Sunday, August 11, 2024

1Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.

<u>Title:</u> Preview of Coming Judgments <u>Series:</u> Revelation ... 20 <u>Text:</u> Revelation 14

Purpose: I want to MOTIVATE my congregation to respond to the voice of the Lord, knowing that there are days of JUDGMENT coming.

Introduction:

 $\sim\,$ Chapters 14 gives us some previews of events recorded in chapters 16 - 18

~ In \hat{R} evelation 12 – 13 we are introduced to the dragon – Satan, the first beast – THE antichrist, and the second beast – THE false prophet.

~ Revelation 13:8, "and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain."

~ Revelation 14 mentions at least six angels.

~ Our devotional today revolves around the word "voice." Revelation 14:2, 7, 9, 13, 15, 18

1. Voice of Singing:

~ Revelation 14:1 - 5

~ Revelation 14:3, "and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth."

Their song is unique to them as special witnesses in the great tribulation.

144,000 of Revelation 7; see outline for Revelation 7, May 26 – Two Distinct Groups of People.

"It is encouraging to know that one day our sorrows will be transformed into songs."

Revelation 14:4-5 lists characteristics of the 144,000 that ought to characterize every believer:

 \sim "virgins" – in their case it included sexual purity but the Biblical idea of "virgin" is frequently a reference to being true to faith in God and NOT drawn away after "idols."

1 John 5:21, "Little children, keep yourselves from idols."

~ "who follow the Lamb" – John 10:4, "When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice."

~ "wherever he goes." - given fully to the Lord Jesus Christ

 \sim "no lie was found," – they speak the truth which is the Word of God

~ "for they are blameless." – morally blameless. NCIS Ducky's statement re Moral vs. Ethical Man; "The ethical man knows it is wrong to cheat on his wife, whereas the moral man actually wouldn't."

2. Voice Calling For "Fear of God":

~ Revelation 13:6 – 7, "Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. (7) And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

Proverbs 1:7, 20 - 33; 2:1 - 8; 3:7; 8:12 - 139:8 - 10

3. Voice Warning of Judgment:

~ Revelation 14:8 - 11

~ Revelation 14:8, "Another angel, a second, followed, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who made all nations drink the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality."

This is only a preview of chapters 16 - 18

~ Revelation 14:9-11, "And another angel, a third, followed them,..."

~ Notice to whom the warning is given.

~ Notice the duration of the "cup of his anger," FOR-EVER AND EVER!

4. Voice of Commendation and Blessing:

~ Revelation 14:12 – 13, "Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandment of God and their faith in Jesus. (13) And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Blessed indeed," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!""

5. Voice of Harvest:

- ~ Revelation 14:14 16
- ~ Compare with Matthew 13:24 30

6. Voice Announcing Destruction:

- ~ Revelation 14:17 20
- ~ Preview of Har Megiddo, in English Armageddon
 - ~ 25.6 Km from Nazareth in the Jezreel Valley
 - ~ Two inserts

Conclusion:

Joshua 24:15, "And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."