THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST (15)

REVELATION 7:1-8 KING JAMES VERSION (KJV)



The Seals (3) 144,000 Jews

7 And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.

2 And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea,

3 Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.

4 And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.

5 Of the tribe of Juda were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Reuben were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Gad were sealed twelve thousand.

6 Of the tribe of Aser were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Nephthalim were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Manasses were sealed twelve thousand.

7 Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Levi were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Issachar were sealed twelve thousand.

8 Of the tribe of Zabulon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Joseph were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Benjamin were sealed twelve thousand.





144,000 JEWS

7:1-8 The first interlude pictures the sealing of the redeemed in order that they may survive the terrors associated with the day of wrath.

7:1 The **four winds of the earth** are evil forces of devastation controlled by **four angels.**

7:2, 3 The **east** symbolizes the source of blessing. The **seal** is the invisible sign of God's protection, not from tribulation and death, but from god's wrath. See Ezek. 9:4-6; Eph. 1:13.

More on Studying Revelation

7:4-17 In the first interlude (*vv.4-8*), **an hundred and forty and four thousand** symbolizes completeness. A thousand was the basic military division in the camp of Israel (*Num.31:4, 5*), the result of $10 \times 10 \times 10$, a perfect cube symbolizing completeness, multiplied by 144, or 12×12 , symbolizing the faithful remnant of the Old plus the New Israel(that is, the church- including believing Jews and gentiles). This results in the complete spiritual Israel -the entire church militant upon the Earth (*14:1-5*)

The second interlude (*vv.9-17*) pictures the blessed state of the redeemed in heaven. This is the church triumphant, the innumerable cloud of witnesses constantly surrounding the church militant (*Heb. 12*).

DISPENSATIONAL INTERPRETATION: According to this viewpoint, THE SEALING OF THE 144,000 (VV.4-8) is that of a literal band of Jews, alive at that time and the godly remnant of national Israel on Earth during the great Tribulation. That they are physical Jews (as opposed to "spiritual" is noted by the fact a detailed listing of the 12 tribes is given (vv.5-8). The Scriptures teach that the Lord will sovereignly deal with national Israel before the kingdom is consummated (see Zech. 12:10-13; Rom. 11:2-32). Without this seal, all who witness to the true God during the Great Tribulation will be martyred, except the 144,000 "sealed" Jewish remnant....*to be cont'd.*



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