

# Jesus Reveals the Future, Part 5

## The Sealing and Mission of the 144,000 Israeli Missionaries

Revelation 7 -- 05/15/2016

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### Revelation 7

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 sea, or on any tree. <sup>2</sup>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, <sup>3</sup>saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have **SEALED** the **SERVANTS** of our God on their foreheads." <sup>4</sup>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**: <sup>5</sup>of the tribe of **Judah** twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of **Reuben** twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of **Gad** twelve thousand were sealed; <sup>6</sup>of the tribe of **Asher** twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of **Naphtali** twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of **Manasseh** twelve thousand were sealed; <sup>7</sup>of the tribe of **Simeon** twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of **Levi** twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of **Issachar** twelve thousand were sealed; <sup>8</sup>of the tribe of **Zebulun** twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of **Joseph** twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of **Benjamin** twelve thousand were sealed. <sup>9</sup>After these things I looked, and behold, a **GREAT MULTITUDE** which no one could number, of **ALL** nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, <sup>10</sup>and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "**SALVATION** belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"<sup>11</sup>All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen." <sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "**WHO** are these arrayed in white robes, and **WHERE** did they come from?" <sup>14</sup>And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who **COME OUT OF** the **GREAT TRIBULATION**, and washed their robes and made them white in the **BLOOD** of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup>Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him **day and night** in His **TEMPLE**. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. <sup>16</sup>They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; <sup>17</sup>for the **LAMB** who is in the midst of the throne will **SHEPHERD** them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

1. **When does this Sealing Take Place?** (regarding verses 1-8)

**Answer:** At the Beginning of the Great Tribulation

It relates to the **First Half** – the **First 3.5 years** of the **7 year Great Tribulation Period**

2. **The Seal of Living God? What is that?**

**Answer:** The **Seal of God** only comes from Receiving the Gospel. **Ephesians 1:13-14** → The Holy Spirit Seals the Believer in Christ **AFTER** the Repentant Sinner Surrenders to AND Trusts in Christ (i.e.: receives the Gospel of Christ). Is His Seal Permanent or Probationary? (ref.: Ephesians 4:30 & 2 Corinthians 1:22; 5:5 → a guarantee - sealed until the Day of Redemption)

3. **The Focus of the Gospel Mission during the Tribulation will be THROUGH Israel.**

The 144,000 are real, **genetic descendants** of Jacob. All 12 Tribes of Israel (???)

**The Church Age is Over**, and this last **7 years** relates to God finishing up **Daniel 9:24-27** - **70 Weeks of Years**. **69** have taken place, already. The **69<sup>th</sup>** finished with The Crucifixion, Death, Burial, Resurrection and Ascension of the Messiah of Israel, Jesus Christ. Thus, this is the **70<sup>th</sup>** week of years (i.e. 7 years = a week of years). **Which Tribes are missing in this list?**

4. **A Multitude which no one could number, from every people, nation, tribe, and tongue (language) (verses 9-17)**

Who are these folks? Where did they come from?

**Answer:** These folks, are saved-in-Christ, born again Christians coming **OUT of the Great Tribulation**. This matches with what we see in

**Revelation 14:12-13** (also reference Revelation 14:1-5 – mentions the 144,000 – **linking this**)

Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. <sup>13</sup> Then I heard a **voice from heaven** saying to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are the dead who **DIE** in the **LORD** from now on.’”

These folks come out of the Great Tribulation, because they were **MARTYRED** for their Faith in Christ, During the 2<sup>nd</sup> 1/2 (after the Rise of the Anti-Christ to his full power – as seen in Rev. 13)

Just like **Rev. 5:9-10** → **the fruit of the Gospel Mission**. That is, Missionaries/Christians spread the Gospel of Christ and lost sinners received the Gospel of Christ and were saved. **Just as a time period of Gospel Mission Preceded Revelation 5:9-10**, so it is that a

**Time Period of Gospel Mission Preceded Rev. 7:9-10.**

Thus, the Sealing of the 144,000 was for **Purpose the Gospel Mission** of Israel (i.e.: **My Servants**) to the lost nations. Everywhere that the Church went with the Gospel during the Church Age, the **144,000 followed-up** with the Gospel one last time, to get the remaining Gleanings. God wants to get every person, possible, saved, until there is none left to be saved. God works **THROUGH** the Proclamation of the Gospel of Christ to Save Lost Sinners. He will **Never Stop** until there are none left that will Repent (there is a stopping point). Revelation 7:9ff is the Result / the Fruit of the Gospel Mission of the 144,000 Israeli Gospel Missionaries sent out by God to all the People Groups on the Earth for 3.5 years (and this parallels the Ministry of the 2 Witnesses in Jerusalem – during that same Period of Time - The First Half (3.5 years) of the Great Tribulation [see Revelation 11])

5. **Take-Away #1: God will Shift His Gospel Mission Focus from the Church to Israel during the First Half of the Great Tribulation. God must fulfill the Last Week of Years of Dan. 9:24-27 (Jacob’s Trouble – the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Years) – God Keeps His Promises, Always.**

6. **Take-Away #2: God is still interested in Saving Lost Sinners – even during the Great Tribulation – Luke 19:10 – His last resort, always ... is Judgment and Wrath. (ref. Exodus 34:5-7; 20:5)**

7. **Take-Away #3: Deep Intimacy and Worship is the Main Goal of our Salvation – Rev. 7:9-17**  
→ They are always before His Throne ... Serving Him day and Night ...  
He will Dwell with His People ... He will lead them to Fountains of Living Waters ...  
God will wipe away every tear from their eyes ...

How close do His people need to be to Him so that they can experience these kinds of things from Him? How close are you to Him today? Do you long for Him, for His closeness, for deep intimacy (hear-to-heart, spirit-to-Spirit, mind-to-mind, soul-to-soul, being-to-being intimacy) with Him, personally? How is your Personal Quiet Time with Him, Daily? **Do you spend time with Him in your Prayer Closet (Matt. 6:6), Daily?**

**Matthew 6:6** → But you, when you pray, **go into your room**, and when you have **shut your door**, **pray** to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will **reward you openly**. ← If you want closeness with God, He’s already shown us how to have that.