

Gods Terrible Swift Sword - Robert Jeffress

October 27, 2021

Sister Shelbia opened us with prayer:

Dear God,

Hear this prayer Lord. Please forgive my sin. Please hear my heart as I pour out the concerns about the situation. Thank you for Joe and Carol being in their basement. Show us what we can do. We know you are the real God! I believe this was a wake up call to read your word and obey you, God.

We are in demonic warfare in the last days. Gods citizens are called domestic terrorists. We have a job to do and want to fulfill our purpose here. Listen to Dr. Jeffress. Revelation is so unspeakably glorious. May each person get what you would have them receive. In Jesus name, Amen.

By November 1861 it had become clear that the civil war was not going to come to a quick resolve. As that truth began to sink in with the American people, Julia Ward Howell and her husband Samuel who was a part of the sanitation commission in Washington DC, went to inspect some union camps just outside the nations capital.

On the way back from that inspection tour, Julia Howell began to sing a little song. A diddy she had heard the soldiers sing at the camp. The song was entitled, John Browns Body. Its really kinda a gruesome song about what happened to an abolitionist who had tried to cause an insurrection among the slaves.

As she sang that rather depressing song, a minister who was with them, named James Clark, suggested that Julia Howell change the words of that song and write something that would be more uplifting to the American People. And so when she got to D.C. she went to her room at the Willard Hotel and spent the night writing out a poem with 5 stanzas. When she completed it she sold it to the Atlantic Monthly Magazine for \$5.00

They took that poem and slapped a title on it. The Battle Hymn of the Republic!

Julia Howell borrowed heavily from Revelation 14. The passage we are going to look at today about the coming judgment on the earth by Almighty God. You remember the words, ‘mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord, he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored, he has loosed the faithful lightning of his terrible swift sword, his truth is marching on’.

‘He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never sound retreat, he is sifting out the hearts of men before the judgment seat, Oh be swift my soul to answer him, be jubilant my feet, our God is marching on’.

Originally this song was thought to be about God’s judgment on the south for the sin of slavery, and it was certainly that. Slavery was a horrific sin.

But that song was about more than that and Revelation 14 is about more than that. Its about the time of history when God will pour out his wrath upon earth for ALL SINS, ALL REBELLIONS AGAINST HIM.

This song is very very Christosentric. It is about Jesus Christ, His first and His second coming!

The first time Jesus came, Julia Howell describes it in that stanza, 'In the beauty of the Lillies Christ was born across the sea, with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me, as He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free, while God is marching on'.

Most people forget that the Bible talks about two comings of Jesus - for two very different purposes. I summarized that by reprinting a chart on your outline.

The first time Jesus came in Bethlehem, He came in meakness as a servant. The next time He comes, He will come in power as the judge.

The first time He came in humility and gentleness. The next time He comes He will come in majesty and splendor.

The first time He came, he came to sew the seed of the gospel and offer salvation. The next time He comes will be to reap the harvest of those who reject the gospel.

We read those words of Jesus Himself in *John 3*:

1 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:

2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

9 Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?

10 Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?

11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.

12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?

13 And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.

14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

22 After these things came Jesus and his disciples into the land of Judaea; and there he tarried with them, and baptized.

23 And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized.

24 For John was not yet cast into prison.

25 Then there arose a question between some of John's disciples and the Jews about purifying.

26 And they came unto John, and said unto him, Rabbi, he that was with thee beyond Jordan, to whom thou barest witness, behold, the same baptizeth, and all men come to him.

27 John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven.

28 Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him.

29 He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled.

30 He must increase, but I must decrease.

31 He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all.

32 And what he hath seen and heard, that he testifieth; and no man receiveth his testimony.

33 He that hath received his testimony hath set to his seal that God is true.

34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.

35 The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.

36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

In Verse 17 He said, *“For the son of God did not come into the world to judge the world, but that the world through Him might be saved”*.

Oh people say Jesus isn't here to judge anybody. No, He didn't come the first time to judge. He came to save. But the next time He's coming as the judge of the entire earth. And is it that second coming of Jesus, when He comes as the judge to reward the righteous and punish the unrighteous that is the focus of Revelation 14.

