

Revelation 14 (Conrad Bowman) (August 3, 2008)

Chapter 14. Let's have a word of prayer before we begin.

Father we thank You so much for Your watch and care; and Your grace and mercy extended to us this week. We pray Father that we would be continually reminded that everything in our life is dependant upon the grace that we receive through the Only Begotten Son, and as we continue our studies in Revelation this morning, take us beyond our own ability to see these things and just unfold what Your Apostle John wrote for us these many, many years ago, and help us to see its relevance to our time today, because we have been privileged to live in the days of the fulfillment of all of these prophecies. And we thank You Father, in Christ's name, who paid for it all. Amen.

Alright. We left this thing last week dangling over the edge of the precipice of the 144,000 who had not defiled themselves with women. And that led to a lively and spirited discussion as you can imagine. That's where we're going to take up today; with what that defilement – just what that defilement indicated and meant. So, chapter 14, look at verse 1, and we're going to take a running start at this thing.

1. I looked, and behold, the Lamb was standing on Mount Zion, and with Him a hundred and forty-four thousand, who had His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads.

So they were marked out.

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

So it was a pleasant sound, but it could not be ignored.

3. And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders;

3. and no one could learn the song except the one hundred and forty-four thousand who had been purchased out from the earth.

That's the preface.

4. These are the ones who have not been defiled with women, for they are celibates. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These have been purchased from among men [out from among men] as first fruits to God and to the Lamb.
5. No lie was found in their mouth; and they are blameless.

Now, this raised a whole lot of questions about what did it mean in terms of defilement with women. The first thing you have to know, is that this is entirely Jewish and Old Testament in its context. To serve God within the context of the heavenly tabernacle, you had to qualify according to the Law that was given them. That's Mosaic – Mosaic Law. And that meant you had to be single minded in terms of your following and your qualification for service. That single mindedness carries forward into the New Testament and our relationship to Christ. Paul said it this way. Every man should be as I am. I could have a wife. In fact, some believe he did have a wife; but his single mindedness toward Christ meant that Christ occupied the place that a wife would normally occupy within the mindset, framework and attentions span of any man. If you have a wife, she is to be your first order of business. Ok. You take care of her first. And then you take care of ministry. Ok. That does not mean that she is more important than Christ is in his ministry of the Gospel. But it does mean that when you take a wife, you take on her as your other half – your completer, and her satisfaction and her needs are primary in terms of your relationship as a provider. You serve as – you serve under the banner of her needs being met. There is never a time when a believer has the authority and is extended the leeway of serving Christ in his – the application of his time and energy at the expense of his wife. Ok. Now this is a big thing, because what it says is, if you're considering as a young man, missionary service, and service to Christ, as your primary focus in life, then the next thing you ought to be thinking about is whether or not you can live a celibate life without a wife to be considered. If you're going into missionary service, the primary means of going into mission service and qualification, is that you should have nothing that distracts you from doing whatever your service to Christ demands. If you're married, you cannot do that without qualification; because your first qualification is, can you still provide everything that your wife needs in order to perform that service. Because she has a primary role in your operation as a man – as a man of God. Service to Him. Now this is not heard very often. Not very often at all. And it's – I don't know of anybody else that's saying that. But it's something that needs to be considered. Now the same thing is true

in terms of the woman who feels she's being called into Christian service. There's a great responsibility there as well. But from the man's perspective, this is the first order of business. If you're married, your first order of business is her. "Defilement" does not mean marriage, because marriage is legitimate. "Defilement" does not mean sex. It has nothing to do with that, because that's legitimate as well under the Law, and under the laws of Christ in grace in terms of your relationship to your wife. "Defilement" means order of service. Your order of business. These are celibate, which means they have been gifted with celibacy, so that sex is not a primary drive in their life, and they are free to follow Christ without qualification at all; and that's to basic primary needs. Ok. That would hold true, whether you're looking at Maslow or whether you're looking at Numbers, or whatever. John?

