

Revelation 14

A large group of people, mostly men and women, are standing in a vast, open field. They are all wearing white, long-sleeved robes and white head coverings. They are arranged in many rows, stretching far into the distance. The background is a bright, hazy sky with soft, golden light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall atmosphere is one of a large, organized gathering.

144,000 Redeemed
Good News and Dire Warnings
Divine Harvest

Time Out

IT IS
WELL
WITH MY
SOUL



Blasphemous Name



"Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"



"Great" things, blasphemies

AUTHORITY
42 Months



BLASPHEMY AGAINST GOD, HIS NAME, HIS TABERNACLE, THOSE WHO DWELL IN HEAVEN

Revelation 13A
Beast from the Sea
Summary

Names NOT written in...

AUTHORITY OVER



Patience and Faith of the Saints



ALL
AUTHORITY



Breath...to
image...



DECEIVES
BY SIGNS



Revelation 13B

Beast from the Land Summary



IMAGE SPEAKS



=
DEATH



ALL



NO NAME
NO NUMBER
=
NO BUYING
OR SELLING

Wisdom =

Calculate
666
number
of a man



Revelation 14

3 Distinct “Scenes:”

- Lamb + 144,000 on Zion
- Messages from 3 Angels
- A Divine Harvest

Revelation 14

Part 1: The Lamb and the 144,000

¹ Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads. ² And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. ³ They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth. ⁴ These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb. ⁵ And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

Revelation 14

1

Part 2: Three Angelic Proclamations

First Angel...

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people—⁷ saying with a loud voice, “Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.”

*“Fear God
and give glory
to Him...”*



Revelation 14

2

Part 2: Three Angelic Proclamations

Second Angel...

⁸ And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

"Babylon is fallen..."



Revelation 14

3

Part 2: Three Angelic Proclamations

Third Angel...

⁹ Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. 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 ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name." ¹² Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

"If anyone.."



Revelation 14

Part 2: Another voice...

13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."



Revelation 14

Part 3: Divine Harvest

¹⁴ Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. ¹⁵ And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, “Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe.” ¹⁶ So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.



Revelation 14

Part 3: Divine Harvest

17 Then another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.

18 And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe." 19 So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. 20 And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs.

Revelation 14

A few things before we get into the various scenes...

- **“Then I looked and behold...”** This is a *new vision*. We’ve just completed the narrative about two beasts John saw, now here is something new. “Behold” indicates he is startled, and the reader is to pay attention. *Something very important is coming...*

**SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT
CHRONOLOGY...Where and When are We?**



Revelation 14

- From chapter 10 on, chronology is somewhat difficult to understand.
- Through chapter 9 there seems to be a fairly obvious chronology, as the age of the church winds down, the tribulation begins and the first two sets of judgments (seals and trumpets) happen one after the other, through the sixth trumpet.

Revelation 14

Chapter 1:
Revelation of
Glorified
Messiah,
Instructions

Chapters 2 and 3:
Letters to 7 churches
Church Age
current timeline
"Things which are..."

Chapters 4 and 5:

Invitation to Throne Room
Living creatures
24 Elders
Lamb with a scroll
Amazing wonder, ceaseless praise
"Things which will take place"

Chapter 6:
Seals opened (1-6)
Judgments Begin

Chapter 7:
The 144,000
Tribulation Saints
"Interlude"

Chapter 8:
Trumpet
Judgments 1-4
(chaos in natural world)

Chapter 9:
Trumpet
Judgments 5-6
(unleashed demonic chaos)
No repentance

Revelation 14

- Chapter nine seems to show judgments have been not only a result of God's wrath, but also a greater and greater "incentive" to turn to Him. We are still in God's "grace" period.
- **But chapter 9 ends this way:** *²⁰ But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. ²¹ And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.*

Mankind does NOT repent

Revelation 14

- These verses show man is still unrepentant, those **“inhabitants of the earth” who refuse to turn to God**. Earth is truly their home, not heaven.
- Very sad and quite remarkable, considering what has already been poured out upon the earth.
- For this and other reasons, many believe that at the end of chapter 9 we have indeed reached **the end of Daniel’s 70th Week,” coinciding with the END, or near the end, of the 7-year tribulation.**