For those of you who haven't been part of our Bible study in Revelation, we are in that period of time - the final 7 years of earth's history before the return of Jesus Christ. We call those years the great tribulation. There will be a one world dictator, the antichrist and it will be a time where he will persecute those that are alive and saved on the earth, but it's a time of God's wrath upon unbelievers that will culminate in the battle of Armageddon and the return of Jesus Christ.

Last time we looked at chapters 12 & 13 about the spiritual wickedness that will be responsible for much that happens in that tribulation time. We looked at the satanic trinity, if you will. The antichrist (world leader), his assistant - the false prophet, (who will help him in his ascent to world power), and then the third member - the dragon (satan) himself, (who is the force behind the antichrist).

Now when we get to chapter 14, the focus is on the future victory of God's people. John is going to relate 3 visions that he saw that all pointed to the final victory that Christ will have for His people when He returns to earth.

Each of these visions starts with the words 'and I saw' 'and I beheld' and 'I saw'.

Turn there in your Bibles if you as we look at **GOD'S TERRIBLE SWIFT SWORD.**

Revelation 14:1-20

Notice first of all the vision of victory for God's people in verses 1-5. First of all John describes a song for God's people that he heard.

The Victory For God's People

Verse 1 says,

1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb (Jesus Christ) stood on the mount Sion (Jerusalem), and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.

Who is the lamb? Jesus Christ is the lamb of God, and John says and I saw in a vision, Jesus standing on Mt Zion. This is at the end times. Where is Mt Zion? Its not in heaven, its on earth. It was the ancient name for Jerusalem, now Zion. And John says, I saw the time when Christ is back and He establishes His kingdom in Jerusalem. People say what is the big deal about Jerusalem? Why does everybody get excited about Jerusalem? Not only was Jerusalem the capital of Israel, but its also going to be the capitol city of God's millennial kingdom. (I saw Jesus standing on mt Zion with the 144,000 Jews that Jesus saved at the beginning of the tribulation 'Revelation 7' and he turns them into evangelists. They have a seal of God on them so they cannot be killed. They can be persecuted, but not killed; and they are faithful. God promised to protect them for those 7 years.)

2 And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps:

3 And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.

Now John fast forwards 7 years to the end of the tribulation and says he saw Jesus and those 144,000 Jewish converts. Not one of them had been lost. And because of that they sang a new song before the throne.

What that new song is? - its a song that had never been sung by people that had been saved and sealed and protected from the persecution (death of the antichrist).

But I also want you to notice what John saw - John says he saw the purity of Gods' people. Notice this description of the 144,000 as well as the tribulation martyrs who died during that time.

4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

5 And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.

He says these are the ones who have not been defiled with women for they have kept themselves chaste.

Now I know what you are thinking - you read that 'defiled with women'. There the Bible goes again downgrading women. Women are evil. Men are good. John must have been a part of the women haters club. He hates women just like Paul. Look the Bible will never demogrates women. In fact the Bible did something very transcultural. In a day when women were thought to be inferior to men, the Bible says no, women are equal to men in Gods eyes. It was Christianity that raised women up in society. Always!

When he talks about being defiled with women he's simply talking about sexual immorality with someone whose not your wife.

There's nothing defiling about having a physical relationship with your wife.

Hebrews 13 says that the marriage bed is undefiled.

1 Let brotherly love continue.

2 Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

3 Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.

4 Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

7 Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

9 Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.

10 We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle.

11 For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp.

12 Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.

13 Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.

14 For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come.

15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

16 But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

18 Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly.

19 But I beseech you the rather to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner.

20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,

21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

22 And I beseech you, brethren, suffer the word of exhortation: for I have written a letter unto you in few words.

23 Know ye that our brother Timothy is set at liberty; with whom, if he come shortly, I will see you.

24 Salute all them that have the rule over you, and all the saints. They of Italy salute you.

25 Grace be with you all. Amen.

Sexual immorality is going to be rampant during the tribulation time just as it is now, but these 144,000 and these followers of Christ refused to defile themselves. These are the ones who follow the lamb wherever he goes. If you are a true disciple of Jesus, do you follow Jesus wherever he goes? Are you willing to obey Him regardless of the cost? In the great tribulation people will pay a severe price for following the lamb. Many of them will give their lives in order to do that.

