

Revelation

Of Jesus Christ

5/13

The Sounding of the Seventh Trumpet

Study Guide #5 - Revelation 12-14

I. Introduction

- A. Revelation 10 through 14 describes God's activities in the "time of the end" as he prepares a people to know and proclaim His final "7th Trumpet" message to a stubborn world. Because God is making an all out, final effort to bring the Gospel message to the world, Satan will make an all out counter attempt to harass and destroy those on God's side.
- B. Revelation 10 and 11 outlined the focus and historical setting of the final message which is to be given to prepare the world for the Second Coming of Christ. This message, centered around the gospel as foreshadowed in the Old Testament Sanctuary system and realized in the Cross of the New Testament, is designed to bring a special group of people to spiritual maturity as symbolized by the 144,000.
- C. Revelation 12 introduces this End Time group that will sound God's 7th Trumpet message of truth and warning by looking back in time and surveying the familiar historical sweep and situation which shapes them and their message, as well as verifying the time frame in which they arise. Verse 17 introduces the concept of God's remnant people, who keep His commandments and bear His testimony.
- D. Revelation 13 outlines Satan's final strategy to attempt to destroy this remnant people and thus silence their message, describing how the wrath of the Dragon will be directed against them through a revival of the Old World "beast" system joined by a New World Superpower which sets up an "image" to support the Beast.
- E. Chapter 14 describes the remnant and the message they bear to the world. God has three final messages which must be given to the world. They are represented by three angel "messengers" who fly through heaven crying loudly to the inhabitants of the world. These messages are vital for each person to know and understand. Those who do not know Christ need these messages to keep them from perishing with the wicked. Those who have accepted salvation through Christ need to know these messages so they can help declare them to the world.

II. Chapter 12 -- The Great Red Dragon and the Woman

- A. Verses 1,2 -- The Woman clothed with the sun
 - 1. Woman - Jeremiah 6:2; Genesis 3:15; Ezekiel 16
 - a. Good Woman - 19:7,8 - Faith people
 - b. Bad Woman - 17:3,4 - Unfaithful people
 - 2. Clothed with the sun - White Robes - 19:8; 7:9,14
 - 3. Moon under her feet - Foundation of reflected light - Hebrews 4:2
 - 4. Garland of 12 stars - 1:20; Daniel 8:10
 - 5. With Child - Seed of Woman = Christ - Genesis 3:15; Galatians 3:16
 - 6. About to give birth - Time frame - 1st coming of Christ
- B. Verses 3,4 -- The Great Red Dragon = Serpent of Old and Satan - v.9; Genesis 3:1-4
 - 1. Fiery red - 6:3,4
 - 2. Seven heads and ten horns - 13:1; 17:3; Daniel 7:7
 - a. 17:9,10 - Literally - "Seven kings... Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come."
 - 1) SEVEN (symbolic for complete throughout history) SUCCESSIVE powers throughout history through which the dragon (Satan) has sought to destroy God's people (the woman) and prevent the successful mission of the Messiah (her seed).
 - 2) Possible List: Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, Papal Rome

