Obedience to the Higher over the Lesser, to the spirit over the letter of the law, is always to be obedient to the Creator over Creation.

What Revelation 14:12 really means.

No matter whom and what title is stating the command.

1. Let us first look at 5th on the list of the 10 commandments.
See Exodus 20:12. And then have a look at Matthew 10.37.

We see here that Christ actually ask us to look away from the lesser of the two main commandments of the law and disobey our earthly parents IF their commands or words are not in harmony with the higher doctrine, the higher law of Christ/God.

This would be to obey the words and commands of our earthly parents, rather than the words and commands of Our heavenly parent, no matter whom is stating it, as we by default is obedient to the lower over the higher law.

In the following passage, honoring your parents as in the 5th commandment is directly attached to OBEYING your parents. To obey means to obey their commands.

Ephesians 6:1-3

"6 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; 3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth."

Exodus 20:12:
"Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you."

Same principle also go when we speak of other authority we are asked to obey. Meaning to follow their council and laws. Take the elders in the church, for a woman to obey a male in church and for males to not obey the teachings from a woman.

These are general principles that I would refer to as the lesser law or the letter of the law, but the spirit of the law would ask you to bypass these outer factors and only look at the content.

Same goes for trusting everything that comes from the mouth of Ellen White. All this is in the category legalism and blind faith.

I'm talking about the fact that a person, no matter who he is, regardless of external factors like race, nation, gender, age, status, etc., comes with a higher doctrine than another. Say a woman to a man. A teenager against a parent, etc. **It will then be the content of the message (which represent the inner, that of faith), which precedes who and what title expresses it. This is especially true if it is a spiritual issue**. **Then the law of the spirit will take precedence over the law of the letter.**

Read the entire chapter of Galatians 3. And 2. Corinthians 3.

2. Then see part 7 in the series "Identifying the Image, Seal/Mark of God vs the Beast" https://www.via-veritas-vita.org/post/the-abomination-of-desolation-and-the-mark-of-the-beast-in-a-wider-sense ....of how choosing to observe the 7th Day Sabbath as an example where the letter and spirit of the law, here we speak of the 4th commandment, is in total harmony. This commandment links the two main commandments together, without making them equal. It unites the Creator with creation, while still placing the Creator over creation.

"Here is the patience of the Saints, here are they that keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus" **Revelation 14:12**

I think we are realizing now that we are not simply speaking of the 10 commandments here, as in the law of the letter, but that this refers to the law of the spirit. Of advancing from the old, immature law, covenant and order where we judge by sight, by the letter, to the new, mature, everlasting law, covenant and order, where we learn to walk by faith, by the spirit of the law. This is the law, the commandments, the order of faith, where Jesus Christ is king. Which include the ten commandments, but that even here we must analyze and judge by the spirit of the law. So the law is then magnified. From typical to antitypical. From immature, lesser to the mature and higher.