

REVELATION 14

Mon 17 June

1 THEN I LOOKED, AND THERE BEFORE ME WAS THE LAMB, STANDING ON MOUNT ZION, AND WITH HIM 144,000 WHO HAD HIS NAME AND HIS FATHER'S NAME WRITTEN ON THEIR FOREHEADS.

2 AND I HEARD A SOUND FROM HEAVEN LIKE THE ROAR OF RUSHING WATERS AND LIKE A LOUD PEAL OF THUNDER. THE SOUND I HEARD WAS LIKE THAT OF HARPISTS PLAYING THEIR HARPS.

3 AND THEY SANG A NEW SONG BEFORE THE THRONE AND BEFORE THE FOUR LIVING CREATURES AND THE ELDERS. NO ONE COULD LEARN THE SONG EXCEPT THE 144,000 WHO HAD BEEN REDEEMED FROM THE EARTH.

REVELATION 14:1-3

“144,000”: previously seen in chapter 7, where they were identified as a group of Jewish believers sent out to bring sinners to Christ during the seven year tribulation period.

Do you think there were exactly 144,000 people or was this a rough estimate?

“His name and His Father’s name written on their heads”: the Antichrist marks his people with ‘666’ (as seen in chapter 13), but God’s disciples have been sealed by the Holy Spirit.

“the roar of rushing waters and like a loud peak of thunder” - ***do you think John is describing God’s voice?***

“sang a new song before the throne” - ***do you have a worship song where you feel in the presence of God when you listen to / sing it?***

Tue 18 June

4 THESE ARE THOSE WHO DID NOT DEFILE THEMSELVES WITH WOMEN, FOR THEY REMAINED VIRGINS. THEY FOLLOW THE LAMB WHEREVER HE GOES. THEY WERE PURCHASED FROM AMONG MANKIND AND OFFERED AS FIRSTFRUITS TO GOD AND THE LAMB.

5 NO LIE WAS FOUND IN THEIR MOUTHS; THEY ARE BLAMELESS.

REVELATION 14:4 &

The 144,000 laid down their lives for the truth of the gospel of Christ. They kept themselves pure from the wickedness of the antichrist. Their hearts were right with God; He is glorified in them, and they in Him.

“They follow the lamb wherever He goes” - ***take time to reflect on how you follow God fully.***

Dear God,

Please help me to follow you closely in every aspect of my life. Please help me to follow the rules of worship and life you have given us.

Amen

Wed 19 June

6 THEN I SAW ANOTHER ANGEL FLYING IN MIDAIR, AND HE HAD THE ETERNAL GOSPEL TO PROCLAIM TO THOSE WHO LIVE ON THE EARTH—TO EVERY NATION, TRIBE, LANGUAGE AND PEOPLE.

7 HE SAID IN A LOUD VOICE, “FEAR GOD AND GIVE HIM GLORY, BECAUSE THE HOUR OF HIS JUDGMENT HAS COME. WORSHIP HIM WHO MADE THE HEAVENS, THE EARTH, THE SEA AND THE SPRINGS OF WATER.”

REVELATION 14:6 & 7

Eternal - forever, endless, everlasting.

Gospel - the teaching of revelation of Christ. It literally means 'good news'!

Proclaim - announce officially or publicly.

The angel was in the air, holding the everlasting good news to officially announce to every single human on earth.

The angel urges sinners to respect and worship God because he created everything.

Do you think this is emphasising God's repeated offer for us to repent?

Thu 20 June

8 A SECOND ANGEL FOLLOWED AND SAID, “ ‘FALLEN! FALLEN IS BABYLON THE GREAT,’ WHICH MADE ALL THE NATIONS DRINK THE MADDENING WINE OF HER ADULTERIES.”

REVELATION 14:8

Here, Babylon represents the wickedness and evils of the world - the world's ungodly and sinful nature.

The beast and false prophet promote wickedness, encouraging everyone to be evil / do evil things.

Dear God,

Please give me the strength and encouragement to avoid evil, temptation and sin.

Amen

Fri 21 June

9 A THIRD ANGEL FOLLOWED THEM AND SAID IN A LOUD VOICE: "IF ANYONE WORSHIPS THE BEAST AND ITS IMAGE AND RECEIVES ITS MARK ON THEIR FOREHEAD OR ON THEIR HAND,

10 THEY, TOO, WILL DRINK THE WINE OF GOD'S FURY, WHICH HAS BEEN POURED FULL STRENGTH INTO THE CUP OF HIS WRATH. THEY WILL BE TORMENTED WITH BURNING SULFUR IN THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY ANGELS AND OF THE LAMB.