- b. 10 Horns = Division of Pagan Rome which reigned during the middle ages - Daniel 2:41,42; 7:7,24
 - c. The events in THIS prophecy will reveal which head is in control
 - 3. Diadems on his Heads - 13:1 = Viewed prior to division of Rome
 - 4. Tail drew a third of the stars and threw them to the earth - vs.7-9; 1:21
 - a. Stars of Heaven - 1:21 - Heavenly messengers = Angels
 - b. Fall of Lucifer - Ezekiel 28:12-15; Isaiah 14:12-14
- C. Verses 4-6 -- The Dragon vs. the Woman and the Child - Genesis 3:15
 - 1. The Dragon -- Stood before the woman...to devour her child - Confrontation
 - a. Prophecy of Daniel 9:24-27 - Pinpointed the coming of Messiah
 - b. Herod - Matthew 2:16 - Roman governor
 - c. Therefore, this is the time of Pagan Rome = the 6th head - 17:10
 - 2. The Child -- is born = Messiah - And survives the attack victorious
 - a. To rule all nations with a rod of iron - 19:15; Psalm 2:8,9
 - b. Caught up to God and His throne - John 29:17; Ephesians 1:20,21; 4:8; Hebrews 1:3; 10:12
 - 3. The Woman -- Flew into the wilderness - Protected and fed there by God - 1 Kings 17:3-6; Isaiah 33:16
 - a. For 1260 days - 538 to 1798 - Matthew 24:21; John 16:2,33
 - b. Same woman before and after the cross - Continuity of God's church
- D. Verses 7-9 -- Satan Expelled from Heaven - Dual Application
 - 1. Satan and his angels thrown out of heaven before creation - Isaiah 14:12-14; Ezekiel 28:12-15
 - 2. Satan returned claiming to be the representative of Earth - Job 1:6,7; Luke 4:6
 - 3. At the cross Satan was thrown out for good - A defeated foe - Genesis 3:15; John 12:31; Luke 10:18
- E. Verses 10-12 -- The Announcement of the Kingdom - A Doxology of Celebration
 - 1. Now...the kingdom of our God...has come
 - a. 1st Coming - Jesus restored INNER Kingdom - 1:6; Mark 1:14; Luke 10:9; Luke 17:20,21
 - b. 2nd Coming - Jesus will restore OUTER Kingdom - Lost dominion of this world, regained through Christ, will be given to the saints - Genesis 1:28; Daniel 7:14,27
 - 2. The Accuser vs. the Advocate - Satan vs. Jesus, our Advocate - 1 John 2:1
 - a. Already paid our death penalty - Provides his life as a perfect robe of righteousness
 - b. Pleads our case - HE IS OUR JUDGE - John 5:22
 - 3. Who overcomes the Dragon? (12:11) - It takes TOTAL commitment and trust
 - a. By the blood of the Lamb -
 - b. By the word of their testimony - Romans 10:9-11
 - c. Love not their lives to death -
 - 4. His time is SHORT - limited. What will he do during his remaining time?
- F. Verses 13-17 -- The Woman in the Wilderness
 - 1. vs.13,14 parallel v.6 - Transported to safety in the wilderness - 4:7
 - a. 3 ½ times = years - 538 to 1798 - v.14; Daniel 7:25; 12:7
 - b. 1260 days - v.6; 11:3
 - c. 42 months - 11:2; 13:5
 - 2. Spewed out WATER like a flood = Masses of people - Medieval persecutions
 - 3. Earth helped the woman - 13:11 - Remote places of refuge
 - a. Mountains of Europe provided safe haven during medieval times
 - b. New World was initially settled by those seeking religious freedom
 - 4. Dragon was ENRAGED - Filled with WRATH - Against the surviving church
 - 5. The Remnant - "the rest of her offspring" - The LAST survivors - AFTER 1798
 - a. "Remnant" - Word Study - 2:24; 8:13; 9:20; 11:13; 19:21; 20:5
 - b. True Church - During the TIME OF THE END - Sounds 7th Trumpet message
 - 6. TWO IDENTIFYING MARKS OF THE REMNANT - Balance Two Witnesses with Gospel
 - a. "Keep the commandments of God" - LAW, All 10 Commandments (Moses)
 - b. "Have the testimony of Jesus" - PROPHETS (OT AND NT) - 2 Peter 1:19-21
 - 1) 1:2 - The message John received from Jesus through the angel
 - 2) 1:9 - John was exiled to Patmos because of the testimony of Jesus
 - 3) 19:10 - Angel, a "fellow servant," has "testimony of Jesus" which is "spirit of prophecy"
 - 4) 22:9 - The angel is John's "fellow servant" and a prophet like John
 - 7. How is Satan's great, final wrath against the Remnant displayed during the TIME OF THE END?

