blood poured from the winepress, [reaching] as high as horses' bridles, for a distance of 1,600 stadia (about 200 miles).

Worship Music

[Thank You-Katinas](#)

[One More Time-Katinas](#)

[I Give You My Heart-Katinas](#)

[Carry The Cross-Katinas](#)

[There You Are-Katinas](#)

Radio Stations

[KWVE ...Calvary Chapel](#)

[KLOV](#)

Bible Study Sites

[Chuck Smith Through The Bible](#)

[Bob Coy/Teachings](#)

[Mike MacIntosh](#)

[Jon Courson](#)

[Biblos.com](#)

[Billy Graham](#)

[Charles Stanley](#)

[David Wilkerson](#)

[Greg Laurie](#)

[Virtue for Women-Cathe Laurie](#)

Revelation 14. The Lamb and His Followers John describes seven visions in this chapter. These visions seem to be given here to provide us with "the big picture," and the following chapters provide us with more of the details. As the details unfold in later chapters, we see that the visions presented here do not necessarily appear in chronological order.

The 144,000, Revelation 14:1–5 ... The Lamb and His faithful followers are set over against the beast and his followers of the preceding chapter. • The Lamb's followers have His name on their foreheads (v. 1 ; 7:3–4), even as the beast's followers are marked with his name (13:16–17). • They do not speak lies (14:5), in contrast to the lying wonders of the beast (13:14). • They have "kept themselves pure" (14:4 ; kjv , virgins), in contrast to the prostitution of the beast (17:5). We are not to understand that they were literal celibates, for the New Testament never regards the married state as sinful—on the contrary, it exalts it as a symbol of the relation between Christ and His bride (see 2 Corinthians 11:2). Their celibacy was spiritual. They have kept themselves from spiritual idolatry and remain pure to the one true God. • They were faithful to Christ in contrast to the adultery of Babylon, which includes the apostate church.

The new song (Revelation 14:2–3), breaking on the ear like the ocean's roar, was one that only the redeemed tribulation saints could know. Although probably similar to the praise songs sung earlier by the saints (see Revelation 5:9), it is differentiated as a new song. Perhaps the redeemed of each dispensation will have something uniquely joyous to sing about as they join others in worship and praise in heaven. An unsaved person cannot know the joys of the redeemed, and the redeemed themselves, when they reach heaven, will experience rapture exquisite beyond anything they could imagine. In heaven everybody will sing, and sing, and sing.

Who are the 144,000? They are probably the same as the 144,000 of 7:4 . As discussed earlier, most believe that the 144,000 are the elect of Israel (most likely Jews) sealed by God halfway through the seven-year tribulation period (see Revelation 7 for additional information on the 144,000 Israelites). They are the "firstfruits" (14:4), in contrast to the general "harvest" (vv. 15–16). They may be referred to as firstfruits because they were the first to be saved during the tribulation period. Others believe that this confirms that the 144,000 were Jews, God's bride, His firstfruits, much as the church is the bride of Christ. At the beginning of this chapter we see the Lamb (Christ) standing on Mount Zion. He is with the 144,000 on the earth. Mount Zion is another name for Jerusalem. There are many passages in the Bible, especially in Psalms, which tell us that Zion is God's chosen place on the earth: "For the Lord has chosen Zion, he has desired it for his dwelling: 'This is my resting place for ever and ever ...'" (Psalm 132:13–14). Although this is the only reference to Zion in Revelation, it seems to confirm several Old Testament passages that suggest that Jerusalem will be the center of Christ's earthly kingdom when He returns (see Isaiah 2:3–4 ; Psalm 48:2).

The Angel with the Everlasting Gospel, Revelation 14:6–7 ...The 144,000 were the firstfruits. Here the picture symbolizes the general evangelization of the whole world. The Lamb's weapon in leading His army against the beast is the preaching of the simple Gospel. To some, this image represents the carrying of the Gospel to the Gentiles after it had been preached to Israel. To others, it typifies the era of modern worldwide missions, preceding the fall of "Babylon," which is announced in the next verse. To others it is an announcement that the millennial reign of Christ is at hand. In any case, the angel is giving a warning to the people of the world, a sort of "last call" for those have yet to repent, that Christ is coming soon.

The Fall of Babylon, Revelation 14:8 ... The second angel announces the fall of Babylon. This is the first mention of Babylon in the book of Revelation. Babylon's fall is mentioned again in 16:19 . The fall of Babylon is thus mentioned twice before there is any further statement about Babylon, which is fully described in chapters 17–18 . Babylon was so horrible that the writer wanted to assure his readers, before telling them about it in more detail, that it would have only a temporary existence. Babylon was the name given to the working alliance of the revived political beast and the religious pretender-lamb of chapter 13 . The satanic trinity is able to make "all the nations drink of the maddening wine of her [spiritual] adulteries." This seems to allude to the formation of a one-world religion and a single, worldwide political system. This is hardly a stretch for our imagination as we see the news of our world unfold in current events. Perhaps this angel's warning is relevant to us—be warned of a movement to create an ecumenical religion based more on the premise of "brotherly love and tolerance" than on one's relationship with Jesus Christ.

The Doom of the Beast's Worshipers, Revelation 14:9–12 ...The book of Revelation recognizes only two classes of people: those who belong to God, and those who belong to the beast. Here the unhappy lot of those who have the mark of the beast is in sad contrast to the unspeakable joy of those who have the mark of the Lamb (v. 3). Their doom is more fully described in chapters 19–20 . The contrasting of the fate of the redeemed and the lost, which is so prominent in this book, was also a characteristic of Jesus' teaching in the Gospels. It is interesting to note that "the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever" (14:11). This is a confirmation of the comparison made between the "life eternal" for God's people and "everlasting punishment" for the doomed in Matthew 25:46 (see also Revelation 19:20 and 20:10).

The Blessed Dead, Revelation 14:13 This is, again, in contrast to the torment of the wicked mentioned in v. 11 . The suffering of the martyrs, at long last, is over. The time prayed for in 6:9–11 has come at last.

The Harvest of the Earth, Revelation 14:14–16 This chapter began with a vision of the "firstfruits" (v. 4) and closes with visions of the final harvest, with an era of Gospel preaching in between. The seals and trumpets had carried the panorama to the final end in chapter 11 . Chapters 12–14 , returning to the start, contain another series that runs to the end: the development of the beast, ending in his defeat at the hands of the Lamb. This vision is another representation of the parable of the weeds (Matthew 13:37–43); both picture the final ingathering of the elect.

The harvest of the earth is ripe (Revelation 14:15) has a bearing on the reason the Lord delays His coming: He is waiting for the harvest to ripen. The harvest of the human race had been spoken of long before in the Old Testament, in Joel 3:9–14 : "Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, trample the grapes, for the winepress is full and the vats overflow—so great is their wickedness! ... For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision." It is an ancient picture of John's flying angel herald, followed later by the angels of the harvest.

The Grapes from the Earth's Vine, Revelation 14:17–20 This vision refers to the wicked, for the winepress is the "great winepress of God's wrath" (v. 19). It is another representation of the doom of the wicked, as Jesus said: "They [the angels] will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 13:42) and "they will go away to eternal punishment" (Matthew 25:46).

