

It Will Be Worth it All in Glory (Message #34)

Revelation 14: 12-13

I would like to take a moment to refresh your memory on where we are in Revelation. We are nearing the end of the dreadful Tribulation period in chp.14. The 1st portion of the chapter dealt with the martyrdom of the 144,000 and their victory celebration in heaven. Our last study dealt with the mercy of God being offered one last time to those who dwelt upon the earth. Sadly many will reject His offer and die in their sin.

Tonight we encounter a remnant that has trusted in the Lord. Once again we find God's grace in the midst of tribulation. Verses 10-11 reveal the torment that awaits those who deny Christ and worship the beast, while verses 12-13 reveal the peace and rest that awaits the redeemed. Through it all these found Jesus to be worth every trial they encountered. Tonight, by the help of the Lord, I want to preach on: [It will be worth it all in Glory](#).

I. The Reality of Their Faith (12a) – [Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus](#). There is no doubt that these who have trusted the Lord were people of faith. There are a couple of things about their faith that we need to consider.

A. The Steadfastness of Their Faith – John speaks of the [patience of the saints](#). The word patience is significant. It speaks of the steadfast endurance of those who were faithful to Christ.

- Now keep in mind that these will be very difficult days. Satan and the Antichrist will be seeking to destroy all who refuse his mark and follow the Lord. These would not be moved by the pressures of life to abandon their faith. In the face of great persecution and even death they remained committed unto the Lord. I'm sure they were uncertain of what the future would hold, but they were confident in the Lord's ability to work all things for their good. They looked beyond the present troubles to future promises.
- There is a great lesson in this for us tonight. We live in a world where we are facing increasing pressure to abandon our faith. There is a worldwide push for the church to conform to the ways of the world. They resent our separation and our stand for the Lord. Life would be much simpler that way, but we cannot deny the Lord and abandon Him. [1 Cor.15:58 – Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.](#)

B. The Satisfaction of Their Faith – Their patience goes much deeper than just mere commitment. It also has the idea of “being cheerful and satisfied while being committed.” These did not begrudge their faith unto the Lord. In spite of all the difficulties, they considered it a blessing to serve the Lord rather than a burden. They could identify with the early apostles who rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer for the Lord.

▪ What a testimony and challenge to us this evening. Baptist are the world’s worst to grumble and complain, and most of the time it is over trivial things: too hot or cold, the service was a little long, the choice of songs we sing, etc... It takes very little to keep folks away from church. If things don’t go the way we want we pout and complain. I pray that we will desire to serve the Lord with gladness as these will during the Tribulation. [Col.3:23-24 – And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.](#) Are you serving the Lord with gladness or with contempt? We are here for His glory not our own!

I. The Reality of Their Faith (12a)

II. The Reflection of Their Faith (12b) – Their faith is reflected in 2 ways. First it is reflected in:

A. Their Faithfulness to the Word – [They kept the commandments of God.](#) They are committed to living according to the Word of God. There will be much that will be presented to men in an attempt to lead them away from God, but these stand true to the Word.

▪ We are seeing this become more prevalent in our day. The world has attacked the accuracy and authority of the Bible. It is no longer admired and respected as God’s holy Word, but rather denied and rejected. Secular news agencies fill their programs around Christmas and Easter with documentaries and TV shows that seek to refute the Word of God. They may deny and reject it, but God’s Word will stand when the world is on fire!

▪ We need to settle in our hearts, as these will in that day, to stand upon the Bible and allow it to lead our lives. It is the basis for all Christian practice. It must be the sole authority for all we do. We need the attitude of the children of Israel. [Ex.24:3 – And Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the Lord hath said will we do.](#) We need those who will accept the Bible and live by it!

B. Their Faithfulness to the Lord – [Also they were committed to their faith in Jesus our Lord.](#) In previous passages we found those who had rejected the call of God and worshipped the Antichrist. These have made a determined choice to remain faithful unto the Lord no matter the

cost. Many will give their lives for the cause of Christ, but they will go to their death serving the Lord.

- Consider the choice that these have made. They have refused the mark of the beast. They will not be able to buy or sell. Their families will suffer because of their lack of food and essential necessities. Their lives will be lived in hiding, always looking behind them to see if the enemy has discovered where they are.
- This stands as a great challenge to us today. They will remain faithful to the Lord at all costs, and yet many times we shy away from our responsibilities. If anyone ought to be able to serve the Lord and make a difference for Him, it ought to be us. We have nothing to hinder our service and many times we fail to honor Him with our lives.
- I pray that God will give us a holy boldness and a righteous indignation for the wickedness and compromise of our day. We may have to make a choice one day soon!

I. The Reality of Their Faith (12a)

II. The Reflection of Their Faith (12b)

III. The Results of Their Faith (13) – [And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.](#) What does it mean to die in the Lord? This simply refers to those who lived for the Lord until their appointed time, faithful to the very end.

- This reminds us that all have an appointment that we must keep. [Heb.9:27 – And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.](#) For the child of God there is no fear of that day. [Rom.14:8 – For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.](#) Consider what their faithfulness secured for them.

A. They are Rejoicing – [Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.](#) This is a beautiful verse in that it reminds us of what awaits the child of God. The word [blessed](#) means “rejoicing.” It paints a picture of the redeemed, gathered around the throne of God, rejoicing in His glory. The troubles of life have ended and they are in the Lord’s presence forever more!

- There is no need to weep for those who die in Christ. At that moment they have only begun to live. Don’t weep for me when I am gone for I will be rejoicing in the presence of my Savior and Lord. [Ps.116:15 – Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.](#)

B. They are Resting – [The dead in Christ have found rest from their labor](#). That rest doesn't simply refer to the act of labor, but rather the weariness associated with that labor. It has the idea of beating the chest in grief, of great sorrow, and trouble.

- The life that we live down here is full of heartache, grief, and despair. There is much that causes us to become weary in the journey. Many have fallen by the wayside because of the difficulties of life. We must continue to press on; there is a land of peace and rest for the redeemed. [Gal.6:9 – And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.](#)

- There will be seasons of reaping and rest along the way, but that final rest only Jesus can give. This ought to encourage us to press on. We may feel as if our labor has been in vain, but for those who serve the Lord there is an eternal rest!

C. They are Rewarded – [Their works do follow them](#). All that these faithful servants had done was not in vain. Their labor of love for the Lord had followed them home. The Lord keeps a faithful record of the things we do for Him. This verse in no way implies that we can work and earn our salvation, but it assures us that our works will be rewarded by the Lord. It makes no difference whether it was recognized or counted worthy of men; God will be the judge! [Mar.9:41 – For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward.](#)

- Keep that in mind when Satan tries to tell you that you are working for nothing. Pay day may not be Friday, but it is coming!

Each of us will encounter one of the two destinies described in this chapter. I pray that you will be among the faithful who find it was worth it all! If you can't honestly say that won't you come to Him?