

THE LAST SERMON

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of the world Rev 14:6

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The last sermon mankind will hear before the end

In the Book of Revelation, Chapter 14 verse 6, we find the last sermon the world will hear before the apocalypse. It is the last proclamation of the will of God before that awful Day when the wrath of God is poured out.

In this last sermon the Lord summarizes the entire matter of the Bible. He gives the everlasting gospel message, as it is rarely heard in churches today and makes his final plea before Judgment.

And so it behooves us to listen in, to examine and to meditate on this last grand sermon. While only a few verses, 65 words in total, this sermon divides the Christian religions and professors of faith. It separates unbelievers and believers. It is the final word on how the Lord will judge mankind. In other words, it cuts to the chase.

Everyone on earth will hear, in their own tongue, the last sermon from God Himself. And then the door is shut; probation ends, mercy is withdrawn and Judgment begins.

Here is the final sermon God will preach to the living. 65 words that tell of life and death.

“Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment

has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

Revelation 14:6

And then after this proclamation, in Revelation 14:14, we read the harvest of the righteous and the harvest of the wicked begins.

Eternal gospel

First it is proclaimed this message is “God’s everlasting good news” (eternal gospel). From the foundation of the heavens and the earth, and the beginning of creation this news has been eagerly anticipated. And is the message, “God loves you?” No, the eternal gospel proclaimed is, “Fear God... because the hour of his judgment has come.”

For whom is this good news? And why is it called a message of good news that was preached from the beginning of time (eternal)? The answer is in Romans 8:19.

“For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. Against its will, all creation was subjected to God’s curse. But with eager hope, the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God’s children in glorious freedom from death and decay. For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as his adopted children, including the new bodies he has promised us.”

The hour of judgment has come is good news for God's people, His angels, the heavens and the earth. The time for the new city, New Jerusalem, which originates from heaven, has come. A new heaven and a new earth will be created. And resurrection of the Lord's elect unto glory has come. God will dwell with his people and He will be their God, forever and ever. This is the eternal gospel all creation has longed to hear; the hour of judgment has come. Now all things will be made new; without pain, suffering or sin.

Fear God

The sermon then begins with the command, "Fear God." Why? The scripture then tells us why, "...because the hour of his judgment has come." What does "Fear God" mean and why is it the first words uttered by the Lord to every last human? The Greek word for fear used in these verses is "phóbos," derived from "phebomai" which means "to flee, withdraw" as in terror or fright. The other Hebrew word sometimes used is "pachad" which means "dread, awe, disaster, panic, terror." And other verses that contain "Fear God" use the Hebrew word "yare" which means "afraid, fearful." So what is the fear of God or to fear God?

The fear of God is the knowledge of God Almighty that causes a man to drop like dead in the presence of the Lord. It is the understanding the Holy One of Israel is a consuming fire before whom no man can stand and live (Exodus 33:20). A presence so powerful it caused the righteous Daniel, John, and Isaiah to become limp and fall like dead men, and Moses to hide in a rock.

The fear of God is the knowledge of sin and its wages that causes a man to flee from sin because of the terror and condemnation it brings. You abhor it. The very specter of sin brings dread to the people of God for the Lord Jesus said “fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.” (Matt 10:28)

The fear of God is the knowledge that you deserve death. We cry as did Isaiah (6:5); "It's all over! I am doomed, for I am a sinful man. I have filthy lips, and I live among a people with filthy lips.”

To fear God is to know that when we stand in the presence of the Almighty, unclean, we deserve nothing but wrath and destruction.

And with head bowed, seeing we are not worthy of anything but condemnation we tremble before him. Yet, as we slowly raise our heads we see his hand of mercy extended; the “consuming fire” comes towards us. We shake in fear and then we hear him say “fear not.”

The fear of God brings us to the understanding that all that exists is by Him and for Him. We own nothing. Even the fruit of our loins, our children, are His. There is nothing we can withhold from him, nothing we can claim as our own. We are naked and bare but for his grace. He is the potter we are the clay. We are dust brought to life by His breath. He will show mercy upon whom he will show mercy. In his presence we are overwhelmed at the force and power and majesty before us; and we fall to our face in meekness, reverence and awe.

Yet as you lay prone, awestruck, a hand touches your shoulder. It is the Lord and He says, “I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, “Fear not, I am the one who helps you.” (Isaiah 41:13)

And then again in Psalm 33: 18 he says, “Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.”

It is the one who fears God who will hear Him say “fear not.”

