The Book Of Revelation Study 72

Revelation 14:6-11 (NKJV)

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth--to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people--

⁷ saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

⁸ And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

⁹ Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand,

¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

¹¹ And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

People are constantly hoping for a better day. Politicians promise to bring in better times if they are elected.

World leaders strive to find common ground between nations, seeking to bring about peace and harmony.

Everyone would like to see the stock market up, the crime rate down, poverty and disease eliminated, the environment preserved, and an end to hatred and strife.

But man's efforts to bring about a better world, however well intended are ultimately doomed. They amount to little more as one as said, rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic to give everyone a better view as the ship sinks.

The truth is that not a better day, but an unimaginably worse day lies ahead for man and his world.

In the future, God will pour out His wrath and judgment on a scale never before seen.

Only after the earth is utterly devastated and unbelievers judged will a better day come Then the blessed earthly kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ will come.

Angels will play a major role in the end time events.

They will gather the non-elect for judgment

Matthew 13:41-42 (NKJV)

⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness,

 42 and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 13:49-50 (NKJV)

⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just, ⁵⁰ and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth."

The elect for glory

Matthew 24:31 (NKJV)

³¹ And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

They will accompany the Lord Jesus when He returns to earth in triumph

Matthew 25:31 (NKJV)

³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.

2 Thessalonians 1:7 (NKJV)

⁷ and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels,

In Revelation, angels are involved in the outpouring of God's wrath

Revelation 8:6 (NKJV)

⁶ So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

Revelation 11:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

Revelation 16:1 (NKJV)

¹ Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth."

Unlike these angels, however, the three angels described in verses 6-11 do not bring judgment, instead, they bring astounding proclamations from God concerning the consummation of the age.

The three angels do not appear in sequential or chronological order. Instead, they address issues and events that stretch across the Tribulation period

Their messages anticipate the judgment of the seventh trumpet, which includes the final, climactic, rapid-fire bowl judgments at the end of the Tribulation..

The messages they bring are designed to produce a remedial fear leading to saving faith.

Luke 12:5 (NKJV)

⁵ But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!

Hebrews 10:31 (NKJV)

³¹ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

God will graciously offer sinners another opportunity to repent before unleashing the terrifying bowl judgments

The first angel preaches the gospel,

The second angel pronounces judgment,

The third angel promises damnation.

THE FIRST ANGTEL: PREACHING THE GOSPEL

Revelation 14:6-7 (NKJV)

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth--to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people--

⁷ saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

The specific angel or group of angels that John saw another angel distinct from is not specified.

While angels appear in every chapter from *chapters 4 through 12*, the nearest antecedent is the reference to Michael and his angels in *chapter 12 verse 7*.

In any case another angel has been selected for a very special purpose

Dramatically, the angel appears in the sky flying in midheaven.

Mesouranema (midheaven) refers to the point in the sky where the sun reaches its meridian, apex, or high point at noon.

From that point, the angel would be visible to those on earth.

There he will be beyond the reach of Antichrist, as well as Satan and his demon hosts who activity will by that time be restricted to the earth.

Revelation 12:7-9 (NKJV)

- ⁷And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought,
- ⁸ but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer.
- ⁹ So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

The battle that currently rages in the heavenlies between the holy angels and the demons will by then be over. This preaching angel will be unreachable, the world's view of him unobstructed, and his ministry unhindered.

By the time the angel begins his ministry, the world will have suffered the incredible devastation of the seal and trumpet judgments.

Relentless holocausts will have rocked the globe, and the familiar stable heavens will have become a disintegrating source of terror.

During this time, the unbelieving world will have heard the gospel preached by the 144,000 Jewish evangelists and the two witnesses, as well as countless thousands of others saved under their ministries.

But despite all that, most of the earth's population will reject the gospel

Revelation 16:9 (NKJV)

⁹ And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.

Revelation 16:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.

Revelation 9:20-21 (NKJV)

²⁰ But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk.

 21 And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

Yet, God still sends them another to proclaim the gospel to them, one more time.

As he flies through the sky, the angel will have an eternal gospel to preach.

This is the only occurrence of the noun *evangelion* (gospel) in John's writings, though the related verb translated **to preach** also appears in 10:7.

The **gospel** here is described as **eternal** because it provides the means to eternal life.

It is the good news that God will forgive all the sins of those who repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the only way of salvation, and by that repentance and saving faith take them into His eternal kingdom.

The preaching of this angel will reach any who still have not heard the gospel message. As earth's darkest hour approaches, the angel will proclaim the good news that it is not too late. There is still time to repent before God's judgment resumes.

