

1-18-26 He Reigns: Last Call of Grace

Week 10

Text: Revelation 14

Big Idea: These chapters show a prophetic interlude: the Lamb giving the final call of mercy, the angels warning of irreversible wrath, and heaven preparing for the bowls. They reveal the immutability of God's holiness, the certainty of His wrath, and the security of His redeemed.

Have you ever been in a restaurant when the server asks you if you need anything else because the kitchen was closing soon?

That's your final shot at placing your order. No more food. No more refills.

You had your chance... and now it's over.

Well, in **Revelation 14**, heaven makes a last call, but it's not for burgers and fries. It's for souls.

An angel flies across the sky and basically says: "Fear God. Worship Him. This is your last chance."

Meanwhile, the world's partying like Babylon isn't about to burn.

People are lining up for the mark of the Beast like it's a Black Friday sale.

And God is saying: "I'm still offering mercy... but not for much longer."

Then... heaven hits pause. No music. No movement.

It's like heaven holds its breath—because what comes next?

Wrath. Bowls. Judgment. The winepress of God.

You don't want to be around for that.

So, here's the deal:

Get right before the bowls pour out.

Say "yes" to Jesus before the sickle swings.

Answer God's call while the line's still open.

Because grace has an expiration date, and once heaven closes the kitchen, you can't place your order anymore.

I. The Lamb on Mountain – He Knows Who’s His

- Read Rev. 14:1–5.

“Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with Him 144,000...”

A. God Keeps His People Safe

- In Greek, “I looked” (eidon) = “behold,” a dramatic shift in vision; John is given a glimpse of the end.
- Mount Zion here is the heavenly Jerusalem (**Heb. 12:22–24**), not the earthly one, since the Tribulation is still unfolding

B. The 144,000 – Theological Significance

- Identified in **Rev. 7** as 12,000 from each tribe of Israel.
- Sealed with the Father’s name (ownership), preserved from apostasy (“they have not defiled themselves”).
- A “firstfruits” (aparchē) — the down payment of the coming full harvest of Israel’s restoration (**Rom. 11:25–29**).
- They’re not hiding. They’re worshipping.
- Their story says: If you belong to Jesus, you are never forgotten.

C. They Sing a New Song

- The new song (**v. 3**) = a sign/marker of deliverance (cf. **Ps. 40:3**).
- Only those who have walked through the fire can sing it, experience shapes worship.

John Walvoord: “*This vision anticipates the final triumph of the 144,000 at the close of the Tribulation, a guarantee of God’s covenant faithfulness.*”

Application:

If you want a heavenly song later, you need a holy life now.

1. Don’t confuse God’s Patience with God’s approval.

- Just because nothing bad happened doesn’t mean everything is fine.
- Just because God hasn’t interrupted your choices doesn’t mean He endorses them.

If God has been nudging your heart, convicting your conscience, or calling you to change, that’s mercy, not delay.

Procrastinated obedience is still disobedience.

II. The Three Angels – God’s Final Warning Goes Global

- Read Rev. 14:6–13.

“Fear God and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come...”

- **The First Angel: One Last Invitation**
- **Read verse 6.**
- God sends an angel across the sky saying: “Fear God! Worship Him!”
- This is the last gospel call before judgment falls.
- “Eternal” (aiōnion) = timeless; not a different gospel but the unchanging good news of God’s reign and redemption.
- For the first time, an angel preaches.

A. The Second Angel: Babylon Is Doomed

- **Read verse 8.**
- Babylon (the world system) looks strong.
- But heaven already declares it: “It’s fallen.”
- Prophetic perfect tense, **“is fallen”** (epesen)—speaks of certain future collapse of the world’s religious and economic system (**Rev. 17–18**).

B. The Third Angel: Don’t Take the Mark

- **Read verses 9-11.**
- A choice: be marked by the Beast or sealed by God.
- No middle ground. No second chance.
- Those who reject Christ face eternal judgment - not symbolic, but real.
- **“Full strength”** wrath = undiluted wine, unlike ancient, diluted wine; symbol of pure, unmixed judgment.
- Eternal torment (**v. 11**) is not annihilation but conscious punishment.