Give Him Glory

After the commandment to “Fear God,” we are commanded to “give Him glory.” The Greek word used here is “doxa,” which literally means “to give good opinion of someone.” The result of this is “praise and honor” bestowed on that person. In other words, you give a testimony or witness about someone which causes that person to be honored and praised by others. So what is the testimony a person gives that brings glory to the Lord?

The Lord says in John 15:8, “By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.” What is this fruit that also is a testimony, that when people see it they turn and give honor and praise [glory] to God?

The Lord Jesus tells us the one who hears the Word of God and understands it (Matt 13:23) and abides in Jesus and Jesus in him, it is he that bears

much fruit (John 15:5). And this fruit will last (John 15:16) for it is fruit for God (Romans 7:4). And the clue as to what this fruit is, that gives glory to God and witness to God, is in John 15:4.

“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.”

This fruit is nothing less than the life blood and Spirit of Jesus Christ flowing through a man which transforms him into a son of God. Dead branches that abide in the vine now resurrect into newness of life and bloom. Justified and pure of heart in the eyes of the Father, a man that bears fruit is re-created in the image of Jesus Christ.

And in looking at this one with the heart of Jesus, supernaturally transformed by the Spirit, one who testifies he has become a new creature in Christ, the world stands in awe. A miracle has occurred, a phenomenon beyond logical explanation. And thus glory is heaped upon the Lord.

A man, once a dedicated persecutor of Jesus, and killer of God’s children now gives his life to save that which he once hated. He now counts all things as waste and only Christ as gain. How could this be? All praise and glory to God for what he was wrought in this man, Saul of Tarsus.

In Matthew 13:23 we learn God’s people yield different amounts of fruit: some a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty. Paul describes this as a measure of faith allotted to each by the Lord. (Romans 12:3) The greater the measure of faith, the more a man abides in utter abandonment

to the Lord Jesus. And the more fruit he bears with a sweet fragrant aroma, pleasing to God. This fruit for God, this manifestation of the character and Spirit of Christ in a man, shines a light in the world.

As the Son reflects the Father's light, so the one transformed with the heart of Jesus reflects the light of the Son – giving glory to God Almighty. Praise to God for what he has done. For ye have become a light of the world and as men see the works of God you do, they glorify the Lord (Matt 5:16).

And as the Spirit of Christ flows through a man's body changes happen. He develops the fear of God. The Spirit writes His commandments on the heart and the man keeps them. He begins to abhor sin in his life and in the church of God. Now the character of Christ blooms, giving God the glory.

“By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.” John 1:2

You love that which you once hated. You love the brothers in Christ, you love your enemies, you love your neighbor, you love the lost, and you love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. And as the love of Christ comes through your earthly body, for this is not human love, more fruit comes forth; joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

The greatest glory we can give the Lord thy God is the witness of Jesus Christ in our hearts and transformed lives. Not theology, not attending

church, not tithing, not youth camp, not ministries, not charitable deeds but to be transformed into the character and image of the Son of God.

“Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” (Matt. 5:48) What is he saying? Be complete, be filled with His Spirit; grow up in maturity in Christ Jesus and bear much fruit. For in this is God glorified. That it is no longer you that live, but Christ that liveth within you created to do the works of God. For only the Son of God can glorify God and no man shall gain glory in his eyes, for none is good, no not one.

Worship Him

And then the final commandment before the hour of judgment is to “Worship Him.” The Greek word used here is “proskynéō” translated as “to kiss the ground when prostrating before a superior; to worship, ready to fall down/prostrate oneself to adore on one's knees.”

The King of kings, Lord of lords and creator of the heavens and the earth is about to appear and all mankind is commanded to worship Him. This command is the final warning to an idolatrous world that worships the Dragon [the devil] and those who he gives power; the Beast [the world] and Babylon [false worship], “a dwelling place of demons and a prison of every unclean spirit.” (Rev 18:2).

The Scriptures say “*all who dwell on the earth*” will worship the world (Beast), “*everyone* whose names are not written in the Book of Life of the Lamb from the foundation of the world.” (Rev 13:8)

Do people knowingly and openly worship the devil? No, but people love the world which is under the control of the devil. And thus by loving all that is in the world, reject God and his call to worship Him.

“We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.” (1 John 5:19) “Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.” (1 John 2:15)

Pastor Paris Reidhead tells us more about this worship of false gods and idols that has befallen all the people.

“Thus these people that have come to Christ, that are met in his name, are a people that have been called by him and have been called to him. But they’ve not only been called by him and to him, but they have been called from something. Paul writing to the church of Thessalonica said “You have turned to God from idols to serve the living and the true God.”

