

Recap: The Faithful Remnant

Then I looked, and behold, standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads. ² And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. ³ They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth. ⁴ These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb. 5 And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

Revelation 14:1-5

Where have we seen these images before?

The Lamb is Christ

Revelation 5:6

The 144000 are God's end-time people.

Revelation 7:4

The seal is the name of God.

Revelation 7:3

- The seal is the Spirit of God
 - 13 In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance <u>until the redemption of the purchased possession</u>, to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 1:13-14 (The Seal)

³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Ephesians 4:30 (The Sealer)

Recap: The First Angel

• ⁶Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people— ⁷ saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

Revelation 14:6-8

- An Everlasting Gospel
 - What is the everlasting gospel?
 - The unchanging Gospel of Jesus Christ
 - This Gospel was
 - revealed in the Old Testament
 - and clarified in the New Testament
 - The effort is consistent
 - The effort is a counter-move
 - This judgement is pre-advent
 - Judging takes place before executing judgement
 - The ultimate call is a call to worship the Creator not the created (c.f. Rom 1:25).



 ⁸ And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

Revelation 14:8

- The Issue is Worship
 - The first angel made a proclamation to worship God because God is creator.
 - The second angel makes a further appeal to inform those who dwell on the earth that their evil system where their allegiance lies (Babylon) has been defeated.



 8 And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

Revelation 14:8

- Babylon is back.
 - Our first introduction in prophecy to Babylon is in...
 - Daniel 2.
 - Ancient Babylon was the first to fall in the vision of Daniel 2.
 - End-time Babylon will be the last Earthly kingdom to fall.
 - Our first introduction of Babylon in the Bible has its origins in...
 - Gen 10:8-10



 ⁸ And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

Revelation 14:8

- Babylon is back.
 - · What is is Babylon in this context?
 - Babylon has origins rooted in the word balal meaning to mingle, mix, confuse or confound.
 - The unholy trinity's worldwide religious system.
 - The counterfeit/opposite to Jerusalem.
 - The counterfeit/opposite to the everlasting gospel
 - The counterfeit/opposite to true success.
 - "All human attempts to provide the way of Salvation, all those plans and programs that, because they are built alone on human reason and devices, attempt to frustrate the divine plan of the world."

William G Johnson



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Revelation 14:8

Babylon is back.

...Babylon is fallen, is fallen...

- · Where have we heard this language before?
 - For thus has the Lord said to me: "Go, set a watchman, Let him declare what he sees." And he saw a chariot with a pair of horsemen, A chariot of donkeys, and a chariot of camels, And he listened earnestly with great care. Then he cried, "A lion, my Lord! I stand continually on the watchtower in the daytime; I have sat at my post every night. And look, here comes a chariot of men with a pair of horsemen!" Then he answered and said, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen! And all the carved images of her gods He has broken to the ground."

Isaiah 21:6-9



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Revelation 14:8

Babylon is back.

...because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

- · Where have we heard this language before?
 - Flee from the midst of Babylon,
 And everyone save his life!
 Do not be cut off in her iniquity,
 For this is the time of the Lord's vengeance;
 He shall recompense her.
 - ⁷ Babylon was a golden cup in the Lord's hand, That made all the earth drunk.
 - The nations drank her wine;
 - Therefore the nations are deranged.
 - ⁸ Babylon has suddenly fallen and been destroyed.
 - Wail for her!
 - Take balm for her pain;
 - Perhaps she may be healed.

Jeremiah 51:6-8



 8 And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

Revelation 14:8

- Babylon is back for a short time ...Babylon is fallen, is fallen.
 - Babylon is defeated
 - Prophetic certainty
 - Before is even reaches full manifestation the Lord makes it clear that it is defeated.
 - Only the kingdom that God establishes will stand forever (c.f. Daniel 2:34-35).



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Revelation 14:8

Babylonian Libations

...she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

Where have we heard this language before?

⁷ Babylon was a golden cup in the Lord's hand, That made all the earth drunk.
 The nations drank her wine;
 Therefore the nations are deranged.

