



1. GOOD NEWS

Sermon Notes

Text: Revelation 14:6-20

Intro:

“Revelation is not a crystal ball revealing esoteric secrets that enable one to escape the harsh realities of life on earth, but a down-to-earth manual on how to be a disciple of Jesus facing the harsh realities of life on earth.” ~Darrell Johnson

The book of Revelation unveils the hidden realities of heaven and earth.

Revelation is like a political cartoon on steroids.

Revelation 14:6-13

Revelation 12-13 tells us that there is a cosmic battle going on behind the scenes. Revelation 14 wants us to know that while this cosmic battle is raging, the good news is spreading.

Good news item #1: v. 7 “...the hour of [God’s] judgment has come.”

Mark 1:15; John 12:23-24, 31

2. Good news item #2: v. 8 “Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great...”

Any nation or any city that rejected the living God as the center of its life and asserted its own way was a version of “Babylon.”

Babylon is the great “counterfeit city”

1 Peter 5:13

3. Good news item #3: v. 9-11 There is a Hell

The Mark of the beast is the character of the beast. It’s the image of him imprinted on your soul.

To worship something is to become like it, and ultimately to share its fate.

Revelation 14:14-20 - images of harvest

Hebrews 13:12

Isaiah 53:5

Conclusion:

1 John 2:17

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. Have you been at Bethel long enough to remember the other 3 “unveiled” series? What do you recall about them? How well do you feel you understand the book of Revelation?
2. What stood out to you about Sunday’s sermon? What was interesting? Confusing? Weird? Thought provoking?

Study & Discussion:

1. Babylon was the ancient enemy of Israel. It represented everything that was against God and his kingdom. The early Christians called Rome the new Babylon, and subsequent ungodly regimes continue in its image. What do you think are some signs of a country/empire/ regime that has become “babylonian”? What are Christians supposed to do if they live in such a place?
2. Read Revelation 14:9-11. Hell is a troubling doctrine. What do you think about it? How does it make you feel? Have you had conversations with non-Christians who criticize your belief in Hell? Is there any sense in which we can see “good news” in the declaration of the angel in v. 9-11?
3. Read 1 John 2:15-17. What does John mean by “the world?” Because “God so loved the world...” (John 3:16). What are the signs of someone who loves the world in the negative way John is talking about?

Prayer:

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