III. Chapter 13:1-10 - The Beast from the Sea - Satan's strategy against the Remnant

- A. Verses 1,2 -- Composite Beast out of the Sea - 17:15; Daniel 7:2
1. Seven heads and 10 horns - 12:3
 2. Crowns on the horns - Viewed after the division of Rome - Daniel 7:7,24
 - a. In 12:3-6 = Roman head (6th) - There the crowns were on the heads
 - b. In 13:1 = Papal head (7th) - Here the crowns are on the horns
 3. Blasphemous name - v.17,18; Daniel 7:25
 4. Hybrid beast - Daniel 7:4-7,12; 4:15
 - a. Beast like a Leopard ---- Main form like GREECE --- Humanistic Philosophy
 - b. Feet like a Bear ----- Stands on MEDO-PERSIA - Infallible Laws
 - c. Mouth like a Lion ----- Speaks like BABYLON ---- Pagan Sun Worship
 - d. Authority from Dragon-- Civil Power from ROME ---- Political Backing
 5. Dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority
 - a. Dragon = Satan disguised behind and working through Pagan Rome
 - b. Vacuum of power left by disintegration of Pagan Rome was filled by Papal Rome - 2nd Trumpet
 - c. Official power bestowed by Emperor Justinian in AD 533 took effect in 538. See Daniel 7.
- B. Verses 3,4 -- The Mortal Wound - One of his heads = the 7th - with the blasphemous name
1. Mortally wounded = "Slain unto death" - 5:6,9,12; 6:9; 13:8; 18:24
 - a. "Having been slain" - Viewed from AFTER the wound was inflicted
 - b. Appeared to be fatal - Pope taken captive - 1798 - Civil power removed - 11:8,13; Daniel 11:40
 2. Wound was healed - "Its death stroke was healed" - Viewed from AFTER the healing
 - a. Lateran Pact - 1929 - Restored civil power of Papacy - Nation of Vatican City - 108.7 acres
 - b. The healing continues as Papal influence grows on a global scale
 3. All the world marveled and followed the beast - Daniel 11:40-45
 - a. v.4 - And WORSHIPED the dragon and the beast - Satan is behind both
 - b. ISSUE = Worship - not politics, economics, or geography
 - c. Beast is viewed as a world stabilizing power, able to ensure peace! - 3rd Trumpet
- C. Verses 5-8 -- Further Identification - END TIME Revival of Old World Medieval System in an expanded, more potent form, with a repetition of the medieval atrocities.
1. Mouth speaking great things - Daniel 7:8; See Study on Daniel 7
 2. Mouth speaking blasphemies - v.1,7; 17:3-5; Mark 2:3-7; John 10:33; Matthew 26:6 5
 3. WAS given authority to continue for 42 months - 538 to 1798
 4. Blaspheme His name - 2 Thessalonians 2:3,4; Daniel 11:36 - Usurping titles and prerogatives
 5. Blaspheme His tabernacle - Daniel 8:11; 11:31 - Take away the daily
 6. Blaspheme those who dwell in Heaven - Daniel 8:10 - Claim power over heavenly beings
 7. Make war with the saints and overcome them - Daniel 7:21; 11:33 - Persecution
 8. Authority over every tribe, tongue, and nation - v.3,8 - Universal
 9. Object of WORSHIP - Central End Time Issue - Only God and only HIS way- 19:10; 22:9; Acts 12:20-
- 23
- D. Admonition for the reader - ARE YOU LISTENING?
1. Violence is never to be a tool of the church - God works by FREE CHOICE!
 2. The power described above will suffer the fate it has dealt out - 17:16; 18; 19:17-21; Daniel 7:11; 11:45
 3. Be patient, hold on, keep trusting. God's timing knows no haste nor delay.

IV. Chapter 13 -- The Beast from the Earth

- A. Verse 11,12 -- Another Beast - A BRAND NEW POWER comes into existence
1. Description
 - a. Another beast - Distinct from the first beast with 7 heads and 10 horns - Europe and middle east
 - b. Coming up - Coming into existence, growing up to maturity
 - c. Out of the "earth" - in contrast with the "sea" (13:1) - 12:6,14-16 - Earth - "Helped the woman..."
 - d. Two horns - Two Points of power of strength on one beast - Two power coalition
See Deuteronomy 33:17; Psalm 18:2; 75:10; Jeremiah 48:25; Habakkuk 3:4; Daniel 8:6,20
 - e. Like a Lamb - THE DRAGON IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING - Matthew 7:15
 - 1) Lamb = Christ-like appearance - Christian, non-beast facade
 - 2) Horns like a lamb - Power emanating from a source appearing to work for Christ and exercised under the pretense of doing Christ's work
 - f. Spoke like a dragon - Voice inside the "lamb" reveals its true identity with FIRST beast

