Yeshua Jesus Messiah is the "First-fruit" of all redeemed and resurrected humanity.

What does this mean?

Who are the 144 000 "First-fruit" who will accompany Jesus at His Second Coming?

144 000 Page 2 de 23

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CONTENT

Chapter		Page
1	First-fruit is Firstborn	3
2	Firstborn is First-fruit	5
3	First-fruit is incorruptible redeemed body	10
4	Who are the 144 000?	12
5	The 144 000 appeared in A.D. 30	18
6	The 144 000 will appear at the Second Coming with Christ	22

144 000 Page 3 de 23

Chapter 1

FIRST-FRUIT is FIRSTBORN

The term First-fruit is synonymous to a large extent with the term Firstborn.

Firstborn does NOT mean necessarily birthed or created

Jesus is the Firstborn of the resurrected and redeemed humanity and also of the redeemed creation.

The term Firstborn is a title rather than a birth order.

Jesus is the very person of God and at the very same time, He is a fully human. His title as the Firstborn indicates His absolute authority over all redeemed humans.

The Scripture describes Jesus as the Firstborn:

Romans 8:29

29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Colossians 1:15

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

Colossians 1:18

18 And He is the head of the body, the ekklyssia, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all

144 000 Page 4 de 23

things He may have the preeminence.

Hebrews 1:6

6 But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of God worship Him."

Hebrews 12:23

23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect,

Revelation 1:5

5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,

144 000 Page 5 de 23

Chapter 2

FIRSTBORN is **FIRST-FRUIT**

While the term Firstborn indicates authority and inheritance, it equally indicates First-fruit.

The Judean farmers (and every true believer) is not allowed to harvest, sell and eat of their crops until they give a symbolic first-fruit offering to God. This is not simply a ritual act to receive blessing, but it is a typical and symbolic act of dedication to YHWH God.

The first month of the year is determined by the ripening of the barley which is called the "aviv," hence the first month is called Aviv. It is called Nissan after the Babylonian captivity.

When the fields are ready to be harvested, each farmer brings a sheave of his crop to the Temple. The priests keep all these sheaves to be offered on a specific day to God. After that day, the farmers are free to enjoy their crops.

The Feast of Passover falls always on the fourteenth day of Nissan. The First Day of the week after the Passover (Sunday) is the Day of First-offering.

On that day, the high priest and the priests, early in the morning, bring all these sheaves to the Temple and wave them as an offering to God. This is the First-fruit offering.

144 000 Page 6 de 23

Jesus is the First-fruit. Here is the historic sequence of events:

- **♦** Yeshua Jesus was crucified for our sins on the Day of Passover which was on Wednesday at around 3 PM.
- ✦ He remained in the tomb exactly three nights and three days.
- **♦** Yeshua Jesus rose from the dead on the Sabbath (Saturday) at about 3 PM.
- **♦** The risen body of Yeshua Jesus was truly human flesh but also glorified.

The term glorified means: He is able to be interdimensional or pass through objects at will.

- ◆ The disciples could not visit the tomb on the Sabbath (Saturday).
- ◆ Early on the First Day of the week (Sunday) Mary Magdalena and other women came to the tomb. When Mary recognized Jesus, she ran to hug him. Jesus told her "Do not touch me for I have not ascended to my father yet."
- ◆ This is a very important verse. Early on Sunday, Jesus went before the Father and declared (offered) Himself as the First-fruit of all the resurrected and redeemed.
- ◆ Then after fulfilling this First-fruit offering of Himself, Jesus returned and came to meet His disciples.

144 000 Page 7 de 23

◆ The disciples were scared for their lives because the Pharisees, Sadducees, Scribes, Sacarii, and Jewish gangs wanted to arrest them, torture them and kill them. The disciples were in the house with the doors locked and the lower windows shut.

- **→** Jesus, in his glorified flesh, came inside the house without the need to open the door because He was glorified (inter-dimensional).
- → Jesus proved that He is in a true human flesh by asking Thomas to touch him and examine his wounds.

