

The Book Of The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Chapter Seven

The 144,000 Witnesses

Focus Verse: **Revelation 7:13,14**

“And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”

I. Introduction To The Lesson

We are now well into the period of time called the Tribulation, called “Daniel’s Seventieth Week” (Dan 9), and “Jacob’s Trouble” (Jer 30:7). Right after the judgment of the sixth seal, there is a diversion to another subject other than the seven seals. This is called a “parenthesis” in the chronology of the Revelation.

II. Lesson - The Sealing of the 144,000 (7:1-17)

In preparation for the releasing of the 7th seal, four angels get ready to “hold back the wind.”

A. The Seal of the living God (7:1,2)

1. Explained as the seal of a _____ on their foreheads (Rev 14:1) - Just as the seal of the antichrist is the “number of his NAME” on his followers head or hand (Rev 13:16-18) called a “mark”.
2. All the O.T. priests had this seal on their headgear (see Ex 28:36-38).
3. The purpose of this sealing: _____
_____ (Cf Rev 14:1-3). This sealing process “preserves” the bearer!

B. The Servants of our God (7:3-8)

1. Consists of all the “tribes of Israel”
 - a. 12,000 from each of the literal, actual tribes of Juda, Reuben, Gad, Aser, Nephtalim, Manasses, Simeon, Levi, Issachar, Zabulon, Joseph, and Benjamin.
 - b. A tribe is missing from this list: _____ Why? _____

PRINCIPLE: This tribe therefore is *not* protected from the judgments that fall during the Tribulation because of its idolatry, but it will show up again during the millennium (Ezek 48:1,32)

- c. What happened to the rest of the children of Israel? They possibly were killed off: See Rev 6:8; Zech 13:8,9. These Jews were saved, but they had to give their lives for their testimony!
2. These are the “_____” of Rom 11:1-4
 - a. God always has a “remnant” (Cf I Kings 19:18)
 - b. These represent God’s witness during the Tribulation to all the world, who will have no fear for all the judgments falling all around them.

C. The Scene in Heaven (7:9-17) - Tribulation Saints

1. The Blood-Washed Multitude (7:9-15; Cf 6:9-11)
 - a. Again, a multitude of people from all nations
 - b. They are wearing white robes
 - c. They came out of the Great Tribulation (7:14) - Can’t be THE church (1 Thes 1:10)
 - d. They now serve God continually (Cf Rev 4:11)
2. The Blessings of Heaven (7:16,17; Cf 21:4)
 - a. No more hunger - The Lord feeds them
 - b. No more thirst - The Lord provides Living Water
 - c. No more cancer causing sun-rays

- d. No more sweltering heat
- e. No more tears - God personally shall wipe away ALL tears!

PRINCIPLE: There will be tears in Heaven (See 2 Cor 5:10,11; Rom 14:10-12), but it is up to you whether they will be tears of joy, or of sorrow!

But the greatest of these blessings is found in vs 15 where “*he that sitteth upon the throne shall DWELL AMONG THEM!*”

III. Conclusion - Some Questions

- A. The Tribulation is referred to as _____ in Daniel 9, and _____ in Jer 30:7
- B. What will be the seal of God on the foreheads of the 144,000 Jews? _____
- C. How many tribes of Israel are there? _____
- D. What tribe is missing from the list in 7:3-8? _____
- E. Why is the tribe missing from the list? _____
- F. Define “the elect” _____
- G. Define the “Great Tribulation” as opposed to “the Tribulation” _____
- H. List some of the blessings of heaven _____