



T H R E A D I N G T H E P E A R L S . o r g

# Threading the Pearls of the Book of Revelation

An Expository Study

Session 29: The Harvest of the Earth

REVELATION 14:13 — 14:20

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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.*" <sup>16</sup>So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

[REV 14:15-16]



## REVELATION 14

**13 And I heard a voice from heaven, saying to me: Write: Blessed are the dead, who die in the Lord. From henceforth now, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; for their works follow them.**

**Then I heard**

JOHN 15:14-15, "You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. <sup>15</sup>No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that *I heard from My Father I have made known to you.*

**A voice from heaven**

EXO 20:19-22, ...<sup>21</sup>the people stood afar off, but Moses drew near the thick darkness where God was. <sup>22</sup>Then the Lord said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: '*You have seen that I have talked with you from heaven.*

**Write**

EXO 34:27-29, the Lord said to Moses, "*Write these words, for according to the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel.*" <sup>28</sup>So he was there with the Lord forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water. And He wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments. <sup>29</sup>Now it was so, when Moses came down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the Testimony were in Moses' hand when he came down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone while he talked with Him;

PRO 7:1-3, My son, keep my words, And treasure my commands within you. <sup>2</sup>Keep my commands and live, And my law as the apple of your eye. <sup>3</sup>Bind them on your fingers; *Write them on the tablet of your heart.*

**Blessed are the dead**

PSM 2:10-12, Now therefore, be wise, O kings; Be instructed, you judges of the earth. <sup>11</sup>Serve the Lord with fear, And rejoice with trembling. <sup>12</sup>Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. *Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.*

**Who die in the Lord**

ISA 30:17-18, One thousand shall flee at the threat of one, At the threat of five you shall flee, Till you are left as a pole on top of a mountain And as a banner on a hill. <sup>18</sup>Therefore the Lord will wait, that He may be gracious to you; And therefore He will be exalted, that He may have mercy on you. For the Lord is a God of justice; *Blessed are all those who wait for Him;*

2COR 4:11, For we who live are always *delivered to death for Jesus' sake*, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

**From now on**

EPH 2:19-22, Now, therefore, *you are no longer strangers and foreigners*, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup>having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, <sup>21</sup>in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, <sup>22</sup>in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

## CONSIDER THIS —

**Suffering is a pattern for those who believe, even to death:**

1TIM 1:15-16, This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. <sup>16</sup>However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show *all longsuffering, as a pattern* to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.

**“Yes,” [Verily] says the Spirit**

GEN 42:21, they said to one another, "*We are truly guilty concerning our brother*, for we saw the anguish of his soul when he pleaded with us, and we would not hear; therefore this distress has come upon us".

**They will rest from their labor**

EXO 34:21-23, Six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest; *in plowing time and in harvest you shall rest*. <sup>22</sup>"And you shall observe the Feast of Weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the year's end. <sup>23</sup>"Three times in the year all your men shall appear before the Lord, the Lord God of Israel.

**Their deeds will follow them**

EZE 11:17-20, 'Thus says the Lord God: "I will gather you from the peoples, assemble you from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel." ' <sup>18</sup>"And they will go there, and *they will take away all its detestable things and all its abominations from there*. <sup>19</sup>"Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, <sup>20</sup>"that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God.





## REVELATION 14

**14 And I saw, and behold a white cloud; and upon the cloud one sitting like to the Son of man, having on his head a crown of gold, and in his hand a sharp sickle.**

**I looked**

ISA 19:1, The burden against Egypt. Behold, *the Lord rides on a swift cloud*, And will come into Egypt; The idols of Egypt will totter at His presence, And the heart of Egypt will melt in its midst.

**There before me**

GEN 6:13-14, God said to Noah, "*The end of all flesh has come before Me*, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth. <sup>14</sup>"Make yourself an ark of gopherwood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and outside with pitch;

GEN 7:1, the Lord said to Noah, "Come into the ark, you and all your household, because I have seen that *you are righteous before Me in this generation*."

