

CHAPTER 14

Do You Know You Have the Last Message To Be Given to the World?

Foundational Review

Since our study of Chapter 10, we have been discussing specifically things pertaining to Seventh-day Adventists. These things are not for us to brag about, but for us to pray about; not for us to lord it over others, but for us to ask the Lord to empower us to carry out the impossible task which He has given us.

Have you read Chapter 14 in the book? If not, please read the chapter before doing this workbook session. Please.

This study session will seem like a TEST, because it is. We will be reviewing material we have studied previously, but put to a new use. Actually, our study is meant to be a question-and-answer discussion. But, if you think of it as an exam, then treat it as an Open Book Exam. The Scriptures are listed above for a reason. If you don't know the answer, look up the Scripture.

Last session we said: Chapter 13 and 14 are two parts of a unit about the Third Angel's Message. In our last study session in Chapter 13 we presented this concept as illustrated in the Sanctuary, to help us (who don't normally think in Sanctuary terms), to understand the importance and relevance of Daniel 8:14. We talked about cleansing. We talked about removing the penalty, power, and the presence of Sin, so that we can stand in the presence of God Himself.

Review of Where We Are

READ Hebrews 10:19-23.

"Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful."

You Are:

- A Saint (Ephesians 1:1)
- and Beloved (Ephesians 1:6; John 16:27)
- A Christian/the 5 C's (Acts 11:26)
- In a Covenant Grace/Faith Relationship with God (Gal. 2:8)
- Accepting/Received From/ Faith/Son (1 John 4:7)
- Abiding/Growing In/Hope/Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:12-16)
- Acting/Becoming Like/Love/Father (2 Peter 1:4)
- Required to choose (Rom. 12:1)
- Each choice is made by Faith (Romans 4:21)
- Faith works by Love (Gal. 5:6)
- Gifts of Holy Spirit-internal/external change (Romans 12:2)
- Keep the Commandments because of Love (John 15:8-10)
- Function: Priests and Stewards by Faith (Hebrews 11:6)
 - Priests (1 Peter 2:9; Hebrews 9:1-6)
 - Stewards (Philippians 2:1-5; Matthew 25:21)

This is basic Christianity.
(Ephesians 3:14-19)



Chapter 14: Do You Know You Have the Last Message To Be Given to the World?

Do you remember this Scripture? This is what our last session was all about.

In this study session based on Chapter 14, we will see what this looks like in the real lives of Seventh-day Adventist Christians. This session brings together all the important topics that we have discussed previously. This is the climax of the basic question of the book: Seventh-day Adventist Christian: Do you know who you are?

SDA Christians are:

- Beloved Saints, living in a Covenant Grace-Faith Relationship with God
- Ministering as Priests with the mind-set of Stewards
- Grasping the concept of abiding in the empowering embrace of the Holy Spirit

For the Seventh-day Adventist Church we add to this:

- Understanding the unique calling, and responsibility, of the Seventh-day Adventist Church to be carried out in its painfully weak human condition
- Proclaiming the Three Angels' Messages, the Time of the End Message of God

We've worked our way from the very basics of being a Christian, through the intensity of a more intimate relationship to God, to the realization that in the Time of the End God has raised up a unique group of people, the Seventh-day Adventist Church. God has empowered them to "prophecy again" (Revelation 10:11), to deliver His loving message for the final time: the messages of the Three Angels found in Revelation 14:6-12. As the visible beginnings of the Remnant, like Elijah and John the Baptist, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is to call out the larger invisible part of the Remnant, those in the world who desperately want to enter into a Covenant Grace-Faith Relationship with Him.

This is who we are. Now, I want you to watch it all come together in this session.

Millerites and the Three Angels

QUESTION #1:

Do you know in what way the Millerites understood the Three Angels' Messages? In this diagram, draw a line between each specific Angel's Message and the way in which it was understood by the Millerites prior to October 22, 1844.

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| a. First Angel | Consequences of rejecting the imminent Second Coming |
| b. Second Angel | Gospel, Obedience, and Judgment |
| c. Third Angel | Rejection of Second Coming by churches constitutes Babylon |

Now let's take the Three Angels one by one and grasp their meaning in the context of the Covenant Grace-Faith Relationship at the Time of the End. As a guide, examine and review again the Covenant Grace-Faith Relationship Diagram:

Grace		Faith
God Gives the Gift	⇒	Man Accepts and Submits by Faith Baptism (Romans 6:1-4)
Jesus/Cross (1 Peter 2:24)	[Choice]	
God Gives the Gift	⇒	Man Abides and Trusts in Hope Internal Change of Heart (Ezekiel 36:26-27; John 15:5)
Holy Spirit (John 14:16-17)	[Choice]	
God Gives the Gift Motive and Power to Do (Ephesians 3:16)	⇒	Man Loves and Acts External Change; Empowered to Obey (John 15:8-10)
	[Choice]	
Character of the Father (2 Peter 1:4)		Change of Character and Personality (Galatians 5:22-25)

First Angel

QUESTION #1:

READ Revelation 14:6-7. In the First Angel, the Millerites of the 1840's saw the gospel, the obedience (in giving God glory), and the judgment. What more do you see?



Describe First Angel's Message in Covenant Grace-Faith Relationship terms. (Clue: Ephesians 2:4-7. What Gifts are you to "receive?")

QUESTION #2:

READ Ezekiel 37:14; Ephesians 4:12-16. How will you grow?

QUESTION #3:

READ Psalm 24:2-3. Whom will you “become like” in order to stand?

QUESTION #4:

READ Revelation 14:7b. What is the confirmation and assurance that this angel’s message can be believed? How does the emphasis on the Sabbath fit into the Time of the End?