Jeremiah 51:7



 ⁸ And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

Revelation 14:8

Babylonian Libations

...she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

- The bible portrays this evil end time kingdom as a seductive prostitute.
- Seducing men and women to worship the beast, its image and receive its mark.
- Its seductive tactics include:
 - Coercion
 - False teaching
 - Economic prosperity (Rev 18:3, 9-19)



The Second Angel

• ⁸ And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

Revelation 14:8

Assurance for those who hear

...she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

- To the citizens of the kingdom
 - The assurance is that Babylon will fall.
 - The end time apostate system is a temporary moment in time that will be eclipsed by eternity.
- To those who dwell in Babylon
 - The assurance is that there is still time.
 - And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.

Revelation 18:4



• ⁹Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

Revelation 14:9-11

- The Issue is Worship
 - The Mark of the Beast and the Seal of God serve as a means of identification.
 - 1. Those who receive the Mark, whether willfully or through coercion...
 - 1. ...have accepted Babylon's wine of seduction.
 - 2.are identified as children of Satan
 - 3. ...are loyal to the unholy trinity.
 - 4. ...have rejected following God's Commandments
 - 2. Those who receive the Seal of God are identified as the children of God and are loyal to the Holy Trinity (c.f. Daniel 3:17-18).

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Revelation 14:9-11

- The results of Worship
 - The acceptance of the Everlasting Gospel results in
 - Right to the tree of life (Rev. 2:7)
 - Crown of life (Rev. 2:10)
 - · Victory over the second death (Rev. 2:11)
 - Hidden Manna, white stone, new name (Rev. 2:17)
 - The morning star (Rev. 2:28)
 - Acknowledgement before the Father (Rev. 3:5)
 - A pillar in God's sanctuary (Rev. 3:12)
 - Receiving the name of God and the New Jerusalem (Rev. 3:12)
 - Right to sit on God's throne (Rev. 3:21)
 - The Seal of God (Rev 7:2; 14:1).
 - In Revelation 14:8, the acceptance of Babylon's seductive wine of fornication results in the drinking of God's wine of wrath (cf. 17:2; 18:3); that is, it brings as a consequence the judgment of God (cf. Rev. 14:9–10).

REVELATION

Stefanovic, Ranko. Revelation of Jesus Christ: Commentary on the Book of Revelation (p. 617). Andrews University Press. Kindle Edition.

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Revelation 14:9-11

- The Other Wine: God's Wrath
 - An undiluted mixture
 - God's judgement has previously been mixed with grace and mercy. At this time, this will not be the case.
 - Has God abandoned grace and mercy?
 - No
 - This God's final response "to those who have rebelliously and persistently resisted the gospel, disobeyed the commandments of God, and viciously oppressed his faithful people".

REVELHTION

Stefanovic, Ranko. Revelation of Jesus Christ: Commentary on the Book of Revelation (p. 622). Andrews University Press. Kindle Edition.

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Revelation 14:9-11

- The Other Wine: God's Wrath
 - A Wrath Unlike Ours
 - "The wrath of God...is not to be understood as 'a human emotion,' but rather as a metaphor for the inevitable "reaction of God's holiness" to sin and rebellion."
 - "Unless God in his wrath finally purges the world of all evil and rebellion, his Kingdom cannot come. Therefore, in the largest sense of God's redemptive purpose for men, his wrath is a necessary [parallel] to his love and mercy."

George E. Ladd

REVELHTION

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Revelation 14:9-11

- The Other Wine: God's Wrath
 - Similar Fates

...tormented with fire and brimstone...

Where have we seen this before?

- Sodom and Gomorrah
 - Gen 19:24
- Edom
 - Isaiah 34:8-10

• 9 Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, 10 he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. 11 And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

Revelation 14:9-11

- The Other Wine: God's Wrath
 - Similar Fates

...tormented with fire and brimstone...

Where have we seen this before?

- Sodom and Gomorrah
 - Then the Lord rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the Lord out of the heavens.
 - And Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the Lord. ²⁸ Then he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain; and he saw, and behold, the smoke of the land which went up like the smoke of a furnace.

Genesis 19:24,27-28 (NKJV)

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Revelation 14:9-11

- The Other Wine: God's Wrath
 - Similar Fates

...tormented with fire and brimstone...

Where have we seen this before?

- Edom
 - For it is the day of the Lord's vengeance, The year of recompense for the cause of Zion. ⁹ Its streams shall be turned into pitch, And its dust into brimstone; Its land shall become burning pitch. ¹⁰ It shall not be quenched night or day; Its smoke shall ascend forever. From generation to generation it shall lie waste; No one shall pass through it forever and ever.

