

“Return to Revelation: Hell or Heaven?”

(Revelation 1:1-3, 14:9-20)

October 4, 2026

- **John 16:33:** These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.
- **Revelation 1:1-3:** The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John, who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.
- **The Subject of Revelation - Unveiling of Jesus Christ (Revelation 1:1)**
- **The Source of Revelation - God the Father (Revelation 1:1b)**
- **The Significance of Revelation - It's prophetic; it tells the future (Revelation 1:3). Bible prophecy is given not to scare you but prepare you.**
- **The Servant (bond-servant) of Revelation - John, the beloved disciple (Revelation 1d-2)**
- **The Special Blessing of Revelation - “Blessed” are those who read, hear and heed. (Revelation 1:3)**
- **The Context of Revelation Chapter 14**
 - God gives John a reprieve from the intense vision of wickedness in Chapter 13 where the 1st Beast from the Sea (Antichrist) and the 2nd Beast from the earth (False Prophet) made war against the Saints and Jews. (Rev.13:7)
- **In Revelation 14, John doesn't see a Beast but God's Lamb, God's Mark, and gets God's Message! (Rev. 14:1-8)**
- **The 144,000 are Jewish believers, 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel. They are God's witnesses who are saved and sealed by God. (Revelation 6:12-17, 14:1-5)**

→ **God's message from six Angels in Chapter 14, proclaimed in verses 6, 8, 9, 15, 17, and 18.**

- The first angel proclaims the Everlasting Gospel (vs. 6-7).
- The second angel pronounces judgment on Babylon (vs. 8).
- The third angel pronounces damnation on those who worship the Beast (vs. 9-13).

→ **Revelation 14:9-11:** Then another angel, a third one, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

→ **1. The Horrors of Hell (vs. 9-11)**

- 3rd angel announces damnation to all who worship the Beast.
- The cup of God's wrath (fire and brimstone)

→ **Hell is no hoax or joke!** Isaiah 66:24; Daniel 12:2; John the Baptist (Matthew 3:12; Luke 3:17); Apostle Paul (2 Thessalonians 1:9)

→ **Jesus said Hell was eternal fire (Matthew 18:8 - 25:41), unquenchable fire (Mark 9:43; Mark 9:48), and eternal torment (Matthew 25:46).**

→ **There is no hope once you die and go to Hell.**

→ **2. The Happiness of Heaven (vs. 12-13)**

- Sharp contrast from sinners' damnation to saints' jubilation.
- Perseverance of the saints (v. 12)
- "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord" (vs. 13).

→ **Perseverance of the saints emphasizes the reality that God keeps His own saints by sustaining their faith to the very end, no matter what occurs. -Dr. MacArthur**

→ **The New Testament begins with Jesus' beatitudes for living (Matthew Chapter 5) and ends with this beatitude for dying (14:13). "Rest" means refreshment, rejuvenation or the absence of struggle or persecution. - Dr. Jeremiah**

→ The “Tribulation Saints” are rejoicing, resting, and rewarded.

→ 3. The Harvest upon the Earth (vs. 14-20)

- The Reaper (Son of Man) - 14:16
- The Ripeness (picture of wickedness) - 14:17
- The Reaping (judgment) 14:19-20

→ **Sermon in a Sentence:** Hell is for real; share Jesus while you can!

→ **Application:**

1. Increase your intensity in prayer for lost people you know!
2. Learn and practice MSBC’s “One Operation—B.L.E.S.S.” This week be intentional to show and share Jesus with a lost or unchurched person.
3. **Faith@Home:** Discuss what stands out to you in Revelation Chapter 14 and why. Spend time praising God and Jesus for salvation and eternal life in Heaven!