

## Behold | Sermons through the Revelation

Sermon #28 | Revelation 14:1-7 | Flash Forward, Part 1

### Revelation 14:1 | The Lamb on Earth

- Chapters 12-13 were a *flash back* to give further detail about events in the last half of the tribulation.
- Chapter 14 is a *flash forward* to the end of the tribulation and the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom. The events in chapter 14 will not happen until after the events of Revelation 15-19.
- In verse 1, we have the first glimpse of the Messiah on earth since His ascension.
  - John the Baptist introduced Jesus as **the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world** (John 1:19).
  - Forty days after the resurrection, the Lamb ascended to heaven, where He **sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high** (Heb. 1:3).
  - From Revelation 5:6 through chapter 11 we saw the Lamb opening the seals of the book.
  - Now, at last, we see the Lamb again, this time He **stood on Mount Zion**.
- What is Mount Zion?
  - Note that in 1611 spelling had much more variety than we have today. Zion and Zion are the same.
  - Whereas Zion *can be* synonymous with Jerusalem itself, the “mountain” itself is the *governmental* portion of the city, while *Temple Mount* is the *spiritual* portion of the city.
- An accurate end-times theological view must allow for the *governmental reign* of Jesus. A failure to do so is a failure to understand the purpose of Jesus.
  - A restoration of *dominion* is needed to fully satisfy the demands of creation.
  - Compare Hebrews 2:6-8. See also Luke 1:31-33.

### Revelation 14:1-5 | The 144,000 Seen Again

- In Revelation 7 we had the sealing of 144,000 for total protection through the tribulation. Now we see them again...*alive and well!*
  - They are on earth, along with the Lamb, and also with the **four beasts** and the 24 Elders (v. 2).
- Introduced by a **voice from heaven**, described in such a way that we recognize it from Revelation 1:15, along with **harpers harping**, the 144,000 **sung, as it were a new song**. *What a choir!*

- In Revelation 5:9 we had a new song, but there we had the words included.
- Only the 144,000 are able to sing this song of celebration.
- In these verses we learn additional information about the 144,000.
  - They were **redeemed from among men** (v. 4) for the specific job **to follow the Lamb withersoever he goeth**.
  - They were 144,000 male virgins.
  - They have **no guile** and are **without fault** (v. 5).
    - Clearly, they are *men* not *angels*.
    - Verses 4-5 describe them in their physical/moral characteristics. The normal reading of the text would tell us that these men *perfectly obeyed the Law of Moses*.
    - Two implications:
      - Unlike common teaching, *living up to the demands of the Law was possible*.
      - Unlike common teaching, *man is not so totally depraved that he cannot live a perfect life*. However, this does not imply that *perfect men* do not *need a Savior*.
- These men were **the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb** (v. 4). In time, all creation will sing!

### Revelation 14:6-7 | The Proclamation of the Everlasting Gospel

- John sees **another angel** in the highest point of the sky, coming to **proclaim the everlasting Gospel**.
- This Gospel is not what we expect it to be.
  - *Got Questions* says, “The message of salvation through faith in Christ is eternal truth; it is as solid and unchanging as God Himself, and those who believe the gospel will reap everlasting benefits.”<sup>1</sup>
  - However, the Gospel proclaimed here is *very different* than the one we proclaim today. It can be summarized in two of its words: **fear God**.
  - Should we change *our Gospel* to this **everlasting Gospel**? There is *no grace* displayed in this **everlasting Gospel**. Should we remove grace and preach this *works Gospel*?
  - The best approach is not to *change our Gospel*, but to *change our thinking* to align with a dispensational view of the Gospel. There is *the Gospel for our dispensation* and *the Gospel for all time*. Our dispensation is not included in the prophetic timetable.
  - For more information, see note on Revelation 14:6 in *The Scofield Reference Bible*.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gotquestions.org/everlasting-gospel.html>