

Lesson 26 Revelation 14:14-20

Revelation 14:14-20 (NASB)

¹⁴ Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and sitting on the cloud was **one like a son of man**, having a golden crown on His head and a sharp sickle in His hand.

¹⁵ And another angel came out of the temple, crying out with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Put in your sickle and reap, for the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth is ripe."

¹⁶ Then He who sat on the cloud swung His sickle over the earth, and the earth was reaped.

¹⁷ And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, and he also had a sharp sickle.

¹⁸ Then another angel, the one who has power over fire, came out from the altar; and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Put in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, because her grapes are ripe."

¹⁹ So the angel swung his sickle to the earth and gathered *the clusters from* the vine of the earth, and threw them into the great wine press of the wrath of God.

²⁰ And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses' bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles.

D. THE MESSAGES OF THE SECOND GROUP OF THREE ANGELS ([14:14-20](#))

14:14-16. John in his vision next saw seated on a **white cloud** one **like a Son of Man** wearing a **crown of gold** and holding a **sharp sickle**. Though some have identified "a Son of Man" as an angel, it is more probable that it is **Christ Himself** who is frequently called "the Son of Man" (cf. [1:13](#)). In the Book of Matthew alone this title is ascribed to Christ more than 25 times ([Matt. 8:20](#); [9:6](#); [11:19](#); [12:8](#), [32](#); [13:41](#); etc.). The sickle in His hand suggests judgment. And this is supported by the messages of the three angels ([Rev. 14:15-20](#)).

An **angel** called out to Christ to **reap, because the harvest of the earth is ripe**. The ripeness is in the sense of withered or overripe (*exēranthē*). What follows is judgment as the **sickle is swung... over the earth**. Alford holds that [verse 14](#) refers to the harvest of the saints, and that [verses 15-16](#) describe judgment on the wicked (*The Greek New Testament*, 4:691). **But it is difficult to imagine a harvest of saints as being withered or overripe.** why

14:17-20. Another **angel** had a **sharp sickle**, and a fellow **angel** commanded him to **gather... clusters of grapes from the earth's vine, because its grapes are ripe**. Here a different word is used for ripe (*ēkmasan*), meaning "**to be fully grown**" or "**in prime condition**." The grapes were full of juice and ready for harvest. In obedience the angel **gathered the grapes and threw them into the great winepress of God's wrath. They were trampled there outside the city**, probably Jerusalem (cf. "the great city" in [11:8](#)).

The custom was to produce grape juice by trampling on grapes in a winepress. The result here, however, is different. **Blood flowed out of the press rising as high as the horses' bridles for a distance of 1,600 stadia**, about 180 miles. While this distance may be literal and may designate the area of judgment as around the city of Jerusalem, it is of course impossible for the blood to reach a height where it would touch horses' bridles. What this affirms is a tremendous bloodletting in which blood is spattered as high as the bridles of horses. This is a graphic picture

of a great slaughter ([Isa. 63:1-3](#)). Other Scriptures (e.g., [Rev. 16:14](#); [Dan. 11:40-45](#)) make it clear that there will be a world war of tremendous scope underway at the time of the second coming of Christ, and this may be a partial fulfillment of these prophecies.

Taken as a whole, [Revelation 14](#) on the one hand refers to the preservation of the 144,000 through the Great Tribulation. And on the other hand it graphically declares **some of the terrible judgments that will be inflicted on the world which rejects Christ and follows Satan's substitute for the Lord.**

William Kelly regards this chapter as an outline of major events at the end of the Age: (1) the appearance of the godly remnant of Israel; (2) a testimony to Gentiles; (3) the fall of Babylon; (4) the doom of the worshipers of the beast; (5) the blessedness of saints who are martyred; (6) the harvest; (7) the wrath of God on the world (*Lectures on the Book of Revelation*, p. 330).

The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures by Dallas Seminary Faculty.

Open it

1. What do you think is the average person's view of heaven?

Probably doesn't exist

2. Why do you think death is personified as the Grim Reaper?

Everyone is afraid to die

Explore it

3. What did John see? ([14:14](#))

Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and sitting on the cloud was one like a son of man, having a golden crown on His head and a sharp sickle in His hand.

4. What happened as John stared at the angel sitting on a cloud? ([14:15](#))

And another angel came out of the temple, crying out with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, " Put in your sickle and reap,

5. Why did the one angel command the other to harvest the earth? ([14:15](#))

for the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth is ripe."

