

THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL



Lesson 3 for
April 15, 2023





“Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people”

Revelation 14:6

The message of the three angels is part of the Jesus' revelations to John. It's the latest message to humankind that must be preached by the Remnant Church.





This message is a characteristic of the Adventist Church. It's the reason it exists. John introduced this message as the "everlasting gospel" that must be preached to everyone on earth.





 Visions of grace and hope

 An angel with a message:

-  The gospel of grace
-  The everlasting gospel

 An angel with a purpose:

-  Preaching the gospel
-  A missionary Church

VISIONS OF GRACE AND HOPE

"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John,"
(Revelation 1:1)

The first word of the last book in the Bible summarizes its main theme, Revelation (ἀποκάλυψις [apokalupsis] in Greek).
What is this revelation?



Jesus is revealed as the Lamb who was slain



We can see God's grace through the story of the Church and the world



We can see Jesus' hand reaching the sinners to save them and to overcome evil



We can see the promise of eternal life

The book of Revelation is the revelation of the everlasting gospel; the grace God gives to the sinners. It's a message of hope for each one of us.



AN ANGEL WITH A MESSAGE



THE GOSPEL OF GRACE

"being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus," (Romans 3:24)



The first angel brings the everlasting gospel (Rev. 14:6).
The proper question here is, what is the gospel?

Paul described it in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, it's the news of Christ's death for our sins, and His resurrection. We can be saved thanks to that.



In Romans 3:24-26 and 5:6-8, Paul explained it more extensively, linking the gospel to God's grace:

We're justified by His grace without any cost (3:24)

God's grace is a manifestation of His righteousness (3:25)

Those who accept Jesus by faith are justified by God's grace (3:26)

God showed His love for us even when we were sinners (5:6-8)

THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL

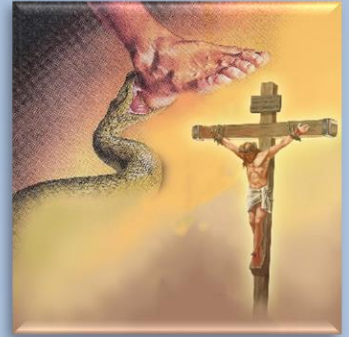
"He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time," (2 Timothy 1:9 NIV)

Why is the gospel called "everlasting" (Rev. 14:6)?

The gospel was announced to Adam and Eve right after they sinned. It brought the hope of redemption to humankind (Gn. 3:15).



However, it was not a plan that God suddenly improvised. God loved us so much that He created humans free, so they could decide either to love Him back or not. Freedom came with a risk since humans might rebel against Him. Therefore, God had already planned a way to redeem them in case they rebelled but then repented and wanted to love Him back again (2Tim. 1:9; Tit. 1:2; Eph. 1:4; 1P. 1:18-20).



The gospel is everlasting because it was created before our time existed, and it points at an everlasting future.



AN ANGEL WITH A PURPOSE

PREACHING THE GOSPEL

“[...] to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people—” (Revelation 14:6)



After Jesus was resurrected, He commanded His disciples to preach the gospel to “all the nations” (Mt. 28:19). Just before ascending to Heaven, He guaranteed them that the small seed of the gospel would grow “to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

Now we are heirs to that great mission in the End Time! We must dedicate all our strength to fulfill it.

A commitment to the mission is needed. We must leave our self-interest aside. We must care for those who need to know Jesus, to have a hope, and to accept His grace.

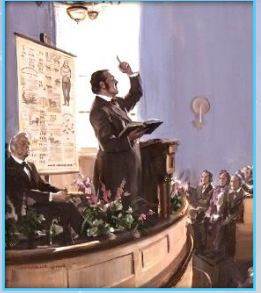




A MISSIONARY CHURCH

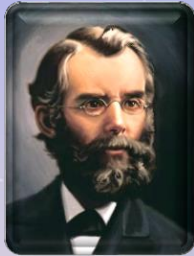
“You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings.” (Revelation 10:11)

Revelation 10 contains a prophecy about a remnant that would suffer a great disappointment (Rev. 10:9-10), and then would preach all throughout the world (Rev. 10:11).



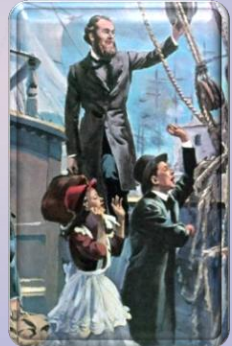
The first part of the prophecy was fulfilled after the disappointment of the Millerite movement in 1844. The Adventist Church was founded.

The second part began to be fulfilled in 1874 when the General Conference sent out the first missionary to Europe: John N. Andrews.

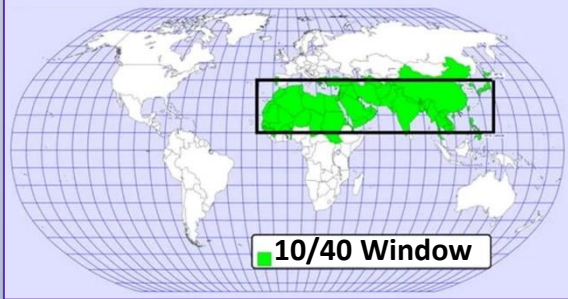


He was a highly skilled person who left everything behind to go to an unknown place. His motivation was the love for those who needed to meet Jesus, their Savior who was coming soon.

There are still places to reach and people to preach to. What is your part in this mission?



NON-EVANGELIZED COUNTRIES



E. G. W. (Christ's Object Lessons, cp. 29, p. 419)

“It is the privilege of every soul to be a living channel through which God can communicate to the world the treasures of His grace, the unsearchable riches of Christ. There is nothing that Christ desires so much as agents who will represent to the world His Spirit and character. There is nothing that the world needs so much as the manifestation through humanity of the Saviour's love. All heaven is waiting for channels through which can be poured the holy oil to be a joy and blessing to human hearts.”

“The entire church, acting as one, blending in perfect union, is to be a living, active, missionary agency, moved and controlled by the Holy Spirit.”

E. G. W. (The Review and Herald, April 29, 1909)