

***Prayer:***

In Genesis, we have the book of beginnings. Everything begins there. In Revelation, we have the consummation of all things. Everything ends there.

With the first coming of the Messiah, we have the last days Messianic Era ushered in. Ever since then, we have been living in the last days. However, the last days of the Church Age are not to be confused with the last days related to Israel (the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel). The last days of the Church Age ultimately usher in the last days related to Israel involving the time of Jacob's Trouble and worldwide judgment, climaxing in the Second Coming.

The book of Revelation gives us an overview of where we are and what is coming in regard to THE END. We have an inspired outline in Revelation 1:19.

**Slide # 1**

***Revelation 1:19 – Inspired Outline***

Revelation 1:19 (NKJV)

19 “Write the things which you **have seen**, and the things **which are**, and the things which will take place **after this**.”

- “have seen” – Past (Vision of Christ) – ***Ch. 1***
- “which are” – Present (Church Age) – Ch. 2-3
- **“after this” – Future (Post-Church Age)** –Ch. 4-22
  - - Scene in heaven –Ch. 4-5
  - - **Tribulation – Ch. 6-18**
  - - Second Coming – Ch. 19
  - - Kingdom – Ch. 20
  - - Eternal State – Ch. 21-22

In Revelation 13 we prophetically see a coming one-world order under Antichrist in which one man will rule over the whole world politically, economically, and religiously. We see there the reality of an unholy Trinity; namely, Satan, Antichrist, and the False Prophet. This one world order will be centered in the promotion of Antichrist as God, which is reflected in the mark of the beast. The false prophet will be the chief promoter of this and will, in effect, head up a “signs and wonders” movement which will sway the world.

The world will largely have rejected God's objective gospel truth, and therefore, He allows them to be deceived by deceptive signs and wonders which are brought about by the power of Satan.

Allegiance to Antichrist will be signified in taking the mark 666, which at this point, no one has figured out its meaning. It will **correspond to a particular name in history** that has not yet been revealed. When this Mark is taken in this context, it will signify worship of the Antichrist and rejection of the true Christ. To take this mark is an eternally fatal mistake!

This brings us to Revelation 14. Here we have a **thematic contrast** to the oppressive rule of Antichrist as seen in chapter 13. Instead of seeing Antichrist, we now jump ahead to see the LAMB and His followers.

It is as if in the midst of this terrible tribulation, we are given encouragement to see that in the end, the Lamb is found standing on Mount Zion, triumphant, and His faithful followers are there with Him. This is held in bold relief in contrast to GLOBALIZATION under the Antichrist in chapter 13.

Chapter 14 gives us a series of snapshots in terms of where it is all going, both in terms of Antichrist and his followers and of Christ and His followers.

In Revelation 14, a series of 7 visions is presented that are not necessarily in chronological order. They are like a table of contents that takes us back to the beginning of the Tribulation Period and then presents various snapshots of key realities, giving us a panoramic view of the Tribulation Period. Thus, it provides background information that he will then build on going forward.

## **Slide # 2**

### ***The Seven Visions of Revelation 14***

1. The Lamb and the 144,000 – 14:1-5
2. The First Angel – The Eternal Gospel – 14:6-7
3. The Second Angel – Babylon's Fall – 14:8
4. The Third Angel – Warning Against Beast Worship – 14:9-12
5. The Reward of the Saints – 14:13
6. The Son of Man Harvesting – 14:14-16
7. The Winepress of God's Wrath – 14:17-20

**Revelation 14:1–7 (NKJV)**

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

John here saw a LAMB standing. The term LAMB is John's favorite designation for Jesus in the book of Revelation, being found here 28 times. It designates Him as Savior by virtue of Him dying for the sin of the world. John also wrote the gospel of John and there we find John the Baptist introducing Jesus in this way.

**Slide # 3****John 1:29 (NKJV)**

**29** The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! **The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!**

In the OT, they had the Passover Lamb; they had animal sacrifices to make atonement. All of these were types and pictures that ultimately portrayed THE LAMB OF GOD (the God-provided sacrifice) Who would ultimately and completely pay for sin once for all through His death on the cross. Indeed, Jesus is the LAMB.

