

Revelation 14

Verse 1

- Hebrews 12:22-24 - ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, ²³ to the general assembly and church of the firstborn *who are* registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, ²⁴ to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than *that of* Abel.

Verse 1

- **“Who are the 144,000?”.**
- **Some see them as the 144,000 that were sealed in chapter 7.**
- **Others see this as the number of fulness, meaning they are all the redeemed from Adam, Eve and Abel to the last saint saved and martyred during the tribulation period.**

Verse 1

- Mount Zion of course, is Jerusalem, where Jesus will reign during His millennium kingdom.
- Psalm 2:6 - “Yet I have set My King, on My holy hill of Zion.”

Verses 2-3

- Verse 3 is where some point to as the 144,000 being those in chapter 7, because they sung the song before the “throne, the four beasts and the elders”.
- The only elders mentioned in Revelation are the 24 elders, which represent the redeem of both Old and New Testament.

Verses 2-3

- “The Greek, using the definite article, *the*, indicates the 144,000 are also *the redeemed* from the earth. Such a usage seems to mean all of the redeemed, all who are blood-bought, washed in the blood of the Lamb, not just the redeemed out of the twelve tribes of Israel – Stanley Horton

Verses 4-5

- **2 Kings 19:21-22 - ²¹ This *is* the word which the Lord has spoken concerning him [Sennacherib king of Assyria]: ‘The virgin, the daughter of Zion, has despised you, laughed you to scorn; The daughter of Jerusalem has shaken *her* head behind your back! ²² ‘Whom have you reproached and blasphemed? Against whom have you raised *your* voice, and lifted up your eyes on high? Against the Holy *One* of Israel.**

Verses 4-5

- **Jeremiah 18:13-15 - ¹³ Therefore thus says the Lord: “Ask now among the Gentiles, Who has heard such things? The virgin of Israel has done a very horrible thing. ¹⁴ Will *a man* leave the snow water of Lebanon, *which comes* from the rock of the field? Will the cold flowing waters be forsaken for strange waters? ¹⁵ “Because My people have forgotten Me, they have burned incense to worthless idols. And they have caused themselves to stumble in their ways, *from* the ancient paths, to walk in pathways and not on a highway,**

Verses 4-5

- Hosea 2:1-2 - Say to your brethren, 'My people,' and to your sisters, '*Mercy is shown.*' ² "Bring charges against your mother, bring charges; For she *is* not My wife, nor *am* I her Husband! Let her put away her harlotries from her sight, and her adulteries from between her breasts; ³ Lest I strip her naked and expose her, as in the day she was born, and make her like a wilderness, and set her like a dry land, and slay her with thirst. ⁴ "I will not have mercy on her children, for they *are* the children of harlotry. ⁵ For their mother has played the harlot; She who conceived them has behaved shamefully. For she said, 'I will go after my lovers, who give *me* my bread and my water, my wool and my linen, my oil and my drink.'

Verses 4-5

- **These 144,000 whoever they may be are praised for their faithfulness to Jesus.**
- **Firstfruits here could mean the very best or the highest quality, as all offerings to God should be.**
- **If these are tribulation saints, the pressure to remain faithful to Jesus will be immense. Firstfruits is normally is from or associated with Jewish worship.**

Verses 4-5

- ***Romans 11:15-16 - ¹⁵ For if their being cast away *is* the reconciling of the world, what *will* their acceptance *be* but life from the dead? ¹⁶ For if the firstfruit *is* holy, the lump *is* also *holy*; and if the root *is* holy, so *are* the branches.**
- ***J. Vernon McGee believes this verse is part of God's promise in Revelation 14 and is specific to the Jewish people, the 144,000.**

Verses 4-5

- The general consensus, but not unanimous, is that the 144,000 are the first ones saved and they will bring others to Christ through their witnessing.
- *Deceit or guile* means they do not lie. *Without fault* means they are unblemished or blameless.

