

# Messages from Revelation 12 of 16

## *Third Angel*

#0473

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—September 1, 1973

Now let's turn again to Revelation 14. Aren't you glad for this book of Revelation?

"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto Him, to show unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass; and He sent and signified it by His angel unto His servant John: Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. Blessed is he that reads, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand" Revelation 1:1–3.

Tonight we're continuing our study of this wonder three-fold message of Revelation 14:6–12. We have studied the first and second messages. Last Friday night, we began our study of the third angel's message. We'll begin with the ninth verse:

"And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation..." Revelation 14:9–10.

As we noted last week, Revelation 15 and 16, these two chapters picture the seven last plagues, as being the pouring out of the wrath of God. So this message of Revelation 14 is what God sends to all the world just before the plagues are poured out. Immediately following the plagues comes the second coming of Jesus.

Friends, isn't it a wonderful thing that God has told us what's ahead? God sent Noah for 120 years before the flood to tell the people what was coming. A few responded, most didn't, but God gave everybody a chance. He's giving everybody a chance today.

If you were the Devil, what would you do about it? Well, I'll tell you what he *is* doing about it, friends. First, he's trying to get everybody so busy in the rat race that they haven't time to listen to God's message of Revelation 14. Second, if anybody will listen, he tries to confuse them by a lot of false theories. But thank God, the

honest-hearted are not going to be diverted by the rat race, and they're not going to be confused by all the false theories.

The true sheep hear the true Shepherd's voice. Do you belong to Jesus? Don't misunderstand me, I don't mean are you perfect. I don't even mean, are you a saint. Do you know that God is the One that gave you life? Do you know that? Well friend, if you do, listen to the Shepherd's voice as He speaks. And remember this, the same wall that keeps the sheep in keeps the wolves out. I hope you'll get inside that wall, and stay inside that wall, for there are plenty of wolves outside. Come in, dear sheep, for whom Jesus died; come into the fold where the message of God is sounding clear and plain; where the food that God has provided for His church is available, and where you are kept from those wolves that are baying and hunting for blood outside.

This world is getting more and more a desperate place to be, do you know it? I just picked up the editorial of our county paper here. Mr. Albert Forrester, a very good friend of mine, formerly a state senator here in Georgia, writes a very interesting column. I want to read you a few words from what he wrote in the paper delivered today:

"We have today a rising disrespect for the law. Not only overt disrespect, but open reluctance and refusal to do the things necessary to make the law effective. Most persons, if questioned, would quickly endorse effective law enforcement, but far too many stand by while law enforcement officers are verbally and physically abused."

In other words, he said most people would give lip service to law enforcement, but when it comes down to actually supporting law enforcement, they're not there. I read on:

"It is certainly an era in which the system of law and law enforcement is being seriously challenged by those who confuse liberty with license, ignore the rights of others, and choose the laws they will obey. Indeed, it is an era when emotion overrides reason. Much of the criticism by troublemakers today is against the so-called establishment. Whatever the establishment stands for, they are against it.

"Just how a nation is to survive without some sort of governmental structure and control, they never get around to explain it. Rather they rebel and lash out to all who do not succeed to their overbearing demands. Even acquiescence to some of their ultimatums is no help, for new and more ridiculous demands quickly follow. Some groups circulate oral and written instructions on how to injure and kill officers of the law."

This is the time to which we've come, my friend. God predicted it. He said that in the last days, it would be like the days before the flood. If you read in Genesis 6, the prophet says back there in the days of Noah, the earth was corrupt, and the earth was filled with violence. Do you know why the earth is filled with violence? I'll tell you why, friends. Men have cast aside the law of God. And if men would not listen to God, why should they listen to human beings? If the Ten Commandments have been changed, annulled, thrown aside, if the Ten Commandments are no longer in force, then how can we expect men to appreciate or respect the constitution of the government? Do you see?

This is the root cause; this is the hidden cause for the lawlessness that's filling the world today. Over a hundred years ago. God began to send this message of Revelation 14, and I want you to see it's dealing with the fundamental issues that I've just presented from today's newspaper.

Let's go back now to Revelation 14. You notice the seventh verse, which we studied a few weeks ago:

“...Fear God, and give glory to Him...”

Why?

“...for the hour of His judgment is come...”  
Revelation 14:7.

