Pursuing Resilience in Revelation

A New World Coming

Revelation 14:6-13

Intro

I have a sense that we are metaphorically in the days of Noah. We are certainly nearing the day of the Lord, and there are many around us who are on the verge of being shut out of the ark that is Christ forever.

Discover

- I. The gospel is going out into the world (6-7)
 - A. It is being proclaimed by God through His messengers to the whole world
 - 1. To every tribe
 - 2. To every nation
 - 3. To every language group
 - B. The content of this gospel is clear
 - 1. Fear God rather than the Beast
 - This is wonderful news to everyone who worships Christ, but radically offensive to those who are still under the hypnotic allure of Adam's folly.
 - 2. Give God glory and reject the Beast
 - 3. God's judgement is at hand and the Beast is overcome by it
 - 4. Worship God alone and render the Beast as unworthy in your heart

II. God's final judgement is coming (8-11)

- A. The age of sinful men is over
 - 1. Babylon, which represents the fullness of evil human government and culture, has fallen at the coronation of Christ.
 - Sexual immorality here has a literal connotation for sure, but it is most likely referring to the fact that wicked humanity has married itself to Satan and divorced itself from God.
 - b) Participation with the Beast then, is a sort of unholy sexual activity with the world which makes men impure before God.

- B. All of the unrepentant should prepare to drink of God's wrath
 - Everyone will drink one sort of wine or another in the end. There are
 those who will eat of Christ's body and drink of His blood and be cleansed
 from all sin, death, and every effect of Babylon. Those who refuse Christ
 will drink the wine of God's wrath. Whichever they choose, they shall
 have. To reject Christ is to choose the other by default.
 - a) I want to be clear here, that no one who wants Christ will be turned away. This is why we must be sure to offer Christ to as many as we can and pray that they will receive Him. There is no possibility of life anywhere else.
 - 2. The wine of God's wrath is akin to being burned in a pit of sulfur forever.
 - a) Let us never revel in the destruction of the wicked. Though it is necessary, even God takes no pleasure in it. It was not His original design. He takes pleasure in repentance and would rather receive glory from people that way, but He will be glorified one way or the other.
 - b) May the reality of God's judgement on the unrepentant do two things for us: 1) Lead us to extreme gratitude because His wrath is what we deserve but we will never receive because Christ took it for us in our place. 2) Lead us to share the gospel with our friends, loved ones, and anyone else we can so that they might turn to Jesus and avoid the wrath that is to come.

III. We must endure (12-13)

- A. All who die in the Lord will be blessed.
 - 1. We are not promised that our lives will be free from trouble, but we are promised that if we cling to Christ there will be nothing but blessing and joy on the other side of it.
 - 2. Take heart Christian! Life is hard and the world is out to get us like it was Jesus, but our endurance which is like His will be rewarded with a crown like His too.
- B. All who are cleansed by the blood of Jesus are seen by God not on the basis of our sin, but through the lens of Christ's righteousness applied to us.
- C. Once Christ has washed out all evil, the world will finally be right and we will live here.

Nurture

Who is God? He is Lord over all who has proclaimed a way for His enemies to be restored back to Himself.

What has God done? He has offered repentance and restoration through Himself to rebel hearts.

Who are we? We are those who have taken Him up on His offer and now we drink the wine of grace rather than of wrath.

What are we called to do? We are called to join the angel in proclaiming the hope of the gospel to as many as we can and to endure everything that may come at us until we see His face.

Act

A new world is coming. Christ is on His throne and soon the Father will give Him the word to unleash the final judgement. Are you ready? Are those whom you love ready? Have you oriented your life around this truth of Christ, or have you allowed yourself to be distracted by less important things?

Our enemy the Devil loves to get Christians sidetracked from our mission so that we will be ineffective. He leans over those around us, salivating like a wolf and eager to devour them. We may just be their last line of defense holding them back from Hell.

Let 2025 be a year of putting away the distractions. Let it be a year of picking up our Bibles, or dedicating ourselves to prayer, or walking full of the Holy Spirit, of enduring in Christ, and of saving as many people out of Hell as we possibly can. Christ calls us. The Spirit empowers us. We can change the lives of people around us, if only we will take this gospel we have believed absolutely seriously.

We are in this together, friends!