6. How did the one seated on the cloud respond to the angel's command? ([14:16](#))

Then He who sat on the cloud swung His sickle over the earth, and the earth was reaped.

7. What did John see "still another angel" do? ([14:18](#))

Then another angel, the one who has power over fire, came out from the altar; and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Put in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, because her grapes are ripe."

8. What happened to the grapes that were gathered by the reaping angel? ([14:19-20](#))

So the angel swung his sickle to the earth and gathered *the clusters from* the vine of the earth, and threw them into the great wine press of the wrath of God.

9. How much blood was produced by the crushing of the "grapes"? ([14:20](#))

And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses' bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles.

Get it

10. What does this passage tell us about God?

He is patient, but not forever

11. How do you interpret this vision of John's?

As it reads

12. Why do you think God delays His judgment when the world is already filled with evil?

He doesn't want anyone to not have a chance at salvation

Apply it

13. In what way can you express your gratitude to God for sparing you from His wrath?

Be the Person HE want ME to be, and not what I wanted to be

Revelation 14:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, and he also had a sharp sickle.

Revelation 14:18 (NASB)

¹⁸ Then another angel, the one who has power over fire, came out from the altar; and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Put in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, because her grapes are ripe."

Revelation 14:19 (NASB)

¹⁹ So the angel swung his sickle to the earth and gathered *the clusters from* the vine of the earth, and threw them into the great wine press of the wrath of God.

Revelation 14:20 (NASB)

²⁰ And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses' bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles.

Revelation 11:8 (NASB)

⁸ And their dead bodies *will lie* in the street of the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified.

Isaiah 63:1 (NASB)

¹ Who is this who comes from Edom, With garments of glowing colors from Bozrah, This One who is majestic in His apparel, Marching in the greatness of His strength? "It is I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save."

Isaiah 63:2 (NASB)

² Why is Your apparel red, And Your garments like the one who treads in the wine press?

Isaiah 63:3 (NASB)

³ "I have trodden the wine trough alone, And from the peoples there was no man with Me. I also trod them in My anger And trampled them in My wrath; And their lifeblood is sprinkled on My garments, And I stained all My raiment.

Revelation 16:14 (NASB)

¹⁴ for they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty.

Daniel 11:40 (NASB)

⁴⁰ "At the end time the king of the South will collide with him, and the king of the North will storm against him with chariots, with horsemen and with many ships; and he will enter countries, overflow *them* and pass through.

Daniel 11:41 (NASB)

⁴¹ "He will also enter the Beautiful Land, and many *countries* will fall; but these will be rescued out of his hand: Edom, Moab and the foremost of the sons of Ammon.

Daniel 11:42 (NASB)

⁴² "Then he will stretch out his hand against *other* countries, and the land of Egypt will not escape.

Daniel 11:43 (NASB)

⁴³ "But he will gain control over the hidden treasures of gold and silver and over all the precious things of Egypt; and Libyans and Ethiopians *will follow* at his heels.

Daniel 11:44 (NASB)

⁴⁴ "But rumors from the East and from the North will disturb him, and he will go forth with great wrath to destroy and annihilate many.

Daniel 11:45 (NASB)

⁴⁵ "He will pitch the tents of his royal pavilion between the seas and the beautiful Holy Mountain; yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him.

Revelation 16:14 (NASB)

¹⁴ for they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty.

Daniel 11:40 (NASB)

⁴⁰ "At the end time the king of the South will collide with him, and the king of the North will storm against him with chariots, with horsemen and with many ships; and he will enter countries, overflow *them* and pass through.

Daniel 11:41 (NASB)

⁴¹ "He will also enter the Beautiful Land, and many *countries* will fall; but these will be rescued out of his hand: Edom, Moab and the foremost of the sons of Ammon.

Daniel 11:42 (NASB)

⁴² "Then he will stretch out his hand against *other* countries, and the land of Egypt will not escape.

Daniel 11:43 (NASB)

⁴³ "But he will gain control over the hidden treasures of gold and silver and over all the precious things of Egypt; and Libyans and Ethiopians *will follow* at his heels.

Daniel 11:44 (NASB)

⁴⁴ "But rumors from the East and from the North will disturb him, and he will go forth with great wrath to destroy and annihilate many.

Daniel 11:45 (NASB)

⁴⁵ "He will pitch the tents of his royal pavilion between the seas and the beautiful Holy Mountain; yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him.