The angel's message is addressed to those who live on the earth, a phrase always used in Revelation to refer to unbelievers.

The all inclusive phrase every nation and tribe and tongue and people stresses the comprehensive, worldwide nature of the angel's proclamation.

The angel will call out with a loud voice to all unregenerate people everywhere

His loud voice ensures that he will be heard and emphasizes the urgency of his message.

The message to sinners is "fear God, and give Him glory."

He will call the people of the world to change their allegiance from the beast to the Lamb. He will urge them to no longer fear, reverence, and worship Satan and Antichrist, but instead to **fear**, reverence, and honor God by turning to His Son.

As the sovereign ruler of the universe, God alone, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, has the right to be worshiped

Isaiah 42:8 (NKJV)

⁸ I am the LORD, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images.

Isaiah 48:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ For My own sake, for My own sake, I will do it; For how should My name be profaned? And I will not give My glory to another.

Matthew 4:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.' "

The Bible repeatedly calls people to fear God.

Psalm 111:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.

The Proverbs commands;

Proverbs 23:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷Do not let your heart envy sinners, But be zealous for the fear of the LORD all the day;

Proverbs 24:21 (NKJV)

²¹ My son, fear the LORD and the king; Do not associate with those given to change;

And Peter wrote:

1 Peter 2:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Honor all people. Love the brotherhood, Fear God, Honor the king.

In addition to fearing God, men are to give Him glory.

This requirement goes to the very essence of the problem of unregenerate people, who;

Romans 1:21 (NKJV)

21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

Refusing to give glory to God is at the core of man's prideful rebellion.

Unbelievers will be called to fear and glorify God immediately because the hour of His judgment has come.

Opportunity is fading fast; the bowl judgments are about to be poured out, to be followed shortly by the return of the Lord Jesus Christ to judge the unbelieving world

This is the first occurrence of the word *krisis* (judgment) in Revelation.

It will appear again in the chapters to follow along with the synonym krima.

Up until now the word wrath has been used to describe God's judgment but now it has escalated.

It would seem that the warnings of the angel is a waste of time, after all, the people will have already experienced the devastating seal and trumpet judgments.

The earth will have been devastated by world-wide wars, famines, and earthquakes, resulting in the destruction of the environment, witnessed terrifying signs in the heavens, They will have been attacked by demon hordes, all of which will result in death on a scale unprecedented in human history.

The result? They will defiantly refuse to repent, yet God will in grace and mercy, again call sinners to repentance through the preaching of this angel.

The angel gives one final reason for sinners to turn from Antichrist to God, proclaiming that people should worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters.

The created universe both offers proof of God's existence and provides grounds for worshiping Him.

David confirms this:

Psalm 19:1-4 (NKJV)

- ¹ To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork.
- ² Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night reveals knowledge.
- ³ There is no speech nor language Where their voice is not heard.
- ⁴ Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun,

Isaiah also teaches that the creation reveals God's glory and majesty;

Isaiah 40:21-26 (NKJV)

- ²¹ Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
- ²² It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.
- ²³ He brings the princes to nothing; He makes the judges of the earth useless.
- ²⁴ Scarcely shall they be planted, Scarcely shall they be sown, Scarcely shall their stock take root in the earth, When He will also blow on them, And they will wither, And the whirlwind will take them away like stubble.
- ²⁵ "To whom then will you liken Me, Or to whom shall I be equal?" says the Holy One.
- ²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high, And see who has created these things, Who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, By the greatness of His might And the strength of His power; Not one is missing.

Because God reveals Himself in His creation, men are without excuse for not acknowledging Him:

Romans 1:18-20 (NKJV)

- ¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,
- 19 because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.
- ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

When Paul evangelized Jews, he always stated from the Old Testament Scripture. But when he evangelized pagans, whether simple common people or sophisticated philosophers he proclaimed that the true and living God must be worshiped because He is the Creator of everything.

Identifying the cause was the most important question in philosophy before Darwin.

Paul introduced them to Him.

In Revelation: the twenty four elders praise God;

Revelation 4:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."

The angels stern warning is that the Creator is also the Judge;

He is the one people should fear and worship, rather than Satan and Antichrist.

As the world teeters on the brink of final disaster, God graciously offers people another chance to repent. He will snatch those who heed the warning from the fire of judgment

Jude 1:23 (NKJV)

²³ but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

And transfer them from Satan's kingdom of darkness into the soon to be manifest kingdom of His Son

Colossians 1:13 (NKJV)

¹³ He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

Next study;

THE SECOND ANGEL: PRONOUNCING JUDGMENT