**A white cloud**

EXO 16:10, it came to pass, as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, *the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud*;

NUM 9:21-22, So it was, when *the cloud remained only from evening until morning*: when the cloud was taken up in the morning, then they would journey; whether by day or by night, whenever the cloud was taken up, they would journey...

**Seated on the cloud**

EXO 34:4-5, Moses rose early in the morning and went up Mount Sinai, as the Lord had commanded him; and he took in his hand the two tablets of stone. <sup>5</sup>Now *the Lord descended in the cloud* and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord;

LEV 16:2, the Lord said to Moses: "Tell Aaron your brother not to come at just any time into the Holy Place inside the veil, before the mercy seat which is on the ark, lest he die; for *I will appear in the cloud above the mercy seat*;

NUM 11:24-25, Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord, and he gathered the seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tabernacle. <sup>25</sup>Then *the Lord came down in the cloud*, and spoke to him, and took of the Spirit that was upon him, and placed the same upon the seventy elders; and it happened, when the Spirit rested upon them, that they prophesied, although they never did so again.

**One like a son of man**

MARK 9:7-9, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!" <sup>8</sup>Suddenly, when they had looked around, they saw no one anymore, but only Jesus with themselves. <sup>9</sup>Now as they came down from the mountain, He commanded them that they should tell no one the things they had seen, till *the Son of Man had risen from the dead*;

DAN 7:13, "I was watching in the night visions, And behold, *One like the Son of Man*, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him.

## CONSIDER THIS —

**The sickle signals the time of harvest:**

The mention of harvest time is often coupled with the destruction of Babylon:

JER 50:16-17, Cut off the sower from Babylon, And him who handles the sickle at harvest time. For fear of the oppressing sword Everyone shall turn to his own people, And everyone shall flee to his own land. <sup>17</sup>"Israel is like scattered sheep; The lions have driven him away...

**On his head**

PSM 21:1-3, The king shall have joy in Your strength, O Lord; And in Your salvation how greatly shall he rejoice! <sup>2</sup>You have given him his heart's desire, And have not withheld the request of his lips. Selah <sup>3</sup>For You meet him with the blessings of goodness; *You set a crown of pure gold upon his head.*

**Crown of gold**

GEN 49:26, The blessings of your father Have excelled the blessings of my ancestors, Up to the utmost bound of the everlasting hills. They shall be on the head of Joseph, And *on the crown of the head of him who was separate from his brothers.*

**In his hand**

PSM 129:4-7, The Lord is righteous; *He has cut in pieces the cords of the wicked.* <sup>5</sup>Let all those who hate Zion Be put to shame and turned back. <sup>6</sup>Let them be as the grass on the housetops, Which withers before it grows up, <sup>7</sup>With which the reaper does not fill his hand, Nor he who binds sheaves, his arms.

**A sharp sickle**

JER 50:16-21, *Cut off the sower from Babylon, And him who handles the sickle at harvest time.* For fear of the oppressing sword Everyone shall turn to his own people, And everyone shall flee to his own land. <sup>17</sup>"Israel is like scattered sheep; The lions have driven him away. First the king of Assyria devoured him; Now at last this Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has broken his bones"...





## REVELATION 14

**15 And another angel came out from the temple crying with a loud voice to him that sat upon the cloud: Thrust in thy sickle, and reap, because the hour is come to reap: for the harvest of the earth is ripe.**

**Another angel [4<sup>th</sup>]**

1TIM 3:16, without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, *Seen by angels*, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

**Came out of the temple**

2CHR 6:14-18, ... <sup>16</sup>"Lord God of Israel, now keep what You promised Your servant David my father, saying, 'You shall not fail to have a man sit before Me on the throne of Israel, only if your sons take heed to their way, that they walk in My law as you have walked before Me.' <sup>17</sup>"And now, O Lord God of Israel, let Your word come true, which You have spoken to Your servant David. <sup>18</sup>"But will God indeed dwell with men on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. *How much less this temple which I have built!*

**[Angel] called in a loud voice**

JOSH 10:24-25, So it was, when they brought out those kings to Joshua, that *Joshua called for all the men of Israel*, and said to the captains of the men of war who went with him, "Come near, put your feet on the necks of these kings." And they drew near and put their feet on their necks. <sup>25</sup>Then Joshua said to them, "Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed; be strong and of good courage, for thus the Lord will do to all your enemies against whom you fight".