The idols that we recognize in the Old Testament are those of Baal, Ashtoreth and Moloch. Baal was that evil spirit which was numerous, for in every location there was one. The evil spirit that must be placated in order that one could be prosperous. And rather than trust God for prosperity they were willing to sacrifice to Baal.

Today the counterpart to sacrificing to Baal is to exercise duplicity in business, lying, cheating, stealing or otherwise misrepresenting one's product and one's service. And we find today that there are multitudes of people that are worshipping Baal in the literal 20th century sense of living dishonest lives. Some even who carry with them the name of Christ. They are of such a person who would practice duplicity in business. They were as the people in Israel, who feared the Lord but served Baal and Ashtoreth.

We see that the worship of Ashtoreth was to satisfy the appetite for sex and sensual indulgence, for it was the worship of the woman. And thus we find today that all that is in the world is the lust of the eye, things, Baal worship and the lust of the flesh, Ashtoreth.

Then there was the third type of worship in the Old Testament, that of Moloch. We pointed this out in detail in the past so it suffices to just remind you of it now. Moloch was that great king that was served, even Satan himself, who when properly placated could give to the worshiper position and power, and influence and authority. Thus the worship of Moloch was expressly for the purpose of being promoted in the eyes of one's fellows.

We would find today that the counterpart is the pride of life. To use means other than the perfect submission to the will of God where in one could acquire ascendancy over his fellows.

And so the call to Christ [Worship Him] is a call to turn to God from idols; to renounce the right to

secure by any means that which one wants and to live within the will of God in respect to it. It is a call to renounce the right to indulgence and to renounce the means of securing prominence and position for oneself. It is to turn from Baal, Ashtoreth and Moloch; the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life to serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

So, it's a call by someone, a call through someone and it's a call from something. And to meet in his name means that one has heard the call by Christ, and the call to Christ, and the call from the world. He has come and fallen at the feet of the Son of God. He has been broken in the fall of all of one's plans and purposes, and will and intention, and rebellion and anarchy, and has submitted to the sovereignty of Christ.

Thus the call [Worship Him] is answered by that response to Romans 10:9 the most familiar of verses used in personal work I presume; "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth, Jesus to be Lord." What does it mean "to confess with the mouth Jesus to be Lord?" It means I've heard the call by him and I heard the call to him, and I've heard the call from the world. And now I'm coming to say with my lips that I have made a transaction in my heart and from today on as long as I live Jesus Christ shall be the undisputed sovereign of my life.

To confess with the mouth Jesus to be Lord is to verbally testify to an inner transaction of sovereignty from self to the Son of God. Thus one can believe in the heart. To believe in the heart you notice means to put it right in the center of one's being. The result of this heart faith is a

saving relationship with Christ. Christ comes in to bring life.

So if two or three are met in my name involves all of this that I have described. These that have met in his name are people that have been broken, people who have been crushed, and people that have been slain by the revelation of their sin and have been healed by the nail pierced hand of the Son of God.

These are the two or three that gather. It is not the person that has sat back and said “Oh yes, Jesus is a figure in history, Jesus is prominent in theology, Jesus is center of sociology and of history and therefore I am believing that he is the Son of God. That he lived and that he died.” An intellectual response without any interior effect, this is not what it means.

Our churches I am confident, across this land of ours are filled with people that are going to miss salvation, miss Heaven by 18 inches. Because they have their salvation up here, in an intellectual comprehension rather than down here, in the spiritual experience and the presence of the Son of God.”

*Pastor Paris Reidhead – Excerpts from the sermon
“If you Agree”*

Epilogue

“Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens,

the earth, the sea and the springs of water.”
Revelation 14:6

This sermon drives a dagger into those who believe they are saved by belief in Christ yet still live and practice sin. No evidence of repentance or newness of life is in them. They have a form of godliness yet the fear of God is not in their eyes.

Psalm 28:3 calls these professors of faith “workers of iniquity who speak peace with their neighbors, while evil is in their hearts.” Again in Proverbs 26:25 we are told, “when he speaks graciously, believe him not, for there are seven abominations in his heart; though his hatred be covered with deception, his wickedness will be exposed in the assembly [Day of Judgment].

It drives a dagger into those who believe baptism, rites, rituals, religion, charity and even keeping the commandments will save them. These are the self-righteous (Luke 18:14, Matt 19:20).

In Isaiah 29:13 the Lord says, "These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is based on merely human rules they have been taught." In other translations it says “their fear of me is a commandment taught by men” and “their reverence for me consists of tradition learned by rote.”