Isaiah 34:8-10 (NKJV)

• 9 Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, 10 he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. 11 And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

Revelation 14:9-11

- The Other Wine: God's Wrath
 - OT Imagery and New Testament Symbols

...smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever...

 as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Jude 1:7

 The house of Jacob shall be a fire, And the house of Joseph a flame; But the house of Esau [Edom] shall be stubble; They shall kindle them and devour them, And no survivor shall remain of the house of Esau," For the LORD has spoken.

Obadiah 1:18

- Is Sodom and Gomorrah burning today?
 - N
- Is Edom burning today?
 - NO

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Revelation 14:9-11

- The Other Wine: God's Wrath
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...smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever...

 "The imagery of the smoke of the fire burning with sulphur indicates the completion of the final judgment rather than an eternal burning and suffering. The burning fire continues long enough to complete its purpose and leaves nothing to be burned."

REVELHTION

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Revelation 14:9-11

- The Other Wine: God's Wrath
 - A Restless Situation

...they have no rest...

- In the context of this chapter, this parallels Revelation 14:13.
- In the context of the Bible this seems to echo Psalms 95:11 and Hebrews 4:9-11

• 9 Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, 10 he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. 11 And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

Revelation 14:9-11

- The Other Wine: God's Wrath
 - A Restless Situation

...they have no rest...

• Today, if you will hear His voice: 8 "Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion, As in the day of trial in the wilderness, 9 When your fathers tested Me; They tried Me, though they saw My work. 10 For forty years I was grieved with that generation, And said, 'It is a people who go astray in their hearts, And they do not know My ways.' 11 So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.'"

Psalms 95:11

• 9 Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, 10 he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. 11 And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

Revelation 14:9-11

- The Other Wine: God's Wrath
 - A Restless Situation

...they have no rest...

 ⁹ There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. ¹⁰ For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His. ¹¹ Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.

Hebrews 4:9-11

- 9 Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, 10 he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. 11 And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."
 - Revelation 14:9-11

- The Other Wine: God's Wrath
 - A Restless Situation

...they have no rest...

- While the beast worshipers had their time of rest, and while the saints were persecuted and martyred, in the final time of judgment God will reverse their roles (7:15ff.; cf. 2 Th 1:6-7).
- "From this last judgment there is no reprieve; the sentence of death is irreversible; the destruction permits no recovery."

Philip E. Hughes

those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. ¹³ Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

Revelation 14:12-13

The Faithful Remnant

- It is here in a world where most have defected to the unholy trinity that the Saints of God stand.
- These are the ones who the Beast from the Sea makes war with and overcome. (Rev 13:7)
- These are the ones who the dragon went to make war with. (Rev 12:17)
- These are the ones who were not able to be coerced or persuaded by the Dragon, the Beasts, or its image.

those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. ¹³ Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

Revelation 14:12-13

The Faithful Remnant

- The text does not say, here are they that resisted as we understand it today.
- The text does not say, here are they that protest as we understand it today.
- Their resistance is in their endurance.
- Their protest is in their faithfulness to Jesus Christ.

those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. ¹³ Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

Revelation 14:12-13

The Faithful Remnant

 The great test for Christians is whether through patient endurance they will remain loyal to Jesus and not fall prey to the deception of the beasts (see comment on 13:10). They do this by paying serious attention to God's Word and their faithfulness to Christ Jesus (1:3; 2:26; 3:8, 10; 22:7, 9; cf. Php 1:28-30).

12 Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. 13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

Revelation 14:12-13

- A Second Beatitude
 - The first beatitude of Revelation can be found in Revelation 1:3. The remaining five can be found latter in the book (16:15; 19:9; 20:6; 22:7, 14)
 - There is a blessing is dying in the Lord.
 - While death is often viewed as a tragedy, death for the saints of God is rest from their labors.
 - The blessing extends from the time of John until the return of Jesus.

• 12 Here is the patience of the saints; here *are* those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed *are* the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

Revelation 14:12-13

A Second Beatitude

- There is a rest for those who labor for the Lord.
- The word for labor here describes labor to the point of exhaustion, which characterizes the kind of work God's endtime people must endure.
- Their reward is that their works will be remembered and speak for their loyalty to Christ and his commands.