**Him who was sitting**

ISA 16:1-5, Send the lamb to the ruler of the land, From Sela to the wilderness, To the mount of the daughter of Zion... <sup>4</sup>Let My outcasts dwell with you, O Moab; Be a shelter to them from the face of the spoiler. For the extortioner is at an end, Devastation ceases, The oppressors are consumed out of the land. <sup>5</sup>In mercy the throne will be established; And *One will sit on it in truth*, in the tabernacle of David, Judging and seeking justice and hastening righteousness".

**On the cloud**

1COR 10:1-4, Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that *all our fathers were under the cloud*, all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup>all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup>all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.

**Your sickle**

JOEL 3:11-14, ... <sup>13</sup>*Put in the sickle*, for the harvest is ripe. Come, go down; For the winepress is full, The vats overflow- For their wickedness is great." <sup>14</sup>Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.

## CONSIDER THIS —

**Two distinct groups who are reaped, there are also two things being accomplished:**

MATH 13:30, 'Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn"'.

**Reap**

LEV 19:9, 'When you *reap the harvest of your land*, you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field, nor shall you gather the gleanings of your harvest;

LEV 23:10, Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When you come into the land which I give to you, and *reap its harvest*, then you shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest.

**The time to reap has come**

GAL 6:7-10, Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. <sup>8</sup>For *he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption*, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. <sup>9</sup>And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. <sup>10</sup>Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

**Harvest of the earth**

MIC 4:7-13, I will make the lame a remnant, And the outcast a strong nation; So the Lord will reign over them in Mount Zion From now on, even forever... <sup>11</sup>Now also many nations have gathered against you, Who say, "Let her be defiled, And let our eye look upon Zion." <sup>12</sup>But they do not know the thoughts of the Lord, Nor do they understand His counsel; For *He will gather them like sheaves to the threshing floor...*;

MATH 13:30, 'Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "*First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn*"'.

**Is ripe**

JOB 5:26, *You shall come to the grave at a full age, As a sheaf of grain ripens in its season;*

ISA 18:5, before the harvest, when the bud is perfect And the sour grape is ripening in the flower, *He will both cut off the sprigs with pruning hooks And take away and cut down the branches.*





## REVELATION 14

**16 And he that sat on the cloud thrust his sickle into the earth, and the earth was reaped.**

**He who was seated on the cloud**

NAH 1:2-3, God is jealous, and the Lord avenges; The Lord avenges and is furious. The Lord will take vengeance on His adversaries, And He reserves wrath for His enemies; <sup>3</sup>The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, And will not at all acquit the wicked. The Lord has His way In the whirlwind and in the storm, And *the clouds are the dust of His feet*.

**Swung his sickle**

MARK 4:26-29, He said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, <sup>27</sup>"and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how. <sup>28</sup>"For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>"But *when the grain ripens, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come*".

**Over the earth**

PSM 83:13-18, O my God, make them like the whirling dust, Like the chaff before the wind! <sup>14</sup>As the fire burns the woods, And as the flame sets the mountains on fire, <sup>15</sup>So pursue them with Your tempest, And frighten them with Your storm. <sup>16</sup>Fill their faces with shame, That they may seek Your name, O Lord. <sup>17</sup>Let them be confounded and dismayed forever; Yes, let them be put to shame and perish, <sup>18</sup>That they may know that You, whose name alone is the Lord, Are *the Most High over all the earth*.

**The earth was harvested**

DAN 2:34-35, "You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. <sup>35</sup>"Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were *crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors*; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth;

MATH 3:11-12, "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>"His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and *gather His wheat into the barn*; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

## CONSIDER THIS —

**Being sensitive to the harvesting process, we can begin to recognize it as an idiom.**

DAN 2:34-35, "You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. <sup>35</sup>"Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and *became like chaff from the summer threshing floors*...





