

**THEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF REVELATION 14:6-12
(THE THREE ANGELS' MESSAGE)**



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INTRODUCTION:

THE BOOK OF REVELATION IS IN THE FORM OF APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE WRITTEN IN SYMBOLIC TERMS. IT REVEALS THE COMPLETENESS OF CHRIST IN THE HUMAN HISTORY (PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE)

THE THREE ANGELS' MESSAGE IS THE WARNING/APEAL THAT COMES TO REMIND MAN HIS DUTY ON EARTH, ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF WORSHIP, THE INVESTIGATIVE JUDGEMENT, JUDGEMENT TO COME AND THE OUT COME OF IT. THE WARNING COMES FOR THOSE WHO ARE WORSHIPPING THE BEAST, AND HIS IMAGE.

INSIDE STORY

FIRST ANGEL'S MESSAGE: 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."

NOTE: IT IS EVERLASTING BECAUSE IT INDICATES THAT THE END TIME GOSPEL, WHILE RELEVANTS IN PARTICULAR TO THE PEOPLE LIVING IN CLOSING PERIOD OF EARTH'S HISTORY, IS NOT A DIFFERENT GOSPEL FROM THAT PREACH BY PAUL. IT IS THE SAME AND UNALTERED GOSPEL. IT IS ALL ABOUT JESUS CHRIST; HIS MINISTRY, DEATH, RESSURECTION, ASCENSION, SUBSEQUENT ENTHRONEMENT ON THE HEAVENLY THRONE, INTERCESSION AND JUDGEMENT, AND HIS SOON RETURN. IT IS UNIVERSALLY VALID; IT IS FOR EVERY LIVING CREATURE.

PREACH IN A LOUD VOICE IS A SHARP AWAKENING APEAL, BECAUSE IT IS A MESSAGE FOR THE ENTIRE WORLD; NO RACE, TRIBE, SECTION, NATIONALISTIS BARRIER TO RECEIVE THE MESSAGE, SO THERE WILL BE NO EXCUSE FOR NOT RECEIVING THIS FINAL APEAL.

THE MESSAGE OF THE 1ST ANGEL HAS TWO CONTENTS;

- "FEAR GOD AND GIVE HIM GLORY": THIS IS THE WHOLE DUTY OF MAN ON EARTH (Let us hear the conclusion of the whole

matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this *is* the whole *duty* of man. ECC. 12:13) WHICH MAN IS FORGETTING, SO HE NEEDS A REMINDER, WHICH THE FIRST ANGEL DID. TO FEAR GOD IS NOT TO BE AFRAID OF HIM BUT COMING TO HIM WITH REVERENCE WITH A MIXTURE OF WONDER AND DREAD. THIS SHOWS THE THOUGHT OF ABSOLUTE LOYALTY TO GOD, OF FULL SURRENDER TO HIS WILL. TO GIVE GLORY IS TO HONOR, PRAISE, AND PAY HOMAGE AND SO ON.

- "THE HOUR OF HIS JUDGEMENT IS COME": THE HOUR HERE IS NOT LITERALLY AN HOUR, BUT THE GENERAL TIME THE JUDGEMENT TAKES PLACE. THE JUDGEMENT HERE IS THE INVESTIGATIVE JUDGEMENT: AS A JUST GOD HE INVESTIGATES BEFORE THE FINAL PENALTY AS HE DID IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN, WHEN HE ASKED ADAM WHERE ARE YOU?

THE SECOND CONTENT OF THE MESSAGE IS: "WORSHIP HIM THAT MADE HEAVEN, AND EARTH, AND THE SEA, AND THE FOUNTAINS OF WATERS."

GOD DESERVES WORSHIP, WHILE SATAN DEMANDS WORSHIP; THIS DIVIDES THE HUMAN RACE INTO TWO GROUPS, BUT THOSE WHO WORSHIP GOD CARRY THE TRUE WORSHIP, BECAUSE HE CREATES, REDEEMS AND DESTROYS. THE PROBLEM IN THESE LAST DAYS IS ALL ABOUT WHOM TO WORSHIP, HOW TO WORSHIP, AND WHEN TO WORSHIP. GOD'S PEOPLE WORSHIP HIM IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH.

(^{Jn 4:23} Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks). HOWEVER, MAN REFUSES TO DO THIS PREFERRING IDOLATRY INSTEAD, THEY WORSHIP THE BEAST INSTEAD OF GOD

THE SECOND ANGEL'S MESSAGE: "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."

ANCIENT BABYLON IN MESOPOTAMIA WAS THE POLITICAL, COMMERCIAL AND RELIGIOUS CENTER OF A WORLD EMPIRE, WHICH WAS LUXURIOUS AND UNINHIBITED IMMORAL SELF-INDULGENCE. ACCORDING TO SOME IT IS USED IN REVELATION TO SIGNIFY ROME AS THE CENTER OF OPPOSITION TO GOD AND HIS PEOPLE, WHILE OTHERS BELIEVE THAT IT REPRESENTS THE WHOLE POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS SYSTEM OF THE WORLD IN GENERAL UNDER THE RULE OF THE ANTICHRIST. THE GENERAL IDEA OF THE FALL OF BABYLON IS THE TERMINATION OF

WICKEDNESS AND ITS AGENT. THIS TERMINATION/DESTRUCTION COMES AFTER THE APPEAL/WARNING BY THE 1ST ANGEL'S MESSAGE.

THE THIRD ANGEL'S MESSAGE: "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."

THE THIRD ANGEL IDENTIFIES THE DETAILS OF THE 1ST AND 2ND ANGELS' MESSAGEAS;

- THOSE WARN: WOSHIPERS OF THE BEAST AND HIS IMAGE (FALSE WORSHIPERS- WORSHIPPING SATANIC FORCES, PAYING HOMAGE TO THE CREATURES INSTEAD OF THE CREATOR)
- THEIR INDENTITY: THE MARK OF THE BEST "666"

HOW? V.....5
 I.....1
 C.....100
 A.....
 R.....
 I.....1
 V (U=V).....5
 S.....

 F.....
 I.....1
 L.....50
 I.....1
 I.....1

 D.....500
 E.....
 I.....1

666

THE CONTRAST HERE IS THE FALSE WOSHIPERS RECEIVES THE MARK OF THE BEAST, WHILE THE TRUE WORSHIPERS RECEIVE THE SEAL OF GOD IN THEIR FOREHEADS (REV 7:2-3; 9:4)

- HOW WILL THEY BE PUNISHED: “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.” IN THE OLD TESTAMENT, THE CUP OF GOD’S WRATH IS COMMONLY PICTURED AS A CUP OF WINE TO BE DRUNK (PS 75:8; IS 51:17). IT IS NOT THE OUTWORKING OF IMPERSONAL LAWS OF RETRIBUTION, BUT THE RESPONSE OF A RIGHTEOUS GOD TO THOSE WHO REFUSE HIS LOVE AND GRACE (JOHN 3:16). BURNING SULFUR SPEAKS OF A SIMILAR FATE FOR THE WICKED LIKE SODOM AND GOMORRAH.

LET US GET IT CLEARLY THAT THE PHRASE TORMENT FOR EVER AND EVER DOES NOT MEAN REVELATION SUPPORTS THE DOCTRINE OF THE ANNIHILATION OF THE WICKED. THE COMPOUND EXPRESSION SHOWS THAT THE TORMENT WOULD BE FOR A CERTAIN PERIOD, NOT UNENDING OF COURSE