

Background — Revelation Chapter Revelation 14:14-20

Verses 14-20 Warnings and judgments not having produced reformation, the sins of the nations are filled up, and they become ripe for judgments, represented by a harvest, an emblem which is used to signify the gathering of the righteous, when ripe for heaven, by the mercy of God. The harvest time is when the corn is ripe; when the believers are ripe for heaven, then the wheat of the earth shall be gathered into Christ's garner. And by a vintage. The enemies of Christ and his church are not destroyed, till by their sin they are ripe for ruin, and then he will spare them no longer. The wine-press is the wrath of God, some terrible calamity, probably the sword, shedding the blood of the wicked. The patience of God towards sinners, is the greatest miracle in the world; but, though lasting, it will not be everlasting; and ripeness in sin is a sure proof of judgment at hand.

Revelation 14:1-20 (NKJV)

The Lamb and the 144,000

1 Then I looked, and behold, [a]a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, [b]having His Father's name written on their foreheads.

2 And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps.

3 They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.

4 These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were [c]redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.

5 And in their mouth was found no [d]deceit, for they are without fault [e]before the throne of God.

The Proclamations of Three Angels

6 Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people—

7 saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

8 And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon[f] is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

9 Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand,

If, in the scriptures address our Freewill]

Revelation 13:17 and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

10 he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

11 And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

12 Here is the ^[g]patience of the saints; here ^[h]are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

"**patience**" in Greek is υπομονή, pronounced, oo-po-mon-e', meaning – patience, steadfast, endurance, or forbearance

Proverbs 14: 12 There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying ^[i]to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

Reaping the Earth's Harvest

14 Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle.

15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, “Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come ^[j] for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe.”

16 So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

Reaping the Grapes of Wrath

17 Then 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, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, “Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe.”

19 So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.

20 And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses’ bridles, for one thousand six hundred ^[k] furlongs.

Footnotes

[a] 14:1 NU, M the

[b] 14:1 NU, M add His name and

[c] 14:4 M adds by Jesus

[d] 14:5 NU, M falsehood

[e] 14:5 NU, M omit the rest of v. 5.

[f] 14:8 NU Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, which has made; M Babylon the great is fallen. She has made

[g] 14:12 steadfastness, perseverance

[h] 14:12 NU, M omit here are those

[i] 14:13 NU, M omit to me

[j] 14:15 NU, M omit for You

[k] 14:20 Lit. stadia, about 184 miles in all

Revelation 14:12-20 (NKJV)

12 Here is the ^[g] patience of the saints; here ^[h] are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

† **"Patience"** in the Greek is "hypomone" could be translated "steadfast"

❖ It describes the empowering of the Holy Spirit that enables you to bear up under difficult circumstances, becoming a reflection of The Light of Jesus Christ. It describes His light shining through His saints.

† **See**

Rev 14:9 Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand,

Revelation 13:17 and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Revelation 13:15 He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

Proverbs 14:2 He who walks in his uprightness fears the Lord, But he who is perverse in his ways despises Him.

13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying ^[i] to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.’” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.”

Blessed = happy

Reaping the Earth’s Harvest

14 Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle.

† **Expositional Constancy**, White = purity; Cloud = deity; Gold = kingship; Crown = authority.

➤ **See: Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa, California Blog** (below)

Sunday, June 14, 2009

This BLOG is intended to discuss the theology and practices of Calvary Chapel of Costa Mesa in particular and the Calvary Chapel movement in general.

The "principle of expositional constancy" is an interesting one. However, if you want to use it, I suggest a thorough search of scripture. It's relatively easy to do with Bible search programs. If you claim a symbol always means something then you need to be prepared to deal with counterexamples lest you end up with counterexamples which show your theory to be faulty.

Expositional constancy tends to be more of a Kabbalistic method. Find the secret meaning in a word and then apply it everywhere you see the word.

Scripture interpreting Scripture is a good principle if applied properly. It requires a fairly deep reading to get to that point. Otherwise it's just stringing passages together and it's really easy to go wrong that way.

Another great technique is to read the OT passage that is cited in the NT and then try to understand the OT context as a way of understanding the NT passage. That's true expositional constancy.

BTW, a number of the top Google web hits for the phrase "expositional constancy" bring up Chuck Missler and CS which immediately makes me suspect of the term itself as well as the application. Fig Trees become Israel, etc.

-> Posted by Doug's Theology BLOG at 9:19 AM

➤ **Examples of Expositional Constancy Throughout the Bible**

The Principle of Expositional Constancy is the theory that an idiom is used the same way throughout Scripture. A few (other) examples would be the rock, leaven, a lamb, and the scarlet thread.

† **Golden Crown** the word in Greek is "Stephanas" = A victor's crown

➤ **See Revelation 19: (11-16) Christ on a White Horse**

11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. **12** His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns [diadem]. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. **13** He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. **14** And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. **15** Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. **16** And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

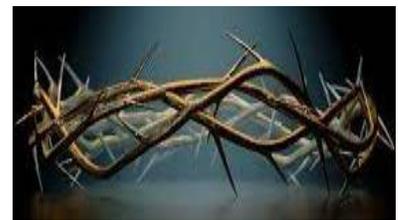
Jesus wore 3 Crowns:



Diadem



Stephanas



Crown of Thorns (a Stephanas)

15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come ^[j] for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe."

16 So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

John 6: 39 This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day.aq

Reaping the Grapes of Wrath

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

See Matthew 13:24-30 The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares

24 Another parable He put forth to them, saying: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; **25** but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. **26** But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. **27** So the servants of the owner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?’ **28** He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The servants said to him, ‘Do you want us then to go and gather them up?’ **29** But he said, ‘No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. **30** Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, “First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.” ’ ”

19 So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.

20 And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses’ bridles, for one thousand six hundred ^[k] furlongs.

City — (Expositional Constancy refers to Jerusalem)

Footnotes

[g] 14:12 steadfastness, perseverance

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See for the Battle of Armageddon:

Zechariah 12 The Coming Deliverance of Judah, Mourning for the Pierced One; **Isaiah 34** - Judgment of the Nations; **Isa 63** - The Lord in Judgment and Salvation; **Joel** 1. The Land Laid Waste · Mourning for the Land; 2. The Day of the Lord, A Call to Repentance, The Land Refreshed, God’s Spirit Poured Out; 3. God Judges the Nations, God Blesses His People



Psalm 2:1-3 The Messiah's Triumph and Kingdom

1 Why do the nations [Gentiles] rage [throng tumultuously], And the people plot a vain [worthless or empty] thing?

2 The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together,

Against the Lord and against His Anointed [Christ, Commissioned One, or Messiah], saying,

3 "Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us."