## REVELATION 14

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

**Another angel [5<sup>th</sup>]**

MATH 18:2-10, ...<sup>5</sup>"Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me. <sup>6</sup>"But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea. <sup>7</sup>"Woe to the world because of offenses! For offenses must come, but woe to that man by whom the offense comes! ...<sup>10</sup>"Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that *in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father* who is in heaven.

**Out of the temple**

JER 26:17-18, Then certain of the elders of the land rose up and spoke to all the assembly of the people, saying: <sup>18</sup>"Micah of Moresheth prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and spoke to all the people of Judah, saying, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Zion shall be plowed like a field, Jerusalem shall become heaps of ruins, And *the mountain of the temple Like the bare hills of the forest*"'."

**Temple in heaven**

PSM 11:4, *The Lord is in His holy temple*, The Lord's throne is in heaven; His eyes behold, His eyelids test the sons of men.

**He too had a sharp sickle**

RUTH 2:8-14, Boaz said to Ruth, "You will listen, my daughter, will you not? Do not go to glean in another field, nor go from here, but stay close by my young women. <sup>9</sup>"Let your eyes be on the field which they reap, and go after them. Have *I not commanded the young men not to touch you?* And when you are thirsty, go to the vessels and drink from what the young men have drawn" ...<sup>12</sup>"The Lord repay your work, and a full reward be given you by the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge." <sup>13</sup>Then she said, "Let me find favor in your sight, my lord; for you have comforted me, and have spoken kindly to your maidservant, though I am not like one of your maidservants." <sup>14</sup>Now Boaz said to her at mealtime, "Come here, and eat of the bread, and dip your piece of bread in the vinegar." So *she sat beside the reapers*, and he passed parched grain to her; and she ate and was satisfied, and kept some back.

## CONSIDER THIS —

**Harvesting idioms are found in several places:**

JER 26:18, ...'Thus says the Lord of hosts: "*Zion shall be plowed like a field, Jerusalem shall become heaps of ruins, And the mountain of the temple Like the bare hills of the forest*"'."



## REVELATION 14

**18 And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire; and he cried with a loud voice to him that had the sharp sickle, saying: Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vineyard of the earth; because the grapes thereof are ripe.**

**Another angel [6<sup>th</sup>]**

ROM 8:34-39, Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. <sup>35</sup>Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." <sup>37</sup>Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>I am persuaded that neither death nor life, *nor angels nor principalities nor powers*, nor things present nor things to come, <sup>39</sup>nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Who had charge of the fire**

EZE 10:6-8, it happened, when He commanded the man clothed in linen, saying, "Take fire from among the wheels, from among the cherubim," that he went in and stood beside the wheels. <sup>7</sup>And *the cherub stretched out his hand from among the cherubim to the fire* that was among the cherubim, and took some of it and put it into the hands of the man clothed with linen, who took it and went out. <sup>8</sup>The cherubim appeared to have the form of a man's hand under their wings.

**Came from the altar**

MAL 1:10-11, "Who is there even among you who would shut the doors, So *that you would not kindle fire on My altar in vain?* I have no pleasure in you," Says the Lord of hosts, "Nor will I accept an offering from your hands. <sup>11</sup>For from the rising of the sun, even to its going down, My name shall be great among the Gentiles; In every place incense shall be offered to My name, And a pure offering; For My name shall be great among the nations," Says the Lord of hosts.

**[Angel] called in a loud voice**

ISA 48:13-15, Indeed My hand has laid the foundation of the earth, And My right hand has stretched out the heavens; When I call to them, They stand up together. <sup>14</sup>"All of you, assemble yourselves, and hear! Who among them has declared these things? The Lord loves him; He shall do His pleasure on Babylon, And His arm shall be against the Chaldeans. <sup>15</sup>I, even I, have spoken; Yes, *I have called him*, I have brought him, and his way will prosper.

**To him who had the sharp sickle**

AMOS 9:9-13, "For surely I will command, And *will sift the house of Israel among all nations, As grain is sifted in a sieve;* Yet not the smallest grain shall fall to the ground. <sup>10</sup>All the sinners of My people shall die by the sword, Who say, 'The calamity shall not overtake nor confront us'...

