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Episode 43 - Revelation 14: The Doctrine of His Wrath

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The message of the third angel, in Revelation 14, is much needed if we are to grow in our understanding of the resurrection of God's people.

Modified Transcript:

Scriptures are transcribed directly with notations. Refer to the KJV for verbatim wording.

Hi, this is Scott Stanley with DTG Ministries. I am continuing the podcast on the book of Revelation, and we are now exploring concepts dealing with the resurrection. In this particular podcast, we need to provide some background information so that when we delve into the verses concerning the resurrection, they will make more sense to you.

Remember, we want the deep things of God. We don't want the surface stuff that we hear from TV evangelists. We want to know the depth of meaning that Revelation is giving us. I'm not saying that I'm getting to the very depths of it, but we're going to eventually get to the depths of it as we receive these truths and put our heads together and consider line upon line, precept upon precept, as we let the Lord teach us so that we can begin to put two and two together and come up with some answers.

In Revelation 14, we need to have a better understanding of the first, second, and third angels' messages. In this particular podcast, I want to key on the third message starting in verse 9. But I need to say, first of all, the first angel's message starting in verse 6, this first angel is giving the Everlasting Gospel from the heavens. From God's perspective, here's the Everlasting Gospel, when we read verse 7: *to give glory to God, for the hour of his judgment has come*. What's key to this is *"the hour of his judgment has come."* We're not talking about God judging you as to how you believe. We're talking about God's judgments being given in the gospel.

What do I mean? Well, the only gospel I had ever heard came from the apostasy, and that gospel does not include God's judgments. That gospel does not include the things that God determined. See, the Everlasting Gospel is God's determinations. It does not include the apostasy. It refutes the apostasy. So *the hour of God's judgment is come*. This is how he thinks. This is how he looks at it.

When he says to *worship him that made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and the fountains of waters*, that goes right back to Proverbs 8, which I'm not going to do today. But there is an in-depth study that needs to be done on Proverbs 8 so that we can understand when the gospel is given, God's judgment is given. Well, the second angel that follows it, verse 8, is declaring Babylon is fallen, is fallen, because... The word "because" isn't there; it's "who."

Rev 14:8 ... Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, who made all nations drink of the doctrine of the wrath of her fornication.

This is what is leading Babylon astray. It's the doctrine of the wrath, and this is really the crux of the whole thing. The doctrine of the wrath, and this is of her fornication. This is how she's messing up. I want to give you just a little sampling. If you look at Romans 5:9, depending on how we interpret this, it tells how we fall. Where do we fall in this equation?

Rom 5:9 Much more than, being now justified (made righteous) in his blood (or you could say by his death), we shall be saved from wrath through him.

Now, how do you interpret that? You're saved from wrath. Does that mean that Jesus is going to save you from the wrath of God, where he gets mad and kills everybody and throws them in hell? That's basically the wrath that's coming. "Oh, God's going to kill them all." But it's the next verse that interprets what we're reading. Let me read verse 9 again.

Rom 5:9 Much more, being now justified in his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

Rom 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son (That right there tells you the heart of God. You're an enemy to God, and he gives you the death of his Son). Much more, now that I'm reconciled, we shall be saved in his life.

Well, if I look at Titus 2:14, I see that Christ gave himself to redeem me from iniquity. Iniquity is what leads to sin. My wrath is sin. He isn't saving you from God's wrath. He's saving you from your own. In so doing, you will be saved from a judgment at the end of the world.

Turn with me to 1 Thessalonians, I want to read verse 10. Again, this all depends on how you perceive God.

1Th 1:10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus, which is rescuing us from the wrath to come.

Now, there is a wrath coming. This really is the crux of understanding the resurrection and what happens. There is a wrath coming, and I want to read this wrath to you. We're in 1 Thessalonians, turn to chapter 2, verse 14, and let's read this together.

1Th 2:14 For you, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for you also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they of the Jews:

So you've suffered from your people just like they suffered from the Jews. How?

1Th 2:15 They both killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets...

What was Jesus teaching them? The Everlasting Gospel. The love of God. God is not angry. God is love. God does not make a record. Well,

1Th 2:15 They killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets, they persecuted us; and they please not God, and are contrary to all men:

1Th 2:16 They are forbidding us to speak to the nations that they might be saved (from their iniquity), to fill up their sins always: for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.

Now you can say, "Oh, the wrath of God's come on them." No. Their own wrath has come upon them to the uttermost. Uttermost is the completion. This is the part you've got to see: They are angry; people are angry. Babylon is angry because someone is giving them the Everlasting Gospel, which is telling them God is love, he's not angry.

They will make you drink the doctrine of the wrath. That is what their religion is based on: a God, a trinity God that doesn't even exist. So what have they done? They have taken their understanding of God and made him like themselves (Psa 50:21). There is a wrath of God coming.

