

Two Very Different Harvests

14:1 Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who **had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads**. 2 And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of rushing waters and like a loud peal of thunder. The sound I heard was like that of harpists playing their harps. 3 And they sang **a new song** before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. 4 These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they kept themselves pure. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among men and offered as firstfruits to God and the Lamb. 5 No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless.

6 Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he **had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth-to every nation, tribe, language and people**. 7 He said in a loud voice, "**Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come**. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water."

8 A second angel followed and said, "Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great, which made all the nations drink the maddening wine of her adulteries."

9 A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: "If anyone worships the beast and his image and **receives his mark on the forehead or on the hand**, 10 he, too, **will drink of the wine of God's fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath**. He will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. 11 And the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever. There is no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and his image, **or for anyone who receives the mark of his name**." 12 This calls for patient endurance on the part of the saints who obey God's commandments and remain faithful to Jesus.

13 Then I heard a voice from heaven say, "**Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on**."

"Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them."

"And who were these people, 'having his Father's name written in their foreheads?' Not Bs for 'Baptists,' not Ws for 'Wesleyans'. They had their Father's name and nobody else's. What a deal of fuss is made on earth about our distinctions! We think such a deal about belonging to this denomination, and the other. Why, if you were to go to heaven's gates, and ask if they had any Baptists there, the angel would only look at you, and not answer you, if you were to ask if they had any Wesleyans, he would say, 'Nothing of the sort;' but if you were to ask him whether they had any Christians there, 'Ay,' he would say, 'an abundance of them: they are all one now - all called by one name; the old brand has been obliterated, and now they have not the name of this man or the other, they have the name of God, even their Father, stamped on their brow.'" (Spurgeon)

"Heaven is not the place to learn that song; it must be learned on the earth. You must learn here the notes of free grace and dying love; and when you have mastered their melody, you will be able to offer to the Lord the tribute of a grateful heart, even in heaven, and blend it with the harmonies eternal." (Spurgeon)

Matt 24:14

...and this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

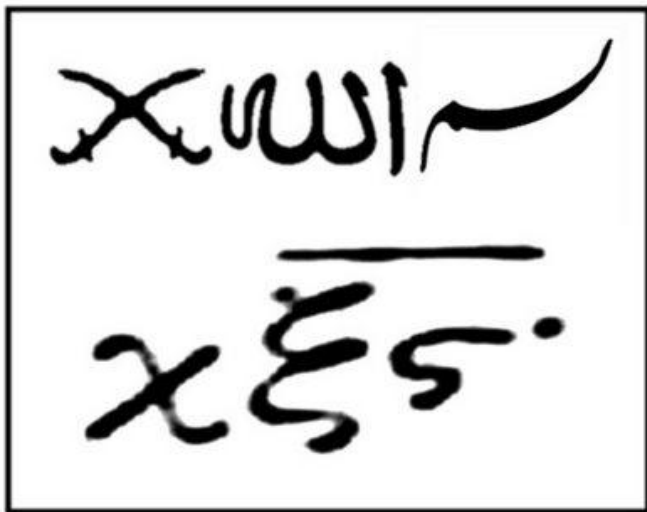
More on Babylon in Chap 17

The idea that God holds a cup of wrath, which He makes those under judgment drink is expressed more than thirteen times in the Bible (Psalm 75:8 and Jeremiah 25:15 are examples). This is the idea behind the cup that Jesus wanted to avoid if it were possible (Matthew 26:39). Jesus willingly took the cup of the Father's wrath that we deserved; here, the enemies of Jesus have no choice - the cup is forced upon them.



14 I looked, and there before me was a white cloud, and seated on the cloud was one "like a son of man" with a crown of gold on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand. 15 Then another angel came out of the temple and called in a loud voice to him who was sitting on the cloud, ***"Take your sickle and reap, because the time to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is ripe."*** 16 ***So he who was seated on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was harvested.***

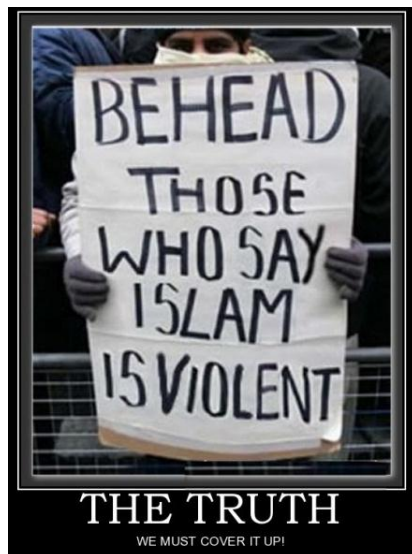
17 Another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle. 18 Still another angel, who had charge of the fire, came from the altar and called in a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, ***"Take your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of grapes from the earth's vine, because its grapes are ripe."*** 19 The angel swung his sickle on the earth, gathered its grapes and threw them into the great winepress of God's wrath. 20 ***They were trampled in the winepress outside the city, and blood flowed out of the press, rising as high as the horses' bridles for a distance of 1,600 stadia.***



Top Line "In the Name of Allah" Bottom Line: 666



Ancient Islam Badge



Matt 24:30-31

At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. 31 And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

Matt 13:28-30

"The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' 29 "No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. 30 Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"

Armageddon is pictured here- more in Rev 19