Revelation 14

- Chapters 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 are then informational visions only, not “events” happening within a certain time period, or advancing a timeline.
- **Chapter 10 is a timeout for John**, with a new set of instructions. He has more to prophesy, and it won't be pleasant. The grace period is apparently up (*the 7 years of wrath and suffering, essentially a “grace” period to allow, or force, people to come to God*) and final judgment will begin. The mighty angel announces that there will be no more delay.

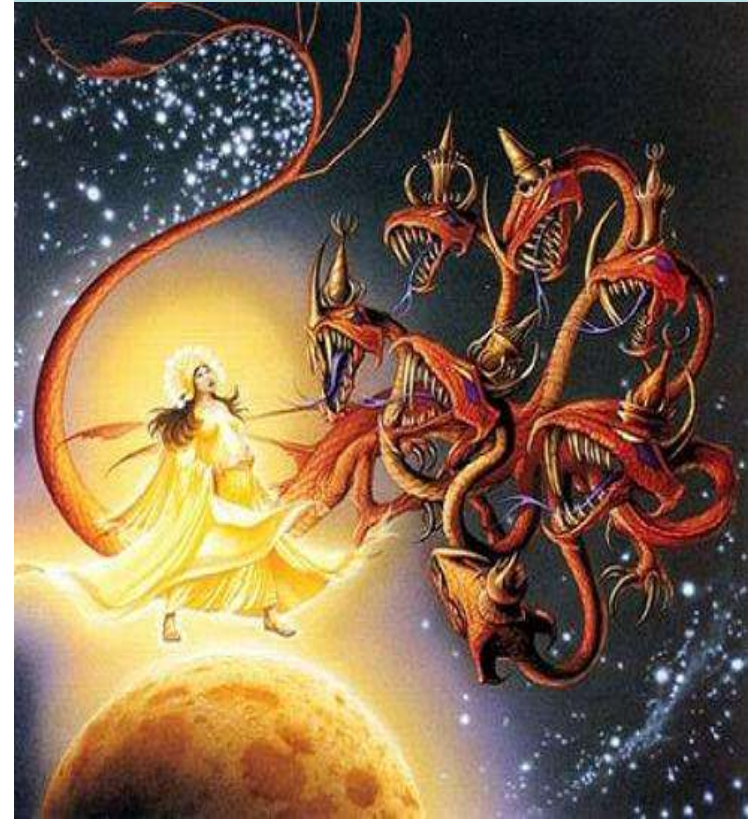
Revelation 14

- **Chapter 11 is about the condition of the Temple**, measuring the worshippers and apparently not finding them “up to expectation.” It is also the vision of the **two witnesses** who will preach the Gospel from Jerusalem until the enemy is allowed to kill them, their bodies lie in the streets, but 3 ½ days later they come to life and are taken back to heaven. They have a 3 ½ year ministry, which ends in this chapter.



Revelation 14

- **Chapter 12** is about the historical and prophetic “man child” promised to **Israel**, the **battle in heaven**, and casting out of Satan who knows his time is short and sets about **persecuting the “woman”** (Israel) and her offspring (Jews and all believers). This will be happening throughout the tribulation period, especially the last 3 ½ years.



Revelation 14



- **Chapter 13 is about two beasts**, (*one from the sea the other from the land*) who will be final world rulers during this time, and along with the dragon (Satan) will persecute the saints, kill those who do not worship the 1st beast and control entire world economy. Will also be happening throughout last half or 3½ year period.

Revelation 14

- **And now we come to chapter 14.** This chapter has three distinct parts: a revisit of the 144,000 Jews, some great news and some dire warnings from angels, and a divine harvest. All of these things seem to be those that will *happen at the end of the tribulation*.
- Therefore, it makes sense that the 70th week, the 7-years of the tribulation, may be “up” at the end of chapter 9. The only thing left now are the 7th Trumpet and the pouring out of bowl judgments. These bowl judgments happen very fast, seemingly one right after the other without much time between them.