By the way, even in today's society people pay a price, an increasing price for following Jesus Christ. If you don't believe that just consider Jaylene Hinkle. Many of you may know that Jaylene is considered one of the very best female soccer players in the world. After the 2015 Supreme Court decision to legalize same sex marriage, Jaylene posted on her instagram account, "I believe with every fiber in my body that what was written 2000 years ago in the Bible is undoubtedly true. This world may change but Christ in His Word never will."

Two years later as a member of the national team, she chose to withdraw from the team rather than wear a USA team jersey supporting rainbow numbers in celebration of gay pride. She explained her decision. "I just felt so convicted in my spirit that it wasn't my job to wear this jersey. I gave myself 3 days to seek and pray and determine about what God was asking me to do in this situation. If I never get another national team call up again, then that's just part of God's plan and that's ok. Maybe this is just why I was meant to play soccer. To show other believers to be obedient".

As a member of the North Carolina Courage Team, every time Jaylene Hinkle goes on the field there are people in the stands who boo her.

In the lead up to the 2019 women's World Cup, US Team coach, Jill Ellis, invited Jaylene to try out for the national team. After 3 days of work outs Jill Ellis who is gay and married to her lesbian partner, cut Jaylene for foot balling reasons. Many soccer followers were skeptical about why Jill cut Jaylene. Even Jaylene's pro LGBT critics admitted that she is the best women's full back in the country.

We know why she got cut. She was paying a price for following the lamb wherever she goes. Don't be surprised when you are called on to pay a price. It cost you something to follow Jesus Christ.

Jesus said in ***John 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.***

In this world you WILL have tribulation. But be of good courage for I have overcome the world.

The apostle Peter said in *1 Peter 4*:

1 Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;

2 That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

3 For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries:

4 Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you:

5 Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead.

6 For for this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.

7 But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.

8 And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.

9 Use hospitality one to another without grudging.

10 As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

11 If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

“Brethren don’t be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come upon you for your testing as thou some strange thing were happening to you”. Don’t be surprised when you stand up for your believe and your persecuted. This world cannot stand anyone that is at odds with the culture but I’d rather at odds with the culture than to be at odds with God, wouldn’t you?

The Bible says you are going to pay a price for it and certainly the greatest price will be giving your life as many will do during the tribulation time.

14 If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.

16 Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

19 Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

There's a second vision John saw.

A warning for God's enemies and a blessing for God's people.

Again, it begins with the phrase 'and I saw'....and there are 4 announcements that John hears.

An Announcement of the Gospel

First of all He hears and sees the announcement of the gospel in verses 6 & 7.

6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting (eternal) gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,

I don't understand it but John says he saw an angel flying thru mid-heaven, throughout the earth proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ, so that everyone could hear it.

I want you to notice the 2 descriptions of this gospel message:

-the message that Jesus Christ came and gave his life on the cross and died for our sins so that we could have eternal life.

He said that first of all the gospel is eternal. Its not just for one time period in history. Its for all time.

-secondly he said this message is every nation, tribe and tongue; and every people.

I've heard people say we shouldn't try to impose our culture on other people by sharing the gospel with them.

Have you ever listened to these ignoramuses on television talk about religion? They know just enough to be dangerous. And they say things like 'well you know that Christians shouldn't try to impose a western religion on other parts of the world. That's not respecting other nationality.

They get the idea that some how Christianity is an American made religion. They don't even know history when they say something like that.

The gospel wasn't manufactured in America. The gospel message of Jesus began in the middle east.

Christianity is a Middle Eastern religion that spread beyond the Middle East.

Jerusalem was the headquarters for a while and then it moved throughout Europe.

And then Rome became the capitol of the Christian faith.

And then after the reformation the capitol moved to Germany and in many ways, Germany was the capitol of Christianity. Then it spread to Great Britain. And then it spread to America.

And for many years America could be thought of as the Christian center of the world, but that's not even true any longer really. In many ways you could say that Africa has become the new center for the Christian faith. China - hundreds of millions Christians there.

One person who does know history made a very astute observation when he said, Unlike any other religion in the world whether it be Buddhism, Islam, Hinduism, all of those religions are intricately tied to their nation or their races custom. You can't separate their religion from their nation or race; or the religion from their country.

But only Christianity is transcultural. You can't tie it to any one nation or any one set of customs. It is an eternal gospel that is for every nation, every race, and every tribe.

