



LESSON #1 - TEN FACTS ABOUT REVELATION 14

Introduction

Let's reflect for a few moments about what has happened to our world **since 9/11**.

We live in a time of unparalleled **global turmoil**. The **world economy is crumbling** before our very eyes. The **United States taxpayers** have incurred a debt of at least **two trillion dollars** in the last few months to bail out some **large banks** and **corporations** from going bankrupt and to **jump start** the ailing economy.

Many states including California are in deep financial trouble, almost bankrupt.

Millions of people have **lost their homes** to foreclosure and the **life savings** and **retirement plans** of millions have evaporated like **a mist**.

Corporate greed runs rampant and has led to **unprecedented financial loss for millions**.

We have seen **epic natural disasters** such as hurricane **Katrina** in New Orleans, the **Asian Tsunami**, **tornadoes** in the mid-western United States, **fires** in Australia and California and **earthquakes** in various places.

Wars and ethnic hatred abound: **Israel and the Palestinians**, **Iraq**, **Afghanistan**, **India** and **Pakistan** to name a few.

The threat of **global pandemics** is as real as ever: **Bird flu**, **mad cow's disease**, **new strains of tuberculosis** and **Aids**.

Then there is the ever present danger of **global terror** and the **perilous task of guarding our homeland security**. And what about constant and imminent threat of **biological**, **chemical** and **nuclear weapons**?

On a moral level the never ending debate over **gay marriage, pornography, and the use of profanity on the air** has reached new levels. Thousands of **abortions** are performed without any pangs of conscience.

School and **workplace** shootings appear to be the rule of the day.

Child abuse runs rampant, **husbands killing** wives.

Global warming seems to be devastating the balance of earth's **delicate ecosystem**.

Our planet seems to be **falling apart at the seams** and **there seems to be no safety or security anywhere**.

Where is everything headed? Is there **no word of hope? What's in store** for our country and the world? Are we **winding down to the end** of human history as we know it?

We will study **Revelation 14:6-12 phrase by phrase** and allow the Bible in its entirety to explain each phrase.

Let's read **Revelation 14:6-12** from the **New King James Version**:

*"Then I saw **another angel** flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth — to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people ⁷ saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."*

*And **another angel** followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."*

*⁹Then **a third angel** followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰ 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. 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 rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name." ¹² Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.*

- What is the **everlasting gospel**?
- What do the **three angels** represent?
- Why are they described as **flying** in the middle of heaven?
- Why are the messages proclaimed to **all the world**?
- What does it mean to **fear God**?
- What does it mean to **glorify Him**?
- **What** and **when** is the hour of **God's judgment**?

- What does it mean to **worship the Creator**?
- What is **Babylon**?
- What is Babylon's **Wine of wrath**?
- What does prophecy mean when it says that Babylon **fornicates with the kings** of the earth?
- Who is the **beast**?
- What is the **image** of the beast?
- What is the **mark** of the beast?
- What is the **number** of the beast's name?
- What is the **wine of God's wrath**?
- Why is God's wine poured out **without mixture**?
- Will the worshipers of the beast be **incinerated in fire** that will never go out?
- What is the **patience** of the saints?
- What are the **commandments** of God?
- What is meant by the **faith of Jesus**?
- Who are the **144,000** and **when will they live**?

FACT #1:

Human beings are helped by angels to **proclaim** the message. **Three literal** angels will not **streak** across the heavens **shouting** out their messages in a **loud voice** to the world

- **Revelation 1:1-4: God has a chain of command:** God to Jesus to the Holy Spirit [2:1], to the angel, to John, to the churches, to the world:
- *“The Revelation of **Jesus Christ**, which **God gave Him** to show *His servants* — things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by **His angel** to His servant **John**,² who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw.³ Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.⁴ John, to the seven churches which are in Asia.”*
- **Greek word** for angel means “messenger”

In the New Testament **human beings are called angels** because they were sent by God to **deliver a message**:

- **Epaphroditus (Philippians 2:25)**
- **John the Baptist (Matthew 11:10)**
- Messengers sent to **John (Luke 7:24)**
- **Spies** who visited Jericho (**James 2:25**)
- **Apostle Paul (Galatians 4:14)**
- **Stephen (Acts 6:15)**

The **preaching** of the gospel has **not been committed to angels** but to human beings **Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8**

“And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.”¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.”

...“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

But the **angels help** in the task of preaching. In **Acts 8:26** where an angel puts **Phillip in contact** with the Ethiopian eunuch. Also in **Acts 10:3** the angel **put Cornelius in touch** with Peter even though he could have imparted the message himself.

FACT #2:

The angels fly in the **midst of heaven** which means that their messages are of heavenly origin.

The message is of **heavenly origin**, sent by God. In contrast, **Satan is the king of the abyss (Revelation 9:11)** and his representatives come from the **sea (Revelation 13:1)** and the **earth (Revelation 13:1)**.

