

Discussion Questions

The Dead who Die and Dance

Revelation 14:1-13

(What's your favorite kind of music? What about it makes it your favorite?)

(What is your favorite way to worship God? Why?)

"Instead of teaching us to pick up a cross and *be* crucified the beast in Rome taught us to pick up crosses and *to* crucify."—P.H.

- When you think about the beasts (religion & politics) in your society or culture, are there any areas where they seem to teach people to crucify than to *be* crucified?
- Are there any areas in your own heart or life where you might have been seduced by the lie that Life is about self-preservation rather than self-sacrifice, for the sake of Love.

The harlot is like a global economy. And the beasts are the institutions of this world—in bed with that economy (the harlot rides the beast). A global economy, or world trade, is not bad in and of itself. In fact, the very definition of heaven is a type of world trade—it's a global economy of mutual self-sacrifice in which everyone loves, and is loved, by all. But this world trade is not freedom and life; this world trade is an economy of self-interest, in which the rich get richer and the poor get poorer through trade. The harlot promises freedom and life, but she produces bondage and death.

- Think about your surroundings. Where have you seen God's economy at work in this world? What is the result or fruit of it?
- Where have you seen the harlot (also referred to as Babylon)? What is the result or fruit of it?
- In Rev. 18 we read of God calling His people out of her. Are there any areas in your life that God might be "calling you out of her"?

"You can't go to war with the beast with more beast...Jesus goes to war..." —P.H.

- How does Jesus go to war?
- How do we go to war alongside of Jesus (What are the redeemed doing in Rev. 18:1-5 & what does the angel declare should be done)?

In Revelation 14 we learn about those who overcome: They stand with the Lamb; they are worshipers; they "have not defiled themselves with women [the harlot]; they "follow the Lamb wherever He goes."

- In what ways do you enjoy worshiping the Lamb?
- When you do worship can you ever feel it overcoming the lies of the beasts? If so, how?
- Are there any areas in which you feel defiled by the beast or realize you have participated in her harlotry? If so, confess them to the Lord. Invite Him to fulfill His promise to you and through you to the world. Now, listen to His promise: "Come now, let us settle the matter," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."
- Where does the Lamb go?
- How can you stay attuned to where He is going?

"We can only battle terrorism, by no longer being terrified."—P.H.

- What fears do you have that might be holding you in bondage to the beasts.
- What song (that is in rhythm with *the* Song—the Word—the Logos—Jesus) could you sing that might remind you that God is bigger than those fears?

"The ancient dragon isn't in the least bit concerned with all the threats of the strongest militaries in the history of the world or the empty threats of terrorists. But . . . he himself, the ancient dragon, is utterly terrified when you hear the Gospel and begin to sing the Song."—P.H.

Jesus overcame through the Song, so did Jonah, Paul and Silas in prison and others! God is the Eternal Song that created all and sets all humanity free from bondage, but sometimes we struggle to hear the Song and join in the Song.

- What obstacles might be overcome in your life through you joining in the Song?
- Ask the Lord to reveal anything that might be hindering you from hearing the Eternal Song of His love for you and all creation, the Song that sets captives free from all fear.
- Invite Him to open your ears to the Song and set your heart free to sing & dance in His goodness.

**These questions were created by Kimberly Weynen*