Aren't you glad that's the kind of faith you follow? Something that's open to everyone.

That's what the angel announced in the last times.

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.

Secondly there was an announcement of destruction in verse 8. And a second angel followed, saying...

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 (immorality).

John again, this isn't the end of the tribulation but he's looking to the end when Babylon is destroyed.

What is Babylon? there's a city/state called Babylon. Its present day Iraq. Remember the city of Babylon. Remember Saddam Hussein said his goal was to rebuild Babylon to the glory of the days of Nebuchadnezzar?

In the Bible, especially the book of Revelation, Babylon is not a representation of a location as much as its a representation of the world system that is opposed to God. For example when we talk about Wall Street, Wall Street does this, Wall Street thinks that. We are not just talking about that little piece of real estate in southern Manhattan, we are talking about the economic system, Wall Street.

Or when we talk about Hollywood, all the evil in Hollywood. We aren't talking about that geographical location north of Los Angeles in California. We are talking about that media empire. The worlds media.

When we talk about Washington DC, we aren't just talking about the city, we are talking about the whole system of government.

Its the same thing as Babylon.

As difficult as things are looking right now there is a day coming when that world system of Babylon, the system opposed to God, will be destroyed.

And then notice thirdly an announcement of doom. Verses 9 thru 11.

9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man (anyone) worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,

Let me remind you what we saw last time. In Revelation 13, There will be a world dictator that we call the antichrist. And at a point during these 7 years of tribulation he will demand that you worship him. The way you will demonstrate your loyalty to the antichrist will be by taking a mark on your hand (perhaps a coded chip) or on your forehead and if you do not have that mark of the beast you risk being killed or watching your family be murdered. People will be killed because of their unwillingness to take that mark.

But even if you don't suffer immediate death Revelation 13 says you will not be able to buy or sell without the mark of the beast. In many ways that could be more painful. To go thru the terrible death of starvation or watch your children or grandchildren starve and die because they couldn't eat because you were trying to be loyal to Jesus Christ and not take the mark of the beast.

Those who refuse to take the mark of the beast will suffer the wrath (the punishment) of the beast. But that wrath is temporary. Those who do take the mark and chose to serve the antichrist instead of 'The Christ' will suffer the wrath of God for eternity.

Look at verse 10-

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(anger); and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

Have you ever heard people say they don't like those fire and brimstone preachers? Well there it is in the Bible - he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the lamb.

Let me ask you, would you rather suffer the short term wrath of the antichrist or the eternal wrath of God the Father?

The Bible says that whoever takes the mark of the beast will experience the eternal wrath of God. Wrath in Greek means a subtle indignation toward. Its not irrational, its not a temper tantrum, its God's subtle indignation against those who disobey him.

To me that is more terrifying than an outburst of anger. Out bursts of anger subside after a while. But God's subtle indignation goes on forever and ever.

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.

And then he talks about God's full strength of anger. Vinmoo means Venice to anger.

The word says that anyone who refuses to worship the true God and takes the mark of the beast will suffer the full anger of God.

Listen to me, If you live until the time Christ comes back again and haven't received God's forgiveness or if you die tonight without ever receiving God's forgiveness thru Christ, you don't just cease to exist. Or you're not just judged by God and then destroyed forever and ever. The Bible tells us that we are eternal beings. We are going to live forever - some in heaven with God; but the majority, Jesus says, of people will live in hell, separated from God, tormented day and night forever.

Revelation 20 says if any persons name was not found written in the lambs book of life he was cast into the lake of fire and tormented forever and ever.

Here is the awful truth about hell, ladies and gentlemen:

If you die as an unbeliever without God's forgiveness, once you have spent 10 billion years suffering the torment of hell, you will not have reduced by one second the time you have left to spend there. That's not the word of Robert Jeffress, its the word of Almighty God here in the Bible. That's the fate of those who die without Christ.

Finally there is an announcement (A blessing) for those who are obedient to the lamb and who refuse to take the mark and follow the lamb wherever he goes.

and a warning to God's enemies in Revelation 14:12 & 13.

12 Here is the patience (perseverance) of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

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.

Unlike unbelievers who will be persecuted forever and ever, those who die in the Lord (have been forgiven) are blessed. The word blessed means in Greek, literally, happy.