Revelation 14

- ANOTHER NOTE: in Daniel a **mysterious 30-day period of time** follows the 70th week of Daniel. It is a reference in Daniel 12 to 1,290 days instead of the 1,260 days we know from Revelation and the counting of 3½ years.
- No one seems to really know what will happen during this 30-day period. **There is much speculation and commentary on this.** Some insist they know, but scripture just is not clear about what this strange 30 day period is for.

+30 DAYS??

Revelation 14

+30 DAYS???

- Perhaps it is to allow all the things in chapters 14-19 to take place. This would include:
 - **preserving the marked saints**
 - **harvest of faithful, harvest of wicked**
 - **destruction of Babylon**
 - **Armageddon**
 - **return of Yeshua**
 - **and other determined end of the period events that culminate this time.**

Revelation 14

- Revelation 14 is somewhat of a **preview of these coming events** that will possibly happen in this 30-day period of time after the end of the 70th week (*we will spend more time on this later in a lesson about Daniel 9, and the 70 weeks Daniel prophesied about.*)
- It is possible this time is when the 7th trumpet is blown, the final bowl judgments are poured out and several “loose ends” are brought together and the end of this age is complete.



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Trumpet
Judgments 5-6
(unleashed demonic chaos)
No repentance



Chapter 10
Chapter 11
Chapter 12
Chapter 13
Chapter 14
Chapter 15
Chapter 16
Chapter 17
Chapter 18
Chapter 19