Verses 6-7

- **Revelation 8:13 - This angel was announcing that the next three trumpets were yet to sound, but would cause woe and devastation on/in the world.**
- **The first two woes were the locust and the angels chained in the Euphrates River; they killed a third of mankind.**
- **The second woe also has the two witnesses that may strike the earth with plagues and if anyone tries to kill them, they would be killed with fire.**

Verses 6-7

- **Revelation 11:15 - ¹⁵ Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdoms of this world have become *the kingdoms* of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!”**
- **This angel in verses 6-7 is warning and announcing that judgment has finally come. He, the angel, is the last witness before judgment comes.**

Verses 6-7

- **We know after the sixth seal was broken, no one seemed to repent. - Revelation 6:15-17**
- **We know for a fact, that after the sixth trumpet is sounded, no one repents, even after all the destruction. - Revelation 9:20-21**

Verses 6-7

- **If we take it that the two witness have been raised and ascended into heaven and the witnesses (the 144,000) have been martyred for their faith and refusal to worship the beast before the bowls are poured out, then this angel will be the last witness before the final judgments.**

Verse 8

- **Babylon here is the world system and not the city of Babylon that was in modern-day Iraq. It does not refer to the city of Rome either, though Peter does refer to Rome as Babylon. (1 Peter 5:13)**
- **When people speak of the revived Roman Empire, it simply speaks of a single one-world empire, that is a one-world government. Babylon would be the seat of that power. (Daniel 2 and Daniel 7)**

Verse 8

- **Daniel 4:30 - ³⁰ The king spoke, saying, “Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for a royal dwelling by my mighty power and for the honor of my majesty?”**
- **⁸ Then another angel followed him through the sky, shouting, “Babylon is fallen—that great city is fallen—because she made all the nations of the world drink the wine of her passionate immorality.” (NLT)**

Verse 8

- **⁸ Then another angel, a second one, followed, saying, “Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who has made all nations drink the wine of the passion of her immorality [corrupting them with idolatry].” (AMP)**
- ***Giving to Drink* is akin to irrigating a field or saturating the land.**

Verses 9-11

- **First angel – Give glory to God, the time of judgment is here**
- **Second angel – Babylon has fallen; Babylon has been judged**
- **Third angel – People will be judged**

Verses 9-11

- **Anyone, which means anyone, who worships the beast (the Antichrist) and/or receives the mark of the beast, cannot find forgiveness.**
- **The Lake of Fire, which is not hell, is a real place, it is not a symbol and it is not hyperbole.**

Verses 9-11

- “He himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation...”
- Its strength, God’s wrath, in undiluted.

Verses 9-11

- Their torment will be “in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the lamb”.
- This means that those in the lake of fire will be able to see Jesus, the angels and probably the New Heavens and the New Earth. (Luke 16:23)

Verses 9-11

- It is important to note, that the Bible does not say, “will be tormented in the presence of the twenty-four elders”. It would seem that the church, the elect, does not see the torment.
- Please note, forever means forever. No relief and no escape. There is no purgatory.

Verses 12-13

- The preceding verses do not only serve to warn the unbeliever but to encourage the believer.
- 1 Peter 4:19 - ¹⁹ Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls *to Him* in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.

Verses 12-13

- **The word blessed in the Greek is the same one used in Matthew 5 for the Beatitudes. It means happy, to be envied.**
- **For those during the Tribulation who remain faithful, they will be blessed when they are martyred. Even then, “To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord”. (2 Corinthians 5:6-8)**

Verses 14-16

- The Son of Man is, of course, Jesus.
- Daniel 7:13-14 - ¹³ “I was watching in the night visions, and behold, *One* like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. ¹⁴ Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom *the one* which shall not be destroyed.

Verses 14-16

- The crown means Jesus is king and the sickle is used for harvesting, but not in a good way, here it is meant for judgment.
- “Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe.” *Ripe* comes from a Greek word meaning *to dry up or wither*.

Verses 14-16

- **Matthew 13:30 - ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, “First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.**
- **Matthew 13:37-43**

Verses 17-20

- **The first three angels had proclamations for the world, the next two angels are angels of action.**
- **Part of the reaping will be the seven bowl judgments as well as those who die at Armageddon.**

Verses 17-20

- **“And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire...”, this seems to mean this angel has some power over judgment.**
- **The picture of a vat implies a very specific place, one place, for the crushing. It is also said to “be outside the city”, a reference to Armageddon.**

Verses 17-20

- **Isaiah 63:1-6**
- **Joel 3:9-16**
- **Revelation 16:16 - ¹⁶ And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon. (Megiddo)**

Verses 17-20

- “...up to the horses’ bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs.” – About 184 miles.
- A quarter horse averages 14-16 hands which is about 57-64 inches. Five feet is 60 inches.
- Megiddo is about 81 NNW of Jerusalem