Happy are those who die in the Lord.

Friday we had the memorial service for one of the most Godly and influential people in our church, and I said this verse. To the family, I said, when you read these words, blessed happy, that's probably the last emotion that will describe how you feel right now.

But notice what John says, he doesn't say, happy are those that are left behind. Happy blessed are those who die in the Lord!

They're the ones who are happy. That seems hard for us to fathom. That being dead would be a happy thing if you are in the Lord.

The only reason we have trouble believing that is because there is a dark curtain that's drawn between this life and the next life. As much as we'd like to see whats on the other side of death, we can't see it. Its a mystery to us. We can't see whats on the other side, but God sees it. He sees whats on the other side and he says, trust me...happy blessed are those who die in the Lord. He goes on to say - they rest from their labors. That word rest doesn't mean go to sleep. Heaven is not a place of one eternal nap. The word rests simply means to be rejuvenated. We are rejuvenated from our labors. Its doesn't mean we don't work anymore when we get to heaven. God has given us gifts, not only for this world, but for all of eternity. The only thing we won't have in heaven is the restrictions and the tired bodies and the junk we put up with every day at work; and we will be able to use our gifts as God originally intended.

And then he adds these words, for their deeds follow with them.

If you are a Christian, what you do on earth reverberates in the halls of heaven forever. Did you know that?

The good things you do make an eternal difference. The old preacher J. Vernon McGee said it this way, 'It's true we are not saved by our works but Christians are rewarded for our works. Our works are kinda like tin cans you tie on the tail of a dog. They follow you wherever you go all the way to the judgment seat of Christ.

For these believers who have died in the Lord Jesus Christ, thats good news!

God does not forget their deeds, they follow after them.

The final vision John saw was a vision of calamity on God's enemies in verses 14-16. And he saw it in the form of two judgments. I think in many ways they may be the same judgments that describe different aspects of the same judgement.

First of all in Revelation 14:14 - 16 there is the wheat harvest that shows the brevity of God's sudden judgment on non believers.

Daniel 7:

1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.

2 Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea.

3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.

4 The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

5 And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.

6 After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.

7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.

10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

11 I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.

12 As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.

13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

15 I Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of my body, and the visions of my head troubled me.

16 I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things.

17 These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth.

18 But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.

19 Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet;

20 And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows.

21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;

22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.

24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.

25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

26 But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end.

27 And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

28 Hitherto is the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart.

The harvesting of wheat, Revelation 14:

14 And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man (Jesus), having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle (curved long knife used to harvest crops).

15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.

16 And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.

We read that several ways. God harvesting the wheat, like the true believers and the unbelievers - the wheat and the tales.

Judgment of Christians? No - wheat isn't used as the same way here. Ripe is the Greek word for dried and withered.

The wheat had stayed on earth too long. It had withered away. It was worthless and its time to get rid of it. And that's what happens at this judgment. Its a judgment of unbelievers and it happens very quickly.

Do you ever read the newspapers and wonder 'why does God allow evil to continue in this world?' Why does God allow evil people to do horrific things in this world? Justice delayed is not justice denied. Just because God has delayed justice upon unbelievers doesn't mean its not coming!

2 Peter 2 talks about false prophets. BEWARE!

1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

2 And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

3 And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

5 And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

6 And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;

7 And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:

8 (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;)

9 The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

10 But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities.

11 Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord.

12 But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption;

13 And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you;

14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:

15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

16 But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet.

17 These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever.

18 For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

2 Peter 3 says the Lord is not slow, but wants all to come to Him and receive eternal life.

1 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:

2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:

3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;

16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness.

18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

The only reason God hasn't judged the world, the only reason He hasn't judged you yet, is He's giving you one last time to repent.

There is a day when God's patience will run out and a day when the reaping of unbelievers will come. That's what we have in Revelation 14:14-16.

The brevity of the judgment, but verses 17 - 20 shows the verosity of the judgment of against unbelievers.

17 And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.

18 And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe.

Ripe refers to a grape that is so fully grown, it is about to burst.

Well, you may think that's a good thing - a grape that is about to burst with great juice. Read verse 19.

19 And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.

20 And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs (miles).

Let me explain what is going on here.

