

## Chiastic structure of Revelation 14.1-15.8

[adapted from deVilliers, "The Composition of Revelation 14.1-15.8: Pastiche or Perfect Pattern?" *Neotestamentica* (2004) 38.2, pp. 209-249]

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### A: 14.1-5: redemption of the 144,000, anticipating a series of seven heavenly creatures

#### B: 14.6-11: three angels as ABA chiasm

A: first angel: loud voice, hour of judgment has come, worship the Creator

B: second angel: no loud voice: condemnation of Babylon

A': third angel: loud voice, worship of the beast results in torment

#### 14.6-7 parallels

14.6: Then I saw another angel flying in midheaven, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth--**to every nation and tribe and language and people.**

14.7: He said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, for the hour of his judgment has come; and worship him who made **heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.**"

### 14.8: Fallen is Babylon!

#### 14.9-11 ABCBA chiasm

A: 14.9: "Those who *worship the beast and its image*, and receive a mark on their foreheads or on their hands

B: 14.10a: they will also *drink the wine of God's wrath*, poured unmixed into the cup of his anger

C: 14.10b-14.11a: [as C/C']

*they will be tormented with fire and sulfur* in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

And the *smoke of their torment* goes up forever and ever.

B': 14.11b: There is *no rest day or night* for those who worship the beast

A': 14.11c: *worship the beast and its image* and for anyone who receives the mark of its name.

### C: 4.12-14: Encouragement to the "saints": Human One on a cloud with a sharp sickle in his hand; call to "faithful resistance" and the promise of eternal rest

#### B1: 4.15-20: three angels as ABA chiasm

A: 14.15-16: harvest of the saints: angel calls on the previous angel to use the sickle and reap, giving a reason in an *hoti* ("because" or "for") clause and an aorist verb, followed by execution in two parts: the swung sickle, then the harvest

B: 14.17: next angel with sharp sickle

A': 14.17-20: harvest of evildoers: angel calls on the previous angel to use the sickle and reap, giving a reason in an *hoti* ("because" or "for") clause and an aorist verb, followed by execution in two parts: the swung sickle, then the harvest

### A1: 15.1-8: celebration of God's justice and judgment