But right here, we have an interpretive challenge. In the Bible, there are TWO Mount Zions – one on earth and one in heaven. Earthly Mount Zion refers to Jerusalem and the Temple Mount in particular. However, the one on earth corresponds to a heavenly Mount Zion as seen in Hebrews 12:22.

**Slide # 4****Hebrews 12:22 (NKJV)**

**22** But you have come to **Mount Zion** and to the city of the living God, the **heavenly Jerusalem**, to an innumerable company of angels,

Good commentators in our dispensational camp are divided here. Because the prophetic Scriptures often speak of the Messiah coming and reigning from earthly Mount Zion, they believe this is prophetically in view here (Ps. 2:6; Isa. 24:23, etc.) They may be right. I am certainly not dogmatic here, as there are good arguments for this view.

However, I tend to lean towards the other view, which takes it that Mount Zion in view here is a reference to heaven. I have three key reasons I take this view.

- 1) The whole surrounding context is in heaven. The voice is from heaven (v. 2). Those singing are singing before the throne, which, everywhere else in Revelation, is always in heaven (cf. 1:4; 4:2, 5, 6, 10: 7:9, 11, 15; 8:3). The 144,000 are taught this song which is being sung in heaven leading to the conclusion they must be in heaven (v. 3).
- 2) Those who believe the earthly Mount Zion is in view most often take the view that the 144,000 are sealed, meaning protected from death, thus assuring they will be preserved through the entire 7-year Tribulation Period. However, the Scripture does not specifically say that. Yes, they are sealed in terms of their mission as they are shielded from the wrath of God, but not necessarily the wrath of Satan/Antichrist. Thus, they would be those of the “rest of her offspring” (Israel’s) that the dragon (Satan) makes war on (12:17).
- 3) Third, the 144,000 are shown to be WITH Jesus, but Jesus has not yet come as that awaits Revelation 19. So if they are WITH Jesus prior to the Second Coming, they must be in heaven.

### **Slide # 5**

#### ***The FLOW of Thought in Revelation 14***

Vision on Mount Zion – vv. 1-5

Warnings about Coming Judgment – vv. 6-11

Consolation Messages to the saints as Judgement approaches – vv. 12-13

Preview of Christ's return in wrath – vv. 14-20

The whole flow of thought fits better with the idea that the 144,000 are in heaven before Christ’s return instead of after.

The sealing they received protects them only from the wrath of God, not from the wrath of the dragon and the beast (cf. 12:12). These are the same 144,000 as in chapter 7, but they are also the same as the rest of the woman’s seed in 12:17, the witnesses to whom the dragon has access through the beast who will experience martyrdom because of their refusal to worship the beast (13:15). They are a special group as 14:4 indicates. They are the vanguard who bear the brunt of the struggle against the beast and pay the price of their own lives. – **Robert Thomas**

The 144,000 were introduced in chapter 7 as being 12,000 from the 12 tribes of Israel (cf. 7:1-8). They were sealed from the judgments of God, but my view is that at some point after the middle of the Tribulation, they will all be martyred, and because of that, they are now in heaven (cf. 12:13; 13:7; 20:4).

At the end of 14:1 it says of the 144,000 that they have “His Father’s name written on their foreheads.” The older manuscripts also include having the Lamb’s name on their foreheads as well as that of the Father.

### **Slide # 6**

#### **Revelation 14:1 (ESV)**

**1** Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name [the Lamb’s name] and his Father’s name written on their foreheads.

The followers of Antichrist have His name (666) either on their right hand or their forehead, but these 144,000 have the Lamb’s name His Father’s name written on their foreheads. This signifies they are marked as belonging to the Lord, and their allegiance is to Him.

**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.**

This voice from heaven is undefined in terms of the source. But it is deep and powerful like many waters and LOUD like the voice of loud thunder. Heaven is getting excited! The Antichrist has not defeated these 144,000. Yes, they died as martyrs, but here they are in heaven being honored in the greatest of ways. This very same language is found in Revelation 19:6 to describe the voice of a heavenly multitude as they joyfully anticipate the coming of Christ to the earth.

And with this voice, John heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. The sound of HARPS in the Bible consistently signifies JOY (cf. 2 Sam. 6:5; 1 Chron. 13:8; 15:16, 28; 2 Chron. 5:12-13; Neh. 12:27; Pss. 33:2; 71:22; 144:9; 150:3; also see Rev. 5:8; and 15:2).