John Young. Just a quick comment. I really – last week's discussion just – it underscores how important it is – these classes; because I really didn't understand what or know what that verse meant, until we had that discussion last week. We've got some transcripts there. I made some extra ones for those that are interested, and CDs to pick this up; because it sharpened my understanding, or actually, it made me understand that verse. The other thing it did was, it made me focus on what happens right after the Rapture. Now if I misstate something I'm sure you'll tell me. But the instant after the Rapture, there might be six billion people left in the world, but only 144,000 of them know the truth; and they're all male. Every one of them. Now, they witness – put forth the Gospel. Who knows how many believers there are when it's all said and done. But it starts out, at that one instant after the Rapture, of 144,000 and only a 144,000 know the truth; and they're all male. So that's my dollar ninety-eight comment.

Conrad Bowman. Well, that was good. That was John Young. [Laughter]. I'm just making sure people know where to send their responses. Yeah, Ed?

Ed Welbourn. I was going to put two dollars on your dollar ninety-eight. [Laughter]. All the 144,000 are often identified as evangelists.

Conrad Bowman. Yes.

Ed Welbourn. They have not only ... [inaudible], they have a goal.

Conrad Bowman. Yes. As evangelists. Yes sir. Yes sir, and they're single minded in that. Ok. Now, you have to remember, when you go back – if you went back to

the Law, and you started reading in the Law the Rules for Temple Service, because in one sense, you've got 144,000 who are taking the role of priests. Ok. That's the role they're taking. In the priests' service, in the Old Testament, if a priest – if a woman was in her menstrual period, she could not come in the Temple herself in the tabernacle. She had to wait until after that period was over. Her husband, if he had relations with her during that period, he was disqualified himself from service. He had to disqualify himself. If he was going to go in the tabernacle or in the Temple, he had to go through Temple cleansing services; and that was a seven day period of cleansing with washing and Levitical baptisms. So this was a big thing in terms of pictures, because what that Law provided in the Old Testament, as far back as the Old Testament – we're looking back four thousand years. What the Law provided was a picture of God's requirements for those who would follow the Lamb. If you were going to be associated with the sacrifice that was going to be offered for the sins of the people, you had to be – you had to be ceremonially cleansed and pure in order to be identified with that sacrifice. Well, they had no way of knowing in the Old Testament from Numbers and Exodus where those rules were laid down. They had no way of knowing the implications of that that are found here regarding that last group of 144,000. But there's absolute consistency there. So if you start looking for reasons here, and you go back to the Law, it all begins to unfold. That where the sacrifice of Christ is going to be the object that you're dealing with, and that's certainly what these 144,000 are doing, they're handling the sacrifice of Christ, as John said, the instant this happens, and that 144,000 are sealed, they're the only ones that are sealed, and they're all male. Now, the reason we're making that point is, because it's a replay of Eden. It reinforces the whole order of things in Eden. In Eden, Adam alone was given the instructions: Here's the Garden. Here's your job. Here's your position. You're to guard and keep this Garden. You can eat anything in this place – we have this one thing you can't eat. You can't eat the fruit off of that tree. Do not do that. Eve didn't hear those words from God. Adam heard – there was no Eve when those words were given. Now Eve comes along and comes out of man and is built or constructed, and man loses half of his being; and she is made over here. Now she gets her instructions from what God told Adam. So Adam tells her, Oh yeah, we can eat anything in here, but we can't eat that fruit of that tree over there. She heard it second hand. When Satan attacked man, he went to Eve first, because she's the one who got the instruction from Adam. You see the order of things; and because he deceived her, the Fall was complete. Had he deceived Adam first, and Adam ate the fruit and gave it to Eve and here, said – here, eat this, it's good; she is committed to following his instructions as her head; and she then would not have been accountable because she was doing exactly what God told her to do. So the Fall wouldn't

have been complete. When Satan deceived her first, and she fell, and she gave it to Adam, there's no deception with Adam. There was just Eve. And she gave him the fruit, and gave him the choice, and he followed her rather than what God had told him – so through him sin entered man, because his fall was direct, and in direct opposition to what he had been told. Eve, though deceived, fell also personally. So the fall was complete. So whether they were apart or together, mankind had fallen. But the sin nature that comes as a consequence of that, comes through Adam; the father, not Eve, the mother. And that's very, very important, because it closes the loop on the whole order of things, doesn't it? So we have to pay attention to those things. Question? Yes ma'am.