## CONSIDER THIS —

**The prophecy of the vine dressers:**

LUKE 20:9-18, ... "He will come and *destroy those vinedressers* and give the vineyard to others." And when they heard it they said, "Certainly not!" <sup>17</sup>Then He looked at them and said, "What then is this that is written: 'The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone'? <sup>18</sup>"Whoever falls on that stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder."

**Take your sharp sickle**

PRO 27:17, *As iron sharpens iron*, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend;

ECC 10:10, If the ax is dull, And one does not *sharpen the edge*, Then he must use more strength; But wisdom brings success.

**Gather the clusters of grapes**

ISA 17:4-7, "In that day it shall come to pass That the glory of Jacob will wane, And the fatness of his flesh grow lean. <sup>5</sup>It shall be as when the harvester gathers the grain, And reaps the heads with his arm; It shall be as he who gathers heads of grain In the Valley of Rephaim. <sup>6</sup>Yet *gleaning grapes will be left in it*, Like the shaking of an olive tree, Two or three olives at the top of the uppermost bough, Four or five in its most fruitful branches," Says the Lord God of Israel. <sup>7</sup>In that day a man will look to his Maker, And his eyes will have respect for the Holy One of Israel.

**From the earth's vine**

PSM 80:8-19, *You have brought a vine out of Egypt*; You have cast out the nations, and planted it. <sup>9</sup>You prepared room for it, And caused it to take deep root, And it filled the land. <sup>10</sup>The hills were covered with its shadow, And the mighty cedars with its boughs. <sup>11</sup>She sent out her boughs to the Sea, And her branches to the River. <sup>12</sup>Why have You broken down her hedges, So that all who pass by the way pluck her fruit? <sup>13</sup>The boar out of the woods uproots it, And the wild beast of the field devours it. <sup>14</sup>Return, we beseech You, O God of hosts; Look down from heaven and see, And visit this vine <sup>15</sup>And the vineyard which Your right hand has planted, And the branch that You made strong for Yourself. <sup>16</sup>It is burned with fire, it is cut down; They perish at the rebuke of Your countenance. <sup>17</sup>Let Your hand be upon the man of Your right hand, Upon the son of man whom You made strong for Yourself. <sup>18</sup>Then we will not turn back from You; Revive us, and we will call upon Your name. <sup>19</sup>Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; Cause Your face to shine, And we shall be saved!

ISA 5:1-7, let me sing to my Well-beloved A song of my Beloved regarding His vineyard: My Well-beloved has a vineyard On a very fruitful hill. <sup>2</sup>He dug it up and cleared out

its stones, And planted it with the choicest vine. He built a tower in its midst, And also made a winepress in it; So He expected it to bring forth good grapes, But it brought forth wild grapes. <sup>3</sup>"And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, Judge, please, between Me and My vineyard. <sup>4</sup>What more could have been done to My vineyard That I have not done in it? Why then, when I expected it to bring forth good grapes, Did it bring forth wild grapes? <sup>5</sup>And now, please let Me tell you what I will do to My vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it shall be burned; And break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. <sup>6</sup>I will lay it waste; It shall not be pruned or dug, But there shall come up briars and thorns. I will also command the clouds That they rain no rain on it." <sup>7</sup>*For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel*, And the men of Judah are His pleasant plant. He looked for justice, but behold, oppression; For righteousness, but behold, a cry for help.

**Grapes are ripe**

SOS 7:12, Let us get up early to the vineyards; *Let us see if the vine has budded*, Whether the grape blossoms are open, And the pomegranates are in bloom. There I will give you my love; EXO 22:28-29, "You shall not revile God, nor curse a ruler of your people. <sup>29</sup>*You shall not delay to offer the first of your ripe produce and your juices*. The firstborn of your sons you shall give to Me.





