

Revelation 14:1-20

Heaven's Glory and Hell's Torments

Introduction:

The book of Revelation may be said to have two sides of a coin. One side speaks of the bliss of believers in heaven and the other side the torments and punishment of the wicked in hell. Jesus summary statement in Matthew 25:46 "And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." Paul's summary statement in II Thess. 1:6-8 also applies here.

I. The Lamb With His Church – v.1-5

A. A scene in heaven – Psa. 125:1; Heb. 12:22

1. None of God's people are missing – John 6:39; Rev. 7:4-9
2. Heavenly sound – v.2; Rev. 4:1,5,9-11; Rev.5:9-14
3. Saints singing a new song – v.3
4. Purchased by the blood of Christ – I Cor. 6:19,20; 7:23; I Pet. 1:18,19

B. The Redeemed – v.4

1. Keep themselves from the beast – Turn To: Revelation 17:1-6
2. Blameless – II Thess. 2:13

II. The Angels With Their Message – v.6-13

A. The First Angel – v.6-7

1. The gospel summary:
2. The gospel means good news of God's Grace to those who know Christ
3. The gospel means bad news to those reject Christ as their Redeemer – II Cor. 2:16

B. The Second Angel – v. 8

1. The doom of Babylon – Rev. 16:19; 17:5; 18:2,10,11
2. Babylon stands for the pride of man – Gen. 11:9

C. The Third Angel – v.9-11

1. Those who choose to follow Satan and the Antichrist will perish with them.
2. Excruciating suffering of the wicked

D. Severe Judgment:

1. Hell is eternal as heaven is – v.11 (Matt. 25:46; 18:8; 25:41; II Thess. 1:9; Jude 1:7)
2. Utter darkness – Matt. 8:12; 22:13; 25:30
3. Torment – Matt. 8:29; Luke 16:23-28
4. Gnashing of Teeth – Matt. 8:12; 13:12,50; 22:13; 25:30
5. No rest – v.11, Rom. 5:1; 8:6; Isa. 57:21 (The funeral of Charles Spurgeon, officiating Pastor Archibald Brown)

III. The Harvest Judgment – v.14-20

A. Who is this "son of man"? Christ or an angel? v.15; Dan. 7:13

1. Jesus states explicitly that angels possess sickles of judgment – Matt. 13:36-43
2. Note. The context – v.17,18

B. God's Wrath – v. 19,20

1. The crushing power of God's Wrath - 19:15
2. Old Testament background – Joel 3:13; Isa. 63:2

Conclusion:

The exposition of this chapter is twofold:

1. *The security and assurance of the believer because of the infinite grace of the Lamb, therefore their true worship continues throughout eternity.*
2. *The destruction of the wicked on that day of the Lord Jesus returns. It will be a cataclysmic destruction where there will be no escape.*

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