In John's day, to make wine you take grapes when they were completely ripe, busting forth with juice. They would burst forth on their own. You take these grapes and put it in a wine press.

There was an upper basin connect by a wooden duct to a smaller basin below.

Grapes would be put in the upper basin and slaves with bare feet would trample the grapes until the juice would flow into the lower basin below thru the duct.

This is a picture of the final battle, called Armageddon.

The Lord is going to gather the unbelievers of the world in the north (Valley of Jezreel). The Bible says it will be a time when they feel the wrath of God. God will slaughter the unbelievers in Jezreel. Their blood will travel from north to south for a distance of 200 miles.

200 Miles is the length of Israel.

This is the final judgment before the second coming of Christ when God tramples the vintage.

Revelation 19:21 And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

And the rest were killed with the sword of God and all the birds were filled with their flesh.

Gods justice is coming. You can face it as a believer and friend of God.

If you make that decision for God, the punishment you and I deserve gets directed to Jesus on the Christ.

God took all of His wrath, his anger, his furious feeling toward the rebellious and poured it out on his own Son, Jesus Christ.

When God's justice comes, you can confront it as a friend of God - forgiven and welcomed in Heaven or face God's justice as an unbeliever.

If you leave this world without sins being forgiven all that awaits you is the earth and anger of God.

That's what Revelation 14 is all about.

There's coming a time when God is going to trample out the vintage where God's wrath is stored. There's a time when God will loosen the wrath of this terrible, swift sword!

Sister Shelbia shared a brief summary about information from David Barton's history about our culture today not being truthful. She stated that our children have not been taught truthful American history for more than 30 years and that now liberals are working hard to change truthful history.

David Barton tells us to **LOVE THE TRUTH; THEN FIND THE TRUTH WHICH, WHICH TAKES HARD WORK, SO YOU CAN DEFEND THE TRUTH, AND SHARE THE TRUTH WITH OTHERS!**

If we do that, we can see things turn around, but if we remain silent and don't have a backbone, its not gonna turn around!

And by the way, if this is new information for you I would recommend the book **'The American Story'**, which cover everything from Columbus up thru the end of slavery. Also **"The Founders Bible"**, filled with stories of American History and how the Bible influenced and shaped things positively. Thank you all for letting me share with you. God bless!

You can also find more real history stories at David Barton's web site: **Wall builders.com** Shelbia also states that anyone who would like a copy of the entire David Barton transcript should let Sheri know.

Jack Hibbs comments at the end of David Bartons presentation, asking a question: What is the correlation of Columbus being attacked and Frederick Douglas being attacked?

You're saying socialism, Christianity. Listen, you're missing something. Do you remember what Christopher Columbus did?

- 1.He went west looking for Gold to fund the redemption of Jerusalem from the hands of Islam.
- 2.To find a new trade route because the Moslem pirates commandeered the Mediterranean Sea.
- 3.To spread the Christian Gospel.

So who would attack Columbus statues and have the same passion for attacking Frederick Douglas statues or Abraham Lincoln??

Its ancient Islam represented in the modern day Moslem brotherhood. Whose behind Antifa and BLM? The Moslem brotherhood.

Jesus is the only way. Everything falls in his truth!

Next week we will get into the last seven judgments of Revelation which will be severe.

Sister Shelbia shared from **The Wrath and Glory Book**, page 85 & 86, Chapter 14:

Because the situation is so terrible at the end of Revelation 13, Revelation 14 presents another parenthetical pause designed to encourage the reader. What happens in this chapter is that to encourage the reader. What happens in this chapter is that we are given another flash-forward to the end of the Tribulation to assure us that we're going to be victorious in the end.

We are first given a glimpse of Jesus the Lamb standing on Mt. Zion in Jerusalem (14:1). With Him are the 144,000 faithful Jewish servants. This scene is given to assure us that at the end of the Tribulation Jesus is going to return to the earth in triumph, and all of the 144,000 Jews will be protected to the end. The remainder of chapter 14 presents a panoramic preview of what is going to happen during the rest of the Tribulation.

We are told that an angel will go forth and preach the Gospel to every person on the face of the earth (14:6).