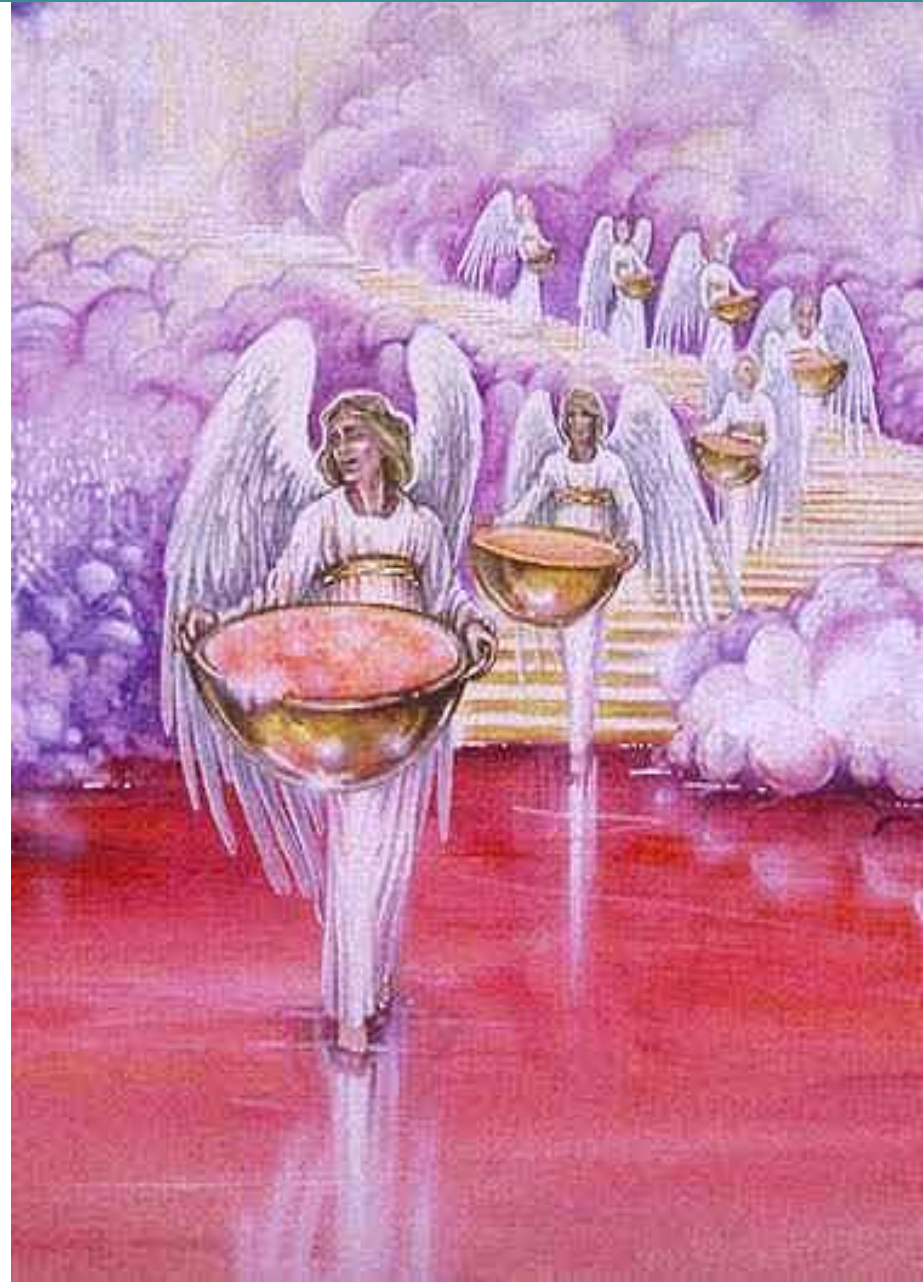
**Daniel's xtra
30 days?**

Revelation 14

- Some disagree and say that at the end of chapter 9 we **have only reached the midpoint of the Tribulation**. Although there IS chronology in the book of Revelation, it is often difficult to tell precisely WHERE we are on a 7-year timeline.
- It is true that the events through chapter 9 advance such a timeline, we just don't know how far. And if we are indeed at the end of the Tribulation in chapter 9, it does make sense that here in chapter 14, we are merely being given critical information, not advancing the tribulation timeline.

Revelation 14

- Still have the third set of judgments (“bowls”) to come, however, but these are poured out in chapter 16 in very rapid succession. It is possible these will take up very little time on any “timeline.”



Revelation 14

Scene 1: The 144,000 and the Lamb on Zion



Revelation 14

¹ Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads. ² And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. ³ They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth. ⁴ These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb. ⁵ And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

Revelation 14

Several immediate questions:

- 1. Where is this Mt. Zion?** Is it in heaven, or on earth?
- 2. Who are these 144,000?** Are they the same ones in chapter 7, others, Christians, Jews?
- 3. What/who is the "voice" from heaven?**
- 4. What do these "firstfruits" mean?**
- 5. What is the timeline here?** Where are we in the Tribulation here? Pre, mid, or end?
- 6. What does "not defiled with women," and "virgins" mean?** Is that physical, or spiritual?

Revelation 14

- There are so many different ideas presented about these questions that it is difficult to have any definitive answers.
- We can know certain things, but others will remain unsolved until they actually happen.
- It is dangerous to take definitive stands based on speculation and human reasoning. The scriptures are the only ultimate source for answers.
- We'll go through the verses logically to see what we can know for sure.



Revelation 14

- Endless speculations that surround this book of unveiling (*literal meaning of Apokalupsis, "Revelation"*) remind us that we need to revisit our ultimate purpose in studying this book. **Why do we study it?**
- Obviously, it is the only book that promises a blessing to the reader. That should be reason enough.
- **But we have plenty more reasons.** Our purpose is not necessarily to uncover every specific meaning of details, some of which really don't concern us now.

