## THE MESSAGE OF THE 3 ANGELS



## Bible Study Pathways Lesson 20

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A Story to Ponder...

"Get out of the road, a truck is coming," yelled a mother to her children. Quickly the children scattered out of the road and to the safety of the grass on either side just as a semi-truck whizzed by. Have you ever had someone deliver a very important, life or death, message to you? If so, how did you respond to it? In the Book of Revelation in chapter 14, John sees in vision that there are three angels flying through the air, who each have an important life or death message for planet earth.

1st Angel's Message Rev. 14:6, 7 "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, 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." Who is the everlasting gospel message of the first angel supposed to go to? The word "angel" means "messenger". Thus an angel flying in the midst of heaven symbolizes a message of worldwide importance. What time period is the angel announcing? This message to the world is announcing the arrival of the judgment. This is the same, judgment that is referred to in Daniel 7:10,26. You see, the books of Daniel and John go together, they interpret each other. In the next few lessons we will cover some of the connections between the book of Daniel and the book of Revelation. According to the last part of Rev. 14:7, what is the issue at hand? W Of whom? In the heart of the 10 commandments, we find an almost identical phrase to part of the message of the first angel "worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea,..." In the fourth commandment states that "the LORD

made heaven and earth, the sea ..." According to this commandment, what action are we to remember to do in order to worship the Creator?

2nd Angel's Message  "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." Revelation 14:8
According the 2 <sup>nd</sup> angel's message what is fallen?
Although this prophetic message refers to a spiritual Babylon rather than a physical Babylon, we may better understand the spiritual by understanding the physical. (I Cor. 10:11, I Cor. 15, 46) Babylon means confusion This stems from its historic connection to the Tower of Babel that was founded in rebellion against God. (Genesis II:1-9) It is also known for persecuting God's people and destroying His temple. (2 Kings 25:1, 2 Chronicles 36:7)
Isaiah 21:9 And, behold, here cometh a chariot of men, with a couple of horsemen. And he answered and said, Babylon is fallen, is fallen; and all the graven images of her gods he hath broken unto the ground.  (Jer. 50:2, Jer. 51:47)  What symbol of false worship also falls or breaks when Babylon falls?
In Revelation, what other descriptions of Babylon are given?  Rev. 18:2 says Babylon is the habitation of  Rev. 18:5 says her have reached unto heaven.  Rev. 17:5 says Babylon is the mother of and
Rev. 17:6 reveals that Babylon iswith the blood of the saints.
So Babylon represents a spiritual power who causes the nations to drink the wine of her fornication/impure passion (that is, to unite with her in apostasy). Thus Babylon must be a symbol of false religion which draws men away from God. Her wine would represent the false doctrine she deals out as a natural result of being filled with devils. (I Timothy 4:1).  How did Jesus say you could worship "in vain"?
what is the result of teaching this false doctrine?
Mark 7:7 Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. (Matt. 15:9, Titus 1:14)
What is the ultimate goal of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> angel's message?  Rev. 18:4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

## 3rd Angel's Message

"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, 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: 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." Revelation 14:9-11

and in the presence of the Lamb: 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." Revelation 14:9-11
What topic is the subject of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> angel's message? "Theof the beast and his image".
In addition, the angel gives a warning that the wrath of God will fall upon those who receive the beast's in their forehead or hand. (In another lesson we will cover more about who the beast is and what constitutes his mark.)
The end of the $3^{rd}$ angel's message is found in Rev 14:12
"Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Rev 14:12
What two characteristics does the 3 <sup>rd</sup> angel say will be found among God's people?
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The message of the 3 angels contrasts true worship with false worship. The lst angel calls us to worship the Creator. The 2<sup>nd</sup> angel warns us that Babylon is fallen. God calls his people to come out of systems of false religion and warns them not to imbibe or drink their false doctrines. And the 3<sup>rd</sup> angel warns against worshipping the beast and his image or receiving his mark. Instead, the angel tells us that those who are found among God's last day people will be keeping the commandments of God while having the "faith of Jesus". Won't you heed the message of the 3 angels and come out of false religions and teachings and choose instead to be found among God's faithful commandment keeping people, today?