

Rev. 14:1: *'And I looked, and lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.'*

We met these 144,000 back in chapter 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.'*

These 144,000 were called and commissioned, by God, early in the Tribulation, not long after the removal of the entire True Church, in the Rapture; we assume they were sent out to preach the Gospel. You'll notice that it does not say that John saw them as a crowd of 144,000 who would then have to find a way to go out into all the World; they will likely be already scattered throughout the World, not having immigrated to Israel even though many or most Jews will have gone to Israel.

Also, these will have all come to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ after the Rapture since they would have been removed in the Rapture if they had come to faith before the Rapture when all believers in the Lord Jesus Christ will have been removed.

Now, here in the 2nd half of the Tribulation, after the Antichrist has been entered by Satan and is demanding all must receive his Mark of the Beast, these 144,000 have all been killed and are, now, together in one crowd with the Lord Jesus Christ on the Heavenly Mount Zion. All of the millions, whom these 144,000 will have led to faith, are being hunted down and killed by everyone who are followers and worshippers of the Antichrist.

Even now, in America, before the Rapture, those on the Left are calling for violence and death of Christians. This very weekend, rallies were cancelled that were supposed to take place at the Supreme Court with calls for vengeance against Christians for the death of the evil 'trans' person who killed 6 at the Nashville Christian School. We are entering even further into very dark times before the Rapture. I hesitated to include these posts but this really is serious; we are seeing the beginnings of what the World will become once the Church is removed and the Holy Spirit stops restraining evil. In fact, I won't include the posts with pictures, I will simply describe them:

One is a poster announcing the 'Trans Day of Vengeance,' April 1st and 11am.

The second is a photo of a supposed 'trans woman,' a chubby man dressed all in pinks, holding firearms, wearing a bulletproof vest, with the caption:

Kill... I will use the word (Christian) because the word 'he/she' used, for 'Christian' and Jesus Christ, is filthy. It says: Kill 'christians;' roundhouse kick a 'christian' into the concrete; Slam dunk a 'christian' baby into the trashcan; Crucify filthy 'christians;' ... and others even filthier.

Then this: 'Democrat Kathleen Clark BLASTS "Politicians and **Preachers**" and "Right Wing Extremists" for Cruelty to Transgenders After Wicked Transgender Guns Down Kids at School – Forgets to Mention Her Son Is Violent Trans Antifa Felon' thug.

I include these to illustrate that we are seeing great darkness cover the Earth and it will be many times worse once the Tribulation begins... but that darkness is growing now... stronger and more pervasive every day.

'For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people:' Isa 60:2

After the 144,000 are all martyred for their faith, we see them here with the Lord Jesus Christ on Mt. Zion.

Verse 2: *'And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps:'* ³ *And they sung as it were a new song before the*

throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.'

We've heard of this Voice from Heaven before, It sounding like many waters and like great thunder: It is the Voice of God. It sounds like these harpers are probably angels who specialize in great ability to create music on harps... just imagine what we will hear, what we will see; sounds will have color; colors will have sound; we will be immersed and surrounded with indescribable sights, sounds and beauty!

The 144,000 will sing a song so intricately beautiful that no one in Heaven, not even the angels will be able to learn the song... only the 144,000; I can only imagine the songs I will be able to write, to play and to sing, before the King on His throne, when I finally get there!

No matter how absolutely impossibly, hugely, unimaginably we might try to imagine... the reality will be infinitely greater.

One of the main reasons the realities of Heaven and the New Earth will be so far beyond what we can even imagine is due to the fact that when we are then, finally, living within our new, eternal, glorified bodies, like that of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, we will have been given new, enormously greater senses in that body. Now, we can experience the physical world through our five senses: we see, we hear, we touch, we taste and we smell and, as we grow ever older within these current mortal, dying bodies, our senses grow increasingly less sensitive. Then, all of those five senses will be millions of times more acute and I will bet that we will have some, heretofore unknown, additional senses: we will be limited only by the extent of God's imagination and you can surely know that His gift to us of those, far beyond marvelous, new bodies will be indescribable.

I say all this in relation to this song that only the 144,000 will be capable of learning; I can't wait to, at least, hear them all sing it!

When we've ever listened to a great choir which, by the way, we rarely hear anymore... especially a Russian choir with their seemingly impossibly deep, low bases. In a great choir, you shouldn't be able to pick out or hear a single voice; sure, they have their primadonas who consider themselves great stars, but when one of those sings out louder than the rest, it sounds like a car with a lump in the tire... it doesn't flow as a single tapestry of sound... I hate that! Ever since I've had any involvement in choirs, I've always been disgusted with any prima donna.

But I think of how this choir of 144,000 will sound or what it will be like to listen to a choir of angels... we really have no frame of reference for that... it will be absolutely spectacular! I believe that the angels who've been tasked with, and created for, singing forth the glory of God... I think that they all have hugely elongated mouths and throats from which will issue such wondrous sound and music. I'll be able to sit and listen to that and even join them for hours on end.

Our destiny, our eternal reward, our eternal life will never be limited to this Earthly ground to which we are currently bound and nothing will be limited to our present frame of reference and understanding.