More than forty times this musical instrument is mentioned in the Old Testament, and it is always associated with joy. – **Lehman Strauss**

Life for the saints on earth will be HELL at this point, but in heaven their experience is PURE JOY.

**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.**

The voice of this heavenly choir sang a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures (the key worship leaders of heaven, cf., 4:8, 9; 5:8, 14), and the elders (the Church in heaven). Who these singers are that teach the 144,000 is not spelled out. Some have suggested they are angels or the martyred multitude in heaven, but in truth we are not told.

New songs in the Bible denote a new occasion of God's deliverance that calls for worship for what God has done. The new song is specifically crafted for some specific occasion of deliverance (cf. Ps. 33:3; 40:3; 96:1; 98:1; 144:9; 149:1).

And no one could learn this new song except the 144,000 who were redeemed from the earth. This song uniquely applies to them. It must be their special testimony of worship for what God has uniquely done for them.

Christianity is a SINGING faith. It denotes joy! The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy... (Gal. 5:22-23).

“One manifestation of being filled with the Spirit is music (Eph. 5:19). If you don't know the spiritual condition of a church, just listen to the people sing. Singing is a dead giveaway. Dead churches don't sing; they just kind of stand there and mumble.” – **Stanley Toussaint**

Note, they were redeemed while on earth but are now in heaven. In fact, the reason they are here is precisely that they were redeemed. If you are not saved (redeemed) while on earth, you will never be saved. Death seals the deal. In death, if we are saved, we will be in heaven; in death, if we are lost, then we will be lost for all eternity. Death forever seals where we stand with God.

### **Slide # 7**

**Hebrews 9:27 (NKJV)**

**27** And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,

The word “redeemed” (Gk. agorazo) means to purchase or deliver by paying a price. In 1 Peter 1:19 Peter says we have been redeemed “with the precious blood of Christ.” Christ paid the price to set us free from sin by dying on the cross of us. This is the gospel (good news) that Christ died for all our sins. We don’t pay the price for our sin – Jesus did it! And He did it all! “Jesus paid it all – all to Him we owe!”

### **Slide # 8**

**Revelation 5:9 (NKJV)**

**9** And they sang a new song, saying: “You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,

**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 redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.

From chapter 7, we think these 144,000 are special Jewish evangelists because immediately after addressing them, Revelation 7:9, John saw a great multitude in heaven from “all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues” standing before the throne. The implication is that they are there because of the ministry of the 144,000.

They indeed have a special calling which comes with a special commitment – kind of like that of the apostle Paul, who esteemed singleness above marriage as seen in 1 Corinthians 7.

Really, two related things are brought out about them in terms of sexuality. First, they are not defiled with women.

The worship of Antichrist during the Tribulation will be unspeakably vile and perverse. As it did in the fertility cults of ancient times, sexual sin will apparently run rampant. Even in the current grossly immoral day, we can hardly imagine what the deviant sexual perversion of the Tribulation will be like. With all divine restraint removed (2 Thess. 2:6-7) and the unbelieving world judgmentally abandoned by God (cf. Rom. 1:24, 26, 28), sin will be released like a flood, inundating the world. – **John MacArthur**

But in that context, these 144,000 will remain sexually pure, being totally sold out to God. The Bible is clear that commitment to Him involves sexual purity.

### **Slide # 9**

#### **Hebrews 13:4 (NKJV)**

**4** Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but **fornicators and adulterers God will judge.**

#### **1 Thessalonians 4:3 (NKJV)**

**3** For this is the **will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality;**

### **Slide # 10**

#### **Revelation 21:8 (NKJV)**

**8** But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, **sexually immoral**, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars **shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone**, which is the second death.”

#### **Revelation 22:15 (NKJV)**

**15** But **outside** are dogs and sorcerers and **sexually immoral** and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

**Second**, note that not only will they be sexually pure in their commitment, but they will be virgins. This indicates a singular commitment to serving the Lord with special intensity, that, for the cause of the Lord, is willing to set aside marriage. It allows them to serve with undivided devotion and without distraction. This is a unique time, and in keeping with it, their calling and commitment are unique and special (cf. 1 Cor. 7:1, 26, 32; also see Mt. 25:1; 2 Cor. 11:2).