Lady. I just wondered, in my Bible and notes, it was separation from God, the defilement.

Conrad Bowman. Yes.

Lady. And it takes you to 2nd Corinthians 11.

Conrad Bowman. Yes. Yes.

Lady. ... where Paul is talking to the people and the Church, and said: I am jealous ... [inaudible].

Conrad Bowman. Jealousy.

Lady. I promise you just one husband ... [inaudible]. I'm afraid, just as Eve was deceived by the serpent ... [inaudible].

Conrad Bowman. Exactly.

Lady. I will take you as a virgin to Christ.

Conrad Bowman. Yes. Yes.

Lady. Which kind of takes care of the fact that ...

Conrad Bowman. Same principle. Exact same principle.

Lady. Applies to women too, I guess?

Conrad Bowman. Yes.

Lady. You don't marry. You be devoted ...

Conrad Bowman. That's right. You know, and now with – in the Church with regard to widows, when a woman is widowed, her first responsibility then is to serve the Body of Christ. You know, and if she can't, she remarries. That's fine, but it doesn't – here comes Evelyn. God bless her. Now we can get started again.

Lady. Hi Evelyn. [Laughter].

Evelyn Wamble. Good morning. Good morning gang.

Conrad Bowman. Good morning. You want to sit up here? Are you going to sit over there?

Evelyn Wamble. I had a problem getting here today.

Norma Bowman. It's Ok if she's a little bit late, because tomorrow is her birthday, and she's probably already celebrating it. [Laughter. Cat-calls].

Conrad Bowman. Awwww. And you'll be thirty-nine again?

Evelyn Wamble. Yes.

Conrad Bowman. Ok.

Evelyn Wamble. You didn't ask me my weight. [More laughter].

Conrad Bowman. I'd get the same answer. Alright. So we're in chapter 14. Now, are there any other questions on this? Ok. I think we're in pretty good shape on it. So the 144,000. They hear this new song,

3. and no one can learn the song except the one hundred and forty-four thousand who had been purchased out from the earth.

4. These are the ones who have not been defiled with women, for they are celibates. They are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These have been purchased out from among men as first fruits to God and to the Lamb.

5. And no lie was found in their mouths; for they are blameless in their testimony.

There's no one who can question them.

6. And I saw another angel ...

There are two words for "other" that are used throughout the New Testament. One is *heteros*, and the other is "*allos*." A-L-L-O-S. And *heteros* means another one of the same kind. And "*allos*" means another one but of a different kind. And *heteros* means another angel exactly like the other one. This is *allos*. I saw another angel, it's another one, but he's different. In other words, he's got a different task and a different job description.

4. ... another angel flying in midheaven, having an eternal gospel to preach to those who live on the earth, and to every nation and every tribe and every tongue and every people;

This is an eternal gospel, and this angel is the one who's preaching that. Some believe that this angel is Christ Himself. I don't think so. I think it's exactly what it is – an angel sent from God who declares the Gospel to every nation and every tribe and every tongue and every people. Now you will remember, and we studied it through the Pauline epistles – it's in Romans; and it's in several other of Paul's epistles – where he declares that the Gospel has been available to every man who's ever lived and is available through the stars. That if you look to the heavens, you can see the Gospel message preached to every man and every tribe through the heavenly signs. Now, we don't say a lot about that because it's been so corrupted by Astrology that it carries a lot of baggage with it. But, there's a whole study that can be done of the Gospel in the stars. The oldest record is E.W. Bullinger who wrote in the eighteen hundreds, as well as some seventeen hundreds stuff, but he organized it. And Dr. James Edward Kennedy did a whole series on it; and we can pick that material up. That's in print. And I've got several books across the years that have been written on the subject. But here, since there's been so much disruption of the heavens and the earth and the cloud cover and the smoke cover from all the earthquakes and things, that God has provided an angel in midheaven who flies around the earth, and from his heavenly position around the earth, he declares the eternal Gospel, to everyone who lives on the earth. That's verse 6. So I want you to see the extent to which God goes to make sure that the Gospel is not lost, even in the midst of all these disruptions – natural disruptions – of things on earth.

