

Healing Stream Ministries presents...
The undiluted, full strength, three angels' messages
with enough power to...

- **cleansing from all sin**
- **set us free from all bondage**
- **break all the power of the enemy over us**
- **restore us to total spiritual health**
- **develop immunity to all last-day deceptions**

#6 – How to Decode the Book of Revelation

The study of the Book of Revelation is sometimes like looking at the various “transparency-overlays” of an anatomy textbook, showing the multiple systems of the human body – skeletal, circulatory, digestive, neurological etc. For years many of us have looked at the Book of Revelation from strictly the “historical-prophetic” overlay. This overlay has given us much confidence as we have looked at the great prophetic waymarks down through history. Without discarding this approach, would you also be willing to look at other “overlays” to discover a more complete revelation of Jesus Christ (Revelation 1:1) than you have ever seen before? As you do so, you will gain a renewed appreciation for the sufficiency of Christ’s redemptive work for your every need.

Here are some common-sense methods to help you decode the symbols of the three angels messages and apply them to your own life.

- Always focus on the centrality of the person of Jesus Christ. Discern in every symbol its relationship to the Savior and His plan of redemption as revealed in the great controversy between Christ and Satan.
- Let Scripture interpret Scripture. While it may be tempting to match news headlines with Bible texts, rely rather on patiently comparing Scripture with Scripture. Let the Old Testament interpret the New Testament. Someone has said, “The New Testament is in the Old concealed, and the Old Testament is in the New revealed.”
- Ask yourself - how might Christians in the first few centuries after Christ have understood the Book of Revelation? Many of the prophecies, for which we see specific fulfillments by looking in the rearview mirror of past history, had not yet been fulfilled. Your study of Revelation will yield rich treasures when seek to understand this book from the viewpoint of its original audience.
- Discern the “literary structure” of the passage as you see the relationship of the individual parts of this Bible passage to the larger whole of the Book of Revelation as well as the rest of Scripture. The Book of Revelation is not a seemingly haphazard collection of bits and pieces of Biblical material; there is a definite order and progression in the development of its various themes. Look upon Revelation as a tapestry of intricately woven threads that, with patient appreciation and study, will reveal a most stunning picture of Jesus Christ.
- Trace God’s covenant. The covenant is like a river running through the entire Bible – sometimes you see it, and sometimes you don’t, but it is always there. When you see the relationship of the three angels’ messages to God’s covenant purposes, you’ll know so much clearer what is God’s purpose for your own life. A covenant is not a contract. Contract salvation says, God helps those who help themselves. Covenant salvation says, God helps those who cannot help themselves. Contract salvation says, God will do His part when we first do our part. Covenant salvation believes that “His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the whelming flood.”
- Study God’s appeals to people down through history. See how He yearns for His people to return to a relationship with Him. His very first appeal was His cry in the Garden of Eden, “*Adam, where are you?*” (Genesis 3:9). These appeals and warnings are found throughout

Scripture, and culminate in the three angels' messages in the Book of Revelation. In addition to these warnings about the impending judgments on Babylon and the beast, do not forget the final tender appeal, "*And the Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely*" (Revelation 22:17).

- Try looking at the three angels messages as God's prescriptions for your own sin-disease. These messages are not just evangelistic messages to be given to warn and win others, but they are also God's diagnosis and prescriptions for your own sin-disease. In order to win the victory over the beast and to develop immunity to Satan's last-day deceptions, it is a must to take the entirety of the three angels' messages as God's medicine for your own life today. These messages contain everything you need in order overcome all the power of the enemy.

The study of Revelation need not be complicated at all. The devotions are built on solid Biblical and experiential approaches to the three angels messages, Revelation 14:6-12. Without discarding the historical applications of these verses to current events, the primary application you will pursue is the enrichment of your personal relationship with Jesus Christ - a relationship that can stand no matter what the future holds. To be an overcomer is far more dependent on discovering and living out your personal identity in Christ rather than on your ability to identify 'Babylon' and the 'beast' in others. To intimately know Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God is the best key to overcoming the beast.

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The Undiluted Three Angels Messages

– *God's Medicine for Your Life Today*

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