God's wrath is defined in Romans 1. The wrath of God is manifested from heaven. What does he do? He leaves you alone. He turns you over to a reprobate mind, backs off, and leaves you alone (Rom 1:18-28). He doesn't rip your guts out and set you on fire. Their doctrine of the angry God is a reflection of themselves. So go back to Revelation 14:8.

Rev 14:8 And there followed another messenger, and it was saying that Babylon is fallen (This understanding of the wrath of God has fallen to the messenger giving the message; it's fallen), that great city who made all nations drink the doctrine of the wrath, which is her fornication.

It's of her fornication. This is where she's messing up. It is a basic understanding. How do you perceive God?

Now, I gave a message to a fellow about the love of God, that love does not make a record of sin, and his reaction was, "Yeah, but he's just." Meaning what? Meaning, he may be love, but he has a right to kill you because you're such a sinner. He's just. He can't let you get by with this stuff.

Yet, on the cross, the very people killing Jesus went home forgiven. *Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.* If he would forgive those people, why would he not forgive you and all the rest of us? The problem is, if you think he's angry, if you think he's going to kill you, and you come before him at the judgment seat of Christ, you will not survive. Your body will not survive the state of your mind because your mind controls your body. If you think, "He is angry with me," you're not going to survive that, and God knows it.

So he's given you the message of his love. Christ died to redeem us from the iniquity we have about God, about Jesus, and about ourselves. So when I look at this third angel, Revelation 14:9,

Rev 14:9 The third angel followed them, and he said with a loud voice, If any man will worship the beast (which is the lion-pride, the bear-an unwillingness to change, and the leopard-an unwillingness to forgive) ... If they worship the beast and his image (what image?) ...

Well, you make an image. People would make an image to worship it. So the image they're making is an image of God, but it becomes the image of the beast, of their own beast. In other words, they see God the way they see themselves. How? God is just. You step on my toes, I'm going to step on yours. The very things about themselves they attribute to God, and they are worshiping the image of their own beast. So if you worship the beast and the image, the beast is "self," the image is "the image of yourself,"

Rev 14:9 ... and you receive that mark in your thinking and in your works.

Because believe me, if you think he's mad, that is going to come out in how you treat other people. There will be no love in what you're doing. The Everlasting Gospel is the gospel of love, long suffering, patience, kindness, dealing with people. "Father, forgive them," atoning ... making an atonement for what's going on so that the serpent in you does not manifest itself as the dragon. The people who will worship the beast, verse 10, *"these people are going to drink of the doctrine of the wrath of God."*

There it is. This is the issue. This is the bottom line. If you're going to reject the Everlasting Gospel and worship your own image of the beast, then you're going to drink the doctrine of the wrath of God. You are not going to see the doctrine of his love and why Jesus really died.

See, that really is the bottom line. Why did he die? Well, God's mad, and he needs to be appeased, and I mean right now. He's going to kill us all. Or God is love, and he sent you a savior to redeem you from that twisted thinking so that you could have life.

God does not need a human sacrifice in order to forgive you! That is paganism. He doesn't need a human sacrifice to forgive you. He didn't need anyone to pay your penalty. We needed him to give us an understanding of God and that he is love. *God so loved you, he gave you his only begotten Son. When you were an enemy to God, he gave you his Son* (Rom 5:8,10).

Well, now that you're reconciled to God, you're going to be saved from your iniquity through the life of the Son of God. That is the gospel. To believe anything else, you're going to drink the doctrine of the wrath of God. Well, that's death. I want you to get a close look at what we're reading here in verse 10.

Rev 14:10 ... This doctrine of the wrath is poured out without any mixture of truth into the cup (or the experience of experiencing) God's indignation...

If you're going to teach these things about God, he is going to be indignant toward you. "Well, now wait a minute. You know, our church brings in millions of dollars. We've got thousands of people. What do you mean he's indignant toward us?" Well, you know, it doesn't matter how much money you have coming in. It doesn't matter how many people are following you.

Remember, at the flood, only eight people got in the boat. Only eight people were saved through that flood. What matters then? Well, the question is, is he helping you overcome sin? Or are you finding it hard to get along in your family? Are you finding it hard to stop drugs, to stop drinking? Are you finding it hard to stop lusting after women? You're experiencing God's indignation. He's not helping you. Why?

Because you look at him like he is as angry as you are. He'll be right there for you when you cry to him with an open heart. He will give you deliverance. But,

Rev 14:10 ... You're going to drink the doctrine of the wrath of God that's poured out without any mixture of truth into the experience of his indignation. And you're going to be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb.

I want to read a couple of verses to you. The first one is in Psalms 11, verse 5.

Psa 11:5 Jehovah will try the righteous: but the wicked and him that loves violence his soul hates.

Psa 11:6 Upon the wicked he is going to rain snares (like what?), fire and brimstone, and a horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their experience.

Now let's compare this with one other verse. This is in Isaiah 30, verse 33.