These 144,000 are rewarded with intimately following the Lamb wherever He goes. They walked intimately with God in this life, and they will in the life beyond as well.

Again, mention is made that they were redeemed from among men, but then also that they are the ***“firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.”***

In the OT, the “firstfruits” were offered as a token to God with the idea that a great harvest would follow (cf. Deut. 18:3-5; 26:1-11). In the NT the first converts of an area were called the “firstfruits” of that territory meaning that more were to follow (cf. Rom. 16:5; 1 Cor. 16:15). Christ is said to be the “firstfruits” of resurrection with a glorified body indicating that a harvest of glorified people will follow (cf. 1 Cor. 15:20, 23).

The two witnesses (probably Moses and Elijah resurrected to life) who show up early in the Tribulation Period, as seen in Revelation 11 will evidently be instrumental in leading these 144,000 to faith in Christ. They will thus be the firstfruits of many more converts to follow, of both Jews and Gentiles (cf. Isa. 2:3; Zech. 8:22; 12:10; Rom. 11:25; Rev. 7:9). In Revelation 7 immediately after mentioning that these 144,000 are sealed, we see this great harvest of souls standing in heaven (Rev. 7:9).

Very possibly the greatest revival in world history will take place during the Tribulation Period. Revelation 7:9 says they are “a great multitude with no one could number” and it specifically says they come “out of the great tribulation” (v. 14). These 144,000 are the firstfruits of this innumerable multitude.

### **5 And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.**

In their conversion, they maintain the highest of integrity. They are strictly truth tellers. No deceit is found in their mouth. Lying and deceit will define the times, but not these 144,000. They are men of total integrity through and through. They are all about the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

As such, they are without fault before the throne of God. This does not mean that in their practice on earth, they were sinless.

We have already noted (twice) that they were redeemed, meaning they were simply sinners saved by grace. But in their service, they were “without fault,” what the Bible calls “**blameless**” in terms of the qualifications to be an elder (cf. 1 Tim. 3:1; Titus 1:7). This is often translated as “**above reproach**.” It does not refer to absolute perfection, but a consistency of life that denotes a life of integrity that does not have glaring sin. That is the idea here!

These are men defined by truth and lives of integrity!

Speaking of the word “without fault” or blameless “(Gk. *amomos*) refers to the blamelessness of Christ in 1 Peter 1:19 and Heb. 9:14 and to the blamelessness of Christians in Phil. 2:15 and Jude 24. Behind all these usages lies the OT Levitical term for sacrifices without flaw and therefore fit to be offered. These were sacrificially perfect. They lacked any insincerity or duplicity that would make their self-consecration unacceptable to God. – **Robert Thomas**

And now here they are before the throne of God in heaven, being rewarded for their faithful service!

Note that while the activity of singing before the throne is clearly stated in verse 3, in the older manuscripts the phrase “**before the throne of God**” is not found in verse 5.

In my view here is probably what is in view. The 144,000 had a powerful firstfruits ministry in the first part of the Tribulation, but somewhere in the second part (the Great Tribulation) they will all be killed as Antichrist is granted to make war with the saints and overcome them as it says in Revelation 13:7. He is granted authority to continue in their vein for 42 months – the last 3 and ½ years of the Tribulation Period as seen in Revelation 13:5.

During this time, evangelism will be severely curtailed. Christians will be in hiding with a universal call for their death all over the world (cf. Rev. 13:15). Satan at this point will, for all practical purposes, have shut down evangelism. The two witnesses will have been translated to heaven after having been killed (Rev. 11). The 144,000 have been killed. The Antichrist is allowed to have his way with the saints in silencing them. How is the Word going to get out? Verse 6 answers this:

**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—**

You can’t stop God! He is determined that the whole world be presented with the truth of the gospel. Satan at this point is confined to the earth, no longer having access to the heavens at all (cf. Rev. 12:7-12). Through the Antichrist, he effectively shuts down widespread evangelism (cf. 12:17, 13:7, 15).

So, God will at this point uniquely do something He has never done before. He will utilize an angel flying unhindered in the midst of heaven to preach the everlasting gospel to all those who dwell on the earth.

This is “***another angel***” – meaning another of the same kind. In other words, this is another one of God’s angels doing the Lord’s work (cf. Rev. 8:3; 10:1; 11:15; 12:7).

