

## The book of Revelation

### Chapter 14

#### *1. A glimpse of heaven (14:1-5)*

-The Lamb is seen standing on Mount Zion. The Lamb is a symbol for Christ (5:6) and Mount Zion is a reference to \_\_\_\_\_. “This is that Zion ‘which cannot be moved but abides forever’ (Ps. 125:1). It is heaven (Heb. 12:22), because we read, ‘And I heard a voice from heaven.’” (168)

-“The site of the Lamb’s victory celebration is heaven...The details of the vision make clear that this Mount Zion is not on \_\_\_\_\_ but in heaven.” (Johnson, 201)

-The already mentioned 144,000 (7:4-8) are seen standing with the Lamb. This group has the name of Christ and of the Father written on their foreheads (3:12). This multitude of 144,000 people represent all those redeemed by the Lamb (this is the \_\_\_\_\_ host of saints). The names of Christ and of the Father on their forehead indicates that they have been sealed by the Holy Spirit as belonging to God. “They are branded as God’s property, under His protection; and they are imprinted with His identity, to share His holiness.” (Johnson, 201)

-“This is the sealed multitude of chapter 7. There these saints were still living on the earth, surrounded by enemies. Here they are enjoying the blessedness of heaven after the final judgement. Although the dragon has tried his utmost to make them unfaithful to their Lord, and although he has employed two beasts to assist him, not a \_\_\_\_\_ of the 144,000 is missing ‘when the role is called up yonder.’” (168)

-These 144,000 sing a new song before the throne (a song that only they \_\_\_\_\_-for they alone constitute the redeemed). It is a powerful and mighty song but at the same time sweet and tender. “It will be a new song, for it records a new experience: the 144,000 have been purchased out of the earth.” (168)

-These 144,000 who are marked with the name of God and are singing His praises are declared to be “virgins” who have “not defiled themselves with women” and have “followed the Lamb wherever He goes.” This is a reference to the \_\_\_\_\_ of their faith in Christ-they have not defiled themselves with the immorality of the world (the wicked seductiveness of the world will be identified shortly as the harlot Babylon). “These 144,000 are virgins, that is, they are not defiled. They did not become unfaithful to Christ.” (168)

-“The same spiritual monogamy will be symbolized later when the whole church-women and men, married and single-appears as a virgin bride adorned for her Husband (19:7, 21:2), the antithesis of Babylon the shameless prostitute. So here the church appears with the Lamb as a \_\_\_\_\_ army victorious in holy war, the antithesis of the beast’s defiled and deluded troops.” (Johnson, 203)

-These 144,000 have been redeemed (purchased-5:9-10) away from the rest of mankind as the firstfruits belonging to God the Father and Christ (Ex. 23:19, Num. 18:12) and are said to be \_\_\_\_\_ (they have been justified by the blood of the Lamb).

## 2. *The three angels and their messages (14:6-13)*

-The three angels call to warn man of the coming \_\_\_\_\_ judgement (which will be pictured at the end of this chapter).

-1<sup>st</sup> angel-The message of the first angel is said to be that of an “eternal gospel” and is a call for men on earth to fear Him, to give Him glory, and to worship Him for the hour of judgment has come. (This message is good news because God again is calling the wicked to \_\_\_\_\_ before it’s too late, but it is also good news in that it signals the soon coming final deliverance of the saints)

-2<sup>nd</sup> angel-The message of the second angel is to cry out a shout of victory for the fall of Babylon. The victory over Babylon is so sure that its complete fall is here already being announced. Babylon represents the \_\_\_\_\_ influences of the world to lure men into sin and all forms of wickedness. “Babylon is the world as center of seduction.” (170) This seductive wicked “woman” makes the nations drink the wine of rage and commit all kinds of immoralities.

-“Those who imbibe now with Babylon in her self-indulgence and violence will also drink her cup of divine \_\_\_\_\_ then, in that soon-coming day of judgement (14:10, 19).” (Johnson, 206)

-3<sup>rd</sup> angel-The message of the third angel is that the torments of hell await all those who are marked with the mark of the beast. “You cannot sin and get away with it. The wrath of God will be visited on those who \_\_\_\_\_ the beast.” (171)

-After these three angels and their messages there is a call for endurance for the saints and a promise of blessing on those who die “in the Lord.” The saints are again here called to \_\_\_\_\_ (13:10-also remember the opening of this letter-1:9) and press on in obedience and faith. The blessing that is announced is meant to spur on the saints to endure and remember that there is rest coming and that their works in this life will not be forgotten by the Lord (1 Cor. 15:58).

## 3. *The ingathering of the Final Judgement (14:14-20)*

-Here we have two ingathering’s being pictured. The first (14-16) shows Christ sitting on a cloud with a victor’s crown upon His head and a sharp sickle in His hand. This is a picture of the gathering in of the \_\_\_\_\_ at the end of history. “He is prepared for the harvest. This harvest is His own, for the men symbolized by it are the firstfruits...thus the sickle was thrown to the earth, and the earth was reaped and the elect were gathered to Him.” (172)

-The second ingathering (17-20) is a picture of the \_\_\_\_\_ (here pictured as ripe grapes) being gathered by the angels and thrown into the winepress of God’s wrath. The picture here is of the wicked and rebellious individuals being stomped under foot in the wrath of God.