- g. Exercises all the authority of the first beast - Includes blasphemy, persecution, commanding worship
 - h. In his presence - Contemporaneous with the composite beast with the healed wound
 - i. Causes the earth and those who dwell in it - World class superpower
 - j. To worship the first beast - Alliance of support backing claims of first beast
 - 1) The central issue is WORSHIP - WHO? and HOW?
 - 2) Enforcing religious things by civil force - Church & State joined
 - 2. Time frame - A NEW POWER which becomes a WORLD commanding SUPERPOWER contemporary with the Revived END TIME Composite Beast power
 - a. vs.12,14 - Functions "in his presence..." "in the sight of..."
 - b. Impetus behind the world's inhabitants coming to worship the 1st Beast
 - 1) vs.3,4 - All the world worshiped the beast whose wound was healed
 - 2) v.12 - Causing the world to worship the healed beast
- B. Verses 11-14 -- Activities of the Beast from the Earth - FUTURE
- 1. Performs great signs - making fire come down from heaven - Demonstration of supernatural power
 - a. Fire from heaven - Genesis 3:2; Exodus 13:21,22; Exodus 19:16-18; 2 Chronicles 7:1,2; 1 Kings 18:38; Isaiah 6:6,7; Acts 2:1-4; Hebrews 12:29
 - b. Represents... God's power at work - Divine presence - Purging from sin - Revival
 - c. Always given at God's command
 - 2. "HE (beast from the earth) even MAKES fire come down from heaven"
 - a. Not generated from God - False manifestation of spiritual power and revival
 - b. v.14 - Thus he deceives
 - 3. Signs = Supernatural phenomenon - Always have a religious thrust - Gives credence to religious leadership
 - 4. He deceives...by those signs - Apparently a duplicate of Pentecost - Accompanied with miracles
 - 5. Telling those who dwell on the earth to make an IMAGE TO THE BEAST
 - a. Using the power over the people gained by the signs
 - b. Grand deception leads to a MAN MADE object of worship
- C. Verses 14-17 -- The Image to the Beast
- 1. A replica of the Old World revived end-time religious/political system
 - 2. Empowers that replica to command worship under threat of civil and capital penalties
 - 3. Still in the future. Learn the prophetic details, and watch.
 - 4. What could cause this dramatic change to come about?
 - a. 11:18 - Threat of devastating war and global destruction
 - b. 13:4 - Search for unifying leadership to bring peace out of instability
- D. The "MARK" vs. the "SEAL" in Revelation
- 1. The MARK - ALWAYS linked with WORSHIP in direct contrast with God's SEAL
 - a. The Beast's MARK, NAME, and NUMBER are synonymous - 13:17,18; 14:11
 - b. The MARKED refuse the SEAL and thus receive the wrath of God - 14:9,10; 16:2; 19:20
 - 2. The SEAL
 - a. God's SEAL, NAME, and NUMBER are synonymous - 7:2,4; 14:1
 - b. The SEALED refuse the MARK and are the objects of Satan's wrath - 12:17; 13:7,15-17
 - 1) Have victory over the beast - 15:2-4 - They survive by God's power
 - 2) Survive God's wrath - 6:16-7:3; 20:4
 - 3. Each side receives a descriptive ID number: 144,000 or 666 - 13:18-14:5
- E. "MARK" - In the Old Testament - Points to the Sabbath as God's holy day of worship
- 1. Ezekiel 9 - God's people are marked for survival
 - 2. Hebrew - "oth" - spelled "ath" or "eth" when imbedded in a word
 - 3. B'ETH-lehem = "b" (in or at) "eth" (the sign) "lehem (of the baker)
 - 4. Sab-b'ATH = The sign (ath) of rest or cessation - Exodus 31:12-17; Ezekiel 20:12,20
 - 5. Only reason in Scripture for keeping the 7th-day Sabbath is as a SIGN or MARK of God's creative authority. God's MARK is the day of worship He designated at creation by resting, blessing and hallowing it.
- F. The MARK of the Beast's Authority also points to a day of WORSHIP
- 1. Beast = 1st Beast, wounded and healed - Old World Papacy Revived in the END
 - 2. Papacy claims the change of the day of worship from Sabbath to Sunday is a mark of its spiritual authority