Judgment is concerned with law. Judgment is bringing men into court and comparing their lives with law, am I correct? So here is a summons to the bar of God. The whole world must answer for its disobedience, its rebellion against the law of God—the Ten Commandments.

Notice the next line:

“...and worship him that made heaven and earth  
and the sea and the fountains of waters.”  
Revelation 14:7.

Worship the Creator. It is in contrast with this true worship of the seventh verse that the false worship of verse 9 is pointed out; I read it a few moments ago. The third angel comes after the first angel and the second angel, and warns against, he exposes, he cries out against this false worship. What is it? The worship of the beast and his image, and receiving his mark in his forehead or in his hand.

Let us notice so that we get it in plain simple language what the result of listening to this three-fold message is—it's found in the 12<sup>th</sup> verse. Here you'll see that the issue is law-keeping, or lawbreaking because those who hear and accept, listen to and follow the message see what it is:

“Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus”  
Revelation 14:12.

God’s people in this last moment of time are marked. They’re set apart by the fact that they keep something, what is it? They keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. By the way, friends: if men keep God’s commandments, they’ll keep the laws of the country, unless and until those laws are in defiance of the law of God. The only true foundation for obedience to human law is obedience to Divine law.

God’s people today keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. I’m so glad that this message links those two things together—God’s people keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. You know it takes the faith of Jesus to keep God’s commandments today? What kind of faith? What does this verse say? The faith of Jesus; nothing less will do it.

How can I have the faith of Jesus? There’s only one way—accept Jesus into my heart. If I have Him, I have His faith. Don’t I? Certainly, there’s no other way.

Let me say to you, sooner or later as you study the law of God, you will come face to face with some requirement that you’ll find is impossible for human nature of itself to carry out. What will you do then? “Well” you say, “that’s where I can’t do it.” Listen, with men it is impossible, but not with God, for with God all things are possible. God wants you to have an experience in doing something that you thought was impossible—keeping His law, doing what He says. How will you do it? Through faith in Jesus. What is faith? Faith is believing God. That’s what faith is.

Will you say it with me: Faith is believing God.

Do you believe God? “Oh,” you say, “sure I believe God.” Do you know how you’ll find out whether you believe God or not? When you read something in the Bible that you wouldn’t believe unless the Bible said it; when you read something in the Bible that’s contrary to your human experience, your human reason, and you believe it anyway just because God says so, that’s faith. And this is why the Sabbath of the Fourth Commandment is the great test for this latter day.

You look at the Ten Commandments, and most of them commandments, as you look at them, you will say, “Why sure, a reasonable man would understand that ought to be done.” Almost anybody would recognize that the Sixth Commandment that says, “Thou shall not kill,” people ought to keep that. “Thou shall not commit adultery,” would you say that that’s a reasonable command? Yes. What about “thou shall not steal”? Wouldn’t all of you like to live in a world where everyone refrained from stealing? What about the one against telling lies? You see what I mean? There are more or less things that people would recognize that this was a good thing to do what God says. But somewhat in contrast notice this fourth commandment:

“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shall thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shall not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it” Exodus 20:8–11.

I submit that the only basis for believing this is simply because God says so. Human reason alone would never figure out the seventh-day Sabbath. We get it by revelation, friends. God says so. We accept by revelation the fact that God made the world in six days and rested the seventh. None of us were there. No man was there. God did it before man was created, He started and He made this planet. And when He got it all ready, all prepared, then the last thing, He made man and said, “Here it is; now you keep it the way I made it.” And to commemorate it all, to memorialize it all so that you’ll never forget it, “I’m giving you the seventh-day Sabbath. I worked six days and rested the seventh. Now I want you to work six days and rest the seventh, and keep it up week by week.”

Time has gone on now 6,000 years, and there never has been a week but when the Sabbath came *somebody* in this world rested with God on that Sabbath day. The Sabbath has come down to us in unbroken succession from Adam, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Samuel, David, and Daniel. Jesus as He came here, as His custom was He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day (Luke 4:16). His disciples rested the Sabbath day according to the commandment. And as the early church went out with its message all over the world we see them spreading the knowledge of Jesus Christ, crucified, risen, and ascended, and gathering the worshipers together on the Sabbath day.

If we believe the Bible, why not believe that part that tells about the seventh-day Sabbath, what do you say? If we believe the law of God, why not accept the fourth along with all the rest? Do you not see the force of James’ words?

“For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all” James 2:10.