Revelation 14

- **Grand purposes** for this book, and our reasons for studying it are:
 - 1) Hope for the believer
 - 2) Warning for unbelievers
 - 3) To know completion of God's plan, and reminder of His covenants with Israel
 - 4) To reveal ultimate wrath against and demise of the unbeliever (warning!)
 - 5) To reveal ultimate victory for the believer
 - 6) To provide prophetic markers
 - 7) To prepare for what is coming

Revelation 14

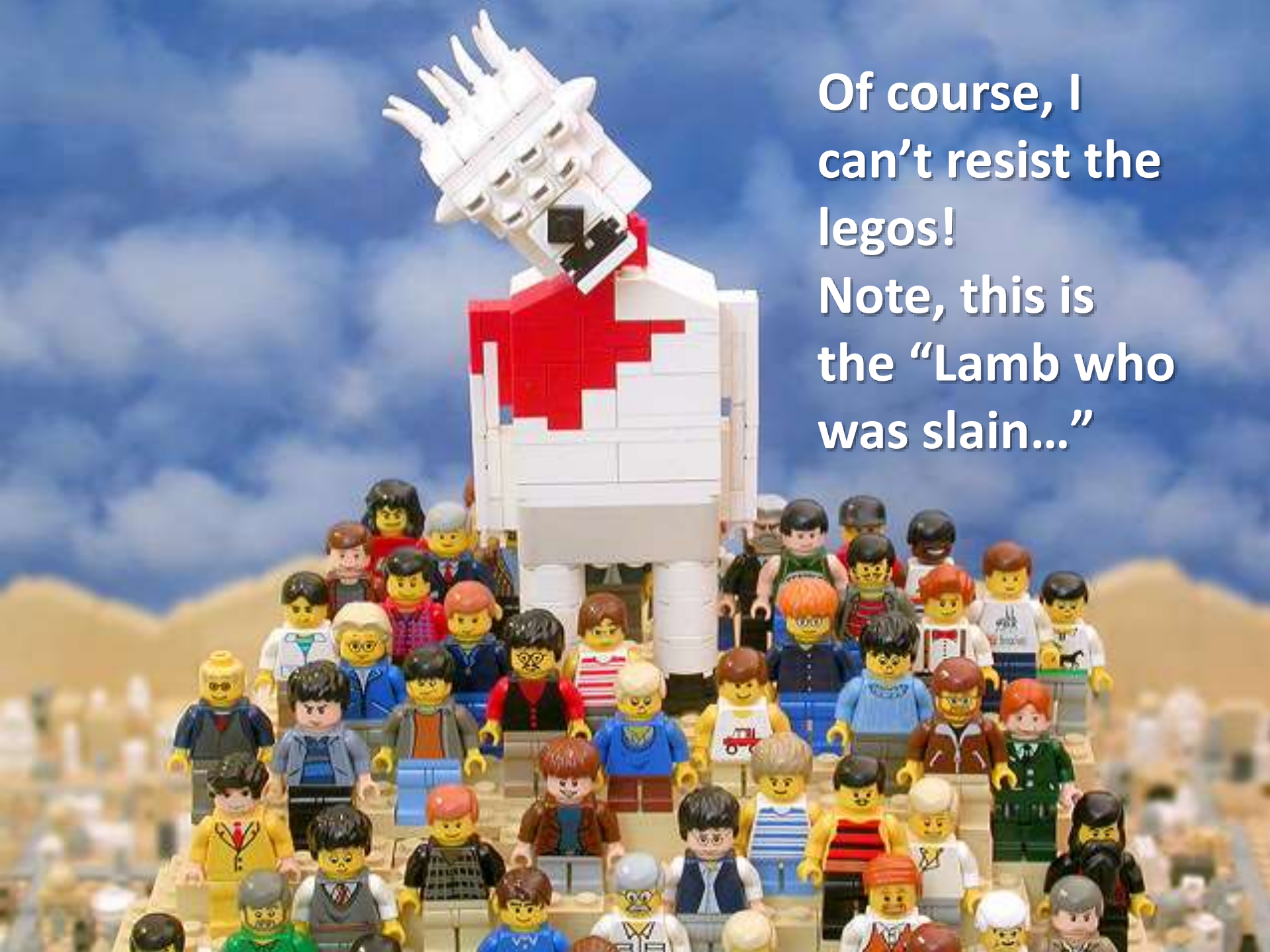
- Some information provided in this book will not be fully known or revealed until it is actually happening in real time, or even past.
- Those living on earth during this time will most likely understand a great deal more than we do now. They will need this book to guide them through those terrible 7 years.
- Believers need this book to give us hope, to provide a blessing, inform us so we can inform others, be assured of the majestic plan of God, and to discern the entire Bible rightly. We do not expect to know the answers to every question...yet.

