

# Revelation – The Big Picture part 2

John looks again and his attention is drawn to the Lamb – standing on Mount Zion

## 1. Christ Triumphant, ever reigning! (14: 1- 5)

- Together with Jesus is the 144,000 – representing the whole of Jesus' faithful family
- His Father's name written on their foreheads (Ezekiel 9:4)
- The mark of the beast and the name of the forehead are not literal. Don't fear the barcodes!
  - The mark of the beast – the temptation to compromise God's values for the worlds
  - The church lives and works in a fallen world. Salt and Light that remains pure. Heart and Life purity.
- Another new song is given to the faithful people of God.
- God's people – secure, authentic and pure – because of the Lamb!

## 2. Three angels and three harvests (Revelation 14:6 – 20)

- I. The Gospel is proclaimed right to the end of time
  - i. Worship Him who has created the earth, sea and springs of water. (Romans 1)
  - ii. Worship Him who saves from a fallen world (Romans 1)
  - iii. Worship Him who brings a warning of judgement to come
- II. Harvest time (14 – 20)
  - i. Jesus is given the harvest sickle (Mark 13:32)
  - ii. The wheat and the tares, the good and bad catch. (Matthew 13: 24 – 30; 47 – 50)

The fruit of the gospel – eternal rest and eternal reward

## 3. A song of deliverance (15: 1 – 4)

- Security and honour for God's people
  - i. Just and True are your ways, King of the ages.

## Digging Deeper

Revelation 14: 1 – 5

1. What are the distinguishing features of the 144,000 singers?
2. The Lamb is mentioned three times in this passage. What does each occurrence say to you about his relationship with the redeemed?

Revelation 14: 6 – 13

3. The three angels have different messages, how do all three announce God's judgement?
4. How should God's people react to the announcements of judgement? (14:12)
5. What encouragement is there here for a suffering church?

Revelation 14: 14 – 20

6. There are two harvests seen by John. How do they differ and what do they signify?

Revelation 15: 1 – 4

7. Where have we seen a similar scene of 7 before? What Old Testament event is linked to this part of the vision and why is it relevant?
8. What is the theme of the song of Moses and the Lamb? In what ways does this help us gain a right view and attitude to God's judgement?
  - A. Look again at the descriptions of the redeemed in Revelation 14: 1-5, 13; 15:2 – What gives you the security that you are included in the 144,000?
  - B. How do you feel when you consider God's judgement?
  - C. Jesus spoke clearly about judgement. In the vision passed down to John and to the church it features significantly too. Reflect again as to how we effectively include this key part of the Gospel we share with people in our current culture that reveres tolerance.