

THE  
144,000  
SEALED

## **HANDOUT**

### **THE 144,000 AND THE GREAT MULTITUDE IN REVELATION 7**

**FEBRUARY 10, 2020**

Revelation Chapter 7 mentions two distinct groups of people. One group is the 144,000 Jews who are physical descendants from Jacob. The other group in Revelation Chapter 7 is described in verse 9 as a “great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language!”

**7** After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth to prevent any wind from blowing on the land or on the sea or on any tree. <sup>2</sup> Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: <sup>3</sup> “Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.” <sup>4</sup> Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.

<sup>5</sup> From the tribe of Judah 12,000 were sealed,  
from the tribe of Reuben 12,000,  
from the tribe of Gad 12,000,

<sup>6</sup> from the tribe of Asher 12,000,  
from the tribe of Naphtali 12,000,  
from the tribe of Manasseh 12,000

<sup>7</sup> from the tribe of Simeon 12,000,  
from the tribe of Levi 12,000,  
from the tribe of Issachar 12,000,

<sup>8</sup> from the tribe of Zebulun 12,000,  
from the tribe of Joseph 12,000,  
from the tribe of Benjamin 12,000. (Revelation 7:1-8 NIV)

The above list of names (vv.5-8) is not identical to the names of the 12 sons of Jacob as recorded in Genesis 35:23-26 and Genesis 49:3-27. The 12 sons of Jacob were: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Ashur

**\*BE CAREFUL WHEN USING COMMENTARIES! MAKE SURE THEY LINE UP WITH THE BIBLE!**

Some bible students claim the 144,000 to be the church! Some say verses 4-8 are written in a symbolic sense and refers to the church! One bible commentator says the 144,000 cannot be Physical Jewish descendant of Jacob because: (1) He says the bible teaches that the church is now Israel. (2) He says 10 of the 12 tribes of Israel were virtually wiped out during the time of the Babylonians (sixth century) (3) He basically says current day Jews cannot trace back their lineage to the 10 Northern Tribes (4) His comments leave the reader that the church will go through the 7 year tribulation period!

I contend that he is wrong in all 4 points! But we Christians should not break fellowship over disagreements of scripture unless those disagreements affect a person's salvation!

Going back to the list of names in Revelation 7:5-8 and Genesis 35:23-26 and Genesis 49:3 27 which two names stand out that prevent the list from matching?

Dan and his descendants displeased God by engaging in idolatry on several occasions! Joseph's sons: Ephraim and his descendants did the same whereas Manasseh was faithful!

Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. <sup>2</sup> And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of rushing waters and like a loud peal of thunder. The sound I heard was like that of harpists playing their harps. <sup>3</sup> And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. <sup>4</sup> These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they remained virgins. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among mankind and offered as firstfruits to God and the Lamb. <sup>5</sup> No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless. (Revelation 14:1-5 NIV)

To revisit the 5 questions first presented last week concerning the 144,000:

- (1) Who are they? I contend the 144,000 are Physical Descendants of Israel aka Jacob.
- (2) What is their significance? I contend they are specifically chosen by almighty God for God's specific purpose.
- (3) What will be their objective? As loyal followers of God these 144,000 individuals will be about doing the will of God! They will be witnesses for God!
- (4) Will they be protected? I contend absolutely!
- (5) What effect will they have on the last period of the Tribulation Time? Yes the 144,000 will be extremely effective and millions will believe the gospel!

These guys will be pure in moral character! Verse 4 of Revelation 14 says they will "remain virgins". They will stand out from others who are immoral and who rampantly practice sexual sin! They will tell the truth; they are described as blameless!