So, the Christian world, sad to say, in turning aside from that Fourth Commandment and introducing a substitute sabbath, has opened the floodgates of lawlessness. This is one of the masterpieces of satanic cunning in all the ages to lead people to think that God is not particular and that it doesn’t make any difference whether we do exactly what He says or not.

The power that wrought this change in the Fourth Commandment, and substituted the first day, Sunday, for the seventh day Saturday is the power that is spoken of here in Revelation 14:9 as the beast. It is described in detail in the first 10 verses of Revelation 13. This is the power that for over a thousand years in Europe,

while claiming to be the one true church of Christ, persecuted the saints of God and sent between 50 and 100 million martyrs to their death because they dared to worship God according to the Bible. This is the power that is responsible for the substitution of Sunday, the first day, for Saturday, the seventh day.

And now God, in this last generation, is causing the light of Revelation to focus upon this crisis, this controversy. And He says if any man worships that beast or his image, or receives his mark, he'll receive the wine of the wrath of God—the seven last plagues. In contrast, He calls us to the true worship of Christ as the Creator, the One who made the heavens and the earth. And of course, the Sabbath, the seventh-day Sabbath, is the sign of His creative powers.

Now I want you to notice an expression in this ninth verse, let's zero in on this one tonight. "If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God." What's an image? It's a likeness. Don't worship the beast, and don't worship anything like the beast. Don't follow the beast and don't follow his image. I pray that God will anoint our eyes and ears as we meditate on this for the next few minutes.

I want to share with you an advertisement that came to my desk. I'm going to read it. Every word I read right here, I want you to listen, and I want you to think about the beast, and I want you to think about his image.

"Scientific breakthrough! Now smoke without nicotine poison. New non-tobacco smoking product looks, smokes, and tastes like a cigarette, but contains no tobacco."

You can go puffing down the street now, you'll look like a what? Like a smoker. Everybody will think you are what? Smoking cigarettes with tobacco in them, but low and behold, you're not. Let me read on:

"At last there is an entirely new way to enjoy smoking. It contains absolutely no nicotine and no tobacco tars, and there is no caution warning on the pack. The minute you light up you'll notice that it has a distinctive aroma and flavor. It's different from anything you've ever smoked before. It looks like a cigarette, smokes like a cigarette, but it is not a cigarette. Instead it is made from a carefully selected blend of specially cured non-tobacco ingredient.

"Send today for several cartons. Start enjoying the satisfaction and pleasure of smoking this revolutionary product which contains no nicotine and no tobacco tars. We think you'll never smoke anything else. Clip and mail this coupon today."

What do you think about it? Shall I take your order for some of these? Let me ask you a few questions about it. Do you think it would be a good plan for us to lay in a supply of these over at the hospital and use these to help people to get away from tobacco? What do you think about that? Why do you think I read you this? Do you think I was afraid that we'd see this campus filled with people going around puffing, and when somebody challenged them, they would meekly say, "Oh, no, I've got one of these, this has no tobacco in it"? Wouldn't that be smart? Wouldn't that be a way to have some fun? To have the badge without the tar and nicotine, and be right in style and step?

I wonder if somebody's beginning to think of some other things besides cigarettes. I wonder if somebody's beginning to meditate about other things in life besides smoking. There're many things in the lifestyle as we speak of it, aren't there? Diet, and dress, and music, and reading, and amusement, and education, recreation, just a lot of things.

No, my dear friends, I tell you truly there are a lot of people smoking things which look like cigarettes and they look you in the eye and tell you that there's no nicotine in it. But I don't want the beast, and I don't want his image. I don't want the Devil, and I don't want anything that looks like him, or acts like him, or comes from him, or leads to him. What do you say?

I want to tell you something: In a thousand ways, the Devil has come into the church today with his various ideas on music, on literature, on education, on medical work, on dress, on the training of children, and on many other subjects. He's come in with insidious, subtle things. And if you will let the Devil, he will keep you busy sending those things to the laboratory for analysis, and some of them will come back with a fairly clean bill of health. He'll just keep you busy with that.

The message of God for this hour is to turn away from all such stuff, literally and symbolically, and worship Him that made heaven and the earth.

Over 100 years ago in the beginning of this movement, the Lord gave His prophet a view of the remnant traveling a narrow way cast up high above the earth. And the further they traveled on it, the further they got away from what? The world. Not close to it.

"But," says one, "don't we have to come as close to the people as we can in order to help them?"

