Victory Everlasting Gospel Church

Sabbath April 8, 2017

**“Revelation Chapter 14”**

A Power Point Presentation

The title of today’s sermon is: **“Revelation Chapter 14”**

Before we begin, let us invite the LORD’s presence …

Sabbath March 4th, we studied Revelation 12, a key chapter in the entire book because it shows the overall Great Controversy between Christ and Satan as the Lord battles with the devil himself.

Sabbath March 11th we studied Revelation 13 and the 2 beasts which the devil is working through, to try to usurp and dethrone Christ and take away His authority on the earth. The first beast we called, and rightly so, the Anti-Christ Beast.

The second beast of Revelation 13 is called the False Prophet or the “Land Beast”. We discovered how the devil works through both of these beasts, trying to usurp the position of Christ.

This Sabbath we will study Revelation chapter 14 and the three angel’s messages, but be sure to take note that it is a Christ filled chapter.

 In fact, the whole book of Revelation is primarily about Jesus Christ.

David’s meditation in Psalm 43:3 should be ours as well, **“O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.”**

We saw in Revelation 13:15 that God’s people, a small and apparently weak and defenseless company, that had come through a very dark period where a decree would put them under pain of death, if they did not comply and receive the mark of the beast and worship his image, but God never abandoned His people.

For we see in the chapter we are studying today, in the opening verses 1-5, a powerful picture of Jesus Christ standing with the victorious 144,000, those who were translated without seeing death.

Revelation 14:1 **“And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.”**

As we studied the Seal of the Living God last week, we learned that the Sabbath is indeed important and is the sign of God’s faithful Sabbath-keepers, whereas the sealing was done with those who have the Father’s name in their foreheads. We learned of the sealing in chapter 7.

Revelation 7:3 **“…Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.**

Revelation 14:2 **“And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps:”**

Revelation 14:3 **“And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.”**

 **“… And they sung as it were a new song before the throne...”** What was this new song they were singing before God’s throne?

 Revelation 15:3 **“… And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb …”**

*“None but the hundred and forty-four thousand can learn that song; for it is the song of their experience,--an experience such as no other company have ever had.”* {GC88 648.3}

Revelation 14:4 **“These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins.”**

**“…which were not defiled with women; ...”** In prophetic scripture a woman represents a church. The only women that can defile would be the corrupt churches of Babylon and the defiling is caused by false doctrine.

**“…which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins.”** This would represent the true and faithful church that has embraced with unyielding faith, the pure doctrines of God and they rejected all false doctrine that was not 100% proven with an “it is written.”

Revelation 14:4 **“These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.”**

 **“These were redeemed from among men,”** Still referring to the 144,000 and would be an expression which can be applicable only to those who were translated from among the living.

 Revelation 14:5 **“And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.”** A Christ-like characteristic of the 144,000 “And in their mouth was found no guile …”

Strong’s Concordance renders guile as deceit.

1 Peter 2:21, 22 **“For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:”** The only time in the history of the world that a large body of believers have gotten total victory over sin and have vindicated the name and character of God before the universe.

In verses 6-12 we see Christ’s “everlasting gospel” as found in the three angel’s messages. This is a serious message for it is **God’s final warning to a wicked world.** In this final generation, this is the everlasting gospel to be preached by God’s end-time church.

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,”** In other words God has a warning message called the “Everlasting Gospel” to be delivered to the living inhabitants of planet earth in the end-time. The angels are symbolic and represent the work to be done by God’s people. Going on, **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.**

What does it mean to **Fear God?** Yes, it is a reverential awe and respect for the Great God of the universe, but we should Fear living outside of His revealed will. We are in the early rain time and through the agency of the Holy Spirit, we should be getting the victory over every sin and character flaw. We should have righteousness by faith and we must be sanctified by faith, which therefore is an integral part of the everlasting gospel.

What does it mean to give **glory** to Him? The health message is a very important part of the everlasting gospel.

**“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”** 1 Corinthians 10:31 We must have the victory over appetite. No harmful substance should ever enter our bodies. Anything that damages or hinders the effective operation of the delicate machinery within the human system should be discarded. What affects the body, affects the mind and therefore the spiritual.

*“Flesh was never the best food; but its use is now doubly objectionable, since disease in animals is so rapidly increasing. Those who use flesh foods little know what they are eating. Often if they could see the animals when living and know the quality of the meat they eat, they would turn from it with loathing.”* {CG 382.3}

*“The effects of a flesh diet may not be immediately realized, but this is no evidence that it is not harmful. Few can be made to believe that it is the meat they have eaten which has poisoned their blood and caused their suffering. Many die of diseases wholly due to meat eating, while the real cause is not suspected by themselves or by others.”* {CG 382.4}.

