



The Reaper
The Harvest and the Vintage
Rev. 14:14-20



Revelation 14:14-20 (NASB), ¹⁴ Then 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 a sharp sickle in His hand. ¹⁵ And another angel came out of the temple, crying out with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, “Put in your sickle and reap, for the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth is ripe.” ¹⁶ Then He who sat on the cloud swung His sickle over the earth, and the earth was reaped. ¹⁷ And another angel came 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 So 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.

The “**REAPER**” of chapter fourteen is none other than Jesus Christ. John identifies Him as the “**SON OF MAN**,” for He was the “Sower” and He will also be the “Reaper.” The harvest in this passage is the harvest of the earth. It is describing a gathering together of the Gentile Nations (which takes place over the course of several chapters) into the “Winepress of the Lord,” or the “**GREAT AND TERRIBLE DAY OF THE LORD.**” This a prophetic fulfillment found in Joel the third chapter.

Joel 3:9-17 ⁹ “Proclaim this among the nations: “Prepare for war! Wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near, Let them come up. ¹⁰ Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears; Let the weak say, ‘I am strong.’” ¹¹ Assemble and come, all you nations, And gather together all around. Cause your mighty ones to go down there,

O LORD. ¹² "Let the nations be wakened, and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; for there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations. ¹³ Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, go down; for the winepress is full, the vats overflow -- For their wickedness is great." ¹⁴ Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. ¹⁵ The sun and moon will grow dark, and the stars will diminish their brightness. ¹⁶ The LORD also will roar from Zion, And utter His voice from Jerusalem; The heavens and earth will shake; But the LORD will be a shelter for His people, And the strength of the children of Israel. ¹⁷ "So you shall know that I am the LORD your God, Dwelling in Zion My holy mountain. Then Jerusalem shall be holy, and no aliens shall ever pass through her again."

This harvest is a harvest of the Gentile Nations that have rejected Christ. The prophet is saying they are being brought (harvested) up into the "Valley of Jehoshaphat," better known as the Valley of Megiddo, or the "**VALLEY of ARMAGEDDON.**" This gathering or harvest is for a **JUDICIAL** purpose of judgment in the Great Winepress of the Lord. The account here is anticipative. It looks forward to chapter 16:13-16, which speaks of how the armies of the world are to be gathered together by "**THREE UNCLEAN SPIRITS**" (represented by three frogs) to the Battle of the Great Day of God Almighty at Armageddon. This Battle takes place **after** the fall of Babylon (Rev.17:15-18, 17:16-17, 18:3; Isa.21:9, 13; Zec. 5:1-4) and is more fully described in chapter 19:17-19 of this study.

We are told that the Harvest is **RIPE**, and the "Son of Man" thrust His Sickle into the earth, and while the pouring out of the "Bowl Judgments" is a part of the reaping, the Harvest is not finished until the end of the "Battle of Armageddon."

The "**VINTAGE**" is of the "**VINE of the EARTH.**" Israel was a "**VINE**" brought out of Egypt (Ps. 80:8) and planted in Canaan, but when God looked for it to bring forth "**GOOD GRAPES**" it brought forth "**WILD GRAPES**" (Isa. 5:1-7), and fruit unto itself (Hosea 10:1). When the Lord of the Vineyard sent His servants for the "Fruit of the Vineyard," the husbandmen beat one, killed another, and stoned another. At last He sent His Son, Him they took and cast out of the Vineyard and killed. Matt. 21:33-43.

Matthew 21:33-43 ³³ " Hear another parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country. ³⁴ "Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. ³⁵ "And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. ³⁶

"Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. ³⁷ "Then last of all he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸ "But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.' ³⁹ "So they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰ "Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?" ⁴¹ They said to Him, "He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons." ⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'? ⁴³ "Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it.

Then Jesus became the "**TRUE VINE**," of which His disciples are the branches (John 15:5). The "**VINE OF THE EARTH**" is Antichrist and all who belong to his destructive and evil system. The "**WINEPRESS**" is the winepress of the "**FIERCENESS AND WRATH OF ALMIGHTY GOD**" (Rev. 19:15). The Prophet Isaiah (Isa. 63:1-6) describes Christ's share in this epic battle. It will cover the whole Land of Palestine, and extend as far south as Edom and Bozrah.

Note: Bozrah was the capital city of the Edomites, once they settled from their nomadic lifestyle. It is located in modern day **Jordan**

The harvesting of the armies of the nations of the world has begun. They are headed to the place called **ARMAGEDDON**.