John Young. What part of the Tribulation is that – does that event occur?

Conrad Bowman. We're in, we're in – see this is kind of recapping. So this is in the first part following the earthquakes and famines and volcanic disruptions. So we're approaching the mid-Trib. Ok. But it's in the first half.

7. and this angel says with a loud voice, "Fear God, and give Him glory [calls attention to the Father], because the hour of His judgment has come; worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters."

So he's declaring that God is deserving of worship, and our focus should be on Him.

8. Yet another angel, a second one, follows, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who has made all the nations drink of the wine of the passion of her immorality."

And immorality here is the word used for sexual immorality. It comes from *pornia*, or where we get the word "pornographic." Which means something in and of itself, unnatural. So her immorality is sexual immorality. It includes homosexuality, but it includes more than that. Just immoral sexual deviancy. Now, that's the second angel. So, that takes us up to the mid-Trib. – the end of the first half of the Tribulation.

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

10. he will also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

That prophecy corresponds to Matthew 25, and starts with verse 42 and goes on from 42 to 46. So that's Matthew 25, 42 and 46, and we'll come back and we'll look at that Matthew passage. So you can see him declaring what's going to happen to those who allow themselves to receive the mark of the beast.

11. "And the smoke of their torment goes up forever ...

Now I want you to pay careful attention to that. There's a whole group of people out here who call themselves Christians who cannot accept the fact that God

would make a creature; build it; give it life; hold it accountable for belief, and then put that believer or that non-believer in a place where he's going to be tormented with fire and brimstone forever. So they say – and they qualify that by saying – they're called annihilists. They believe that unbelievers are annihilated, not that they are placed – are put in a position where they're going to be tormented day and night. Well, they have a problem with this verse, because this states very clearly exactly what's going to happen to those who reject the Gospel that's preached. Now, it makes a point of saying, that this angel, first angel flying in midheaven, announces to every man, and every tribe, and every nation that lives on earth; the Gospel, eternal Gospel of the salvation and mercy of God Himself. And He doesn't leave that to anybody to carry out. God Himself, even though He has 144,000 who are known as evangelists, He still has a strong angel flying through midheaven, around the world, announcing to everybody on earth, the Gospel of God and the provision of His mercy. He still does that. The 144,000 are not relieved of that privilege and responsibility, but God Himself makes sure that no man can claim that he hasn't heard the Gospel; because the first angel out of the box goes around the world announcing the Gospel to every creature. So God is not assailable on that point. The second angel comes through and says, Babylon the Great has fallen. He points to the best that the world can produce at that time, and points out that that thing has fallen apart completely. World systems will not get you there. The third angel comes and says, here's your personal responsibility – to every man and every woman. If you receive the mark on your forehead or on your hand of the beast, you're going to go to a lake of fire and be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb and the smoke of your torment will go up forever and ever. And they have no rest, day and night.

11. ... those who worship the beast and his image [this is verse 11], and whoever receives the mark of his name."

They have no rest forever from that torment. Ok. So this is unequivocal. I mean, you can – you look at that thing and it doesn't – there's no wiggle room in those verses, Ok, away from that – away from that torment. It's as clear as it can be.

Beth Davis. Conrad?

Conrad Bowman. Yes.

Beth Davis. In the Church Age, the people who reject it, the salvation message, are they any different? A different place of torment or is it the same place?

