

Preparing to be Firstfruits at Christ's Soon Return

Rev. 14:1-5

- I. **The Lamb standing on Mount Zion with the 144,000**
 - A. The vision of the heavenly Mount Zion in Revelation 14
 1. The Lamb standing
 2. No longer alone but with Him 144,000 of His redeemed ones
 3. A voice like the voice of many waters and loud thunder
 4. Angels playing their harps
 5. The 144,000 singing a new song
 - B. Who are these 144,000
 1. Raptured before the great day of God's wrath – the last 3½ years (Rev. 3:10, Rev. 13:7)
 2. These are the firstfruits for the enjoyment of the Father (Exo. 23:19)
 3. The bride who has made herself ready and called to the marriage feast of the Lamb (Rev. 19:7-9)
 4. His armies who followed Him to war against the beast and his armies and fully destroy them (Rev. 19: 11-14)
 5. Rule over the nations with a rod of iron (Rev. 2:26-27)
 - C. The church today is Mount Zion
 1. We have come to Mount Zion (Heb. 12:22; Mt. 16:19)
 2. We need to be those who are already standing with Him in mount Zion today (Eph. 6:10-14)
 3. The Lord as the King also needs an army today to make His enemies His footstool (Ps. 110:1-3, 5-7)
 4. Christ made head of all things to the church (Eph. 1:19-22) to accomplish His purpose
 5. Here we are receiving an unshakable kingdom (Heb. 12:28)
 6. Serving the Lord acceptably with reverence and godly fear

- II. Having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads** (Rev. 14:1; 3:12)
- A. Having the mind of Christ, setting our mind on the things above (Phil. 2:5; Col. 3:1-2)
 - 1. To bring His kingdom down to the earth (Matt. 6:9-10; Gen. 1:26, 28; Ps. 2:7-9)
 - 2. The Lord's food is to do the Father's will (John 4:34)
 - a. From a youth He did the Father's business (Luke 2:49)
 - b. He is the worthy One at the throne (Rev. 5:1-7, 9-10, 13)
 - c. He wants us to reign with Him in the Millennial Kingdom age (Rev. 1:5-6; 5:9-10; 2:26-27; 3:21)
 - B. We are His captives taken as a train of captives to His throne (Ps. 68:18; Eph. 4:8)
 - 1. We were enemies, rebellious (Col. 1:21; Jam. 4:4)
 - a. Comfortable and complacent (Matt. 24:38-39; Amos 6:3-8; Rev. 3:15-18)
 - b. We do not care about the earth (Esth. 4:13-14)
 - c. Even call it conspiracy (Amos 7:10-15, 16-17)
 - 2. We are bondservants, slaves to God (James 1:1)
 - a. Submit to God (Jam. 4:7)
 - b. Our thoughts under this obedience (2 Cor. 10:5)
 - C. Spiritual warfare today (Matt. 11:12; Eph. 6:11)
 - 1. Exceedingly great power, defeated all His enemies and all authority and power made subject to Him (Eph. 1:13-23; Heb. 2:15; Col. 2:15; 1 Pet. 3:22)
 - 2. Praying with incense for His kingdom and His judgment to come (Rev. 5:8; 8:3-4)
 - 3. He gave us His authority
 - a. The keys of the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 16:19)
 - b. The whole armor of God (Eph. 6:10-18)
 - 4. Training to become His heavenly army to follow Him into the final battle (Rev. 19:11-16)

III. Singing the new song

- A. Who sang a new song (Rev. 14:1, 3)
- B. Why do we sing a new song (Ex. 15:1; Ps. 106:12; Rev. 15:2-3; Judg. 5:1-4)
- C. What is the content of the new song (Rev. 19:8; Jam. 1:2-4)
 - 1. Objective righteousness (1 Cor. 1:30; Ecc. 7:20; 1 Kings 8:46; Rom. 3:21-26; 10:3; 9-10; Luke 15:22)
 - 2. Surpassing subjective righteousness (Matt. 5:20; Ps. 45:13-14)
- D. No one could learn that song (Rev. 14:3; 2 Tim. 4:6-8)