- G. The MARK is received in either the RIGHT HAND or FOREHEAD - See Ezekiel 9 - Compliance or Belief
1. The Seal of God is received only upon the forehead. - The only thing of spiritual value is that which you allow God to place inside, in your character, and live out of a changed heart. Character change, maturity, or "perfection" is what God values.
 2. The Mark of the Beast is received upon either the hand or the forehead. - Satan does not care whether you believe in him or not, just so you go along with his program, even if only for the sake of convenience, or apparent temporal safety and survival.
- H. Civil penalties for refusing to receive the mark of the beast
1. v.17 - Economic boycott
 2. v.15 - Death decree - See Daniel 3:6; 11:44
- I. Calculate the number of the name of the beast - v.18
1. Roman pastime - "gematria" - Counting Roman numerical value of letters in names - Familiar to readers
 2. "The letters inscribed in the Pope's miter are these: Vicarius Filii Dei, which is the Latin for Vicar of the Son of God." "Our Sunday Visitor," Sunday, April 18, 1915.
 3. The number is meaningless in itself. But it functions as one further point of evidence to show that we must be on the right track in our identification of the beast power.
 4. "The number of a man" - in contrast to God's number (144,000)
- J. The Mark of the Beast is NOT...
1. The Papal Church - That is the beast when it again functions as a civil/religious power commanding worship
 2. The number 666 - That is the number of his name
- K. The "Mark of the Beast" IS...
- | | |
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| 1. The <u>ANTITHESIS</u> of the "Seal of the Living God" | |
| <u>Seal of God</u> | <u>Mark of the Beast</u> |
| a. Stamp of Divine authority | Stamp of Human (Papal) authority |
| b. Stands on Divine Law | Decree of Human Law |
| c. Central issue is Worship | Central issue is Worship |
| d. Received in the forehead | Received on the hand or forehead |
| e. A Day of worship set forth as the visible symbol of authority | A Day of Worship set forth as the visible symbol of authority |
| f. Includes: Seal - Sabbath
Name - Yahweh Elohim
ID Number - 144,000 | Includes: Mark - Sunday
Name - Vicarious Filii Dei
ID Number - 666 |
| g. Labels you for eternal life - 3:12 | Labels you for eternal death - 14:9-11 |
| h. Enforced by <u>love, freedom and choice</u> | Enforced by <u>fear, threat and penalties</u> |
| i. Experience the Wrath of the Dragon | Experience the Wrath of God |
| 2. A State enforced day of worship (Sunday observance) - Including Sabbath desecration | |
| a. Forehead = Belief - See 2 Thessalonians 2:11 | |
| b. Hand = Convenience, social pressure, fear of penalties | |
- L. What is the Image of the Beast?
1. NOT The Papal Church - That is the beast from the sea when the wound is fully healed and it functions again as a civil/religious power.
 2. NOT the New World Superpower - That is the beast from the earth which forms and empowers the Image.
 3. It is — New World politicized religion grasping civil power to enforce worship contrary to God's law
- M. Do people keeping Sunday or any other worship day NOW have the Mark of the Beast NOW? **NOOOOOOOO!**
1. The Mark of the Beast will be enforced by the Image to the Beast
 - a. The Image will be set up and supported by the New World Superpower
 - b. The Image involves Protestant/Catholic ecumenism in the New World
 - c. The Image includes civil law with economic and capital penalties
 2. When, and only when, ALL THESE ISSUES in Revelation 13 come into focus, then the time of this MARKING and SEALING will be upon us.

3. The Mark of the Beast will be the great human catalyst - v.16
 - a. Everyone must have the information necessary to make a conscious, intelligent, personal decision concerning WORSHIP and loyalty before Jesus can come and bring a FAIR end to the Great Controversy. This is the message of the 7th Trumpet.
 - b. The issues of the Mark of the Beast will make the world universally aware of God's Sabbath and the issues involved in keeping it.
 - c. When Sunday legislation mandates disregard of the Sabbath, then the issues will become so clear that all will be driven to a conscious, personal decision concerning WORSHIP, which will result in their receiving either the SEAL or the MARK.
4. To understand the Sabbath NOW, and ignore it NOW, is to make a statement of allegiance NOW. Our conscious decisions NOW determine how we will react in the time of real crisis - See Daniel 3:16-18; 6:10