Conrad Bowman. Same place. Same place.

Beth Davis. You know, people that say God wouldn't do that, well they have to understand that each of us was born into that destination. The thing that they don't want to accept is ...

Conrad Bowman. That's right.

Beth Davis. ... we just chose salvation, which they can also do.

Conrad Bowman. That's right. That's right. We're all headed for that same thing. And then the best of computer terms, there's an opt out option. You know. Yes sir?

Bruce Davis. [Inaudible] ... you know, it's pretty neat, because they don't believe us at all. [Inaudible]. You just can't make them understand. And you really can't go at them with logic ... [Inaudible]. And so, until you can get on terms of what God is working toward, working with, this is one life God has thrown at us, and this is it. If it's not Christ, you're done. There's no hope.

Conrad Bowman. That's it. That's it. There is no Option B.

Bruce Davis. No Option B.

Conrad Bowman. No. There certainly isn't. You know. You've got – you only have Plan A. That's it.

Bruce Davis. But that's not to say – now I love the guy I work with. I really do. All we can do is pray for them, that God will open their eyes, because ...

Conrad Bowman. That's it. See, the message to us today is: Don't let your heart get hardened to those who are rejecting it. Don't let your heart get hardened. Even and especially where they're rejecting vehemently. Don't let your heart get hardened. You know. Those are the ones for whom Christ died, just like He died for me and you. Ed?

Ed Welbourn. The first angel announces the plan of salvation. And then it infers here, if anyone worships the beast, the "if" implying they have a choice. We all have choices.

Conrad Bowman. Yeah. Yeah. In fact, I went by and checked that, and it's not a choice. It's, if anyone worships the beast, and they do. First class condition. If they worship the beast, and they do. So, it would be, since you worship the beast, and his image, and you received the mark on your forehead or on your hand, this is the one who will drink of the wine of the wrath of God. It's a declarative statement, that this is something that is going on already, and that these people have chosen a certain end. It's not just an iffy thing or, maybe you do and maybe you don't. It's, since you do worship the beast, you've got that mark on your hand or on your forehead, then your end is certain.

Ed Welbourn. In God's foreknowledge, He knows that there are people who will not choose Him.

Conrad Bowman. That's right.

Ed Welbourn. He explains here what's going to happen to them.

Conrad Bowman. That's right. That's right. You know. There it is. His omnipresence put Him there when they made that choice, and He in His graciousness is pointing out the consequence of that decision.

Candy Carney. Don't they still have a chance at this point, because the Gospel is being presented?

Conrad Bowman. The Gospel is being presented. Yes. Certainly the Gospel is being presented. What he's pointing out here is, there are those who've made their choice already, and that's who the Word's going out to. Since there are those who worship the beast, and have received his mark on their forehead or on their hand, here is their end.

Lady. But there's still some that haven't.

Conrad Bowman. That's right. That's a process that's ongoing with that angel that's flying around and giving them that eternal Gospel.

Evelyn Wamble. Is that the last Gospel? The last call?

Conrad Bowman. Yeah. Yeah. In a sense it's the last call. The eternal Gospel is the oldest Gospel, but it's presented for the last time. Yeah. Patsy?

Patsy Brown. With the technology that they have now, putting chips in people and all that sort of stuff ...

Conrad Bowman. I think it could. I think it absolutely could, where they're – where they're marking people. You know, there's been discussions for a number of years in the medical community about whether we should implant a chip in babies when they're born. You know, you could put a chip in that would identify them from birth, just like you record their footprint. There's been a lot of discussion over the years – I've been aware of it for at least 20 years – of whether or not you should implant a chip device that would identify those babies – those children right on up through. You know, when they become my age.

John Young. Some people have that for their pets, right now.

Conrad Bowman. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. You know, so that's entirely possible now.

John Young. Conrad, is that – once you've received the mark, then that's irreversible?

