

One Last Chance (Message # 33)

Revelation 14: 6-11

Tonight we continue our study of the events near the end of the Tribulation. In [VV.1-5](#) we found the 144,000 who were martyred for preaching the gospel at rest in heaven. Now the focus has shifted from heaven to those who dwell upon the earth. The lost sinners of the earth are about to be judged, but God in His mercy has provided one last chance for them to be saved.

These verses reveal future events that will come to pass, but there is application for men today. One day we will walk our last mile down here and find ourselves before the God of heaven. Whatever condition our lives are in at that point will determine our eternal destiny. I would like to preach on the thought: [One Last Chance](#). As we look at this passage tonight, consider where you stand with God. He is offering you one more chance if you need to come to Him in salvation.

I. An Extension of Grace (6-7) – Isn't the grace of God amazing? I have never been able to comprehend why God would offer such grace to lowly sinners like we are. It was His grace that sent His Son to die for our sin. God's grace gave us what we could never deserve and His mercy withheld what we should've received. We serve a merciful God who is full of grace for sinful man. Even in the Tribulation His grace will be extended. Notice:

A. A Faithful Offer (6) – [And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,](#) The gospel has been preached by the 144,000; they were rejected by many and slain for their preaching. The Lord had been merciful in supplying a gospel witness in the Tribulation and it was rejected. Here we find that God's grace has been extended once again. The preachers were slain and God sends out an angel to preach the gospel to a lost and dying world.

- Have you ever heard of such grace? Here is a world that has denied the Lord, slain His servants, consumed with the wickedness of the Antichrist, and yet God sends out, once again, an offer of grace.
- So what exactly is the angel preaching? There are those who believe that this is a message that is different than the one we heard. He is declaring the [everlasting gospel](#). It is the same message that the apostles preached; it is the same message that we preach today. This is the gospel of salvation. [1 Cor. 15:3-4 – For I delivered unto you first of all that which I](#)

also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; [4] And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

- The angel is preaching Jesus coming as the sacrifice for sin, dying upon the cross, and coming out alive to die no more! We aren't told of any accepting God's faithful offer, but He has extended grace in the midst of great tribulation. What a God we serve!

B. A Final Opportunity (7) – [Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.](#) The people of the earth are warned to turn from their sin, to fear God, and give Him glory [for the hour of judgment is come.](#)

- The full and final wrath of God is about to be poured out and God is extending grace and mercy in the last hours of opportunity. The Tribulation is coming to a close and there will not be another opportunity for men to accept His glorious offer. The angel has come in haste to plead with the hearts of men to repent and accept Christ before it is eternally too late.
- Just as there will be a point when it is too late for them, there is also a point in every life when it will be too late to accept God's opportunity of salvation. I can imagine the cries for mercy as the door was shut and the waters began to rise around the ark. I can imagine the prayers that were offered as the Babylonians entered Jerusalem, but the opportunity had passed. Once the appointed time has ended, there will be no more opportunity. Have you responded to the opportunity that you've been given? Once you pass through the gates of death, all opportunity has ended.

I. An Extension of Grace (6-7)

II. The Exposure of Sin (8) – [And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.](#) Here we find the 2nd angel making reference to Babylon. We will deal with it in greater detail in [Chps.17-18](#). Babylon isn't just a city; it represents a political and religious system. Babylon will proclaim the doctrines of Antichrist.

- This is a philosophy that has deep, long standing roots. It began with Nimrod and the tower of Babel. They desired to reach the heavens and unite mankind in rebellion. Babel gave birth to the Babylonian empire. This philosophy remains today and will intensify in the Tribulation.
- God cannot overlook sin and He will not turn a deaf ear to it. [Jer.16:17 – For mine eyes are upon all their ways: they are not hid from my face, neither is their iniquity hid from mine eyes.](#) There is coming a day when the sin of the world will be exposed for all to see. God sees and will expose and judge the sin of the world.

A. The Control of Babylon – Babylon has made all the nations to commit great sin. This is the seat of Antichrist's power and he will enforce universal control over the world. Babylon is at the center of his ungodly reign. She will spread his wicked doctrine in an effort to dominate the world with the philosophy of wickedness and sin that she embraces.

- We are already seeing a visible shift toward the doctrines of Babylon, the humanistic doctrines that see men as gods with the answers of life. The world isn't opposed to religion, in fact it embraces religion, but it stands in open defiance of Christ!

B. The Corruption of Babylon – *And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.* Here we see Babylon portrayed as a seductive harlot. She has enticed the people of the world to intoxicate themselves with her wicked wine. They have become drunk on her deception.

- This will be a time marked by spiritual and physical fornication. The philosophy of self indulgence will be promoted on an unprecedented scale. Men will turn away from the true and living God to serve the false gods of the Antichrist's regime. Babylon will succeed in her deceptive, seductive plan to lure men into worship of the Antichrist.

C. The Collapse of Babylon – The sinful philosophy of Babylon will be accepted and promoted by the leaders of the world. This system of political and religious corruption will enjoy a time of great prominence, but it will not last forever. The angel cried *Babylon is fallen, is fallen.*

- This speaks of an absolute fall of this evil world system. Men will enjoy the pleasures of their sin for a season, but God will have the final word. They may feel as if they have succeeded in their satanic plot, but God will judge them for their sin.

- Sin must be judged and Babylon will be no exception. I'm thankful that my sin was judged at Calvary. God will one day put an end to all the heresy and false doctrines of this world. When He begins to pour out His wrath, as Babylon falls, it will be too late to repent of their sin. Men will be left to face the righteous judgment of a holy God.

I. An Extension of Grace (6-7)

II. The Exposure of Sin (8)

III. The Execution of Judgment (9-11) – The first angel came with an offer of salvation and the 3rd angel comes with a warning of impending judgment for those who have denied the Lord's mercy and rejected Him.

A. The Designation of Judgment (9-10a) – And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God. The wrath of God will be poured out upon those who have chosen to receive the mark of the beast and follow him. They have denied worshipping the Lord and following Him, choosing rather to follow Satan and his wicked ways.

- This will be a dreadful time for those who have been marked by the beast. They have made their choice and that choice will bring about the judgment of God. Once they make the decision to receive the mark, they have sealed their fate and are destined to stand before God in judgment.

B. The Description of Judgment (10) – The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: Those who chose to drink of the wine of Babylon will be forced to drink of the wine of the wrath of God. This means “*an explosion of wrath, a sudden outburst; a passionate display of anger.*” God’s wrath will be sudden and sure.

- God’s wrath will be poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation. The world has faced periods of judgment, but this will be undiluted and pure. The mercies of God will have been withdrawn and the earth will feel the fury of a holy God who must judge sin. Heb.10:31 – It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. These will find themselves in the torments of hell surrounded by fire and brimstone in the presence of the Lamb of God.

- I believe the lost will be able to see the joys of heaven and be reminded of the opportunities they squandered. What a terrible position, to be in a place of torments with Christ in view. They will be constantly reminded of the Savior they rejected and the hell they have received.

C. The Duration of Judgment (11) – And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. Once these have been judged and condemned to hell, there will be no escape. The suffering will endure for all of eternity. There will be no rest day or night, just eternal suffering and pain.

- Many today teach a doctrine of purgatory; some deny a literal hell; others teach that the body is consumed in the flame and the suffering ends. Clearly the Bible teaches a different doctrine. For those who die without Christ, an eternal, unending, unimaginable torment awaits.

Each of us here this evening will find ourselves spending eternity in one of two places. I pray that you won't be included among those who will feel the wrath of God in the torments of hell. God extends another chance now! [2 Cor. 6:2 – \(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.\)](#)