Morning Sermon December 19th, 2021 "Hark, the Herald Angels Preach: Angel #3 Hell is Hot, Die in the Lord (Jesus)!" Revelation 14:9-13

¹⁵ Thanks *be* to God for His indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15 (NKJV)

How should we evaluate the greatness of a gift / Gift? Knowing felt needs / real needs ...

- Our felt needs are almost always focused on the immediate, the here and now –
- 1. The Beast(s) of Revelation 13 would have us focus on these immediate felt needs –

¹⁶ He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, ¹⁷ and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Revelation 13:16–17 (NKJV)

- A. Note, what receiving the mark gave to those who received it, an ability to buy and sell temporary security because the beast's kingdom, his rule is short-lived!
- B. Yet, notice God tells us trusting in and worshipping the beast carries with it dire consequences –

⁹ Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives *his* mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name." Revelation 14:9-11 (NKJV)

- 2. God would have us look beyond felt needs to real needs -
- A. Jesus teaches us the importance of the soul –

³⁴ When He had called the people to *Himself*, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself,

and take up his cross, and follow Me. ³⁵ For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? ³⁷ Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? ³⁸ For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." Mark 8:34–38 (NKJV)

- B. Our life in this world, is nothing compared to the worth of our eternal soul, even if we gained the whole world Mark 8:36, it does not have eternal worth. It is our not being ashamed of Jesus, standing for Him, despite the cost that is all important Mark 8:38.
- II. God's indescribable Gift, our Lord Jesus Christ, is

 Valuable, because He saves us from sin and Hell —

 21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for

 He will save His people from their sins." Matthew 1:21 (NKJV)
- ⁸ Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. ¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. ¹¹ For there is born to you this day in the city of David <u>a</u> Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." Luke 2:8–12 (NKJV)
 - 1. Who needs this salvation? Is it only those people who in the end time take the mark of the beast?
- ⁹ Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives *his* mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. Revelation 14:9-10 (NKJV)
 - A. It certainly is such people, those who take the mark are doomed, condemned, they will drink the wine of God's wrath Revelation 14:9-10!

B. Yet, hell's fires are not only for those who take the mark, but the majority of people from all ages will be lost –

¹³ "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. ¹⁴ Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. Matthew 7:13–14 (NKJV)

 People are and have been, in league with the beast even before the beast reaches its end of age powerful form, certainly Nero, who was called "the Beast" fits this description, but Hitler would fit too, and even all today who desire one world government, who despise Christ and Christianity, all these fit to the point John the Apostle writes —

¹⁸ Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. 1 John 2:18 (NKJV)

C. Jesus told us even many who profess His Name and do mighty works, supposedly in Christ's name, will be lost, will go to hell –

²¹ "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' ²³ And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' Matthew 7:21–23 (NKJV)

- 2. How much do we need this salvation? Judge by how dreadful Hell is! Ray Comfort parachute illustration ...
- A. God's wrath, full strength ¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. Revelation 14:10 A
- B. Tormented with fire and brimstone -

He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone ... Revelation 14:10 B

C. With angels and Jesus (as the Lamb Who suffered for sin) watching, overseeing -

in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. Revelation $14{:}10\;\text{C}$

D. Torment that smokes, forever and ever, without rest -

¹¹ And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name." Revelation 14:11 (NKJV)

III. The blessed patience, and commandment keeping, of the saints –

¹² Here is the patience of the saints; here *are* those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. ¹³ Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed *are* the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them." Revelation 14:9–13 (NKJV)

1. Why patience, because in an ungodly world, godly people do not typically rule the day, godly people are often persecuted and kept down —

¹² Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. 2 Timothy 3:12 (NKJV)

2. This will definitely be the case in the end –

⁷ It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. Revelation 13:7 (NKJV)

¹⁶ He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, ¹⁷ and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Revelation 13:16–17 (NKJV)

- 3. We are called to patience because our reward does not come in this life Matthew 6:19-33; Colossians 3:1-3; 1 John 2:15-17
- 4. We are called and enabled to keep God's commandments, not in order to be saved, but because we are saved Revelation
 14:12 B ↑ We do not deserve Heaven, or a heavenly-lived life, it is also God's gift Romans 6:23
- 5. True blessedness is dying in the Lord –
- A. A merry little Christmas may come from family and temporary things **Hebrews 11:24**
- B. A Blessed Christmas is only possible when we know Jesus Christ John 17:3, and not just a blessed Christmas but a fully blessed life Psalm 34:8