Conrad Bowman. It appears to be so, John. Because what it's talking about here is taking the mark and you've got the mark on your hand, and you've got the mark on your forehead. That's a choice that you've made and there are consequences that follow; and I don't see any option, nor do I find it in Daniel or Matthew where that commitment is made and it's reversed. I just don't see it. What I see is, people who have – and in Matthew it's there, and in Daniel it's there – who claim to be following the Gospel and are lured or threatened out of their commitment to the Gospel, and over toward receiving the mark of the beast. So they declare their commitment to Christ – in Daniel it says it this way. And those in chapter 12; and those who believe, many of them will fall. To try those who claimed to have received their Gospel; and purge them, because they will fall and need help. And those that claim to have received their Gospel then, will be forced to come out of their hiding in providing help for these, because in providing help for the 144,000, they will be seen as believers. And at that time they will be subject to – they will be subject to being killed by the Anti-Christ. So the cost of that belief will be their own life.

John Young. You can't describe how terrible this time is going to be. I mean, I mean you can look around the world today and see some of the atrocities committed by these Al Qaeda so forth and so on. For example,

Conrad Bowman. Yeah.

John Young. What if a – somebody comes out of the woodwork – I am a believer, and the Anti-Christ has your kid over there that he's getting ready to burn alive if you don't declare your ...

Conrad Bowman. Allegiance ...

John Young. ... allegiance to him. I mean, look at the – how terrible the situation you're put in. So, you've got the Age of Grace where you've got a free pass, so to speak. It's so easy, and then it gets tough, you know, if you're going to be a believer.

Conrad Bowman. Yes.

John Young. The Holy Spirit goes out. You don't have Him anymore. Anyway, I'm just rambling, but it's a tough time.

Conrad Bowman. Yes it is. In fact, look how this develops right down through verse 17, and you get an idea.

13. I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Write, 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!'"

That's people who are martyred. For instance, if they declare their belief, they're going to die.

13. ... "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them."

Now, these are those who are – you remember the Great Throne – the Great Throne and white robes that were under the Throne; and somebody asked God, who are these? And He said, these are those who died in the Great Tribulation; and that's where they go.

14. And I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and sitting on the cloud was one like a son of man, having a golden crown on His head and in his hand he has a sharp sickle.

15. And another angel came out of the temple [this is the fourth angel, now], crying out with a loud voice to Him who sat on the

cloud, "Put in your sickle and reap, because the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth is ripe."

And that's talking about the decisions that are made among mankind.

16. And He who sat on the cloud swung His sickle over the earth, and the earth was reaped.

17. And another angel [a fifth angel] comes out of the temple which is in heaven, and he also had a sharp sickle.

18. Then another angel, the one who has power over fire, came out from the altar; and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Put in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, because her grapes are ripe."

19. And the angel swung his sickle to the earth and gathered the clusters from the vine of the earth, and threw them into the great wine press of the wrath of God.

20. And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses' bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles.

And that's talking about the last battle on the plain of Megiddo that's sixty-five miles wide and one hundred and eighty-five miles long. And when the battle takes place, and that mounted army of two hundred million are pouring in to wipe out Jerusalem and the remnant of Israel, that battle occurs and it says, the blood runs as deep as the horses bridle two hundred miles across the plains of Megiddo. The blood rejuvenates the desert so that for a thousand years that barren desert now receives water from the Great Sea. And that water then, filters through – washes that blood and becomes purified in that valley and provides food for a thousand years during the Millennial Reign. And what you see is the mechanics of that taking place. I want you – you look at that language; and you've got three angels and Christ Himself with a sickle reaping the earth, is what it says; and those hundreds of millions who die. At the end of that time – the Tribulation Period, by estimation, and I've compared my own notes with others – a lot of others that have written on this thing – we're looking a perhaps fifty thousand people left who enter the Millennial Kingdom for a thousand