What is he saying? These people who call Jesus Christ Lord, and call themselves Christian, give no glory to God because Christ is not in them. The heart of Jesus, the Spirit of the Lord has never flowed through them and thus they bear no fruit.

They have no heart faith but base their salvation on the teaching and traditions of their denomination, their good deeds and law abiding lifestyle. These the Lord Jesus, heartbreakingly tells on the Day of Judgment, “I never knew you.” (Matt 7:23)

The Greek word used here for “knew you” is *ginóskó*. It is the same word used in Luke 1:34: “And Mary [a virgin] said to the angel, 'How will this be since I do not know (*ginóskō* = sexual intimacy) a man?'"

The Lord is saying “I was never intimate with you.” You did not love Me. My Spirit was never upon you. You were never in Me and I was never in you. You sought the traditions of men and religion to find salvation, but you never sought Me, and you never loved Me.

John says “Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.” (1 John 5:12) And to these poor souls, the Lord says “Depart from me you who break God’s laws.” (Matt 7:23)

But there is something interesting here, these condemned cry out to the Lord “we kept your commandments from youth!” (Matt 19:20) What laws of God did they break? The answer is all of them.

The sum of the Laws of God is to “love the Lord with all your *heart* and to love your neighbor as yourself.” These professing Christians sought to avoid having their flesh singed in hell, sought to enter paradise from the broad way, they sought to

be godly in the eyes of the world, yet “their *hearts* were far from me” says the Lord. They were branches in the vine [professors of faith in Christ] that bore no fruit and thus were broken off, and cast into the fiery furnace. (John 15:5-6)

But let me pause here, because it is these Christians that cause me to weep. Many of them attended Christian schools and programs; grew up in the church, some became pastors, missionaries, Sunday school teachers, and ministry leaders. Their downfall was they trusted the word of man rather than the Word of God. For the Scriptures say “Cursed is the one who trusts in man.” (Jeremiah 17:5)

You see at some point they realized there was no change in them towards Christ. They served out of duty and obligation because that’s what Christians were supposed to do. When doubt about their status in Christ was raised, they were told “accept it by faith.” Accept your salvation by faith, even though you have no testimony for Jesus, have never been filled with the Spirit of God, never heard the voice of Christ, have no intense desire to please God, have no fear of God, have no love for the brothers, and have no dread of sin. All evidences, in the Scriptures, of the born again child of God.

And who led them astray? They were taught by elders, pastors, teachers and other religious figures to “accept it all by faith,” as if the Word of God was myth and the Spirit had no power to birth the heart of Jesus in a man. Yet even though they may claim they were led astray, the Lord says “if the

blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit.” (Matt 15:14)

The gift of life eternal is just that, a gift. A gift most will reject. Trust not in the word of man, whether he is a pastor, elder or Sunday school teacher. Seek the Word of God for yourself. Only the Spirit of God can witness to a man that he is saved (Romans 8:16). No man, pope or priest has the authority to declare any human as saved unto life eternal. Only the Spirit of God has the power to resurrect and make alive that which was once dead.

And *everyone* that has received the Spirit of Christ has a testimony, and bears fruit, glorifying God: there are no exceptions. (Luke 8:15, Mark 4:20)

Dear friends, the crux of the matter is this; the whole of man’s duty is to fear God, to give Him glory and to worship Him and Him alone. For the scriptures say the ungodly and unrighteous have no fear of God (Ps 36:1, Romans 3:18); their pastors and preachers teach them not to fear God (Jeremiah 23:16-17). And those who call Jesus Christ Lord, yet bear no fruit will perish with the unbelievers (John 15:6, Matt 13:30).

But the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, give Him glory and worship Him. They are lowly in spirit, hunger and thirst for righteousness, mourn over sin, are meek and merciful as is their Savior, and they are pure in heart, justified before God. They are peacemakers, reconciling the lost to God. And so the Lord is not ashamed to call them brothers and sons, for they will see the face of God. (Matt 5:1-10)

My friend the good news is the Lord will put the fear of God in you, he will give you a new heart so you can love Him and keep His commandments, and he will bring you into perfection, in the image of His Son, Jesus Christ; all you have to do is ask.

“And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.” “...how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him.” (Luke 11: 9, 13)

To those with a repentant heart, the Lord gives His Spirit freely, just ask. And do not stop asking, praying, pleading and wrestling with God until you receive His Spirit. When it happens you will know it. You will be changed. And then you will testify and cry, “Look what God has done!”

May the Lord have mercy and be with you.

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