Verse 4: *'These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the first fruits unto God and to the Lamb. ⁵ And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.'*

What is John saying? Is there something 'dirty' about women? Well... some women for sure... but that is not what he is saying; he is saying the same thing that Paul wrote to the Corinthians: *'Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman... For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that... I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, it is good for them if they abide even as I... ⁹ But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn... But as God hath distributed to every man, as the Lord hath called every one, so let him walk. And so ordain I in all churches.... Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called.... Brethren, let every man, wherein he is called, therein abide with God...*

²⁵ *Now concerning virgins I have no commandment of the Lord: yet I give my judgment, as one that hath obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful. ²⁶ I suppose therefore that this is good for the present distress, I say,*

that it is good for a man so to be... But and if thou marry, thou hast not sinned; and if a virgin marry, she hath not sinned. Nevertheless such shall have trouble in the flesh: but I spare you... But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord: ³³ But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife. ³⁴ There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband. ³⁵ And this I speak for your own profit; not that I may cast a snare upon you, but for that which is comely, and that ye may attend upon the Lord without distraction.' 1 Cor 7

Anyone who chooses to remain a virgin, for the express purpose of being able to serve God without distraction, chooses a good thing, but only if he/she is able to remain pure, sexually.

These are the 144,000 who were chosen and sealed by God at the beginning of the Tribulation. They went out into the World to preach the Gospel and be used by God to bring in the greatest harvest of souls, ever. Then, after the Antichrist came to full power, they were all hunted down and killed. They were then the firstfruits of God's great End Times harvest; they became 'redeemed from the Earth.'

Notice that we read that the 144,000 will have been 'redeemed from the Earth.' the Greek word the Holy Spirit inspired John to use for, 'from,' from the Earth, is: Apo; it means, 'from, out of, off.'

In Matt 24, Jesus tells His disciples, and us, what will lead up to the Tribulation: war, rumors of wars, etc. 'as it was in the days of Noah, and of Lot', some of what will happen during the Tribulation, what to look for before He comes for us in the Rapture with the greatest sign of the End Times being the rebirth of the Nation of Israel in 1948: 'When the fig tree begins to sprout... this generation will not pass until all has been completed...' meaning: His return at Armageddon at the end of the Tribulation. He says in Matt 24:14 *'And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.'*

We've heard people say, 'See, the Rapture won't happen until all the World has gotten the Gospel in their own language; everyone must have the chance to hear and to decide on their own!'

He wasn't saying that at all; if that were the case then that would be a sign to look for and, so, it would not be true that the Rapture could happen at any moment... it wouldn't be able to happen until that World saturation of the Gospel.

There are plenty of people who will not hear the Gospel before the Lord Jesus Christ returns for His Bride in the Rapture. In fact, He never says that the Gospel is taken to all the World by humans... On the other hand, the Gospel will go out into all the World but not until...

Verse 6: *'And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,⁷ Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.'*

This is the Gospel going out to every human; imagine seeing a mighty angel flying, crying out the Gospel; here, then, is the proof that all are without excuse; God will have personally done everything possible to see that everyone has heard the Truth: at least, everyone one the Earth left alive to this point in the Tribulation...

'every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people.' That does not have to, and surely will not, happen before the Rapture. And we saw, previously, that even in the face of God's miraculous intervention into human history with the horrible demonic locusts and the 200 million demonic horsemen, they *'repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:²¹ Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.'* Rev 9: 20

And the same will be true here; even as a mighty angel of God flies about, crying out the Gospel, most will, again, refuse to repent because we will see, soon, when Jesus Christ returns, at Armageddon, there will be gathered against Him, all the kings and all the armies of the Earth who will all be killed and sent to Hades for the next 1000 years.

Verse 8: *'And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.'*

Babylon represents Rome as the seat of World government: *'... and here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.'* Rev. 17 Babylon is the Great Harlot sitting on a beast with 7 heads. Rome is the 'City on seven hills.'

Babylon is the ancient religion from the Tower of Babel, from ancient Babylon and from which has evolved every false religion and is now morphing into the one world religion which will be headed by the False Prophet who will turn all worship to the Antichrist.

Babylon represents the one world government of the Antichrist and the one world religion headed by the False Prophet.

We are nearing the end of the Tribulation in our study and the return of the Rightful King, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Verse 9: *'And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, ¹⁰ The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.'*

After one angel cries out the Gospel, another warns against being tempted to take the Mark of the Beast in order to be able to buy and sell, to be able to live within the coming world system of the Antichrist. The angel is saying that, for anyone who willingly takes the Mark of the Beast, all hope is gone; they are damned and that, without remedy. However, the truth is, no one who takes the Mark of the Beast will care anyway; no one will take the Mark of the Beast and then, later, think, 'Oh, I wish I hadn't done that... I wish that I could be saved...'

The same is true today; people bemoan that God's choice to choose some and not others is, somehow, so unfair, as if anyone, today, is saying, 'This is so unfair! I want to get saved but God won't let me...'

The Lost do not care; they are not bothered; they are not wishing they were saved; they could not care less. The world hates the True God, they hate the True Church and they hate True Believers... just look around.

Notice that the angel says that these will suffer in the Lake of Fire, forever, *'in the presence of holy angels and the Lord Jesus Christ'*

I think this is related to what we see at the end of Revelation: *'...behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. ¹³ I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. ¹⁴ Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city (New Jerusalem coming down out of Heaven). ¹⁵ For **without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.**' Rev 22:12*

These are why I think it may be that while in Heaven, and in New Jerusalem, we may be able to see those who are outside, those down in the Lake of Fire.