Think It Through

READ Hebrews 11:6. Is God to be trusted to do what He promises? Do you believe Him?

You have to believe this yourself and live this yourself, before you can give this message to anyone else.

Think It Through

How should this message be delivered to “those who dwell on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people?” People have to be aroused to their true condition, yes? They have to acknowledge their sinful condition and standing before God, yes? Then how should we deliver it? How was it, how should it have been given to you? Our last four seminar meetings will explore this more fully.

Second Angel



READ Revelation 14:8 and 18:4. In the Second Angel, the Millerites believed that the churches of the 1840’s, by their refusal to hear the message of Christ’s soon return, had become Babylon. What more do you see?

Do you remember our diagram of the human heart from Chapter 6? The First Angel had four parts. Let’s see how many parts there are in the Second Angel.

Part 1

QUESTION #1:

Using this diagram, describe the two choices presented in the Second Angel’s message.

READ Micah 6:8

READ 1 John 2:16

Human Heart

A ← Value Set Choice → B

Micah 6:8

1 John 2:16

For Others

For Self

Justice = right doing

possessions

Mercy = compassion

passions

Humility = reverence

power/pride

Set of the Mind = which value set to choose (based on Who or What is loved/worshiped)

QUESTION #2:

READ John 3:19-21. How did Jesus describe these two choices to Nicodemus? What two options did Jesus present?

Part II

In the Second Angel’s Message, Babylon is described as “fallen.”

QUESTION #1:

READ Jeremiah 3:6, 13. In the Biblical sense, how does someone become “fallen?”

What does that have to do with worship?

QUESTION #2:

God is calling His People to “come out of her? How do you do that? Listen carefully to these two Scriptures and describe for each how God’s People “come out of her.”
READ Ephesians 5:1-10.

READ Psalm 5:7.

QUESTION #3:

READ John 14:16, 17; 15:5. If you “come out,” what do you “go into”?

Think It Through

a. Where are you abiding?

b. In the Second Angel’s Message, what does the Sabbath/Sunday choice represent?

c. Does waving the American flag make you an American? Does keeping the seventh day Sabbath make you a Seventh-day Adventist Christian? What does?

d. Have you made the choice to abide? Why?

Again, you have to believe this yourself and live this yourself, before you can give this message to anyone else.



Third Angel

READ Revelation 14:9-12. The Millerites saw that... The Third Angel’s Message points out the consequences of the choice made under the Second Angel, concentrating on the negative, devastating consequences of choosing not to follow God. On our Plan of Salvation Chart at the Third Level, the internal choice results in external behavior.

QUESTION #1:

Passing over the negative effects which are stark, real and devastating, list the positive results of choosing to follow God described in these scriptures:

READ 2 Peter 1:4; Galatians 5:22-23.

READ Revelation 3:12; 7:2-3.

READ Romans 1:17 (See also Romans 3:22; 4:5; Galatians 5:5; Philippians 3:9.)

The Three Angels’ Messages

So what’s so hard about preaching the Three Angels’ Messages? And what is this “tribulation such as never was since there was a nation”? This ought to be duck soup, right? But it is not. It is more like frog soup. Give a one or two word answer about why this is so hard from the following scriptures:

READ Matthew 24:42-44.

READ Matthew 24:21. Preaching in the midst of a crisis, what will be going on around you?

READ 2 Thessalonians 2:10; Revelation 13:14.

READ Revelation 13:15.

READ Zechariah 13:6. Who will be putting on the pressure to give in?

READ Hebrews 12:26-27.

■ **Think It Through**

The Millerites saw the Third Angel's Message being fulfilled as the consequence of preparing or not preparing for the imminent Second Coming of Jesus on October 22, 1844. What more do you see?

As described in each of the following scriptures, what does living in the Covenant Grace-Faith Relationship look like when every earthly support is taken away at the Time of the End, do you think? READ: Job 13:15

Romans 4:20-21

Hebrews 10:19-23

Daniel 3:17-18

Philippians 4:13

At the Time of the End, living in the Third Angel's Message is done just like the First and Second Angel, by Faith Again, you have to believe this yourself and live this yourself,

before you can give this message to anyone else.

This is the Third Angel's Message in its fullness, beyond the Millerite view of consequences. When it all comes together, in the midst of devastating chaos, this will be the life of Seventh-day Adventist Christians, living in the messages of all three angels, an inspiring, engaging, practical life of Righteousness by Faith. This life will be so distinct, so obvious that no one will mistake these people for any other than the People of God. This life will proclaim volumes, about God and the life that is possible in Him, to the people of the world who are living in a totally different and rebellious paradigm.

Some will see the contrast and will want to leave the chaos and to share in the peace, the reconciliation, and the Covenant that the People of God have. These desperately searching people of the world will be drawn to them and to God, making up the final Remnant, "a great multitude, which no one could count..." (Revelation 7:9) Others who have rejected the Creator God as their Lord will reject the example of the People of God and persecute them to the uttermost.

When it all comes together, you as a Seventh-day Adventist Christian knows "who you are," makes the choices and experiences the empowerment of "who you are," so that when the final crisis comes, you will be prepared to live the life of "who you are" as an example before the world.



Take Home

1. Write a faith statement of your commitment to living the Covenant Grace-Faith Relationship in terms of each of the Three Angels' Messages.

2. Last session in Chapter 13 we illustrated the Covenant Grace-Faith Relationship in the Sanctuary. This session in Chapter 14 we illustrated the relationship with the Three Angels' Messages. What's the connection between the two chapters?