Isa 30:33 For Tophet is ordained of old; yea, it's for the king it is prepared; he has made it deep and large: the pile of it is fire and much wood; it is the breath of Jehovah, like a stream of brimstone, that kindles it, that sets it on fire.

Now, what does that have to do with anything? Remember on the day of Pentecost, in Acts chapter 2, when they heard this mighty wind. Well, if you trace that word out, that

word "wind" is only used twice. They're both in Acts. The second time, it's called "breath." That's found in Acts 17:25.

Breath and wind. Is this a wind, or is it a breath? Well, what's the difference between wind and breath? Breath comes from a person, and what you're seeing in Acts chapter 2 is coming from the person of Jesus Christ, and what is it he's pouring out?

Act 2:33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy One, the Spirit, he hath shed forth this, which you now see and hear.

He is pouring forth the Spirit of the Father. He is pouring forth the Holy Spirit. So, look again in Revelation, chapter 14.

Rev 14:10 The same will drink of the doctrine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without any mixture of truth into an experience of God's indignation. And he, that person, is going to be tormented with the fire and brimstone (with the breath of God, with the Holy Spirit of truth which is found in the Everlasting Gospel) ...

They are tormented by the fact that God is love. They're tormented by the fact that their church is wrong, and they need to get out.

Rev 14:10 ... They are tormented by the Holy Spirit in the presence of the holy messengers of God who are giving the message, and in the presence of the Lamb (not the Christ, the Lamb. The Lamb points to the cross.)

The truth of God torments them. They can't bear the truth of God. They are tormented in the presence of those who are giving that message, and the Lamb is there in their presence with them. Next verse.

Rev 14:11 The smoke of their torment ...

Smoke is the result of fire. Fire, inner fire, is Gehenna. Christ applied lust and anger to Gehenna. James puts Gehenna between your ears (Jas 3:6). Gehenna is the passion of lust and anger that all of us have.

Rev 14:11 The smoke, the anger coming from that torment of truth ascends up forever and ever...

Now let me tell you something. King James has put "forever and ever." But what you're

going to find out when you look up those words, it isn't forever and ever. It's "into the age of ages." What do you mean by "the age of ages"?

Well, there are different ages in scripture of things going on, like Moses and the giving of the law. Christ comes and, you could say, the giving of the gospel. He brings the gospel to you. You could say that was the age of the gospel, the age of the law. I look at the last generation church as being in the age of love.

In fact, when my youngest daughter was born on October 1, 1998. I named her Charity Dawn because the love of God was dawning on yours truly, me. I was beginning to understand God's love and that he is not an angry God. This is the age of love, and my daughter marks the beginning of it for me, and maybe for a lot of you, because I was the one God was using to teach it - the age of God's love for humanity.

So this is not forever and ever. It's into the age of the ages. There is an age coming where God's people will be made whole. Where the wicked will be judged. That's the age of the ages. That's the biggie. That's where everything is settled.

But get what this is saying. *The smoke of their torment from the truth, the anger, is ascending up into that age.* What does that tell you? That the wicked are going to be raised from the dead, and carry their anger with them into that age. They're not going to come before the judgment seat of Christ and be changed.

You know what this means? That when God raises you from the dead and gives you a new body, is that going to change your mind? No. Never. Your mind is going to remain the same. Are you angry with God now? You'll be angry with God then. Are you in love with God now? You'll be in love with God then. You have to make that choice.

Babylon is based on the doctrine of God's wrath, and that is why he requires a penalty to be paid; he needs a human sacrifice. You'd better keep those Ten Commandments and toe the line because he is marking every moment of your life, and he is going to kill you if you don't get it right. That's Babylon.

The Everlasting Gospel: God is love. He's never made a record. He loved you so much, he gave you his Son to redeem you from all iniquity by means of death. You can believe the death of the Son of God, know who he is and why he died, and apply the principles of his death to your life... Learn to make an atonement for those who are angering you or whatever is happening to you, and that serpent will never manifest the dragon. You will bind the dragon and walk in harmony with Christ until his return.

Those are your options. If you select the truth, you're going to have to walk away from your denomination because there is not a denomination on the planet that teaches the truth. What we have on this planet is the apostasy. It is a misunderstanding of the love of God. So think about it. Consider.

Let me go ahead and read verse 11.

Rev 14:11 The smoke of their torment ascends up into the age of the ages, and they have no rest, (not when they die, now) ... they have no rest day or night...

They're suffering the cup of God's indignation. These people who worship the beast and his image and receive the mark of his name, who think God is angry, and he's going to set them on fire. See verse 12,

Rev 14:12 Here is the endurance of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus Christ,

So we're going to stop here. Right now, we could keep going. There's a lot in this. But we're going to just ask the Lord to bless our hearts and give us understanding.

Father, you are Yah, the only true and living God, and we need you here. We need you within us to help us see truth, to soften our hearts so that you can be glorified in our lives. We pray for your leading in Jesus' name. Amen.