Here are some verses to clarify this historical account:

John 20:1-29

- 20:1. On the first of the week, in the morning while it was dark, Maryam of Magdala came to the tomb and saw that the stone was removed from the grave.
- 20:2. And she ran and came to Shimon Keefa and to the other disciple whom Yeshua had loved and she told them that, "They have taken our Master from that tomb, and I do not know where they have laid him."
- 20:3. Shimon and that other disciple went out and came to the tomb.
- 20:4. And both of them were running together, but that other disciple ran in front of Shimon and arrived at the tomb first.
- 20:5. And he peeked in and saw the linen lying there, but he did not enter.
- 20:6. And Shimon came after him and entered into the tomb, and saw the linen lying there.
- 20:7. And the burial cloth, that which had been wrapped around his head, not with the linen but being folded and placed aside in a certain place.

144 000 Page 8 de 23

20:8. Then that disciple who arrived at the tomb first also entered and saw and believed.

- 20:9. For they had not yet understood the Scripture that he was to rise from the dead.
- 20:10. And those disciples went away again to their place.
- 20:11. But Maryam was standing at the tomb and weeping, and while she wept she peeked in the grave.
- 20:12. And she saw two Messengers clothed in white who were sitting, one at his pillow and one at the foot of the bed, where the body of Yeshua had lain.
- 20:13. And they said to her, "Woman, why do you weep?" She said to them, "Because they have taken my Master and I do not know where they have laid him."
- 20:14. She said this and she turned her head around and saw Yeshua standing behind her. And she did not know that it was Yeshua.
- 20:15. Yeshua said to her, "Woman, why do you weep and whom do you seek?" But she thought that he was the gardener and she said to him, "If you have taken my Master, tell me where you have laid him. I will go and take him.
- 20:16. Yeshua said to her, "Maryam." And she turned around fully and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbuli!" which means Teacher.
- 20:17. Yeshua said to her, "Do not touch me, for I have not yet ascended to my Father. But go to my brothers and tell them that I ascend to my Father and your Father and my Elohim and your Elohim."
- 20:18. Then Maryam of Magdala came and declared to the disciples that she had seen our Master, and these things that he had told her.
- 20:19. Now when it was evening on that day, the first of the week, the doors were shut where the disciples were, because of the disciples' fear of the Yehudeans,

144 000 Page 9 de 23

Yeshua came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

20:20. He said this and showed them his hands and his side and the disciples rejoiced that they had seen our Master.

20:21. And Yeshua said to them again, "Peace be with you. As my Father has sent me, I also send you." 20:22. And when he said these things, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Ruach haKodesh. 20:23. If you forgive a man's sins, they will be forgiven. And if you retain the sins of a man, they will be retained."

20:24. Now Tooma, one of the twelve, he who was called the Twin, was not there with them when Yeshua came.

20:25. And the disciples told him, "We have seen our Master!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the places of the nails in his hands and I place my fingers in them, and I stretch forth my hand in his side, I will not believe."

20:26. And after eight days the disciples were again inside. And Tooma was with them and Yeshua came while the doors were locked and stood in the midst and said to them, "Peace be with you."

20:27. And he said to Tooma, "Place your finger here and see my hands and place your hand and stretch it in my side and do not be an unbeliever, but a believer." 20:28. And Tooma answered and said to him, "My Master and my Elohim!"

20:29. Yeshua said to him, "Now that you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who do not see me and believe."

Conclusion: Yeshua Jesus is the First-fruit and the Firstborn.

144 000 Page 10 de 23

Chapter 3

FIRST-FRUIT is INCORRUPTIBLE GLORIFIED BODY

Jesus is the Firstborn not only because of His resurrection, but because of His resurrection in a glorified body.

Many people were resurrected from the death prior to Jesus, such as Lazarus. Therefore, the resurrection of Jesus by itself is not the indication of Him being the Firstborn.

Jesus was the Firstborn, not only because He rose from the dead, but more importantly because He rose from the dead in His human flesh body glorified (interdimensional). Thus, all the true believers (the true born again) will rise from the dead in their flesh but also glorified as Jesus was.

This is important to understand. Many Christians are not clear about this concept.

Job 19:25-27

- 25 For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth;
- 26 And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, That in my flesh I shall see God,
- 27 Whom I shall see for myself, And my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!
- 1 Corinthians 15:51-57
- 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed--

144 000 Page 11 de 23

52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

- 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.
- 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."
- 55 "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"
- 56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.
- 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 1 Peter 1:3-5
- 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
- 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

144 000 Page 12 de 23

Chapter 4

WHO ARE THE 144 000 FIRST-FRUIT?