years. You're talking about disseminating the earth's population. And only believers go into the Millennial Kingdom. And there's a small group of them; and for a thousand years they repopulate the earth. The reason for the loosing of Satan, which comes later in this book, for a little season, is because for that thousand years of earth's repopulation, all those children, and their children, and their children's children and so on, that are born during that thousand year period, have never known anything but the iron rod of the overcomers who rule over their nations. Ok. That's all they know. The Word of God, and the iron rod of the overcomers who are ruling over them. And at the end of a thousand years, they hate it. And when Satan is loosed for a little season, it doesn't take him long to organize a second rebellion. They have lived a thousand years on an earth that knows no rebellion; with total provision. Animals are not violent. The earth is not violent – it yields fruit naturally. They don't have to work for anything. All they have to do is live and love one another and have children and repopulate the earth for a thousand years. And at the end of that thousand years, Satan who has been bound and in the abyss for that time, is loosened for a little while. The chains that Michael puts on him are loosened. And he comes out of that pit. And it takes him an amazingly short period of time to organize a rebellion against God and the overcomers again. And there's a second battle that ensues. And at that second battle, they're all put before the Judgment – the Great White Throne Judgment of God. And they're all committed to the abyss forever. And that's the scene that we see unfolding for us in chapter 14. It's a very graphic and vivid chapter in terms of what it says is the result of not believing, and carrying the marks of your belief with you through life. Any questions? Yeah, Bruce?

Bruce Davis. ... this man's old self that's still living within him that is causing him to really ...

Conrad Bowman. That's right. See, we always want to say, we always want to say, today, the enlightened ones among us. We always want to say it's man's environment that causes him to react badly. If he just – if he wasn't pushed into it. If he wasn't deprived as a child, or deprived as an adult, he wouldn't be depraved as an adult. Well, Eden proved that wrong. But there was only one man and one woman. And so at the end of all things, you're dealing with all men and all women in an earth that's not in rebellion. So now you've got millions of people who are living in a world that provides them with what Adam was provided with. Ok. And all they've got to do is behave responsibly. But they don't like that. So environment is not the issue. What is an issue is that man does not want to be told what he can do and what he can't do. You know. We're just hard headed. We don't like people telling us what to do. You know.

Evelyn Wamble. The old sin nature.

Conrad Bowman. It's the old nature within. See. Isn't that it? Ed?

Ed Welbourn. So the earth belongs to the Jews, through the Abrahamic Covenant.

Conrad Bowman. Yes.

Ed Welbourn. And these are all Jews that are living through this time period?

Conrad Bowman. No, because there are some Gentiles who have accepted the testimony of the 144,000 ...

Ed Welbourn. During the Tribulation.

Conrad Bowman. During the Tribulation. See because the martyrs – the martyrs also, during the Tribulation Period, are the overcomers who then come into this period too. So you're going to have – you're going to have some Gentiles in there as well. Some Gentiles. Yeah. And that deserves more study, on that. I can't be dogmatic on that, which is rare. [Laughter]. And it is because you – the closer you get the more dogmatic it is. Barbara you had something?

Lady. [Inaudible. Comment that question had been answered].

Conrad Bowman. Yes. Yes. And by far it's a Jewish majority.

Lady. [Comment. Inaudible].

Conrad Bowman. Yeah. Right. Exactly.

Lady. I had an assignment once that, when we're gone, our Bibles and all of our notes and our journals will be here ... [inaudible] ... and they pick it up because we're gone ...

Conrad Bowman. That's right. Is it possible.

Lady. [Inaudible]. [Laughter].

Conrad Bowman. Make sure you're notes are clear. Ok. Let's get out of here so the next class can come in.

Father we thank You for the time You give us. We thank You for the clarity of the Word as we continue our studies. Lead us into chapter 15 next week, and Father just give us soft hearts toward those who are rejecting the Gospel right now. They're all around us. We meet them everyday. Remind us that Christ died for them as well, and we just thank You Father for having chosen us out of the world to reveal these things to. We thank You in Christ's name, and commit the week to come into Your keeping. Amen.