What does it mean **“…for the hour of his judgment is come: …?”**

We studied that on February the 11th and 25th when we covered Daniel chapters 8 & 9. Daniel 8:14 says, **“And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.”**

And of course we know that prophetically speaking we are talking about a period of 2,300 years from a given date until the cleansing of the sanctuary.

 We learned in Daniel 9 that the 2300 year period was in 2 elements, beginning in 457 BC when King Artaxerxes gave the decree to rebuild Jerusalem. So the cleansing of the sanctuary would begin 2300 years later in 1844 and was the start of the investigative judgment. It is also called the “anti-typical day of Atonement.”

 On October 22nd 1844 Jesus moved from the holy place in the heavenly sanctuary, to the most holy place.

 For these last 172+ years we have been living in the Hour of God’s Judgment.

 Going on, “…**and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.”** The call in this first angel’s message is to worship God. What is the basis given for worship?“…**and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.”**

 Revelation 4:11 says and read it with me, **“Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.”**

©Has God given us a symbol of His creative power? Has He given us a refuge in this stress filled world?

What is the sign of His creative power?

We look to the Decalogue for the answer. Deep within the heart of God’s law is a symbol of His authority.

Exodus 20:8-11 **“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.”**

When did God establish the Sabbath?

It was following the sixth 24 hour day of creation week.

Genesis 2:1 Read with me, **“Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.”**

Verses 2 & 3, **“And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he** (what?) **rested** (So God rested) **on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.**

**And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it.”** God did three things back in 4004 BC in that creation week on the 7th day.

He rested, He blessed that day, and He sanctified it, or shall we say He set it apart for holy use**.**

Man was not made for the Sabbath, he was created on the 6th day, the Sabbath was made for man according to Mark 2:27.

Jesus created all things and the Sabbath was His love gift to the human family.

**“Search the scriptures”** Jesus said in John 5:39 and of course He meant what we call the Old Testament. Throughout those scriptures the Sabbath was a sign between God and His people.

1 John 2:3 says, **“And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.”** God’s true and faithful people show that they know Him because they do keep His commandments.

Especially the Sabbath for which Jesus Himself said He is Lord of in Matthew 12:8.

Sabbath is the only Lord’s Day in the Bible.

Just as Jesus sanctified His Sabbath for holy use, so in His prayer to His Father in John 17:17 He asked His true and faithful followers to be sanctified through the truth of His Word.

And so we see in this first angel’s everlasting gospel message to the world, a call back to the Sabbath. **“…and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.”**

The first angel’s message was being preached by a Baptist farmer turned preacher named William Miller, from 1833 through 1844. You see the chart on the right, a copy of the one he used in his preaching engagements. In the lower left artist’s rendering, you see the chart behind him. I have a copy of that chart in the church office for anyone who would like to see what William Miller preached from.

Let us read the second angel’s message of 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.”**

It’s not speaking about ancient Babylon which today is in ruins, no, no, it’s speaking about Mystical or Spiritual Babylon.

The great city BABYLON is composed of three divisions. The oldest is paganism symbolized under the form of a dragon. The second is the great papal apostasy symbolized by the beast. The third are her daughters, the apostate protestant churches.

BABYLON is fallen, is fallen. This is a world-wide spiritual condition of all the apostate churches that are drunk on the wine of Babylon. It says she made ALL nations drink of her wine or false doctrine.

The second angel’s message, Revelation 14;8, began in 1844 and was directed at those Sunday keeping churches that continued the traditions of Rome while rejecting the first angel’s message. The first FALLEN applies to Rome. The second FALLEN applies to apostate Protestantism. In the end time, this message will go again with power as it combines with the 4th angel of Revelation 18.

Revelation 18:2,4 **"And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, … And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins , and that ye receive not of her plagues."** The call is to come out of all those bodies of false and confusing religion. That's what spiritual Babylon is—religious confusion.

The wine of Babylon that she made all nations drink is the many false doctrines that supplant the gospel with its false system of salvation. The following are some of that wine:

Chief among these is the creation of the Papacy, which was to be regarded as the continuation of the apostolic church with its hierarchal form of government and the Pope vicariously being Jesus in the flesh.

This blasphemous doctrine of Transubstantiation is where in the sacrifice of the mass the priest is supposed to create the Creator.

The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception which denies that God in Christ dwelt in human flesh.

Setting aside Jesus as Mediator between God and man (1 Timothy 2:5) for another system of mediation; Mary and the saints. Here are just 10 of the hundreds of the supposedly canonized saints. But we know that those who were not fictitious are in their graves and hear nothing.

Rather than confession of sins directly to the Father in heaven, confession is made to another mortal sinner, the priest, thereby separating the sinner from Jesus; then they must do penance to work off their sins.

