## Message: "Is It Really Worth It?"

**Scripture:** Revelation 14 (02-02-25 Pastor Tony Hao)

John describes what happens when the end has come. The fact that Jesus is coming in the clouds (14:14) identifies Him with the one "like a son of man" who will receive the kingdom in Daniel 7:13. Jesus is wearing "a golden crown." He has conquered and received what he promised to those who overcome in 2:10 and 3:11. Jesus has "a sharp sickle in his hand." He comes to harvest the earth. In 14:14–20 we will see two harvests, grain and grapes. There is a harvest of the righteous in 14:14–16, followed by a harvest of the wicked in 14:17–20. Who are these people?

Harvest of the Righteous (14:1-5). Revelation 14 describes the 144,000 who kept "the commandments of God". They are the saved ones. They're obedient to God. They follow the Lamb; they follow Jesus. They are completely given to Him. God is faithful, He will save His people.

Harvest of the Wicked (14:6-13). These are those who received the mark of the beast; they have made up their mind; they have decided they're going to worship the beast. They will go against God's Word. By their actions they support false worship and rebellion against God. God is holy, He will deal with sin.

Should I be faithful? Or should I compromise? Should I surrender my whole life to Jesus? A decision for God is always the right decision. You choose Jesus, remembering that God has chosen you, and eternity is yours.

## **GROWING DEEPER (Reflection & Application)**

- 1. Given the chaos and crisis in chapters 12 and 13, what comfort do you find in chapter 14? What sights? sounds/ feelings?
- 2. Think for a moment: Living for your own glory, how futile is that? While there's nothing wrong with having the blessings of this world, if that's what you're living for, will it be a curse to you and not a blessing?
- 3. Are you facing that sort of decision right now? Should I be faithful? Or should I compromise? For some people, the stakes are high, because you're concerned about your spouse, your family, your employer, your friends. Do you believe God will be faithful?