V. Chapter 14 -- Three Angels Flying - The Specific CONTENT of 7th Trumpet message

- A. Verses 1-5 - A Description of the Remnant - Set in direct contrast to the "666"
 1. Have God's name and number, not the Beast's name and number
 2. Follow the Lamb, not the Beast
 3. Virgins not Adulterers (Spiritual) - Kept themselves only for the Bridegroom
 4. Stand victorious - The sanctions of the Beast will not prevail over them
- B. Verses 6-7 - The First Angel's Message
 1. Angel flying in the midst of Heaven - Messenger with a message to be seen and heard by all
 2. The everlasting Gospel - Eternal, unchanging - Everything that follows is GOSPEL
 3. Three aspects of the first message = Three Imperative Commands - YOU
 - a. Fear God -- Appropriate End Time Command - 2 Peter 3:3-6
 - b. Give Glory to Him -- Appropriate End Time Command - 2 Timothy 3:1-4
 - c. Worship Him as Creator - Exodus 20:8-11 - Appropriate End Time Command - Romans 1:25
 4. Why should we heed this message? - The HOUR (time) of Judgment is NOW
 - a. WHO's judgment? Who is on trial? - Romans 3:4; Psalm 51:4
 - 1) God - accused by Satan - must be vindicated by accumulated evidence - Seals
 - 2) Our eternal destiny is secondary issue of Judgment. We stand or fall with side we choose.
 - b. WHEN - The Time of the End - Anti-typical Day of Atonement - 1798/1844-->
See Daniel 8:14; Matthew 22:11-13
- C. Verse 8 - The Second Angel's Message
 1. Babylon - The city of apostasy and rebellion - Genesis 10:8-10; 11:2-9
 - a. Bab-el - The Gate of God
 - b. Prophetic antithesis of Babylon = Jerusalem, New Jerusalem, Zion
 2. Babylonian Paganism - Counterfeit of all that is true
 - a. Present in the Apostasy of Israel - Jeremiah 7:16-18; Ezekiel 8:3-16
 - b. False teachings prevalent in much of Christianity, medieval and modern
 3. Babylon is fallen, is fallen - Isaiah 21:9
 - a. Fallen twice - cf. Daniel 5:25,26
 - 1) Literal Babylon
 - a) Ancient Babylon - Lengthy reign - Time of Abraham
 - b) Neo-Babylon - Short intensely glorious reign - Time of Daniel
 - 2) Spiritual Babylon
 - a) Medieval and Deadly Wound - 1260 year reign of "Little Horn"
 - b) End Time and Final Destruction - 18:1-24 - Short intense final reign
 - b. That great city - cf. 17:5,18 - Mother of Harlots and of the Abominations of the Earth
 - c. All nations drink her wine - Jeremiah 51:7,8; Ezekiel 6:9
 - 1) Wine - Matthew 26:28 - Covenant of Grace vs. Mix of behaviorism
 - 2) Fornication - Illicit merging what should not be merged - See Jeremiah 3:1-9; 5:7,8; 13:27
 - a) Teachings - Man made tradition and ideas mixed with Divine truth
 - b) Personal Life - Using human effort to accomplish Divine commands
 - c) Corporate Church - Political power to force Spiritual conformity
 - 3) Drunk - With wine of Babylon's false teachings and illicit covenant
 - a) Befuddled, confused, unable to discern truth - False sense of well being
 - b) cf. 17:6 - Drunk with blood of saints and martyrs - Persecution

D. Verses 9-11 - The Third Angel's Message

1. Central Issue = Worship - the beast and his image - Mother or Daughters (17:5)
2. Receives his mark - Comes as a result of how you WORSHIP - cf. Study #20
 - a. Forehead = in the mind, belief, intellectual acceptance as truth
 - b. Hand = practical compliance for convenience or safety
3. He HIMSELF shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God - No longer delayed or deferred - NOW
 - a. Cup of God's Wrath - cf. Psalm 75:8; Jeremiah 25:15-33
 - b. The Seven Last Plagues are about to fall - 15:1 to 16:21 - See Study #23
4. The smoke of their torment: Smoke = sign or evidence
5. No rest to those who ARE WORSHIPING - present tense - During the Plagues
 - a. The wicked have no Rest or Peace. They LIVE in a state of TORMENT, ever seeking satisfaction and security, but never finding it - Isaiah 57:20,21; Romans 1:18-32
 - b. Torment = vexation, strain - cf. Matthew 8:6; 2 Peter 2:8
Also cf. Matthew 14:24 "tossed"; Mark 6:48 "straining"
 - c. Rest and Peace promised for the Righteous, even in times of trouble.
Isaiah 26:3,20,21; 32:17,18; Matthew 11:28-30
 - d. The Sabbath is God's SYMBOL of spiritual REST - Hebrews 4:4,9,10