Listen, we will never help alcoholics by drinking whiskey, or wine, or beer, or fermented cider. We will never. And yet there are people who think that's the way to do it.

In a religious magazine that has a circulation running into the hundreds of thousands, I read where one minister told about how he'd won more than one soul over a pipe and a glass of beer. Why not? A way to be friendly.

So we see those arguments in dress, in music, and all the rest.

We want to beware of anything that comes from the Devil and therefore leads to him. We want to cleanse our minds and our hearts and homes and institutions and our churches of all the trappings of Rome and of the world. We want to come back to apostolic simplicity and purity. What do you say?

When Jesus established His church—and by the way that word “church” means called out. He called His people out; He separated them from the world. In the last call that comes here in the book of Revelation 18, notice what it is. Revelation 18:4, the last call:

“And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues” Revelation 18:4.

What does God say? “Come out.” Come out of every church that breaks God’s law. Come out of every organization that is breaking God’s law. Come out of every experience that’s breaking God’s law. Come into conformity with God’s Ten Commandments. That’s the message for this hour. And we’re to do it with faith in Jesus.

Let me give you an illustration, this is just in a way a tiny little illustration. This isn’t my subject, but I want you to think and begin to question many things. Suppose we’re going along the road, and somebody stops us and says, “Friend, we’re having a wonderful party over here tonight at such a place, and we’d like to have you come.”

Suppose it’s summertime, and through the open windows, we hear the music pouring out of this big place. We say, “I wonder if I ought to go in or not.”

These people that are inviting us say, “Sure, we’re going to have a wonderful time.”

And as we get closer, we not only hear the music, but we see people going around. Here’s a boy and girl together, here’s a man and woman together, and they’re going around and round, and round and round.

Somebody says, “I don’t think I should go in there with that familiarity.”

And the one that’s inviting us says, “Oh, you’re afraid that this is a dance hall, aren’t you?”

We say, “It kind of looks that way, and the music sounds that way, and what I see through the window.”

So this party says, “If you’ll just come in the door, I’ll prove to you this isn’t a dance. Come in, and I’ll show you that there are little wheels on the feet of the people.” This makes it all right. The music is the same. The rink is the same. The



partners are the same. But by having wheels on the feet of the participants, we have sprinkled holy water on the whole thing.

“Scientific breakthrough! Now smoke without nicotine poison. New non-tobacco smoking product looks, smokes, and tastes like a cigarette, but contains no tobacco.”

Do you follow me, friend? Let me give you another illustration. Remember, I’m just giving a few illustrations; this is only just a few illustrations. There are hundreds of them. You must think this through for yourself.

Again we’re invited to a party, and we come, and as we get near, we see beyond a fence several feet high. We look over there, and we see a lot of people, and as far as we can see, they’re mostly undressed. Well, they have some little straps over their shoulders. There’re men and women out there, they seem to be having quite a nice time. We say, “Well, my, I don’t think I ought to go there where people are undressed like that.”

The person that’s inviting us says, “Oh, you don’t understand. That’s a swimming pool in there.”

I say, “Oh, I see, that makes it all right then.”

Or does it? Does that fact that there’s water on the floor instead of sand or cement, does that make undressing in front of one another, and parading around in front of one another, does that make what would be immoral in one setting perfectly virtuous and modest and in another?

Somebody says, “Well, Brother Frazee, I’ll have to think about that awhile.”

That’s what I want you to do. I want you to think about it. We’re living in the time when we need to beware of the beast and his image. We need to beware not only of the outwardly and long recognized opposition to God’s law, but we need to beware of all the subtle, seductive terms.

Let’s look at music a moment, or do I dare? Do I dare not? You know Lucifer was once the leader of the heavenly choir, and he hasn’t forgotten how to use music. He knows how to use many kinds of music. He knows how to use music to put people to sleep on the brink of hell. He knows how to use music to excite them so they are intoxicated as though they’d been drinking beer or wine.

What would you think if somebody says when they hear a certain type of music, “Oh, I wouldn’t listen to that.”

But the one that’s inviting them says, “Well wait a minute, you haven’t heard the words yet.” They hear some religious words, and they say, “I guess it’s all right if it has religious words.”

