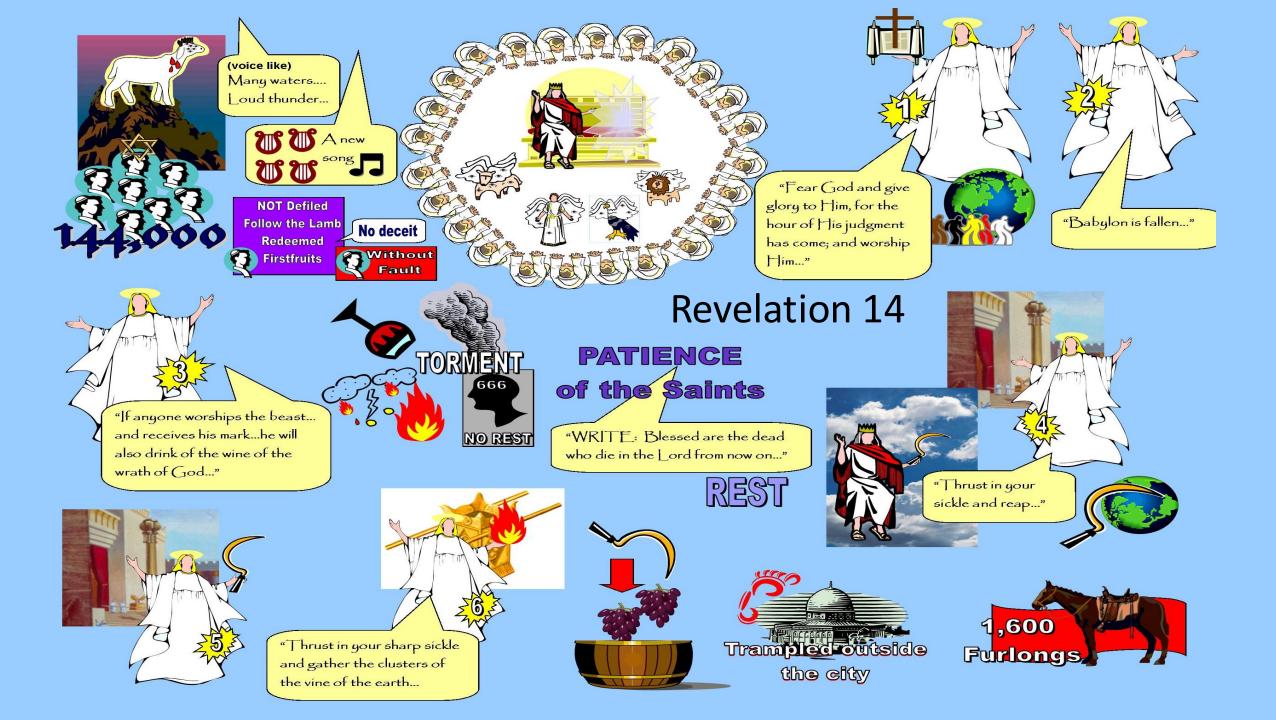
# *"These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes."*

**Revelation 14:4** 

## Sh'ma Yisrael, Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad Baruch Shem k'vod malchutto, I'olam va'ed

Hear, O Israel: the LORD is our God The LORD is One. Blessed be the name of His glorious kingdom for ever and ever.





