REVELATION 14:5-15

A. Revelation 14:5 - And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.

1. The 144,000 will **not** be a part of Satan's lie program. They will only speak the truth. As the world is consumed with false wonders, the deception - deceit of wickedness, influencing multitudes to follow the false, the 144,000 will **accu**rately proclaim God's truth. *A characteristic of true believers in all ages is speaking the truth and accurately handling the Word (Ephesians 4:15, 25; II Timothy 2:15). Here, they **stay** faithful during one of the darkest hours in history.

2. Remember, the 144,000 pick up where the 12 **left** off in Acts. Their ministries and messages (Prophetic Program) intertwine. The 144,000's message is the **con**tinuation of Christ's message to the 12. To "lift up your head for your redemption draweth nigh" is upon Israel. *After Stephen was stoned, God interrupted Israel's program with the Mystery Program. When the Body is raptured up, God **re**sumes His Prophetic Program to Israel using these 144,000 men. They will reintroduce and continue the 12's ministry. They will see Christ as **Mess**iah and Lamb.

   John 1:29, 35-37, 40, 43, 47, 49 - The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. John 1:35 Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples; John 1:36 And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God! John 1:37 And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. John 1:40 One of the two which heard John *speak,* and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. John 1:43 The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me. John 1:47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile! John 1:49 Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel.

B. 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, Rev. 14:7 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.

1. [everlasting gospel] Amazingly an angel will fly across the **sky** proclaiming this gospel to the inhabitants of the earth. No angel has been seen nor heard since the 7th angel sounded the 7th trumpet in 11:15.

2. I wander what language the angel speaks? I am not sure, but we do know that when the people hear, they understand. Is it a **mir**acle?

3. Notice the everlasting gospel's message, "Fear God, and give glory to Him". A **lie** will culminate in the Tribulation giving glory not to God, but to the lie - god, Antichrist (Romans 1:20-25).

   a. *It all began when God let the nations go their **own** ways (Genesis 10), and will end here in Revelation with the Antichrist's false religion. They will **not** give God glory.

b. So the angel says, "If you people on earth have any hope at all, it will be that you "Fear God and give glory to Him" (who created it all). *The heathen world got into this mess by **re**jecting the truth of God. They then created a lie to follow, to believe in, thus rejecting and **re**fusing to glorify God.

4. Through this angel, God sends mankind a message, a **warn**ing, before it is too late to give God reverence and glory. So what is the reason they should turn to God? Verse 7 [for the hour of His judgment is come] *Bumper sticker: "Guess who is coming back? And boy is He **mad**!" God's hour of vengeance has come.

5. [the everlasting gospel] This is a gospel of **judg**ment. Throughout the Tribulation it is the gospel of the Kingdom.

   Matthew 24:13-14 - But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. Mat. 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

   Matthew 3:2 - And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

   Mark 1:4 - John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

   *But here it seems that God wants as **many** as possible to be saved. He acts in grace and just tells all to "Fear God and glorify Him who is creator of all things." This is a **basic** truth for all dispensations.

6. When this angel proclaims this, it will be wonderful news to those **be**lievers on earth. Can you imagine Israel's remnant in the wilderness, who are trying to live from Satan's attacks, when they **hear** this angel's message! *For earth's inhabitants, this is the hour of **de**cision. The choice is clear. Believe God, worship Him, or worship the beast and **suffer** the upcoming judgments.

7. The angel reminds them of the truth that God is the **Crea**tor, and that is why they need to turn to Him now. He is also **Jud**ge.

   Hebrews 1:1-3 - God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Heb. 1:2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Heb. 1:3 Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

   Colossians 1:16-17 - For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: Col 1:17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

   Romans 1:21-24 - Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Romans 1:22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, Romans 1:23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Romans 1:24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

C. Revelation 14:8 - 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.

1. The way this is mentioned, and then going to verse 9, makes it **seem** like it is no big deal. But it **is** of the utmost importance. We will see later in Revelation 17-18 how God explains in full detail Babylon's **de**mise (Jeremiah 50-51).

2. So here in 14:8, it tells of Babylon's fall, but none of the details of how it takes place. Chapters 17-18 will give the **bulk** of this event.

   Revelation 17:1 - And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters:

   Revelation 18:21 - And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast *it* into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.

3. Here in Revelation 14:8, Babylon's fall is mentioned to let us know when it will happen. The timing and description of it does not take place until **later** when it is explained in an insert. The point is, a lot is happening at this moment, and we are at the middle of the week.

D. Revelation 14:10-11 - 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: Rev. 14:11 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.

1. There would be no use warning someone if this were at the **end** of the week (Tribulation). But since there are 3 1/2 years left, God's warning is **help**ful. A warning is no good if they had **al**ready taken the beast's mark. *Man has always mocked God for not showing His power and authority. Well, here it is!

2. [and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb.]

   a. This is a very **im**portant truth that begins in the Tribulation and carries on throughout the Millennium (1000 years). At this time, the non-believers who do receive the mark are not yet banished from the angels and Lamb's presence. The lake of fire will happen in the **fut**ure after the 1000 year Kingdom and white throne judgment.

   b. Until that time, these marked individuals will be **close** to where Christ - Lamb is in Jerusalem. Compare:

      II Thessalonians 1:7-9 - And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, II Thes. 1:8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: II Thes. 1:9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

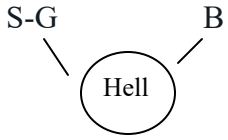
   c. *This is Christ's second coming to earth at the **end** of the Tribulation. The lost will be in the heart of the earth and later banished, but they will not be in Christ's presence both times.