Instituting the pagan day of worshipping the sun, sun-day, in place of God’s eternal Sabbath.

The false doctrine of the natural immortality of the soul, that somehow at death a disembodied spirit leaves the body and continues in a spirit form.

The doctrine of baptism by sprinkling and infant baptism.

The false doctrine of a secret rapture.

The non-scriptural doctrine of an eternally burning hell fire where sinners roast throughout eternity.

The false doctrine based on traditional fables that the deceased go immediately to heaven at death.

The false doctrine of the future antichrist. And there is much, more that constitutes the wine of Babylon. We will now move on to the third angel’s message.

The warning against worshipping the beast is the most fearful and most urgent given in Revelation. Let’s read it together in the third angel’s message found in

Revelation 14:9, 10 **“And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God,** **which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation;”** Without mixture means that His plagues will be poured out without mercy or grace; as all prayers for mercy will never more be heard. “… **and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: ”**

Verse 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.”**

 In our study last week, we learned that just as the Sabbath is a sign of those who will be sealed, so the worship on Sunday is a sign of those who will eventually get the mark of the beast. And just as those sealed have the Father’s name in their foreheads, so those who worship the beast have its name in their foreheads. It is the name of blasphemy for it is The Trinity that is the basis of all their worship.

The frontal lobe is directly behind the forehead, and is where one thinks, makes decisions and belief systems are established.

So those who follow the worship of the beast where the Trinity is the basis of all worship including Sunday sacredness, will, when the National Sunday Law is the law of the land, require all to receive and practice the sign, being Sunday worship.

Then all by having chosen obedience to the National Sunday Law as their settled irrevocable belief, will at that time have received in their forehead the mark of the beast.

Everyone else that abides by the law for no religious purpose, will abstain from labor to avoid penalties and thereby receive the mark in their hand.

This will also be a time, when former Sabbath-keeping Trinitarians, forsake the faith and make a conscious mental decision to obey the law of man, adhering to the requirements of the law, and thereby becoming Sunday worshippers receiving the mark in the forehead. They will become bitter foes of their former brethren.

Worst of all is the fulfillment of Ezekiel 8:16 which reads, **“And he brought me into the inner court of the LORD'S house, and, behold, at the door of the temple of the LORD, between the porch and the altar, [were] about five and twenty men, with their backs toward the temple of the LORD, and their faces toward the east; and they worshipped the sun toward the east.”**  Our Triune Trinity leadership of the Adventist church will make the ultimate compromise and betrayal by obeying the law of the land in keeping Sunday, so as not to offend their ecumenical Sunday keeping brethren, nor would they upset the Pope in Rome.

But on the other hand, there is another group; a much smaller group, that fears only displeasing God. God said in Hebrews 10:16, read it with me, **“I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: …”**

This person will NOT fear man’s wrath and will NOT obey the national Sunday law and WILL knowingly be obedient to God’s law and keep the Sabbath, thereby receiving the seal of God in his frontal lobes, wherein is the Father’s name. He is one of a worldwide minority group, for it says in Revelation 14:12,

 **“Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.”** Revelation 14:12. God’s faithful followers will not flinch nor will they falter, for with the faith of Jesus, they will hold high the standard of God regardless of any threat to property or their lives. When the test comes, and it will come, for the storm is approaching with each passing day, where will your loyalties be? We will either face man’s wrath for a season, or we will face God’s wrath; we make the choice.

 The last part of chapter 14 shows us a beautiful depiction of His coming.

 Let us continue now with 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.”**

The whole thrust of the everlasting gospel through the three angel’s messages is to lead people to Jesus and to prepare them for the advent or the second coming. Revelation 14:14, together now, **"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."**

Revelation 14:15 **“And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.”** This harvest pertains to the righteous, they have been victorious and are ready for heaven.

Revelation 14:16 **“And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.** This represents the garnering of the wheat, which is the ingathering of the righteous. It is the final fulfillment of the last feast day.

 Revelation 14:17 **“And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.”**

 Revelation 14:18 **“And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth;** **for her grapes are fully ripe.”** These wild grapes represent the harvest of the wicked who have made their decision to reject God’s mercy and their probation ended with them in a lost condition.

 Revelation 14:19 **“And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.”**

We know the wrath of God will be contained in the seven last plagues.

 Revelation 14:20 **“And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.”** Truly a sad ending to a rebellious race of human beings who were joined with Satan in his six millennial great controversy with His Creator.

We are pilgrims waiting for His coming, earth is not our home, not just yet. Our blessed hope is that He will come soon and find us ready to go home.

Our study for Sabbath April 22nd will be Revelation chapters 15 & 16.

With reverence, let us pray …