11 AND THE SMOKE OF THEIR TORMENT WILL RISE FOR EVER AND EVER. THERE WILL BE NO REST DAY OR NIGHT FOR THOSE WHO WORSHIP THE BEAST AND ITS IMAGE, OR FOR ANYONE WHO RECEIVES THE MARK OF ITS NAME."

12 THIS CALLS FOR PATIENT ENDURANCE ON THE PART OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD WHO KEEP HIS COMMANDS AND REMAIN FAITHFUL TO JESUS.

13 THEN I HEARD A VOICE FROM HEAVEN SAY, "WRITE THIS: BLESSED ARE THE DEAD WHO DIE IN THE LORD FROM NOW ON." "YES," SAYS THE SPIRIT, "THEY WILL REST FROM THEIR LABOR, FOR THEIR DEEDS WILL FOLLOW THEM."

REVELATION 14:9-13

Those who accept the mark of the beast, are lost and unbelievers.

This also tells us that those who follow God's commands and remain faithful, need to be patient even though things may be difficult.

Verse 13 tells us that those who die in the Son, have eternal rest and those who die in their sins, have eternal unrest.

Sat 22 June

14 I LOOKED, AND THERE BEFORE ME WAS A WHITE CLOUD, AND SEATED ON THE CLOUD WAS ONE LIKE A SON OF MAN WITH A CROWN OF GOLD ON HIS HEAD AND A SHARP SICKLE IN HIS HAND.

15 THEN ANOTHER ANGEL CAME OUT OF THE TEMPLE AND CALLED IN A LOUD VOICE TO HIM WHO WAS SITTING ON THE CLOUD, "TAKE YOUR SICKLE AND REAP, BECAUSE THE TIME TO REAP HAS COME, FOR THE HARVEST OF THE EARTH IS RIPE."

16 SO HE WHO WAS SEATED ON THE CLOUD SWUNG HIS SICKLE OVER THE EARTH, AND THE EARTH WAS HARVESTED.

REVELATION 14:14-16

Jesus is referred to as "the Son of man" numerous times throughout the bible, so it's likely John saw Jesus, sitting on the white cloud.

What do you think the crown of gold on His head and a sharp sickle in his hand represent?

God has delayed His judgement, giving sinners opportunities to repent. When the time comes, His judgement will be thorough. The sharp sickle will not leave any wicked person standing, just like a sharp sickle swung into a harvest of wheat leaves no stalk standing.

Sun 23 June

17 ANOTHER ANGEL CAME OUT OF THE TEMPLE IN HEAVEN, AND HE TOO HAD A SHARP SICKLE.

18 STILL ANOTHER ANGEL, WHO HAD CHARGE OF THE FIRE, CAME FROM THE ALTAR AND CALLED IN A LOUD VOICE TO HIM WHO HAD THE SHARP SICKLE, "TAKE YOUR SHARP SICKLE AND GATHER THE CLUSTERS OF GRAPES FROM THE EARTH'S VINE, BECAUSE ITS GRAPES ARE RIPE."

19 THE ANGEL SWUNG HIS SICKLE ON THE EARTH, GATHERED ITS GRAPES AND THREW THEM INTO THE GREAT WINEPRESS OF GOD'S WRATH.

20 THEY WERE TRAMPLED IN THE WINEPRESS OUTSIDE THE CITY, AND BLOOD FLOWED OUT OF THE PRESS, RISING AS HIGH AS THE HORSES' BRIDLES FOR A DISTANCE OF 1,600 STADIA.

REVELATION 14:17-20

The grapes likely represent the people on earth, they have heaped up their sins to the point they are fully ripe for judgement.

How was wine made in biblical times?

1. Grapes were dried up in the sun.
2. They were then pressed by barefoot treading.
3. Grape juice collected and fermentation would begin.
4. After fermentation, the wine was transferred into jars or wineskins for additional fermentation in order to age.
5. The wine was then strained and mixed with water, in order to drink.

Here, the grapes likely represent the wicked; God will prepare the wicked for final judgment by gathering them together to be trampled on.