      Revelation 21:8 - But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

d. * | But here in Revelation 14:10-11, there will be **some** unbelievers (beast worshippers), in torment **not** from His presence. It seems the scriptures teach the opening of hell will be viewed by man in the Millennium (Mark 9:43-47, John 5:29, Isaiah 66:23-24)

e. When Christ returns He **melts** the bottom of the mountains that will cause a boring down to hell's chasm, creating a **vis**ual opening from the face of the earth down into hell's chasm.

** I have read that there is an **open**ing in the earth south of the Dead Sea stretching eastward all the way to Babylon (Iraq), which is part of the promised land. Perhaps these two openings are: one, under the Dead Sea where Sodom and Gomorrah were, and the other, at Babylon. These two openings could meet beneath making it **one** large area.



Some call this Gehenna while God keeps other lost people in Hades.

Isaiah 66:23-24 - And it shall come to pass, *that* from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD. Isa. 66:24 And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcases of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh.

3. When one dies physically, they are not snuffed out, nor **un**conscious of what is going on, nor blank and nonexistent. They will be **aware** of grievous torment that is non-stop, continuing on, unending pain, anguish and punishment. They will have some type of body-soul form that others will **see** to be a deterrent to them.

4. [have no rest day nor night, ..smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever:] As the sun comes up and goes down, each new day affirms their punishment. Not one is **anni**hilated.

Mark 9:48-49 - Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. Mark 9:49 For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt.

The fire of hell will not **consume, but will preserve with suffering.

E. Revelation 14:12 - Here is the patience of the saints: here *are* they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

*What has been said ought to be sufficient to warn believers not to give in to the threats of the beast or religious temptation. They should be encouraged to stay faithful and **obey** God.

F. Revelation 14:13 - And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed *are* the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

1. God gives a benediction, a blessed testimony to those saints who had died in **faith** (6:9-11) and those who are willing to stand up amidst such terrible persecution. God is **proud** they are not ashamed of Him.

2. These saints are **will**ing to die a violent death for their faith in God even when the beast's system is upon them to recant or die. They will gladly give their neck to the guillotine - sword while loving God **more** than life itself.

   Matthew 24:9 - Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

3. God says their not receiving the mark will almost **cer**tainly cost them their lives. Before the slaughter begins, God comforts them by honoring their testimony and telling them He will **not** forget them. Actually, the moment they die, they will **instant**aneously be with Him.

4. The moment these Kingdom believers enter the Millennium with Christ, God says [that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them]. This is in contrast to those who take the mark of the beast and who will have no rest **ever**!

   *The word "rest" does not mean inactive. It means to be refreshed, to **re**gather strength to serve and praise God.

G. Revelation 14:14 - And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud *one* sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.

1. This is a reference to Christ as [the Son of man]. This is the **last** time this title is ever used for Christ. The first time ever used in the N.T. is:

   Matthew 8:20 - And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air *have* nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay *his* head.

2. The first time Christ came, He was rejected and **no** place to lay His head. He was uninvited. Contrast that with here in Rev. 14:14, where Christ has a crown as a token of His dominion. The next time He comes, He will be King of Kings and **right**ful owner of earth.

3. At His first coming, He was the lowly Jesus meek and mild; but in His 2nd coming, He does not come that way. He will return as the true **Roar**ing Lion, seeking His enemies out and whom He may **de**vour.

   He is not worried where He will lay His head, but will take full possession of the whole earth and sit **anywhere He wants to!

4. The title or the term [Son of man] is a **Mess**ianic title of the Lord Jesus Christ.

   Daniel 7:13-14 - I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. Dan. 7:14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed.

   *The Father gives His Son, the [Son of man], authority to minister the Kingdom.

   Revelation 11:15 - And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

5. Interestingly, you find this title [Son of man] in Matthew and other gospels during Christ's **earthly** ministry. You also find it in Acts, Hebrews, and Revelation. However, you never find [Son of man] in the Pauline epistles.

   a. *| Why? In Paul's epistles, the issue is not Christ having dominion over the earth in the Kingdom. So the title [son of man] is not the issue in Paul's writings. The issue **to**day is the Mystery Body of Christ, with Christ as its Head in heavenly places.

   b. The error of Christianity has been that we do not believe the gospel is **eno**ugh, nor **sat**isfying enough. Christendom has tried to establish the Kingdom on earth for years.

      (1) In the 60's and 70's, fundamentalism tried to change our nation from top down. They tried to **el**ect leaders with our views and then **legis**late them into law.

      (2) In the 80's and 90's, the church tried to teach truth with **mult**iple new versions of the Bible in order to make the Bible simpler. That has only led to confusion and **ina**ccurate doctrine.

      (3) In the 2000s, to reach our communities, we have become more like them, worldly. As a result, there has been **little** difference between us, and they do not feel any conviction. They are comfortable with us. We stopped using terms that **off**end, like sin - hell - etc..

          * These churches will no doubt grow, but too often few real conversions and change happens. The church has become **enter**taining and **cas**ual Christianity.

6. Our **dis**pensational Pauline Gospel is correct for today. It does change us toward God and makes us **diff**erent from the world. As the saints in Revelation 14, we do not need to be ashamed.

   *| As we continue in Chapter 14, God is giving us a **summ**ary of what is going to happen in the rest of Revelation.