His message is said to be “the everlasting gospel.” Everlasting means eternal, and gospel means “good news.” This eternal good news is for everyone. It targets everyone on earth, “every nation, tribe, tongue, and people”.

Imagine this scene where a powerful angel with a LOUD voice is proclaiming the everlasting gospel as he moves through the midst of heaven from nation to nation, from tribe to tribe, from people, to people. No one can shut him down. The gospel will go forth unhindered (cf. Rev. 7:9; 13:7).

This really is the final call to the whole world to respond to the one true God as revealed in the Messiah – the Lord Jesus Christ Who is the true Christ. The whole world will have a choice to make. Will they respond to the everlasting gospel in faith, or will they respond to the demand of Antichrist and worship him? The choice before the whole world will be the true Christ versus Antichrist!

But the question is this: What exactly is this “everlasting gospel?”

### **Slide # 11**

#### ***THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL***

“Lord-God & Savior”

As ultimately revealed in the PERSON of the Lord Jesus Christ!

### **Slide # 12**

#### **John 17:3 (NKJV)**

**3** And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

In a word, the eternal gospel is the good news of God – WHO He is as Lord and Savior! It is this combination of Lord-God and Savior! This gospel – the good news of Who God is never changes!

Once you see this reality, you see it interwoven everywhere throughout the Scriptures. Lord and Savior are so woven together that you can't have one without the other. The "Lordless Gospel" is one of the greatest errors that has ever been propagated on the church.

The greatest event in the OT was the Exodus. There God in a dramatic way showed Himself to be LORD over all the gods of Egypt and we see the repeated phrase shall "know that I am the LORD" (cf. Ex. 6:7; 7:5; 14:4, etc.). There was this combination emphasis: The LORD showing He was Lord over all and deliverance on the basis of the blood of the lamb applied.

### **Slide # 13**

#### **Exodus 12:12–13 (NKJV)**

**12** 'For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: **I am the LORD.**

**13** Now **the blood** shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

We see here the LORDSHIP of God, and at the same time, He is a Deliverer/Savior on the basis of the blood of the lamb. Lord and Savior are interwoven together throughout the entire narrative.

### **Slide # 14**

#### **Isaiah 45:22 (NKJV)**

**22** "Look to Me, and **be saved**, All you ends of the earth! For I am **God, and there is no other.**

Note the combo of God alone being recognized as God and yet at the same time He is the Savior of all who look to Him.

In the context of the last days, "Day of the Lord," Joel makes this prophetic announcement.

### **Slide # 15**

**Joel 2:32 (NKJV)**

**32** And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, As the LORD has said, Among the remnant whom the LORD calls.

This prophecy relates directly to the Day of the Lord which is exactly what the book of Revelation is dealing with. The Tribulation Period is “The Day of the Lord,” and the promise in Joel is that whoever calls on the name of the LORD (YHWH) shall be saved. Note they call on (recognize) Him as LORD and on that basis they are saved. So again, we see the combination of Lord and Savior.

This truth of recognizing God as Lord and Savior is picked up and applied by Peter on the Day of Pentecost, as he was the first to openly preach the gospel after the resurrection of Christ. There, he quoted from Joel 2:32 to make his point. Paul then, in the book of Romans, also quoted from Joel 2:32, emphasizing how we are saved.

**Slide # 16****Acts 2:21 (NKJV)**

**21** And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved.

**Romans 10:13 (NKJV)**

**13** For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”

To call on the name of the Lord is to recognize Him as Lord – it is to recognize Him as the Lord Who saves – that is as Lord and Savior. As Paul shows in Romans 10 this calling on the name of the Lord is really a response of faith from the heart. The mouth expresses faith in the heart. It’s really faith in the heart that saves, but when it is real it expresses itself with the mouth.

**Slide # 17****Romans 10:10–13 (NKJV)**

**10** For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

**11** For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.”

**12** For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to **all who call** upon Him.

**13** For “**whoever calls** on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”

There are different aspects to the gospel, but at core it always involves God being Lord-God and Savior. Sometimes the emphasis is on Him being Lord-God and sometimes on Him being Savior. But in truth, they cannot be divorced. Lord and Savior inherently go together. They cannot be separated. This is an indissoluble package.