Let us first examine the text:

Revelation 14:1-4

- 1 Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand (144 000), having His Father's name written on their foreheads.
- 2 And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps.
- 3 They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.
- 4 These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being first-fruits to God and to the Lamb.

There are many conjectures about the identity of those 144 000 First-fruits.

Let us first examine their ten characteristics:

1. They are believers in YHWH. If we say that they are Jews today, this would mean that they obey the rabbis who reject the Scripture. Therefore, we can say that they are Jews similar to Jesus Christ, but not similar to the Pharisees and the rabbis or

144 000 Page 13 de 23

the Jews today.

2. They are standing on Mount Zion. This means that they will be manifested with Christ when He comes at His Second Coming to Jerusalem to destroy the evil powers of the nations. Jerusalem will be physically attacked and Jesus will come then to purify it.

- 3. Their number is 144 000 cannot mean 12 Tribes Patriarchs x 12 Apostles x 1000 believers of the nations, because some of these Patriarchs were not righteous before God.
- 4. The number 144 000 is symbolic and not exact. (Jehovah Witness cult claims that the number is exact and they are limited to them.)
- 5. They have the Father's name on their forehead.

The mark on the forehead is misunderstood by the rabbis to mean a phylactery (verses from Exodus placed in a cube tied on the forehead) and strapped on the left arm.

The mark of God the Father is the opposite of the Mark of the beast and Antichrist.

Remember: the Mark of YHWH = the Sign of YHWH = the Seal of YHWH

Exodus 13:8-11

8 And you shall tell your son in that day, saying, 'This is done because of what YHWH the LORD did for me when I came up from Egypt.'

144 000 Page 14 de 23

9 It shall be as a sign to you on your hand and as a memorial between your eyes, that YHWH the LORD'S law may be in your mouth; for with a strong hand YHWH the LORD has brought you out of Egypt.

- 10 You shall therefore keep this ordinance in its season from year to year.
- 11 "And it shall be, when YHWH the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as He swore to you and your fathers, and gives it to you,

The Mark of God on his true born-again believers is clearly mentioned in the following verses and confirmed in the 144 000 (see Revelation 14:4):

Exodus 13:16

16 It shall be as a sign on your hand and as frontlets between your eyes, for by strength of hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt."

Exodus 31:13

13 "Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: 'Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the LORD who sanctifies you.

Exodus 31:17

17 It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.'"

Revelation 7:1-4

1 After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the

144 000 Page 15 de 23

sea, or on any tree.

2 Then 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 granted to harm the earth and the sea.

- 3 saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads."
- 4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed:

The Mark is "love YHWH God and be submissive and obedient to all the Moral Law of God, the Ten Commandments."

- **♦** The forehead represents our thoughts, visions, goals, and focus in life.
- **♦** The arm represents our work.

We, the true born again believers, are to think and work for the Lord YHWH remembering His redemption in the Messiah and in obedience to His Ten Commandments.

- 6. They sing a song which no one can learn. YHWH the Holy Spirit is dwelling in them and He is teaching them and enabling them to express truth in singing beyond measure.
- 7. They were not defiled with women.

Some false commentators assume falsely that this means that they were single men who were never married.

144 000 Page 16 de 23

A married faithful man is not defiled with women.

Today, beginning with Junior High schools and throughout life, Christians as do non-Christians, force their children to practice sexual immorality by dating. What a contrast between the law and the love of God and the lifestyle of Satan which overwhelms our cultures.

8. They are virgins. The term virgin for a girl means "no sexual relationship." The term virgin in general means "chaste." If a man breaks the Seventh Commandment, whether this man is married or not married, then he defiled himself with women and cannot be called virgin.

The world (Hollywood Church) is mocking the celibacy and the virginity. We should not accept their views or lifestyle.

Some false commentators assume falsely that since the word "virgin" is mentioned, then they must be boys who had never had sexual relationships.

Actually, the term virgin (Hebrew and Aramaic: betulah) means "chaste," i.e., honors the Seventh Commandments. In English we use the word virgin, but it is confusing since it applies properly to girls while to boys it should be translated as "chaste."

Also, notice the causality: "They did not defile themselves with women BECAUSE they are virgins." Again, a married faithful man does not defile himself with women.

144 000 Page 17 de 23

9. They are redeemed men. Redeemed can mean saved by the Blood of Christ and also acquired incorruptible bodies, i.e., glorified. Glorification is the last step in the completion of our redemption.