## REVELATION 14

**19 And the angel thrust in his sharp sickle into the earth, and gathered the vineyard of the earth, and cast it into the great press of the wrath of God:**

**The angel swung his sickle**

MATH 13:36-39, Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field." <sup>37</sup>He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>"The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. <sup>39</sup>"The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and *the reapers are the angels.*

**On the earth**

ISA 33:9-14, *The earth mourns and languishes*, Lebanon is shamed and shriveled; Sharon is like a wilderness, And Bashan and Carmel shake off their fruits. <sup>10</sup>"Now I will rise," says the Lord; "Now I will be exalted, Now I will lift Myself up. <sup>11</sup>You shall conceive chaff, You shall bring forth stubble; Your breath, as fire, shall devour you. <sup>12</sup>And the people shall be like the burnings of lime; Like thorns cut up they shall be burned in the fire. <sup>13</sup>Hear, you who are afar off, what I have done; And you who are near, acknowledge My might." <sup>14</sup>The sinners in Zion are afraid; Fearfulness has seized the hypocrites: "Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? Who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?"

**Gathered [the earth's] grapes**

ISA 32:9-19, Rise up, you women who are at ease, Hear my voice; You complacent daughters, Give ear to my speech. <sup>10</sup>In a year and some days You will be troubled, you complacent women; For the vintage will fail, The gathering will not come. <sup>11</sup>Tremble, you women who are at ease; Be troubled, you complacent ones; Strip yourselves, make yourselves bare, And gird sackcloth on your waists. <sup>12</sup>People shall mourn upon their breasts *For the pleasant fields, for the fruitful vine.* <sup>13</sup>On the land of my people will come up thorns and briers, Yes, on all the happy homes in the joyous city; <sup>14</sup>Because the palaces will be forsaken, The bustling city will be deserted. The forts and towers will become lairs forever, A joy of wild donkeys, a pasture of flocks <sup>15</sup>Until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high, And the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, And the fruitful field is counted as a forest. <sup>16</sup>Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, And righteousness remain in the fruitful field. <sup>17</sup>The work of righteousness will be peace, And the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever. <sup>18</sup>My people will dwell in a peaceful habitation, In secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places, <sup>19</sup>Though hail comes down on the forest, And the city is brought low in humiliation.

## CONSIDER THIS —

**Can we guess who this is?**

ISA 63:1-4, Who is this who comes from Edom, With dyed garments from Bozrah, This One who is glorious in His apparel, Traveling in the greatness of His strength? ...<sup>2</sup>Why is Your apparel red, And Your garments like *one who treads in the winepress*? <sup>3</sup>"I have trodden the winepress alone, And from the peoples no one was with Me. For I have trodden them in My anger...

**Threw them into the great winepress**

LAM 1:15, The Lord has trampled underfoot all my mighty men in my midst; He has called an assembly against me To crush my young men; *The Lord trampled as in a winepress The virgin daughter of Judah.*

**The winepress**

ISA 63:1-4, Who is this who comes from Edom, With dyed garments from Bozrah, This One who is glorious in His apparel, Traveling in the greatness of His strength?-"I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save." <sup>2</sup>Why is Your apparel red, And Your garments like one who treads in the winepress? <sup>3</sup>*I have trodden the winepress alone*, And from the peoples no one was with Me. For I have trodden them in My anger, And trampled them in My fury; Their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, And I have stained all My robes. <sup>4</sup>For the day of vengeance is in My heart, And the year of My redeemed has come;

REV 19:15, *He Himself treads the winepress* of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

**Of God's wrath**

JER 9:22-26, Speak, "Thus says the Lord: 'Even the carcasses of men shall fall as refuse on the open field, Like cuttings after the harvester, And no one shall gather them.' " <sup>23</sup>Thus says the Lord: "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty man glory in his might, Nor let the rich man glory in his riches; <sup>24</sup>But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I am the Lord, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the Lord. <sup>25</sup>"Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord, "that *I will punish all who are circumcised with the uncircumcised* <sup>26</sup>Egypt, Judah, Edom, the people of Ammon, Moab, and all who are in the farthest corners, who dwell in the wilderness. For all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in the heart";

EST 7:7, the king arose in his wrath from the banquet of wine and went into the palace garden; but Haman stood before Queen Esther, pleading for his life, for *he saw that evil was determined against him by the king*;

ROM 5:8-9, God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, *we shall be saved from wrath* through Him.