E. Verses 12,13 - Patience of the Saints - In contrast to the torment of the lost

1. Patience = Bearing under - Requires inner rest
2. Saints = Holy = Wholly - Psalm 50:5; Romans 12:1,2
3. Two identifying marks of Saints
 - a. Keep the Commandments - LAW - Doing what God says...
 - b. Faith of Jesus - GRACE - By God's power ALONE - Hebrews 11:17-19
Matthew 26:39,42; Ephesians 2:8; Hebrews 12:2
4. When Saints die they have REST - Sleep of death, guarantee of resurrection

F. Verses 14-20 - Reaping the Harvest of the Earth - Ripe and Ready

1. Christ on a cloud crowned as victor = 2nd Coming - cf. Study #9
2. Angel announces that it is harvest time - Matthew 13:24-43
3. Righteous Vintage - "Harvest of the earth" (v.15)
 - a. Vine of Christ - John 15:1-5
 - b. Christ receives His vintage - Righteous resurrected and translated
4. Wicked Vintage - "Vine of the earth" (v.18)
 - a. Two angels - One to reap, One to destroy
 - b. Winepress of God's wrath overflows - NO SURVIVORS, only blood

IV. Summary

- A. God's "remnant" people stand out in bold relief against the remainder of the world due to their balancing of Law and Prophets in light of the Gospel. Thus Revelation unmistakably predicts the beliefs so popular today which rejects the Old Testament, saying it was done away with and nailed to the cross. But those who follow the plain truth of Revelation will accept the entire Bible as their standard of truth.
- B. Chapter 12 reviews Satan's track record against God and His people throughout history, showing that his plan against the remnant in the End Time is nothing more than an accelerated version of his old tricks. Having failed to destroy the Messiah and His true followers throughout the ages, Satan rallies all his forces against the End Time "remnant." The power identified in Daniel as the "Little Horn" of the medieval era appears in an "end time" form in Revelation 13 as the composite "Beast." An additional detail of identification is clarified, though introduced in Daniel 11:40-45. The 1260 year reign of the Beast power will be brought to an end by an attack which inflicts an apparently fatal wound. But this wound will somehow be healed, after which the whole world will again become caught up in adoration and worship of this power. All, that is, except those whose names are enrolled in the Book of Life.

- C. Who are you going to WORSHIP? These are the options around which the crisis of Revelation 13 will rage. This is the issue of the Seventh Trumpet message.
1. Worship the dragon (13:4) - Pagan worship = Many forms (Eastern, New Age)
 2. Worship the beast (13:4) - Papal worship
 3. Worship the image (13:15) - Apostate (un-biblical) Protestant worship
 4. Worship HIM who made heaven and earth (14:7) - Creator worship
 - One sets you apart for heaven. The others set you apart for hell.
 - One opens you up to the wrath of the dragon, the other to the wrath of God.
 - God can shield you from the wrath of the dragon. But the dragon cannot shield you from the wrath of God.
 - There are really only two sides - God's side and the other side - **YOU CANNOT WORSHIP ON BOTH SIDES**
- D. The message to be given during the "Time of the End" (the Seventh Trumpet) involves the measuring of the worshipers - according to one of two marks.
1. The **MARK of HUMAN TRADITIONAL/ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITY** -- Which is the change of the Bible Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday, signifying subservience to the traditional/ecclesiastical elements.
 2. The **MARK of DIVINE CREATIVE/REDEMPTIVE AUTHORITY** -- Which is the observance of the Bible Sabbath, signifying subservience to the Scriptures and the creative/redemptive revelation.
 3. The **EXTERNAL** issue will be the Sabbath - the choice to honor or ignore it - the whole day God's way, not just some time in "doing" church. Worship is not synonymous with "going to church". Worship is whatever you make #1.
 4. The **INTERNAL** issue is **TRUST**. Are you trusting wholly on God, what He has said and done? Or are you trusting partly in Him and partly in yourself and your own strength or ideas? The Sabbath is simply an external indicator of your internal trust relationship with Christ.
- E. **The Line of Demarcation** -- The messages of these three angels polarize the world. This brings about what is often called the "close of probation." There is a point in time coming when every person will have reviewed and weighed the issues and made a personal decision for or against God and His message. Then God can come to claim His own without anyone being unfairly caught in the middle. The messages of the three angels provide all the information and warnings necessary for any person to consider the issues and make a choice.
- F. Little decisions determine the character and cast the die for the big decisions. Those who allow social, economic, or religious pressure to deflect their decision now, are setting their course. The big jolts and crises - legislation against God, and the mark of the beast - will not change you then if you reject truth now. They will only reveal the character you have already established.