Revelation 14



¹ Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads.

Of course, I
can't resist the
legos!
Note, this is
the "Lamb who
was slain..."



Revelation 14

Just in verse 1 we have a few issues to solve:

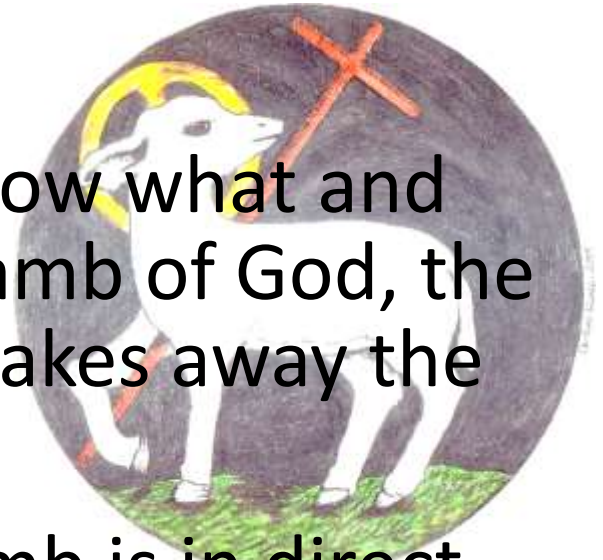
- **The Lamb**
- **Mt. Zion**
- **The 144,000**



Revelation 14

THE LAMB

- By now all believers should know what and who the Lamb is. This is the Lamb of God, the Passover Lamb, the one who takes away the sins of the world.
- “*...behold, a Lamb...*” This Lamb is in direct contrast to the beasts of the previous chapter. This is the same Lamb as seen in chapter 5, and chapter 7. **This is Yeshua HaMashiach.**
- “*behold*” emphasizes importance. Commands the reader to pay attention, something important here.



Revelation 14

MOUNT ZION

- “*...Mount Zion...*” Is this in the traditional place on earth, namely Jerusalem, OR is this in heaven?? *Could be either.*
- Difficult to say whether entire scene takes place in heaven, or on earth - **or partly both** (*144,000 on earth, harpists in heaven, etc.*)
Way it is written could lead to either conclusion. If on earth, may be reference to earthly Zion, Jerusalem, and perhaps even Messiah returning, joining the marked 144,000. If in heaven, obviously would be heavenly Zion. (*John may be seeing both heaven and earth in this vision.*)

Revelation 14

- Hebrews makes reference to **heavenly Zion**:

“For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. (For they could not endure what was commanded: “And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow.” And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.”)....

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But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.”

(Hebrews 12:18-24)

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- The Hebrews passage **contrasts Mt. Sinai and Mt. Zion**. Sinai is the “mountain of fire” and is representative of the Law, and the just expectations of God. Mt. Zion is representative of God’s Grace, and the gift of His Son to cover us from wrath. There is a literal Mt. Zion on earth, and there is one in heaven. *(Remember, earthly things are shadows and built upon heavenly originals).*
- Some have tried to allegorize this passage as Zion and the 144,000 representing the “Church.” ***This is based on replacement theology, a LIE.***

Revelation 14

THE 144,000

- There have been all kinds of suggestions and speculations as to the identity of this 144,000, including:
 - The original 144,000 Jews selected from each of the 12 tribes of Jacob, and sealed from harm in chapter 7
 - A special elite group of believers other than the 144,000 in chapter 7
 - A representative sample of all believers, symbolic of all redeemed

Revelation 14

- Logical these are same 144,000 sealed by God in chapter 7. In other words, they are 144,000 Jews, 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes. But we really don't know. Writer most likely assumes reader knows this, either by clues given, or by actual experience (*witness to these things*)
- In chapter 7 we read: “...*Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.*” *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...*” (7:3-4)

Revelation 14

- In chapter 13 we saw the 666 mark of the beast. Here we are reminded that those who love God are also sealed, but with the **mark of God**. These servants have *“their Father’s name written on their foreheads.”*
- A marked (*no pun intended!*) **contrast** to last chapter’s mark, a mark of doom (*we will hear that later in this chapter*).
- Chapter 14 is a chapter of obvious contrasts to chapter 13.