Isn't that amazing? God is so good! Even while men are shaking their fists at Him, the Lord, in His patience and long suffering and kindness and mercy sends forth an angel to preach the Gospel to every creature on the face of the earth before He pours out his final wrath. Do you remember what Jesus said in Matthew 24? He said that "the gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world for a witness to all the nations, and then the end shall come". (Matthew 24:14). Well, this is the fulfillment of that prophecy right at the end of the Tribulation.

A second angel is sent forth to proclaim that Babylon, the end-time empire of the antichrist, will be destroyed (14:8). The implication of this warning is for everyone to come out of Babylon, a message that is made clear in chapter 18 verse 4 where a voice from Heaven proclaims: "Come out of her (Babylon), my people, so that you will not participate in her sins and receive her plagues" A third angel is then sent out to warn people that they are not to worship the antichrist or receive his mark, because if they do, they will suffer the wrath of God (14:9-10). Shelbia was astounded at how Dr. Jeffress talks of this. Judgment is coming and hell is forever. We need to choose God before it is too late!

The chapter concludes with another preview of the Second Coming of Jesus (14:14-20). As He comes on the clouds, He swings His sickle and reaps the earth, separating the chaff from the good wheat. Sinners are cast into "the great wine press of the wrath of God" (14:19).

This has been a very sobering lesson, but it's reality ladies! He is coming and things are happening so quickly!

Let's talk about the book of **JUDE**. ***JUDE contends for your faith. Jude was Jesus half brother. It was written in 82 AD.***

KNOW YOUR BIBLE book - most of you have a copy of this book. It is important that you beware of false teachers. Jude tackles the same problems that Peter did (see verses underlined in JUDE).

1 Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:

2 Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.

3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is where satan tried to sneak secret agents into God's church.

5 I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not.

6 And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

8 Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities.

9 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.

this verse is about Moses;

10 But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.

11 Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

12 These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots;

13 Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.

14 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,

15 To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

and 14 & 15 are about Enoch.

16 These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage.
17 But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ;
18 How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts.
19 These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit.
20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,
21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.
22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:
23 And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.
24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,
25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

We are fighting for the truth. Only 1 of 2 Christians think there's absolute truth. We've got a job to do ladies!

Ask God to keep us from satan and put on His armor.

Hang onto truth! Be aware of truth. Stay close to God's Word! We need help. The devil is after our confidence, peace, joy, heart, mind, soul, purpose and our fruit. He's after every one of us. Give him no ground!

I Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Sister Sharon shared a story from AFR (American Family Radio) about an election in Virginia that will occur next Tuesday.

This is an election for governor. Obama is pitching for the democratic candidate and is claiming that the republican candidate is against transgender people. But the real story is this: A young girl was raped in the bathroom at school by a young man dressed as a girl. The school covered the rape up, while sending the young man to another school. The young man raped a second girl in the same manner at his new school.

The father of the first girl was arrested; and the students had a walk out over this - as a way to quietly protest. Parents met with their students to protest.

What they didn't know was that law enforcement officers had cars parked with men and women in them to watch the protestors. The people who protested feel these people were writing down their names and license plates. We need to pray about this!

PRAYER LIST:

All those who lost their homes or whose homes were damaged in the tornado or affected in any way.

Residents of Fredericktown who have lost everything. The family who just bought a home out by Carol and lost it.

We praise God that no one died in the tornado.

Kay and Jerry

Charles

Bella

Bill

Cassie

Bessie

Ruth Ann

Caleb

Fred and Marlene

Steve and Caroline

Drew

Summer Rose

Harry

Vada, Jim and family

Austin

Carolyn

Sarah and Steve

80 year old mother - has Covid and pneumonia

Dawn - no electricity

Everyone needs to get their houses covered with the blood of Jesus.

Great need - so thankful our God is in charge.

Heart breaking for those who lost everything .

Sister Sharon offered the closing prayer:

Dear Father God in Heaven,

We come to you with hearts full of love, but heavy for those hurting so. Whether health, finance, hurt, tornado destruction, its about the Names on our list.

How we love and praise you. We are so thankful you are in control. We love you and praise you. Thank you for the study of Revelation. How blessed we are! It is hard to hear this information but we need to know.

We pray for each lady who is participating today. We need to stay close and be there for us. Please bless each lady that is here today. We love and praise you in Jesus Christ holy name. Amen.