### **Slide # 18**

**1 Corinthians 15:1–4 (NKJV)**

**1** Moreover, brethren, I declare to you **the gospel**...

**3** For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that **Christ died for our sins** according to the Scriptures,

**4** and that He was **buried**, and that He **rose again** the third day according to the Scriptures,

The emphasis here is on Christ’s work as Savior! It’s on what He did: He died for our sins, He was buried, He rose again. The emphasis here is on Savior!

### **Slide # 19**

**2 Corinthians 4:3–6 (NKJV)**

**3** But even if our **gospel** is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,

**4** whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the **gospel of the glory of Christ**, who is **the image of God**, should shine on them.

**5** For we do not preach ourselves, but **Christ Jesus the Lord**, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus’ sake.

**6** For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of **the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ**.

The emphasis here is on the LORDSHIP of Christ – that He is God of very God. In faith, we see the very glory of God in the person of Christ – we see that He is Lord-God.

Both texts are true. 1 Cor. 15:1-4 is the gospel, 2 Cor. 4:3-6 is the gospel. The gospel is the truth of Christ as both Lord and Savior. The everlasting gospel is this combination of God as Lord-God and Savior as ultimately revealed in the PERSON of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now let us come back to the CONTEXT of the “everlasting gospel” in Revelation 14:6-7. The context here assumes this gospel includes what has previously been brought out. It assumes the good news as proclaimed by all of heaven that worthy is the Lamb who has redeemed us to God by His blood as seen in Revelation 5 and 7. It assumes the truth that overcomers overcome the devil by the blood of the Lamb as seen in 12:11. It assumes what has just been stated repeatedly in 14:1-5 that the Lamb is the redeemer.

The everlasting gospel is grounded in Christ. He is the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world (Rev. 13:8). This gospel was stated at the very beginning in Genesis 3:15. It was seen in the OT types of Passover (the oldest religious feast in the world) and prophetically in places like Isaiah 53.

But having said that, the emphasis here in relation to the everlasting gospel is on the Sovereign Lordship of God. The truth of God being Savior is predicated on His Lordship! If He is not Lord, He can't be Savior! Most basic and foundational to the gospel is God's Lordship! At core, the gospel is a LORDSHIP GOSPEL, and that is the point here in Revelation 14:6-7. The eternal core of the gospel is all about God's sovereign Lordship and ability to save all who recognize Him as Lord-God and Savior!

This is where the gospel of John, the gospel of belief, starts and ends. It starts by saying, ***“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”*** (Jn. 1:1). Then it builds on this with the 7 I AM statements and concludes with the climactic example of saving faith when Thomas upon seeing the resurrected Christ said to Him, ***“My Lord and my God”*** and Jesus tell him that he has now believed (Jn. 20:26-29). This is what it really means to believe – to personally recognize Jesus as “My Lord and my God!”

This is then followed by the purpose statement where John says he wrote all this so that we might believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing we might have life (Jn. 20:30-31).

Note the strong emphasis here in relation to “the everlasting gospel” is on the sovereign Lordship of God.

**Slide # 20*****Rev. 14:6-7 – Responding to The Everlasting Gospel***

Fear God – Lordship  
 Give glory to Him – Lordship  
 His judgment – Lordship  
 Worship Him – Lordship  
 Made heaven and earth - Lordship

I submit to you that the everlasting gospel at its core is a LORDSHIP issue! The great issue in context is worship: Worship of the Antichrist versus worship of the true God. Worship is a Lordship issue!

**Slide # 21**

Really, what is in view here is the nature of a true saving faith response. A true saving faith fears God, gives glory to God, worships Him, and recognizes Him as Creator and Judge. This is indicative of true saving faith.

Here is specifically what the herald of the everlasting gospel involved!

**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.”**

This everlasting gospel is given out with a LOUD voice. The invitation/command involves three imperatives, namely to fear God, to give Him glory, and to worship Him.

To fear God is to reverence Him. It is to hold Him in reverential awe. It is indicative of true repentance which means to have a change of mind about sin and about God. Rebel unbelief has no fear of God as it says in Romans 3:19. In contrast Proverbs 9:10 the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. This is where it all starts. It is the very nature of a saving faith response.

