

## 5-Day Devotional: "A Tale of Two Harvests" from Revelation 14:14-20

### Day 1: The Son of Man Returns

**Scripture to Read:** Revelation 14:14-16, Daniel 7:13-14

#### **Devotional:**

In Revelation 14:14-16, we encounter a powerful image: "one like a son of man" seated on a cloud, wearing a golden crown and holding a sharp sickle. This figure is none other than Jesus Christ, returning in glory to judge the world.

This is a direct reference to Daniel 7:13-14. In Daniel 7, we read about the Son of Man coming on the clouds to establish His everlasting kingdom. Jesus often referred to Himself as the Son of Man during His earthly ministry, linking His identity to this prophecy.

When we think of Jesus, we often picture Him as our Savior, full of grace and mercy, and rightly so. But here, we're reminded that Jesus is also the Judge who will return to separate the righteous from the unrighteous. This isn't a future we can ignore.

#### **Reflection Questions:**

1. How does seeing Jesus as both Savior and Judge affect your relationship with Him?
2. In what ways might this vision of Christ's return bring comfort to believers?

#### **Practical Application:**

Take time today to reflect on the fact that Christ will return, not just as the loving Savior, but also as the righteous Judge. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal areas of your life where you need to submit to Jesus' kingship.

#### **Prayer:**

Lord Jesus, You are the victorious King who will return in glory. Help me to live in light of Your coming, submitting every area of my life to Your lordship. Strengthen my faith and increase my longing for Your return. Amen.

## Day 2: The Harvest of the Righteous

**Scripture to Read:** Revelation 14:15-16; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43; John 4:35-38

### **Devotional:**

The first harvest in Revelation 14:14-16 is a harvest of grain, representing the gathering of the righteous at Christ's return. Jesus spoke about this kind of harvest in Matthew 13:24-30, where He describes wheat growing alongside weeds until the final harvest. The harvest is not just a future event—it's happening now as God gathers His people.

This harvest is a moment of joy and fulfillment for those who have faithfully followed Christ. It's the culmination of God's redemptive plan, where He gathers His people to Himself for eternity. The phrase "the harvest of the earth is fully ripe" suggests that God's timing is perfect - He will return when the full number of His elect have come to faith.

As Christians, we are not only part of this harvest but also workers in the field. John 4:35-38 reminds us that the fields are ripe for harvest, and we are called to participate in gathering souls for the kingdom. Are we making the most of the opportunities around us to share the Gospel and point others to Jesus?

For us today, this image should instill both hope and urgency. Hope, because we know that our labor in the Lord is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:58). Urgency, because we are called to participate in God's harvest by sharing the Gospel and making disciples.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. How does the certainty of this future "harvest" impact your daily life and decisions?
2. How does knowing you are part of God's harvest give you hope?
3. Who in your life needs to hear about Jesus, and how can you share the Gospel with them?

### **Practical Application:**

Identify one person this week who you can intentionally share the love of Christ with. Pray for them and look for an opportunity to plant a seed of faith, knowing that God will bring the harvest.

### **Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, thank You for including me in Your harvest. Help me to live with the joy and urgency of knowing that You will one day gather all Your people to Yourself. Use me as Your instrument to bring others into Your kingdom. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Day 3: The Winepress of God's Wrath

**Scripture to Read:** Revelation 14:17-20, Isaiah 63:1-6, Joel 3:12-14

### **Devotional:**

The second harvest in Revelation 14:17-20 is one of grapes, symbolizing God's judgment on the wicked. This vivid imagery of a winepress filled with grapes being trampled underfoot, resulting in a river of blood, illustrates the severity of God's wrath. The prophet Joel also uses this metaphor in Joel 3:12-14, where he speaks of multitudes in the valley of decision, awaiting God's judgment.

While this imagery is sobering, it reminds us that God is just, and evil will not go unpunished. It's important to understand that God's wrath is not a loss of temper or an irrational outburst. Rather, it's His righteous and just response to sin and evil. A holy God cannot ignore or tolerate sin - to do so would compromise His very nature.

