

Syllabus
The Book of Revelation
Chapter 7

Dr. Hilton Sutton, *Revelation Revealed*, Page 97

Revelation 7 interrupts the story of the events taking place on earth to inform us of God's activities. Contrary to what some people think, God does not turn the seven years over to Satan and the Antichrist. During this time, God performs in all His greatness.

Rev. 7:1 ¶ *After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, *holding the four winds of the earth, that no wind should blow on the earth, or on the sea, or upon any tree.*

Rev. 7:2 *And I saw another angel ascend from the sunrising, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a great voice to the four angels to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea,*

Rev. 7:3 *saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we shall have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.*

*Greek: *kraeto* = holding back

- The Four Angels and the Four Winds

Numerical Bible, Hebrews to Revelation (Page 392)

The winds of the earth are the various influences, which from outside affect it; Surely not divine influences, or they would not need to be restrained...

The power of the enemy working...for Satan is the "prince of the powers of the air..." [However] God is above all...Nothing is but as it is permitted to be....

- Another Angel from the East

Literally: From the rising of the Sun

He has the seal of the Living God

The judgment is in the hand of God, although the players upon the final stage of the age may be working their own will.

The 144,000

Rev. 7:3 *saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we shall have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.*

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Rev. 7:4-8 *And I heard the number of them that were sealed, a hundred and forty and four thousand, sealed out of every tribe of the children of Israel:*

Rev. 7:5 *Of the tribe of Judah were sealed 12,000*

<i>Reuben</i>	<i>12,000</i>
<i>Gad</i>	<i>12,000</i>
<i>Asher</i>	<i>12,000</i>
<i>Naphtali</i>	<i>12,000</i>
<i>Manasseh</i>	<i>12,000</i>
<i>Simeon</i>	<i>12,000</i>
<i>Levi</i>	<i>12,000</i>
<i>Issachar</i>	<i>12,000</i>
<i>Zebulun</i>	<i>12,000</i>
<i>Joseph</i>	<i>12,000</i>
<i>Benjamin</i>	<i>12,000</i>

God's seal in Scripture marks out the ones sealed as belonging to God.
For the 144,000 it includes protection during the tribulation.
Especially from the locust plague (Revelation 9:3, 4).

Scriptural precedent includes those who grieved over the abominations occurring in Israel before the destruction of the First Temple (Ezekiel 9:4).

In the Exodus the blood of the Passover lamb marked the doorposts and the lintels so that the destroyer could not touch them.

Ex. 12:23 For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer **the destroyer** to come in unto your houses to smite *you*.

The Mark of the Beast

The antichrist and his system will demand a mark to buy and sell.
Related to 666. (Revelation 13:16-18.)

"144,000 Out of Every Tribe of the Sons of Israel.

Named in a peculiar manner. Order found nowhere else.

Judah holds place of honor.

Dan is not listed here, but "assuredly, when the tribes are brought back to their Land at last, Dan will not be wanting."

Jacob, the father, the dying patriarch, prophesying of the tribes at the end of days, assures that Dan shall judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel (Genesis 49:16).

In the Millennial division of the Land to the twelve tribes, Dan is included.

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Ezek. 47:13 ¶ Thus saith the Lord Jehovah: This shall be the border, whereby ye shall divide the land for inheritance according to the twelve tribes of Israel: Joseph *shall have two portions*.

Ezek. 47:14 And ye shall inherit it, one as well as another; for I sware to give it unto your fathers: and this land shall fall unto you for inheritance...

Ezek. 48:1 ¶ Now these are the names of the tribes: From the north end, beside the way of Hethlon to the entrance of Hamath, Hazar-enan at the border of Damascus, northward beside Hamath, (and they shall have their sides east *and* west,) **Dan**, one *portion*.

Ezek. 48:2 And by the border of **Dan**, from the east side unto the west side, Asher, one *portion*...

Ezek. 48:32 And at the east side four thousand and five hundred *reeds*, and three gates: even the gate of Joseph, one; the gate of Benjamin, one; the gate of **Dan**, one. (ASV)

Dan, who will have an earthly inheritance in the Millennium, is not included in this select group who will have a heavenly appearance. Speculation might surmise that it is because of the idolatry introduced by the tribe of Dan.

Clarence Larkin, *The Book of Revelation*, page 65

The 144,000, 12,000 from each Tribe, will be of the earthly Israel, the literal seed of Abraham, living at that time, and not of a mystical or spiritual Israel.

Dr. Hilton Sutton, *Revelation Revealed*, page 101

The descendants of Abraham are Israel. To say that the Church has taken the place of Israel violates Paul's teachings Paul distinctly distinguishes between the natural seed of Abraham—the nation of Israel—and the spiritual seed—the Church. (See Rom. 11.)

Clarence Larkin, *The Book of Revelation*, page 65

Though the "Twelve Tribes" were long ago lost among the nations, their whereabouts is not unknown to God. And though they may have lost their genealogical books and records, so as not to be able to trace their Tribal descent, God knows **where they are**, and **who is who**, and in that day the angels with **omniscient precision**, will seal them according to their Tribes....

E. W. Bullinger, *The Companion Bible*

The Divine sealers know....

