# **Study Guide: Three Angelic Declarations**

Text: Revelation 14:1-13

### Main Idea:

In the face of the beast's deception and Babylon's corruption, God still calls people to Himself through the eternal gospel. The redeemed stand with the Lamb in victory, while those who reject Him face certain judgment.

# 1. The Lamb and the 144,000 (vv. 1-5)

John sees the victorious Lamb standing on Mount Zion with the 144,000 sealed servants of God. Their identity contrasts sharply with those who receive the beast's mark. They are pure, truthful, and faithful followers of Christ. Their song is one of redemption—unique to those who have been purchased by the blood of the Lamb.

### **Key Observations:**

- Mount Zion symbolizes God's rule and security.
- The seal on their foreheads marks divine ownership and protection.
- The new song belongs only to the redeemed—it is a personal testimony of salvation.
- Moral purity and truthfulness characterize the redeemed; they are devoted to following the Lamb wherever He goes.

#### **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. How does the vision of the Lamb on Mount Zion encourage believers facing persecution?
- 2. Why is the seal of God's name significant, especially compared to the mark of the beast?
- 3. What does it mean to "follow the Lamb wherever He goes" in our daily lives?

# 2. The First Angel – The Eternal Gospel (vv. 6–7)

An angel proclaims the eternal gospel to the whole earth—calling all to fear God, give Him glory, and worship Him as Creator before the hour of judgment comes.

### **Key Observations:**

- **Eternal gospel**: God's plan of redemption is timeless and unchanging.
- Universal call: Every nation, tribe, language, and people hear the message.
- **The focus**: Fear (reverence) God, glorify Him, and worship Him as Creator.
- The urgency is heightened by the approaching hour of judgment.

#### **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. What does it mean to fear God and give Him glory?
- 2. How is the gospel "eternal"?
- 3. Why do you think God sends an angel to proclaim this message instead of relying solely on human witnesses?

# 3. The Second Angel – Babylon Has Fallen (v. 8)

The second angel announces Babylon's fall. Babylon represents the world's idolatrous, immoral, and arrogant systems opposed to God.

## **Key Observations:**

- Prophetic certainty: Spoken as if it has already happened ("fallen, fallen").
- Babylon intoxicates the nations with sin and rebellion.
- Interpretations vary—Babylon may represent a specific city, a future world system, or a symbolic expression of all human opposition to God.

## **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. Why does John speak of Babylon's fall as if it has already happened?
- 2. What "Babylon-like" systems do you see in today's world?
- 3. How can believers avoid being seduced by the world's values?

# 4. The Third Angel – The Final Warning (vv. 9–11)

The third angel warns that worshipers of the beast will drink the full cup of God's wrath and face eternal torment.

### **Key Observations:**

- No middle ground: One either belongs to God or to the beast.
- God's wrath is described as undiluted—total and inescapable for the unrepentant.
- Eternal separation: The smoke of their torment rises forever; they have no rest.

#### **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. How does this passage challenge modern ideas that minimize or deny God's wrath?
- 2. What is the danger of "fence-sitting" spiritually?
- 3. How should this warning motivate our witness to others?

# 5. Endurance and Blessing for the Saints (vv. 12–13)

John calls believers to endure faithfully, keeping God's commands and holding fast to faith in Jesus. Those who die in the Lord are blessed, finding rest from their labors.

## **Key Observations:**

- Endurance: Staying faithful despite persecution and hardship.
- Blessedness: A deep, unshakable joy rooted in God's eternal favor.
- Rest: Death for the believer is not defeat, but the beginning of eternal rest in Christ.

### **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. What does it mean to endure as a follower of Jesus today?
- 2. How does God's definition of "blessed" differ from the world's definition of happiness?
- 3. How does the promise of rest encourage those suffering for their faith?

# **Final Discussion & Application**

1. What contrasts does Revelation 14 present between the redeemed and the lost?

- 2. How does this passage show both God's justice and His mercy?
- 3. If the eternal gospel is still being proclaimed today, how should we be part of that mission?
- 4. What steps can you take to live in such a way that you are "sealed" by God, known for purity, truthfulness, and devotion to Christ?