

God's Final Call

Revelation 14:6-11

East Berlin Community Church

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Introduction

- *"This is your FINAL CALL!"*
- The Seventh Trumpet announces the beginning of the FINAL ACT
 - Revelation 11:15-- *"the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, 'The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!'"*
 - Revelation 5-- Jesus Christ receives the seven sealed scroll, the title deed to the earth and the plan to reclaim what is rightfully His.
 - Satan as the usurper, who today claims to be the "ruler of this world"
 - As Jesus Christ opens each of the seals, He begins to take back what is His
 - The seventh seal contains the seven Trumpet Judgments
 - Trumpets 1-4 create havoc for the earth's environment
 - Trumpet 5-- a taste of hell here on earth
 - Trumpet 6-- Death returns with a vengeance. 1/3 of the world's population dies.
 - The Seventh trumpet unleashed seven more severe judgments, the Bowl Judgments resulting in total ruination and destruction.
- A Review of the Structure of the Book of Revelation
 - The various series of Judgments is what moves the time line along
 - Revelation 6-- Six of the sealed Judgments during the first half of the seven-year tribulation.
 - Revelation 7 is a parenthesis-- 144,000 and the myriad of Gentile martyrs
 - Revelation 8-- Opening of the Seventh Seal at the middle of the tribulation which in turn unleashes the seven Trumpet Judgments
 - Revelation 9-- the first six Trumpet Judgments
 - Revelation 10:1--11:14-- another parenthesis concerning two witnesses
 - Revelation 11:15-19-- The Seventh Trumpet. The beginning of the FINAL ACT. Leads to the Bowl Judgments of Revelation 15--16.
 - Revelation 12--14-- another parenthesis
 - Revelation 12-- Satanic attack on the Jews and God's protection of them
 - Revelation 13-- The Career of the Antichrist and False Prophet
 - Revelation 13:16-17-- *"He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."*
 - Revelation 14-- Supplemental material for the Final Act
 - Jesus Christ standing victoriously on Mount Zion
 - Revelation 14:1-- *"Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads."*
 - Jesus Christ coming in judgment, battle of Armageddon
 - Revelation 14:14-16-- *"Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, 'Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe.'" So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped."*

God's Final Call!

- Revelation 14:6-11-- *"Then 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— 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.' 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.' 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, 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. 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.'"*

A. The Messengers-- Angels

1. Angels play a predominate role in end-time events.
2. In the book of Revelation, they are involved in the outpouring of God's wrath.

B. The Messages-- Three Urgent Messages from God

1. Angel ONE: The Proclamation of the Gospel

- Revelation 14:6-7-- *"Then 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— 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.'"*
- a. By this time, the world will have suffered incredible devastation as a result of the Sealed and Trumpet Judgment. The unbelievers will have also heard the gospel proclaimed by the 144,000 Jewish evangelists as well as by the two witnesses. They will have watched God raise the two witnesses from the dead. They will have witnessed firsthand the mighty power of God unleashed in this world. Yet in spite of everything they have heard and seen, most of the world's population will reject the gospel.
 - Revelation 9:20-21-- *"But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts."*
- b. God sends an angel, flying in the "midst of heaven" to proclaim the "everlasting gospel"
 - 1) The "midst of heaven"-- the highest point so that all can see
 - 2) The "everlasting gospel"-- the good news that brings eternal life. Same gospel we preach.
 - 3) The message is for ALL who live on the earth-- "to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people"
 - 4) He will call with a "loud voice" so that everyone will hear.
 - 5) His message is simply this: "Fear God and give Him the glory!"
 - 6) The urgency of the call: the hour of God's judgment has come! God's FINAL CALL!
- c. God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked
 - Ezekiel 18:21-23-- *"if a wicked man turns from all his sins which he has committed, keeps all My statutes, and does what is lawful and right, he shall surely live; he shall not die. None of the transgressions which he has committed shall be remembered against him; because of the righteousness which he has done, he shall live. Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?" says the Lord GOD, "and not that he should turn from his ways and live?"*
 - Ezekiel 18:30-32-- *"Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies," says the Lord GOD. "Therefore turn and live!"*

- d. God will give the earth-dwellers opportunity after opportunity to hear the gospel. Every person living on earth at this time will be confronted with the claims of Christ and called upon to repent of their sins and to call upon His name in order to be saved.
- Matthew 24:14-- *"This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all nations, and then the end will come."*

2. Angel TWO; The Pronouncement of Judgment

- Revelation 14:8-- *"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."*
- a. *"Babylon"* refers to the Antichrist's world-wide political, religious, and economic empire, to the world system that will be ruling the world the world at this time.
- 1) It also refers to that which the earth-dwellers are trusting for their safety and well-being.
 - 2) The Antichrist's empire will appear to be invincible. He will wield absolute power. In poetic terms, *"she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."*
- b. *"Babylon is fallen, is fallen"*-- that is, the empire of the Antichrist will come crashing down.
- Daniel 2:35b-- *'become like the chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them could be found.'*

3. Angel THREE: The Promise of Damnation

- Revelation 14:9-11-- *"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, 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. 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."*
- a. Addressed to anyone who worships the beast and his image, and who has received his mark on their forehead or on his hand.
- b. They will *"drink the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out in full strength into the cup of His indignation."*
- 1) They will be *"tormented with fire and brimstone"*, that is, hell with all of its torment
 - 2) Hell is the final abode of the devil, his demons, the antichrist and the false prophet
 - Revelation 20:10-- *'The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.'*
 - 3) Hell is also the final abode of the wicked.
 - Revelation 21:8-- *"But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."*
 - 4) Hell is eternal! *"The smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever"*
 - 5) Jesus spoke of hell as a place of "eternal fire" (Matthew 18:8, of unquenchable fire (Mark 9:43), a place *"where the worm does not die and the fire is not quenched."* (Mark 9:48)
 - 6) While one in hell will suffer *"in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb"*, they will have no true fellowship with God. They will observe from a distance the glories of heaven.
 - 7) Once in hell there is no way out,
 - Luke 16:26-- *"between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass by from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us."*
- c. Hell is the dire consequence for refusal to repent and believe the gospel.
- 2 Peter 3:9-- *"God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance!"*
 - Revelation 16:9-- *"men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has the power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory."*