The Numerical Bible, Hebrews to Revelation

We cannot separate from this what we find of the 144,000 in the 14th Chapter, who there stand with the Lamb upon Mount Zion, and upon whose foreheads the Name of His Father is seen written...The Seal being a stamp, which marks out manifestly those who are the Lord's...On the forehead... Prominent

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The Divine Seal
יהוה

Rev. 14:1 † *And I saw, and behold, the Lamb standing on the mount Zion, and with him a hundred and forty and four thousand, having **his name**, and the name of his Father, written on their foreheads.* (ASV)

The King James does not translate Revelation 14:1 correctly.
It translates:...**having his Father's name** written in their foreheads....

Other translations agree with the oldest manuscripts that it is “**His name and the name of His Father.**” For another example here is the Amplified translation.

Rev. 14:1 THEN I looked, and behold, the Lamb stood on Mount Zion, and with Him 144,000 [men] who had **His name and His Father's name** inscribed on their foreheads. (AMP)

I believe that Name is יהוה
Please see our comments on Revelation 1:1-8.

The 144,000 Sing A New Song

Rev. 14:2 *And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and the voice which I heard was as the voice of harpers harping with their harps:*

Rev. 14:3 *and they sing as it were **a new song** before the throne, and before the four living creatures and the elders: and no man could learn the song save the hundred and forty and four thousand, even they that had been purchased out of the earth.* (ASV)

Bullinger, The Companion Bible

v. 14 a new song, by a new company, with a new theme.
Only instance where the words of the song are not given.

We see “harpers” described in Revelation 15:2 as those “that come off victorious from the beast, and from his image, and from the number of his name...having harps of God.”

Rev. 14:4 *These are they that were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they that follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were purchased from among men, to be the firstfruits unto God and unto the Lamb.*

Rev. 14:5 *And in their mouth was found no lie: they are without blemish.*

These have come up through translation (a catching up.)
They are the first fruits of the restored nation of Israel.
They are not the first fruits of the church, for they were gathered long before.

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Larkin has an interesting take on their being “virgins.”

Clarence Larkin, *The Book of Revelation*, page 131

...they are either all men of the character of the Apostle Paul, who did not marry, or, as is most likely, and as the word translated “virgins” means persons of either sex, they are “virgins” in the sense that they kept themselves clean of the crowning sin of that day—FORNICATION, for the crowning sin of the Tribulation Period will be fornication (Rev. 9:21; 14:8),

A young Israeli Jew who'd heard me speak to my Christian seminar tour group, said to me, “I believe what you say.”

“Have you converted?” I asked.

“Oh, no.” he said. “I don't want to miss my chance of being one of the 144,000.”

I thought, *He's married; he couldn't be one.* But I'd not yet read Larkin's comments.

I'm not sure I'm convinced of Larkin's idea, but we all see through a glass darkly now.

Time will tell!!!!!!

And that's how it is with much of this Wonderful Book of The Revelation of Jesus Christ!

Just who are the 144,000? I ponder this often.

If Jesus comes as soon as I think He's coming, they must be alive on earth now.

They may or may not know they are Jews.

God knows.

The Heavenly Sealers will know.

So-called “Lost Tribes” are being discovered. But in reality, they are not lost to God.

Fornication includes spiritual fornication. (Idolatry, for instance; false religions.)

Fornication is indicative of all sexual sins and immorality.

That this sin will be the crowning sin of the Tribulation Period is easily seen today.

Television commercials...sitcoms...

Movies. Laxness. Looseness of morals. Immodesty in dress.

What will it be like when the church is gone....

Dr. Hilton Sutton, *Revelation Revealed*, pages 101, 102

Approximately four years after the Tribulation begins, these [144,000] servants of God finish their assignment... [He sees the Great Multitude as the fruit.]

The Great Multitude

Rev. 7:11 ¶ *And all the angels were standing round about the throne, and about the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God,*

Rev. 7:12 *saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.*

Rev. 7:13 ¶ *And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, These that are arrayed in the white robes, who are they, and whence came they?*

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Rev. 7:14 *And I say unto him, My lord, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they that come out of the great tribulation, and they washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.*

Rev. 7:15 *Therefore are they before the throne of God; and they serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall spread his tabernacle over them.*

Rev. 7:16 *They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun strike upon them, nor any heat:*

Rev. 7:17 *for the Lamb that is in the midst of the throne shall be their shepherd, and shall guide them unto fountains of waters of life: and God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes.*

Dr. Hilton Sutton, *Revelation Revealed*, page 104

The company of Revelation 7 differs considerably from the Church company of Revelation 4 and 5. Jesus meets the Church in the air. At the rapture of the Great Multitude, the dead are not resurrected... The members of the Church have crowns of gold, sit upon thrones and sing the new song. None of this applies to the Great Multitude. The members of the Church declare themselves to be kings and priests reigning with the Lord, whereas those of the Great Multitude identify themselves as both Jews and Gentiles.

Bullinger, *The Companion Bible*

They washed their (own) robes. Works. Not grace.

For comparison to the Church, consider 1 Cor. 6:11:

1Cor. 6:11 And such were some of you: but **ye were washed**, but ye were sanctified, but ye were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God.

Though it is not in *Revelation Revealed*, I remember hearing Dr. Sutton say that the Bible records seven “catchings up” or raptures. I believe they were as follows:

1. Enoch
2. Elijah
3. Jesus
4. The Church
5. The 144,000
6. The Great Multitude
7. The Two Witnesses

I can see that there are some who come up during the seven years, perhaps as members of the wedding party, though not a part of the bride.