C. The Call to Stay Faithful

- **Read verses 12-13.**
- Even if it costs your life, don’t compromise.
- Those who follow Jesus—win, even in death.
- Saints **“keep”** (tēreō) the commandments and faith of Jesus—continuous action.
- **“Blessed”** (makarioi) = not just happy, but covenantally favored even in martyrdom.

Charles Spurgeon: “If sinners be damned, let them leap to hell over our bodies; let not one go unwarned or unprayed for.”

Application:

- 2. Who you worship shows up in how you live.**

The chapter contrasts two groups: those marked by the Lamb, those marked by the Beast
Worship isn't just singing, it's allegiance.

What gets your best energy?

What do you protect at all costs?

What would devastate you if God asked you to surrender it?

Whatever you obey without question is what you worship.

III. The Harvest and the Winepress – When God Starts Reaping

- **Revelation. 14:14–20.**

“The time to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is ripe.”

A. The Harvest of the Righteous

- **Read verses 14-16.**
- Jesus reaps those who are His.
- It's a picture of rescue and reward, this is what salvation looks like fulfilled.
- **“Ripe”** (xērainō) = “withered, overripe” — no more delay.
- The Son of Man with a golden crown and sickle echoes **Joel 3:13; Matt. 13:39.**

MacArthur: “The grain harvest pictures salvation...”

B. The Harvest of Wrath

- **Read verses 17–20.**
- The **“winepress of God's wrath”** (**Isa. 63:3**) = Christ treading His enemies at the Second Coming.
- Then comes the second harvest—the winepress.
- This is God's wrath poured out on all who reject Christ.
- It's bloody. It's global. It's final.
- 1,600 stadia ≈ 180 miles (roughly the length of Israel); a picture of massive, bloody judgment.

Application:

3. Your choices are training you for eternity.

- Small compromises today shape big decisions tomorrow.

- Faithfulness is built in ordinary moments, not emergency moments.
- You don't rise to the occasion—you default to your formation.

4. The World's applause is temporary... God's verdict is eternal.

- Culture rewards what God warns against.
- What looks successful now may be condemned later.
- Don't measure your life by likes, income, or applause.
- Ask: "Will this matter when the sickle swings?"

5. Silence is NOT neutral

- The angels war loudly and often. Heaven is not subtle.
- Withholding truth because it's uncomfortable doesn't make you loving.
- Avoiding hard conversations doesn't make you complicit.
- If you believe judgment is real and salvation is possible, silence isn't humility, it's fear.
- Love warns. Love speaks. Love doesn't watch quietly while others walk toward danger.

6. Endurance is proof of ownership.

- Faith isn't proven by comfort—it's revealed under pressure.
- Loyalty shows when obedience becomes inconvenient.
- Ask yourself: "What would it take for me to walk away from Jesus?"

7. You WILL belong to one harvest or the other.

- **Revelation 14** shows two outcomes:
- gathered by the Son of Man
- crushed in the winepress
- No third category. No neutral ground.
- Eternity isn't determined by intentions, but by response.
- Delayed decisions are still decisions.

8. Don't wait for a clearer sign, this IS the warning.

- You don't need a vision, you need obedience.
- You don't need more evidence, you need surrender.
- The line is still open. The call is still going out.
- But the kitchen will close.

Challenge

Revelation 14 is God's final sermon before the bowls of wrath.

It's the last call to repentance, the last glimpse of heaven's choir, and the last chance to escape the winepress.

There is a Lamb on the mountain.

There are angels in the air.

There is a sickle in His hand.

There is smoke in the temple.

Which side will you be on?

Invitation

To the unbeliever: You're not here by accident. God is calling. Say yes to Jesus today.

To the believer: Follow the Lamb wherever He goes - be uncompromising in holiness.

To the Church: This world isn't your home - don't get too comfortable in Babylon. Warn the world while the door is still open.

Prayer

"Lord Jesus, thank You for the Lamb on Mount Zion, the angels in the sky, and the warnings in Your Word. Give us ears to hear the eternal gospel, eyes to see Babylon's fall, and hearts to tremble at the winepress of Your wrath. Seal us, send us, and make us sing with the redeemed while there's still time. In Your holy name, Amen."