See **James 3:15-17** contrasts the wisdom that comes from **above** and the wisdom that comes from **below**:

*“This wisdom does not **descend from above**, but is earthly, sensual, **demonic**.¹⁶ For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing will be there.¹⁷ But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.¹⁸ Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.”*

Revelation 18:1 says that the angel comes down from heaven.

“After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory.”

The **North** is up and the **South** is down.

FACT #3:

The **Loud voice** represents the **power** and **authority** with which the message is announced:

The message is to be announced with **unmitigated power**. The word is **MEGAPHONE (Revelation 14:7, 9; 18:1)**.

There is no **word parsing**, no **political correctness**. **This is not some ambivalent doublespeak**. There is no **mute** on the trumpet. It is to be shouted out from the **rooftops no matter what the consequences**.

FACT #4:

The **angels fly** which means that the messages are to be announced with the **utmost velocity** (Revelation 14:6).

Ezekiel 1:13-14 speaks of the angels moving with the speed of **lightning**.

“As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire and like the appearance of torches going back and forth among the living creatures. The fire was bright, and out of the fire went lightning.”¹⁴ And the living creatures ran back and forth, in appearance like a flash of lightning.”

Daniel 9 records a prayer where Daniel asked God for wisdom to understand the **2300 day prophecy**. When he **began his prayer** Gabriel was sent to answer it. Gabriel **arrived before** Daniel ended his prayer.

FACT #5:

The messages are **world-wide** in scope (Revelation 14:6).

They are to go to **every corner** of the earth and to **every people and language group**. They are **not for the Jews** alone but for the entire human race.

A global proclamation of the messages requires **a global people** to proclaim them **Matthew 24:14; Mark 16:15,16 to every creature**.

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world, as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”

“And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.”¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”

The purpose of the three messages is to **counteract** the messages of **three counterfeit angels** (Revelation 16:13) that are also attempting to **gather the world on Satan’s side**.

Notice that **the harlot** also controls people from every **nation, kindred, tongue and people** but she gives the **nations her wine**. In other words, there are **two contrasting messages** of 3 angels and the purpose is to gather the world on either side.

FACT #6:

The messages must be proclaimed in their **proper order** (Revelation 14:6, 8, 9)

They are **sequential** and **cumulative**. It is **risky** to change their order.

First angel's message is **a positive imperative command**.

The second angel's message is **an announcement and a call**.

The third angel's message is **a warning to those who choose not to come out**.

If you do not accept the first, you will **reject the second** and the **third**.

Babylon falls because she **rejected the first angel's message**. You will not accept the call to come out of Babylon unless you **know why** you should come out--because she **rejected the first** angel's message.

FACT #7:

The messages are God's **final appeal** and message to the world **before the close of human probation and the second coming** of Christ (Revelation 14:14; Matthew 24:14).

"Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle."

If you believe that we are **living near the end of time**, then this is the message you should understand and proclaim.

FACT #8:

The proclamation of the three angels messages are accompanied by the **power of the latter rain**: The message accompanied by the latter rain will **divide the world** into two groups: The harvest and the grapes.

Pentecost brought the **early rain** which has been falling ever since. At the end the **latter rain** will ripen the crop for the harvest

The **whole world will take sides**. The messages will **polarize the world**. No one will remain **neutral**. You will either have the **seal of God or the mark of the beast**.

The messages will **ripen your character** and prepare it for the **heavenly harvest** (Revelation 14:14-17) As in the days of Pharaoh, God's message will soon either soften or harden men's hearts.

FACT #9:

The three messages are linked with the **Most Holy Place** of the heavenly sanctuary.

We know this for **several reasons**:

- As we will notice in our next lecture, the command to **fear God** is linked in the Bible with keeping His **commandments** (Ecclesiastes 12:13)
- Giving **glory to God** reminds us of the glorious **Shekinah** which shone in the Most Holy Place
- **Worshipping the Creator** entails the observance of the **Sabbath** which was found at the **center of the law** in the Most Holy Place
- The idea of **God's judgment** connects with the Day of Atonement when all Israel was divided into two categories. The central apartment was the Most Holy Place where the **law was**. And the judgment **begins before the second coming of Jesus**.
- **Revelation 11:19** introduces chapters **12-14** and the temple is opened. After the three angels have given their messages, the temple is closed (**Revelation 15:5-8**).

FACT #10:

The acceptance or rejection of the messages is not a trivial matter. In fact it is a matter of **life or death**

Those who receive the messages will receive the **seal of God** and be saved. Those who reject the messages will receive the **mark of the beast** and suffer the wrath of God. There will be **no middle ground**. The saved will be **inside** the city and the lost will be **outside**.

BONUS FACT #11:

God **will have a people** who will **accept, proclaim and obey** the three angel's messages (Revelation 15:2-4). They will be **victorious over the powers mentioned in the third angel's message**.

BONUS FACT #12:

The central issue which will divide the world into the two camps will be **worship and obedience** (Revelation 14:6-7, 9-12)

In this seminar we will study how to be **on the right side** in the imminent conflict. I hope we all make the right decision.