Revelation 14

- If we are indeed at END of the Tribulation, these 144,000 (*being the same as those in chapter 7*) are shown here to **underscore the fact that God has brought all of them THROUGH the Tribulation safely** (*sealed from harm either by the wrath of God, or the wrath of the enemy.*) ***Not one lost!***
- There is absolutely **no evidence to indicate these are a different group** of 144,000 (*either elite group or all redeemed*). Any ideas along these lines are purely speculation, and most likely not in line with what is intended.

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- The safest and best (at least for now) interpretation of the 144,000 here is that **these are those marked Jewish believers from chapter 7, shown here to indicate God was faithful in bringing them safely through the Tribulation.** This assumes the time line noted earlier (end of 7 years by chapter 9), with a short period of time allowed to complete “all the details” at the end.
- If mid-point is here instead, we can assume these are still being kept safe, and their appearance here is a reminder of this.

Revelation 14:2

² And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps.



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- This “voice” from heaven, obviously very loud (*like many waters, i.e., a rushing waterfall, loud thunder*) **indicates scene may be on earth, and John *hears* something else from heaven.**
- Not told what this voice says, but John hears another thunderous sound that may have eclipsed it (if it IS a voice). Not told whose voice it is.

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- Greek word for “voice” is **phone**, can also be interpreted as “sound.” Likely better translation (*many other translations use “sound” instead of “voice”*) as John identifies sound as seeming like sound made by harpists. If so, sound is not a voice, but the sound of harpists.
- ***“...sound of harpists playing their harps. They sang as it were a new song...”*** Note John does not identify harpists. Perhaps he cannot see them, but only hear them. He sees an earthly vision, but hears a heavenly sound.

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- **Seen harps before** (ch 5), will see them again next chapter (15). Those with harps in chapter 5 are collected Church in heaven (*redeemed so far*).

Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. (5:8)

- Those in chapter 15 are tribulation saints, who are redeemed out of this terrible time. **Together, they represent all redeemed of God.**

And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. (15:2)

Revelation 14:3



³ They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.

Revelation 14

- A **new song** in the Old Testament was not necessarily a “new song” but a song of yet another new deliverance by God. A “new song” marks a new act of divine deliverance or blessing.
- This new song marks deliverance of these 144,000 through the tribulation. The “new song” proclaims **“Look what new thing God is doing!”** The Church has already been redeemed and resides in heaven. Now these 144,000 are also redeemed. These are Jews, and God is doing a *new thing* with them; they are different than the “Church.”

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- Must note, ***only redeemed of God can sing these praises***. To others it is a meaningless song.
- Since this song is sung before the throne, the 4 living creatures and the elders, and no one else could learn this song except the 144,000, it is being sung in heaven. This song is exclusive to the 144,000.
- Interesting to note that **we are not given lyrics of this new song** – only song in Revelation where that is the case. Since only the 144,000 can learn this song, we are not given the words.

Revelation 14

- Every redeemed group of God **has its own, very unique new song of redemption**. God works to the same end (redemption) for everyone, but sometimes that plan differs from group to group.
- And this new song is very loud, thunderous even. The redeemed in heaven perhaps are teaching the 144,000 this new song of redemption, a new work of God's deliverance, just for them. **Salvation for Israel is a BIG DEAL**, hence loud noise.
- Since this is a vision of the future, some things are not for us to know yet.

Remainder of this
lesson follows in Part 2
of Chapter 14