IV. Following the Lamb wherever He goes

- A. What is “following”?
- B. Why “Lamb”? What is this Lamb?
 - 1. Lamb that became a King – a Kingly Lamb (Rev. 5:8, 12, 13)
 - 2. Submissive, gave His life (Matt. 20:28; Gal. 1:4; 2:20)
- C. Those who follow the Lamb at this time had already learned to follow earlier. (Matt. 16:24-27)
 - 1. To follow this Lamb, we must be like sheep
 - 2. Following His leading in obedience, submission to discipline - “NO” to self, “YES” to Christ (Heb. 12:10)
- D. Following His example, emulating Christ (John 13:15-16; 15:20)
- E. Spirit teaching us (John 14:16-17)
- F. What was His goal vs what is our goal? (John 4:34)
- G. How did He earn the crown? (Phil. 2:5-11)
- H. He saw the joy ahead of Him and endured the cross – What’s your motivation to endure “crosses”? (Heb. 12:2)
- I. Don’t be discouraged: We are in Christ Jesus, who became our wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, redemption (1 Cor. 1:30-31)

V. The 144,000 are virgins – undefiled, pure and holy

(2 Cor. 11:2; Phil. 2:15; 1 Thess. 5:23)

- A. The bride, the wife of the lamb (Eph. 5:22-23; Rev. 19:7-9; 21:9-11)
 - 1. A chaste *<pure, perfect, consecrated, faithful>* virgin (2 Cor. 11:2)
 - 2. Matching the bridegroom (Gen. 2:23)
 - 3. Fully dedicated to Christ
 - 4. Ready for the wedding
- B. They are pure and holy
 - 1. Our need to be washed, cleansed and sanctified daily
 - a. From inner defilement (Mark 7:20-23)
 - b. Washed from our sins in His own blood (Rev. 1:5; 1 John 1:7)
 - c. Cleansed *<purged>* from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit (2 Cor. 6:14-17; 7:1; 2 Tim. 2:22; 1 Pet. 4:2-6)
 - d. Sanctified completely (1 Thess. 5:23; Eph. 5:26)
 - 2. To run the race
 - a. They cast aside every weight (Heb. 12:1)
 - b. They put off the old man, and put on the new man (Eph. 4:22-24; Col. 3:8-14)
 - c. They do not love the world (1 John 2:15)
- C. They love the Lord with the best love and with a pure heart (Rev. 2:4; 1 Tim. 1:5)
 - 1. They love the Lord with all their heart, soul, mind and strength (Mark 12:30)
 - 2. They love their neighbors as themselves (Mark 12:31; Rom. 13:9; Jam. 2:8; 1 Pet. 1:22)
 - 3. They consider one another in order to stir up love and good works (Heb. 10:24)
 - 4. They abide in His love (John 15:9-10)
 - 5. They are constantly drawn by Christ and seek Him (Song of Solomon 1:4)

6. They are wise virgins (Matt. 25:6-10)

VI. No deceit found in their mouth

- A. We are living in a time of lies and deceit
 - 1. The source of all the deceit is the devil (John 8:44)
 - 2. We have unclean lips (Is. 6:5)
- B. Christ is the truth (John 1:14; 14:6)
- C. The church is the pillar and base of the truth (1 Tim. 3:15)
- D. Putting away lying and speak truth (Eph. 4:25)
- E. Open door for the word (Col. 4:3)
- F. Effective, fervent prayer (Jam. 5:16-18)

VII. Before the throne without fault

- A. The standard is high
 - 1. As holy as the Lord is holy (1 Pet. 1:15-16)
 - 2. Being perfect (Matt. 5:48, 2 Cor. 7:1)
- B. He is willing to complete it in us
 - 1. He will finish it in us (Heb. 12:2)
 - 2. Pruning and trimming (John 15:1-8)
 - 3. Boldness on day of judgment (1 John 4:17-18)
- C. What is required of us?
 - 1. Matter of our heart/faith (James 4:7-10)
 - 2. Well-tested and proven (1 Peter 1:6-7)
 - 3. Press on towards perfection (Phil. 3:12-14)