

# THE FIRST ANGEL'S MESSAGE – PART 1



## 1. The first angel's message of Revelation 14 consists of four parts, what are they?

**Revelation 14:6-7:** "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the (1) everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, (2) Fear God, and give glory to him; for the (3) hour of his judgment is come: and (4) worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."

*The three angels of Revelation 14:6-12 are symbolic because the work assigned them is that of preaching the everlasting gospel to the people. The preaching of the gospel has not been entrusted to literal angels, but to men (Matthew 28:19-20). The proclamation of the three angel's messages constitute the final warning to be given to the world, thus they are pictured as flying to their task, because time is short (Revelation 1:3).*

**Revelation 14:6-7** "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus."

LESSON 21

**Matthew 28:19-20:** "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

**Revelation 1:3** "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand."

### 2. What is the "everlasting gospel"?

**Genesis 3:15:** "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

*Here is the first promise of a Saviour that would come and restore fallen man to an unfallen condition once again. The serpent (Satan – Revelation 12:9) and the woman (God's people – Jeremiah 6:2; Isaiah 51:16) will always be enemies. The seed of the woman (Jesus – Galatians 3:16, 29) and the seed of the serpent (the children of disobedience – 1 John 3:8,10) would do battle, and it would climax on a hill called Calvary. It was there that Satan would receive the fatal blow, because try as he would he could not cause Jesus to sin, thus forever fixing his doom. If we will accept Jesus' sacrifice in our behalf, sinful though our life may have been, for His sake we are accounted righteous and granted eternal life through faith in Him.*

#### Satan

**Revelation 12:9** "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."

#### God's People

**Jeremiah 6:2** "I have likened the daughter of Zion to a comely and delicate woman."

Isaiah 51:16 "And I have put my words in thy mouth, and I have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand, that I may plant the heavens, and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, Thou art my people."

#### Jesus

**Galatians 3:16, 29** "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ. . . . And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

#### The Children of Disobedience

**1 John 3:8,10** "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. . . . In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother."

### [Further Study]

**Colossians 1:27** "To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:"

**Titus 2:13** "To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:"

**John 3:16** "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

**Romans 5:17** "For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)"

### 3. Will the "everlasting gospel" ever change?

**Galatians 1:6-9:** "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: which is not another, but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed."

### [Further Study]

**Acts 4:10-12** "Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

**2 Corinthians 11:4, 13** "For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him. . . . For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ."

### 4. What does it mean to "fear God" as stated in Revelation 14:7?

**Genesis 22:12:** "And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me."

*For Abraham to fear God meant to obey Him. Genesis 22:2 "And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of."*

Deuteronomy 6:2: "That thou mightest fear the Lord thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged."

Deuteronomy 8:6: "Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him."

**Deuteronomy 10:12-13:** "And now, Israel, what doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, to keep the commandments of the Lord, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good?"

### 5. In what tangible way can we give "glory to God"?

**1 Corinthians 6:20:** "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

**1 Corinthians 10:31:** "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

**John 15:8:** "Herein is my Father glorified that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples."

**Matthew 5:16:** "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

**Psalms 50:23:** "Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me. . . ."

### 6. According to the first angel's message, why is it important to "fear God" and "give glory to Him"?

**Revelation 14:7:** "Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."

*It is extremely important to notice that this verse says "the hour of his judgment is come", or has come. This portion of the first angel's message will be dealt with in detail in the next lesson, and only briefly here. This judgment hour message has a connection with the longest time prophecy in the Bible, Daniel 8:14 (the word "cleansed" has to do with justice being administered or accomplished). If we let the Bible be its own interpreter we find in prophetic Scripture a day equals a year (Numbers 14:34; Ezekiel 4:6), thus the length of this prophecy is 2,300 years. Daniel 9:24-27 explains this prophecy in detail giving us a clue as to when it begins which in turn will help us to know when it ends. It would be helpful to read Daniel chapters 8 and 9, and Hebrews chapters 8 and 9 in preparation for the next lesson.*

**Daniel 8:14** "And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed."

**Numbers 14:34** "After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise."

**Ezekiel 4:6** "And when thou hast accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shalt bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days: I have appointed thee each day for a year."

**Daniel 9:24-27** "Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two

weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."

### **7. The last part of the first angel's message speaks of worshipping the Creator. How should we worship Him?**

**John 4:23:** "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him."

*The only way we can worship God is through the agency of the Holy Spirit who will teach us what truth is.*

**John 14:26** "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

**John 16:13** "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."

#### **[Further Study]**

**Matthew 7:21** "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

**Matthew 15:9** "But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."

### **8. If we are a worshipper of the true God of heaven, what will we do?**

**John 9:31:** "Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth."

### **9. What is God's will?**

**Psalms 40:8:** "I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart."

**Psalms 112:1:** "Praise ye the Lord. Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments."

### **10. What does the Bible promise to those who obey God's revealed will?**

**John 7:17:** "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself."

### 11. The language used in the last part of Revelation 14:7 closely parallels the wording in which commandment?

**Exodus 20:8-11:** "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it."

*As we study the rest of the three angels' messages we will learn more about the commandment God said to "remember".*

"The gospel message proclaimed by Christ's disciples was the announcement of His first advent to the world. It bore to men the good tidings of salvation through faith in Him. It pointed forward to His second coming in glory to redeem His people, and it set before men the hope, through faith and obedience, of sharing the inheritance of the saints in light. This message is given to men today, and at this time there is coupled with it the announcement of Christ's second coming as at hand. The signs which He Himself gave of His coming have been fulfilled, and by the teaching of God's word we may know that the Lord is at the door.

"John in the Revelation foretells the proclamation of the gospel message just before Christ's second coming. He beholds an angel flying 'in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to Him: for the hour of his judgment is come.' Revelation 14:6-7.

"In the prophecy this warning of the judgment, with its connected messages, is followed by the coming of the Son of man in the clouds of heaven. The proclamation of the judgment is an announcement of Christ's second coming as at hand. And this proclamation is called the everlasting gospel. Thus the preaching of Christ's second coming, the announcement of its nearness, is shown to be an essential part of the gospel message."

***Christ's Object Lessons, pages 226-228.***