### **Slide # 22**

#### **Psalm 2:11–12 (NKJV)**

**11** Serve the LORD with fear, And rejoice with trembling.

**12** Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.

### **Slide # 23**

#### **Acts 10:34–35 (NKJV)**

**34** Then Peter opened his mouth and said: “In truth I perceive that God shows **no partiality**.

**35** But in every nation whoever **fears Him and works righteousness** is accepted by Him.

[The Nature of Saving Faith]

#### **Acts 10:43 (NKJV)**

**43** To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, **whoever believes** in Him will receive remission of sins.”

To give glory to Him means to honor Him supremely. It means acknowledging His supreme worth. It magnifies and exalts God for Who He is as God. To give God glory is really an idiom of repentance, indicating one has had a change of mind and now acknowledges God for Who He is.

### **Slide # 24**

#### **Revelation 16:9 (NKJV)**

**9** And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and **they did not repent and give Him glory**.

The people of the world are exhorted to fear God and give Him glory because the hour of His judgment has come. The world is now facing the full brunt of God’s judgment on the whole world. Judgment is right at the cusp of its climax. They need to get right with God. In grace, they have this final warning!

This is God's consistent pattern in Scripture. He warns and warns, and then He brings judgment. God does not want any to perish, but desires all to come to repentance (2 Pet. 3:9). God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked (Ezek. 33:11). Nobody loves them more than God.

He does not want to bring down His eternal wrath on them, but people must come to Him on His terms. And His terms are believing on Jesus as Lord and Savior! This is the only way to have peace with God! It's only through Jesus.

**Acts 4:12 (NKJV)**

**12** Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

And then the angel heralding the everlasting gospel says, "and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water." He is the Creator of all, every realm, every sphere, heaven and earth, salt water and fresh water bodies. This encompasses the entirety of creation! As Creator of all He has the right to be worshiped (cf. Rev. 4:10; 10:6; Acts 4:24; 14:15-17; Neh. 9:6; Ps. 33:6-9; 146:6).

To worship means to reverence, to bow before, acknowledging Him as the ultimate higher power over you. God as the Creator of all is worthy of our worship! This is the same emphasis we saw in Rev. 4.

**Slide # 25**

**Revelation 4:11 (NKJV)**

**11** "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."

When Paul went to the Jews, he started with the OT Scriptures, but when he went to the Gentiles, he consistently started with the reality of Creation (cf. Acts 14:14-17; 17:22-31). God has so designed us that intuitively we are hardwired with a God-consciousness and intuitively we know that creation demands a Creator. This is why Genesis begins with "In the beginning God created...". This is why Paul in Romans 1:20 says, people are "without excuse." "The heavens declare the glory of God" (Ps. 19:1).

All of nature is an outstretched hand pointing to God the Creator! This is the most basic starting point for acknowledging God.

And the whole world at this point will be very aware of the God of heaven shaking the planet up in judgment. The issue is not really a mind issue, but a heart issue, an issue of rebellion versus submission to the truth of God. Romans 1:21 says, “although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God.” There is the problem! They refuse to glorify God for Who He is, although they know the truth! This is a HEART problem – a depraved HEART problem! This is, at its core is a matter of prideful rebellion!

### **A Fine Barometer**

The story is told of a man on **Long Island** who, after many years of saving, was able to buy a very fine barometer. When he unpacked it, to his dismay, he found that the needle appeared to be stuck, pointing to the section marked “**Hurricane**”. After shaking it vigorously, the man wrote a scorching letter to the company from which he had purchased it, and the next day, on his way to his office in New York, he mailed it. That evening, he returned to Long Island to find not only the barometer missing but his house also. The barometer’s needle had been right – there was a hurricane on the way!

The Bible tells us a “**HURRICANE JUDGMENT**” is coming to the whole world, and the needle of Bible prophecy is stuck on the word “Judgment”.

Soon the church will be raptured, and the world will enter into this terrible time of Tribulation. **Discard this notice** at your own risk. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ today and flee from the wrath to come.

### **Acts 17:30–31 (NKJV)**

**30** Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,

**31** because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”

Fear God, give glory to Him, worship Him!

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ!

Whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved!

Now is the accepted time – today is the day of salvation!

Come to Jesus! Call on Jesus as Lord and Savior!