10. They are First-fruit, hence they have glorified (inter-dimensional) and incorruptible bodies.

144 000 Page 18 de 23

Chapter 5

THE 144 000 APPEARED in A.D. 30

(maybe) FOR FORTY DAYS

The verses in Matthew 27:50-53 are oftentimes glossed over or misunderstood.

Let us read them first:

Matthew 27:50-53

- 50 And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.
- 51 Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split.
- 52 and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised;
- 53 and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.

Some people claim that these righteous resurrected men remained in Israel teaching about the Kingdom of God which had already come for forty days. But, the evidence to the forty days is by mere association.

Acts 1:1-3

- 1 The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,
- 2 until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen,

144 000 Page 19 de 23

3 to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

What evidence do we have that these resurrected saints were actually part of the 144 000?

The evidence are the simple facts:

(1) They were righteous men who believed on the Messiah before His coming. Such as Job, Adam, Simeon the prophet (see Luke 2:25-32 below), Elijah, Noah, and many others throughout four thousand years.

Luke 2:25-32

- 25 And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him.
- 26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.
- 27 So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law,
- 28 he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said:
- 29 "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, According to Your word;
- 30 For my eyes have seen Your salvation
- 31 Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples,
- 32 A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, And the

144 000 Page 20 de 23

glory of Your people Israel."

(2) The term "sons of God" although it could refer to angels, yet in the Scripture it refers to the truly born again faithful believers according to all the Apostolic Scripture.

Job 1:6-8

- 6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before YHWH the LORD, and Satan also came among them.
- 7 And YHWH the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered YHWH the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it."
- 8 Then YHWH the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?"

The sons of God mentioned in Job were the true believers waiting in the First Heaven for the coming and the redemption of the Messiah.

The evidence to this is that Satan cannot come into the presence of the heavenly angels. He has no authority. But, Satan had the authority over mankind since the day Eve worshiped him and obeyed him.

The believers who are awaiting in the First Heaven meet God regularly, and that is when Satan came along claiming that all humans belong to him. God challenged him and told him basically: "No, Job and many other believers belong to YHWH God based on their faith and obedience to the Moral Laws; they do not belong to

144 000 Page 21 de 23

Satan."

Remember also that Satan repeated the same lie when he was tempting Jesus, he told him "all this world is given to me." That was a partial lie because only those who reject YHWH God are sons of Satan; they are the Seed of Satan.

Therefore, the 144 000 include all the true believers who died from the time of Adam throughout the year A.D. 30.

- (3) These resurrected faithful believers were resurrected in a glorified incorruptible real flesh bodies. Thus, as Jesus is the First-fruit of all the redeemed in his resurrected glorified body, so also they were resurrected in their glorified bodies.
- (4) There is no reference to them as to where they lived and what they ate, because they did not need any of that.

They appeared to accompany the resurrected Christ and to preach the Gospel of salvation and that the Kingdom of God had come.

Therefore, they are part of the First-fruit of the redeemed humanity.

(5) They left (went into the Third Heaven dimension) or ascended, but the Bible does not mention any details about that.

That is why some people think that they remained on earth for forty days as did Jesus after His resurrection and glorification until His ascension. 144 000 Page 22 de 23

Chapter 6

THE 144 000 WILL COME AGAIN WITH JESUS AT HIS SECOND COMING

Those who were resurrected in their glorified bodies may have been less in number than the full 144 000 and thus the new faithful believers will join their number.

Or, the number 144 000 is more symbolic than exact. Thus, it does not matter if the count is accurate or more than 144 000.

Then, the important question we need to keep and heed to in our hearts is:

Does everyone who is truly born again believer in Yeshua Jesus as God and Savior become a member of the 144 000?

The answer is no.

First, many Christians who are truly born again believers are living a mediocre life.

A mediocre life is compromised: wherein they mix the biblical teaching with the lifestyle of the world. The lifestyle of the world belongs to Satan.

Many Christians do not know the difference. Their pastors are not teaching them obedience, love, and purity.

Second, the works of each person will be examined as by fire.

144 000 Page 23 de 23

- 1 Corinthians 3:8-14
- 8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.
- 9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building.
- 10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it.
- 11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.
- 12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,
- 13 each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is.
- 14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward.

Final Words

May your name be written in the Book of Life

May you be one of the 144 000 righteous, obedient and loving child of YHWH God.