It's a call to repentance for those who have not trusted in Christ, and a reminder for us as believers to live with a sense of urgency in sharing the Gospel.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. How does this passage challenge or change your understanding of God's judgment?
2. In what ways does this increase your appreciation for Christ's sacrifice on your behalf?
3. What motivates you to share the Gospel with others in light of the coming judgment?

### **Practical Application:**

Take a moment today to pray for those who are far from God. Ask Him to give you a heart of compassion and urgency to reach out to them, knowing that judgment is real, but so is God's mercy.

### **Prayer:**

Lord, Your judgment is just and righteous. I pray for those who have not yet turned to You. Give me a heart that longs to see people saved, and help me to live with urgency and compassion in sharing the Gospel. Amen.

## Day 4: The Urgency of the Gospel

**Scripture to Read:** Revelation 14:14-20, 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

### **Devotional:**

As we reflect on the two harvests described in Revelation 14, we're confronted with the stark reality that every person will experience one or the other. This underscores the critical importance and urgency of the Gospel message.

In 2 Corinthians 5, Paul describes believers as "ambassadors for Christ." We have been entrusted with the message of reconciliation - the good news that through Christ, people can be reconciled to God and escape His judgment.

The imagery of Revelation 14 should instill in us a sense of urgency in our gospel witness. Knowing the reality of God's judgment should motivate us to share the hope we have in Christ with those around us. At the same time, the promise of the first harvest - the gathering of believers to Christ - should inspire us to persevere in our faith and in our mission.

This passage challenges us to evaluate our priorities. Are we living with an awareness of the eternal stakes involved in the Gospel message? Are we actively seeking opportunities to be Christ's ambassadors in our daily lives?

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. How does the reality of these two harvests impact your view of evangelism?
2. In what ways can you be a more effective ambassador for Christ in your current context?

### **Practical Application:**

Identify one practical step you can take this week to share the Gospel with someone in your sphere of influence. This could be inviting someone to church, sharing your testimony, or engaging in a spiritual conversation.

### **Prayer:**

Lord, give me a heart that breaks for those who don't know You. Help me to be bold and loving in sharing the Gospel. Use me as Your ambassador to bring the message of reconciliation to those around me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Day 5: Living in Light of Christ's Return

**Scripture to Read:** Revelation 14:14-20, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 5:1-11

### **Devotional:**

As we conclude our study of Revelation 14:14-20, we're reminded of the certainty of Christ's return and the finality of God's judgment. This knowledge should profoundly shape how we live our lives today. While this passage shows us the two harvests—one of salvation and one of judgment—we end with a note of hope. As believers, we look forward to the day when Jesus will gather us into His eternal kingdom, where there will be no more sorrow or pain, as described in Revelation 21:1-4. This is our hope: that Christ will come again and make all things new.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 offers further comfort. We are not to grieve as those who have no hope. The return of Christ is the great hope of the church, and as we wait for that day, we live with joy and purpose.

In 1 Thessalonians 5, Paul exhorts believers to live as "children of the light," always ready for Christ's return. This readiness isn't about predicting dates or times, but about living each day in a way that honors God and advances His kingdom.

The two harvests of Revelation 14 remind us that there are eternal consequences to our choices and actions. As believers, we're called to live with purpose and intentionality, knowing that we will one day stand before Christ. This should motivate us to pursue holiness, to love and serve others, and to faithfully steward the gifts and opportunities God has given us.

At the same time, the promise of Christ's return brings hope and comfort. In a world often marked by suffering, injustice, and evil, we can take heart knowing that God will one day make all things right. This hope should sustain us through trials and empower us to persevere in faith and good works.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. How does the reality of Christ's return impact your daily decisions and priorities?
2. In what areas of your life do you need to grow in readiness for Christ's return?

### **Practical Application:**

Take some time to evaluate your life in light of Christ's return. Identify one area where you need to make changes to live more faithfully as a "child of the light." Make a concrete plan to address this area.

### **Prayer:**

Lord Jesus, thank You for the promise of Your return. Help me to live each day in light of this reality. Increase my longing for Your coming and empower me to live faithfully as I await that day. May my life bring glory to You and draw others to Your salvation. In Your name I pray, Amen.