

REVELATION, Chapter 7

If such scenes as this are to come, such tremendous judgments on a guilty world, where will be the refuge for God's people? How will they be sheltered until the indignation be overpast? John sees the elements of nature--earthquake, tempest, and political strife--represented as being held by four angels. These winds are under control until God gives the word to let them go. There is the safety of God's church. The angels of God do His bidding, holding back the winds of the earth, that the winds should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree, until the servants of God should be sealed in their foreheads. The mighty angel is seen ascending from the east (or sunrising). This mightiest of angels has in his hand the seal of the living God, or of Him who alone can give life, who can inscribe upon the foreheads the mark or inscription, to whom shall be granted immortality, eternal life. It is the voice of this highest angel that had authority to command the four angels to keep in check the four winds until this work was performed, and until he should give the summons to let them loose.

Those that overcome the world, the flesh, and the devil, will be the favored ones who shall receive the seal of the living God. Those whose hands are not clean, whose hearts are not pure, will not have the seal of the living God. Those who are planning sin and acting it will be passed by. Only those who, in their attitude before God, are filling the position of those who are repenting and confessing their sins in the great anti-typical day of atonement, will be recognized and marked as worthy of God's protection. The names of those who are steadfastly looking and waiting and watching for the appearing of their Saviour--more earnestly and wishfully than they who wait for the morning--will be numbered with those who are sealed. Those who, while having all the light of truth flashing upon their souls, should have works corresponding to their avowed faith, but are allured by sin, setting up idols in their hearts, corrupting their souls before God, and polluting those who unite with them in sin, will have their names blotted out of the book of life, and be left in midnight darkness, having no oil in their vessels with their lamps. "Unto you that fear My name shall the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in His wings."

This sealing of the servants of God is the same that was shown to Ezekiel in vision. John also had been a witness of this most startling revelation. He saw the sea and the waves roaring, and men's hearts failing them for fear. He beheld the earth moved, and the mountains carried into the midst of the sea (which is literally taking place), the water thereof roaring and troubled, and the mountains shaking with the swelling thereof. He was shown plagues, pestilence, famine, and death performing their terrible mission. {TM 445.2}

I. Chapter 7:1 – 8

1. What are the three elements of vs. 1?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

2. What is the meaning of these elements? _____

Isaiah 27:8; Jeremiah 49:36; Ezekiel 7:2; Daniel 7:2; Matthew 24:31

“I saw that the four angels would hold the four winds until Jesus' work was done in the sanctuary, and then will come the seven last plagues. These plagues enraged the wicked against the righteous; they thought that we had brought the judgments of God upon them, and that if they could rid the earth of us, the plagues would then be stayed.” *Early Writings*, p. 37

3. Vs. 2, 3;

a. east, _____

anatoih anatole; a rising of light, i.e. dawn (Genesis 2:8; Ezekiel 43:2; Matthew 2:2, 9; 24:27; Luke 1:78)

b. seal, _____

Ezekiel 9:4; 2Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 1:13; 4:30; Revelation 14:1, 9

he third angel's message has been sent forth to the world, warning men against receiving the mark of the beast or of his image in their foreheads or in their hands. To receive this mark means to come to the same decision as the beast has done, and to advocate the same ideas, in direct opposition to the Word of God. Of all who receive this mark, God says, "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."

If the light of truth has been presented to you, revealing the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, and showing that there is no foundation in the Word of God for Sunday observance, and yet you still cling to the false sabbath, refusing to keep holy the Sabbath which God calls "My holy day," you receive the mark of the beast. When does this take place? When you obey the decree that commands you to cease from labor on Sunday and worship God, while you know that there is not a word in the Bible showing Sunday to be other than a common working day, you consent to receive the mark of the beast, and refuse the seal of God.

If we receive this mark in our foreheads or in our hands, the judgments pronounced against the disobedient must fall upon us. But the seal of the living God is placed upon those who conscientiously keep the Sabbath of the Lord (RH July 13, 1897). {7BC 980.2}

c. literal or figurative? _____

Exodus 13:9, 16

d. What does a Seal contain?

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

Exodus 20:8 - 11

4. vs. 4 – 8;

a. 144,00 and tribes, literal or figurative? _____

i. The differences in the lists.

Revelation 7	Genesis 49	Number 1:5 – 15	Ezekiel 48
Judah	Reuben	Reuben	Dan
Reuben	Simeon	Simeon	Asher
Gad	Levi	Judah	Naphtali
Asher	Judah	Issachar	Manasseh
Nephtali	Zebulun	Zebulun	Ephraim
Manasseh	Issachar	Ephraim	Reuben
Simeon	Dan	Manasseh	Judah
Levi	Gad	Benjamin	Benjamin
Issachar	Asher	Dan	Simeon
Zebulun	Naphtali	Asher	Issachar
Joseph	Joseph	Gad	Zebulun
Benjamin	Benjamin	Naphtali	Gad

ii. Two Tribes missing in Revelation 7

iii. Righteousness by birth? John 8:33, 39; Matthew 3:9

Revelation 7		Genesis 49	
Judah	Praise	Reuben	Unstable
Reuben	See a Son	Simeon	Instruments of
Gad	Company	Levi	Cruelty
Asher	Happy	Judah	Praise
Nephtali	Wrestling	Zebulun	Haven for Ships
Manasseh	Forgetting	Issachar	Strong Ass
Simeon	Hearing	Dan	Judges his people
Levi	Joined	Gad	Overcomer
Issachar	A Hire	Asher	Bread, fat
Zebulun	Dwelling	Naphtali	Hind
Joseph	Adding	Joseph	Fruitful bough

Benjamin Son of my Right Hand

Benjamin Ravin as a wolf

5. Why are two tribes missing from the Eschatological list found in chapter 7?

a. Dan, Genesis 49:15, 16; Revelation 12:10; _____

b. Ephraim, Hosea 4:17; _____

The 144,000 sealed saints are portrayed here as an organized army under the leadership of Jesus Christ. Their number stands for the totality of Israel ready to enter the battle of the great day of God Almighty against Satan and his army. Later, John sees another army, the opponents of God and the enemies of His people, who are ready for battle, and hears the number which is two hundred million (9:16).