



MISSION CITY

BIBLE CHURCH

DATE: Sunday, September 25, 2022

TITLE: How to Be a Christian in a Hostile World

SERIES: The Book of Revelation: Worthy is the Lamb

PASSAGE: Revelation 14:1-20

INTRO:

In the end, the world will be especially hostile to the things of God. We see that in different ways today. How do we stand strong in our faith when it feels like evil keeps winning?

4 ENCOURAGEMENTS ABOUT HOW TO BE A CHRISTIAN IN A HOSTILE WORLD:

1) Remember that we _____ to God (v1-3)

2) Keep yourself _____ for God (v4-5)

4 Questions to Ask in the Heat of the Battle:

- A. Will this _____ me or _____ me? (v4a)
- B. Am I _____ all the way in this? (v4b)
- C. Am I fulfilling my _____ by doing this? (v4c)
- D. Will the affirm the truth of _____ in Christ? (v5)

3) Put your hope in _____ and not in _____ (v6-13)

4) Fear the righteous _____ of Jesus (v14-20)

Cf., Revelation 6:9

Verses 14-16: anticipating BOWL JUDGEMENTS (cf., Rev 16:1-11)

Verses 17-20: anticipating BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON (cf., Rev 16:12-16; 19:11-21)



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DISCUSSION:

1. In the end, the world will be especially hostile to the things of God. We taste some of that in our day today. What are some general examples of this hostility? How has hostility to the things of God impacted you specifically?
2. What is the significance of the 144,000 people (verse 1) of having the name of the Father written on their forehead? What identifies you as belonging to God?
3. What are the 144,000 people doing in verses 2-3? What surprises you about that response considering all that occurred in the previous chapter?
4. What sets apart the 144,000 people (verses 4-5)? What should set apart a follower of Christ today?
5. What does the first angel's proclamation demand from believers and what does it mean (verses 6-7)?
6. A second angel announces the fall of Babylon (verse 8). What does Babylon represent? How does Babylon seduce people?
7. What are the consequences for those who yield to the beast? How long will those consequences last (verses 9-11)?
8. According to verses 12 and 13, what sort of people are blessed at their death?
9. Who is holding the *sickle* in verse 14 and what is the point of it? What does the bearer of the sickle do with it, and what sort of response should it evoke in us (verses 14-20)?

Application: What specific steps do you take as a follower of Christ to strengthen your faith when it feels like evil keeps winning? Sharing what has aided you might help equip a brother or sister to endure.

Memory Verse: “For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised” (Hebrews 10:36)

PRAYER POINTS (based on Revelation 14:1-20):

THE PRAISEWORTHY QUALITIES OF GOD THE FATHER AND GOD THE SON:

- Jesus is among his people (v1)
- God’s people belong to him no matter what (v1)
- God has redeemed us as his first fruits (v4)
- God will judge sin in its fullness (v7, 10-11, 16, 19-20)
- God is worthy of our worship (v7)
- God is Creator of all things (v7)
- Jesus sees the faithfulness of his saints (v13)
- Jesus is the source of all purity (v14: “white cloud”), victory (v14: “golden crown”), and authority (v14: “sharp sickle”)

REVERENCE:

- Lord, we worship you because . . .
- Lord, you are with us even when . . .

RESPONSE:

- Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner . . .
- God, thank you for redeeming me even when I was . . .
- Lord, forgive me for not trusting that you have authority when I see/experience . . .

REQUEST:

- Lord, help me trust you for victory when . . .
- Lord, help me trust that you have all authority even when . . .
- Lord, help me trust that you will keep me pure when . . .
- Lord, help me to share the “eternal gospel” with _____; please deliver him/her from your judgement

READINESS:

- Lord, when it looks like evil is winning, I will be faithful to you by . . .
- Lord, when we feel the world’s hostility toward you, help us remember that you love them