A Preview of Victory
PART II
Revelation 14:6-13

MAIN THOUGHT  In the PROPHETIC (at the second coming) PAST (an accomplished fact – 11:15) PREVIEW, a series of angels pronounce that JUDGEMENT HAS COME (6-7), BABYLON IS FALLEN (8), and ESCAPE GOD’S WRATH (9-13).

JUDGMENT HAS COME (6-7).

- ANOTHER ANGEL (89x in Rev.) begins a series of six angels in this chapter.
- This angel was flying in midair with the ETERNAL GOSPEL (good news) announcing to those on the earth to fear God or face judgment.
- Today, the task of EVANGELISM belongs to Christians (Acts 1:8) for angels “long to look into these things” (1 Pet. 1:12; 1 Cor. 4:9; Eph. 3:10). But now even angels are involved with evangelism.
- This GOSPEL reminds us of the (1) GENERAL (natural) REVELATION (Rom. 1:18) of God as seen in creation rather than (2) SPECIAL REVELATION specifically of Christ (1 Cor. 15:3-4) for creation is emphasized.
- This is a solemn call to the pagan world to worship God as CREATOR (4:11; 10:6; Acts 14:15) which is the first step (natural revelation) in coming to Christ (special revelation).

BABYLON IS FALLEN (8).

- A second angel announces (proleptic) that BABYLON THE GREAT (Dan. 4:30) has fallen! She will be destroyed (16:19) both RELIGIOUSLY (Rev. 17) and ECONOMICALLY (Rev. 18).
- This will be accomplished by Christ – (Dan. 2:34, 44; 5:26).
- Here BABYLON is the symbol for the world system under ANTICHRIST.

ESCAPE GOD’S WRATH (9-13).

- A third angel announces grave and certain consequences to those who are thinking of taking the MARK OF THE BEAST (Prov. 14:12; Matt. 17:13).
- “IF” means that there is still a chance to believe in God (Eccles. 9:4).
- DRINKING THE CUP is a metaphor for God’s judgment (Jer. 25:15-16).
- Most of the world would drink from the GOLD CUP of Babylon (Jer. 51:7).
- The WINE OF GOD’S FURY would be at FULL STRENGTH (Gk oxymoron – mixed unmixed; Psa. 75:8) without mercy unlike the past (Hab. 3:2).
- The words fury, wrath, torment, sulfur, and smoke (Gen. 19:4) are not words we want to associate with a loving God. However, God is also holy and just and must punish sin (Rom. 11:22; 2 Thess. 1:6-10).
- There is no REST for the wicked unlike the righteous (13; Matt. 11:28-29).
- PATIENT ENDURANCE will be required of the tribulation saints on earth (1:9).
- REMAIN FAITHFUL to Jesus is required in order to rest from our labor and have our deeds follow us to heaven (22:12; Matt. 6:20; Heb. 6:10; 11:6).