What do you think about that? Do you think that's holy water? Do you think putting God's Words to the Devil's music makes a good marriage? Tell me honestly, do you? Now, this verse we've just read in Revelation 18 says: "Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

Dear ones, if I've stepped on somebody's toes, someday you'll thank me. If what we've said so far wakes somebody up, someday you'll say, Thank you. I hope it'll be tonight. But there're some of you that I haven't stepped on. Will you take the principles that we're looking at to the secret place of prayer? Will you take the books in your library, and on your table, the magazines? Will you think of your TV programs and radio broadcasts? Will you think of the clothes in your closet? Will you think of the way you wear your hair? Will you think of everything from head to foot? Will you think of everything in your life from Sunday morning until Saturday night, and examine it in the light of the law of God?

And remember, the Devil is in the business of getting you to worship the beast or his image, and receive his mark in your right hand or in your forehead. The Devil is trying to control the thought processes and getting you and me to dance on the brink of hell until we go over the precipice.

Will you accept that challenge and think through the question of whether you have been influenced?

Some of our men who were taken prisoners in Korea and the same thing happened in Vietnam, went through a terrible process of being brainwashed by the enemy. It's possible for the human mind to be subjected to such a barrage of influences, such a stream of impressions, that it takes a miracle of God to withstand it. If you are forced into a situation like that, God will work a miracle and protect you. But if you and I listen to what the world is listening to. If we look at what the world is looking at. If we read what the world is reading. If our lives are lived in the mainstream of the world's thought, where will we turn back in the downward march? So I appeal to you tonight, beware of the first approach as the Devil comes with his snares.

Now let's go back to Revelation 14. The ninth verse warns us against the beast and his image. In the first verse, we have the picture of those who have not the beast, but the image of the Lamb.

"...I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with Him an hundred forty and four thousand, having His Father's name written in their foreheads" Revelation 14:1.

Another translation adds, "His name and His Father's name." God is going to have some people down here today that are lambs instead of beasts, as I studied with you a week ago. God is going to have some people down here today that

instead of worshiping the image of the beast, as we're noting tonight, they will have in their lives the image of the Lamb.

Wouldn't it be a wonderful thing in a world that has become altogether like Satan for God to have some people that are all together like Him? Do you think it would be possible to tell them apart? Do you think they'd sing the same songs? Do you think they'd dress the same? Do you think they'd find their pleasure in the same amusements? People that were altogether like Satan on the one hand, and people that were all together like Jesus on the other?

Somebody says, "Ah, Brother Frazee, it seems to me that you're making it pretty narrow." Indeed.

Jesus says:

"...strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leads unto life, and few there be that find it" Matthew 7:14.

"...wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leads to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat..." Matthew 7:14.

Oh friend, instead of trying to bargain with God and see how many of these nicotine-less cigarettes we can take in with us, instead of seeing how much of the wine of Babylon we can smuggle aboard the ship Zion, I say instead of trying to make a bargain with God, if we will come to Calvary and try to get all out in the endeavor to become like Jesus, Christ will be here soon and take His church home.

Do you want to go home? We'll never get ready seeing how close we can get to the world and its folly, mirth, its feasting, its covetousness, its lewdness, its lasciviousness, its immorality, its pride, its competition, its strife, all of these things. Instead of seeing how close we can get and still retain the name of church members, let's thank God for the great privilege of becoming like Jesus. What do you say?

I'm so glad people don't have to wait until they get old and gray-headed or bald-headed to have this experience. Joseph had it when he was just 17. Daniel showed it when he was just 18. John the Baptist showed it all through his teens and 20s. The child Jesus lived this life in wicked Nazareth, and died because His life carried out these principles. Thank God, there are young people today that are taking hold of this program.

Dear young people, I'm so glad that many of you are learning that there's a better way than aping the world, imitating the world, copying the world. I'm so glad that many of you are learning that Jesus' way is the happy way. And don't wait for other people. Don't wait until the deacon's wife, or the Sabbath School superintendent's wife, or the pastor's wife, or anybody else's wife sets you an example on dress. Get down on your knees and ask God to help you to dress like a daughter of the King rather than a daughter of Babylon.

Oh, that our people might be freed from the influence of Hollywood and New York and Paris. Oh, that we might come back to apostolic simplicity and apostolic purity. There's only one thing that will do it—that's looking to Jesus every day.

You know what it means to have the image of Jesus in us? First of all, we have to be born again. Jesus put it plain:

“...Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” John 3:3.

And I offer you that glorious opportunity. Your heart can be converted. That means changes, so you love what God loves, and hate what God hates.

[Recording ended in progress]

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