## REVELATION 14

**20 And the press was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the press, up to the horses' bridles, for a thousand and six hundred furlongs.**

**They were trampled**

PSM 91:13-14, You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, *The young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.* <sup>14</sup>"Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name.

**In the winepress**

ZECH 14:10, All the land shall be turned into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be raised up and inhabited in her place from Benjamin's Gate to the place of the First Gate and the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananeel to *the king's winepresses.*

**Trampled... outside the city**

HAB 3:12-17, You marched through the land in indignation; *You trampled the nations in anger.* <sup>13</sup>You went forth for the salvation of Your people, For salvation with Your Anointed. You struck the head from the house of the wicked, By laying bare from foundation to neck. Selah...

**Blood flowed**

EZE 32:3-6, "Thus says the Lord God: 'I will therefore spread My net over you with a company of many people, And they will draw you up in My net. <sup>4</sup>Then I will leave you on the land; I will cast you out on the open fields, And cause to settle on you all the birds of the heavens. And with you I will fill the beasts of the whole earth. <sup>5</sup>I will lay your flesh on the mountains, And fill the valleys with your carcass. <sup>6</sup>*I will also water the land with the flow of your blood, Even to the mountains;* And the riverbeds will be full of you.

**Out of the press**

MATH 21:33-44, "Hear another parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country... <sup>40</sup>"when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?" <sup>41</sup>They said to Him, "He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will *render to him the fruits in their seasons*"...

**Rising as high as the horses' bridles**

JER 19:3-6, 'Hear the word of the Lord, O kings of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: "Behold, I will bring such a catastrophe on this place, that whoever hears of it, his ears will tingle...<sup>6</sup>therefore behold, the days are coming," says the Lord, "that this place shall no more be called Tophet or the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but *the Valley of Slaughter.*

**A distance of 1,600 stadia**

EZE 21:28-32, ...<sup>31</sup>I will pour out My indignation on you; I will blow against you with the fire of My wrath, And deliver you into the hands of brutal men who are skillful to destroy. <sup>32</sup>You shall be fuel for the fire; *Your blood shall be in the midst of the land.* You shall not be remembered, For I the Lord have spoken".

## CONSIDER THIS —

**Has this ever happened? — yet?**

EZE 32:3-6, "Thus says the Lord God: 'I will therefore spread My net over you with a company of many people, And they will draw you up in My net. <sup>4</sup>Then I will leave you on the land; I will cast you out on the open fields, And cause to settle on you all the birds of the heavens. And with you I will fill the beasts of the whole earth. <sup>5</sup>I will lay your flesh on the mountains, And fill the valleys with your carcass. <sup>6</sup>*I will also water the land with the flow of your blood, Even to the mountains;* And the riverbeds will be full of you.



## GROUP DISCUSSION

REV 14:13, I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

- ⊕ **1a. Why might the phrase 'from now on' be applied here?**

HEB 4:4-10, He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: "And God rested on the seventh day from all His works"; <sup>5</sup>and again in this place: "They shall not enter My rest." <sup>6</sup>Since therefore it remains that some must enter it, and those to whom it was first preached did not enter because of disobedience, <sup>7</sup>again He designates a certain day, saying in David, "Today," after such a long time, as it has been said: "Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts." <sup>8</sup>For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. <sup>9</sup>There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. <sup>10</sup>For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.

- ⊕ **1b. What type of rest do they receive when they 'rest from their labors'?**

- ⊕ **1c. What might be included in their works, which 'follow them'?**  
(see 2THES 2:9-12)

REV 14:15, 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."

- ⊕ **2. What, or who, is being harvested?**  
(see MATH 13:24-30 & MATH 13:36-43)

REV 14:19, the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.

- ⊕ **3. What is signified by the idiom: 'vine of the earth'?**  
(see also ISA 5:1-8, PSM 80:8-19, JER 2:19-22 & EZE 19: 10-14)

REV 14:20, the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs.

REV 19:15-16, Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. *He Himself treads the winepress* of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. <sup>16</sup>And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

- ⊕ **4. Who tramples the winepress? Why?**  
(see ISA 63:1-4)

NEXT SESSION —