## **3 Distinct "Scenes:"**Lamb + 144,000 on Zion

## Messages from 3 Angels

## Divine Harvests



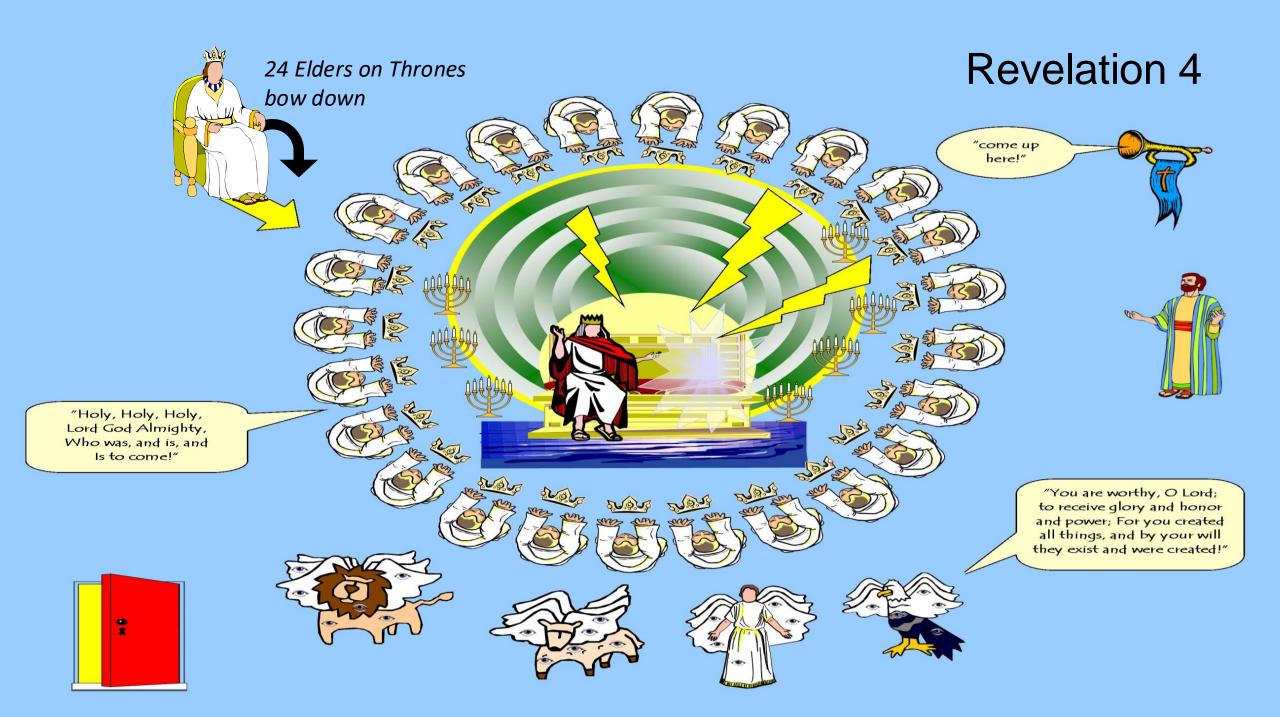


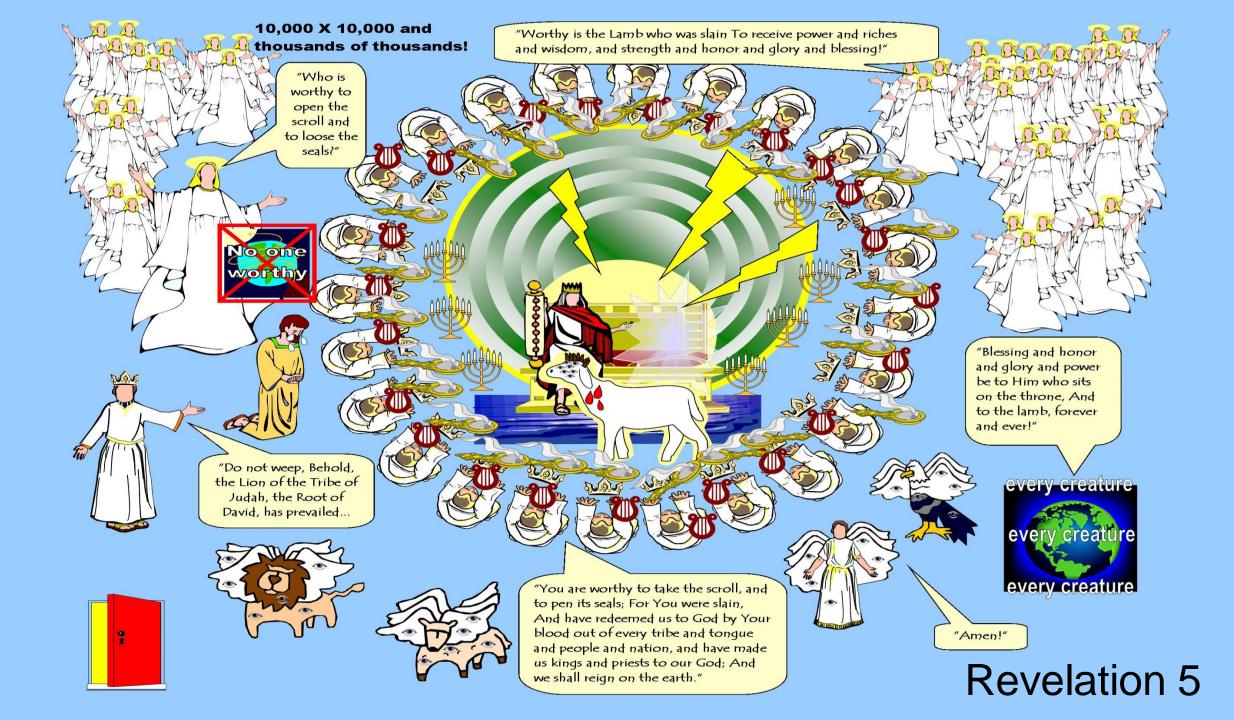
#### **Revelation 2**

#### Letters to the first 4 assemblies AAAAAA

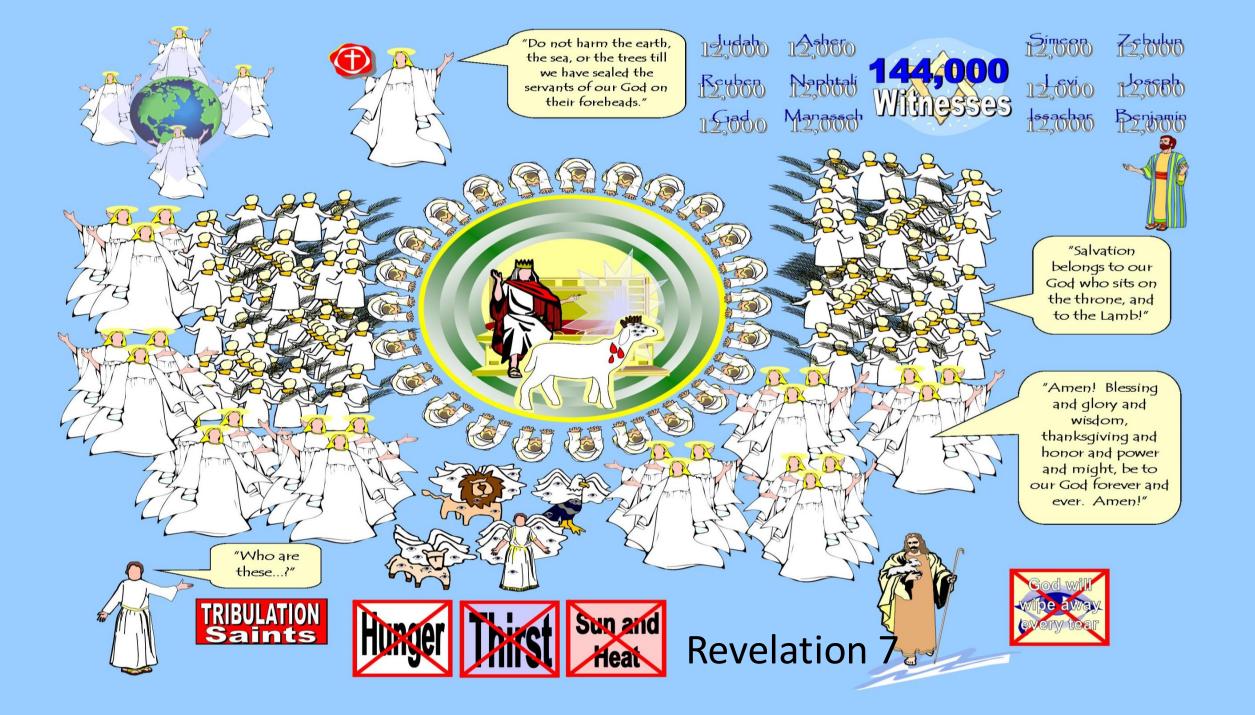
Revelation 2			Letters to the first 4 assemblies			
	Ephesus 2:1-7	Smyrna 2:8-11	Pergamos 2:12-17	Thyatira 2:18-29		
Age	Apostolic Church 30-100 AD	Persecuted Church (age of Martyrs) 100-312 AD	State Church (Constantine to 1 <sup>st</sup> Pope) 313-590 AD	Established Church (1 <sup>st</sup> Pope to Reformation) 590-1517 AD		
alalit Tible	"He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands."	"The First and the Last, who was dead, and came to life."	"He who has the sharp two-edged sword."	"the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass."		
Preise	Works, labor, patience, non-toleration of evil, tested false teachers, perseverance, hated Nicolaitans	(He knew their suffering, poverty,	Works, steadfastness, held to faith (He knew where they lived, Satan's throne)	More works, love, service, faith		
Problems	Left first love, passion and joy gone	NONE!	False teachers in their midst (Balaamites and Nicolaitans)	Toleration of false teachers who lead others into sin (Jezebel)		
Counsel or Warning	Remember from where you have fallen; repent; do first works (heart!) OR ELSE I will come quickly and remove your lampstand	(would be imprisoned	Repent OR ELSE He will fight them (those spreading false teachings, not whole church) with Sword of His mouth	Problem with "Jezebels" and her followers, not entire church. Would not "burden them" further, but hold fast what they have until He comes. Gave time for "Jezebel" to repent, but didn't want to, so will cast her on a bed of suffering, and her followers, and kill her "children." They would ALL be judged on their "works."		
Promise	Eat of the tree of life in Paradise (of God, with Him), <i>(eternal life in Paradise, comparable to Garden of Eden)</i>	Crown of life, not hurt by second death (saved from eternal separation from God)	Hidden manna to eat, white stone with unique name known only to holder and Jesus (eternal sustenance, acquittal, free pass to heaven, unique love from God)	Power over the nations, and the morning star (will reign with Him in Millennium)		
in a Indiana	<b>No passion for Jesus,</b> agape love missing	NONE	False doctrines, not testing teachers, not remaining separate from world	<b>Compromise, toleration</b> of false teachers, not remaining separate		

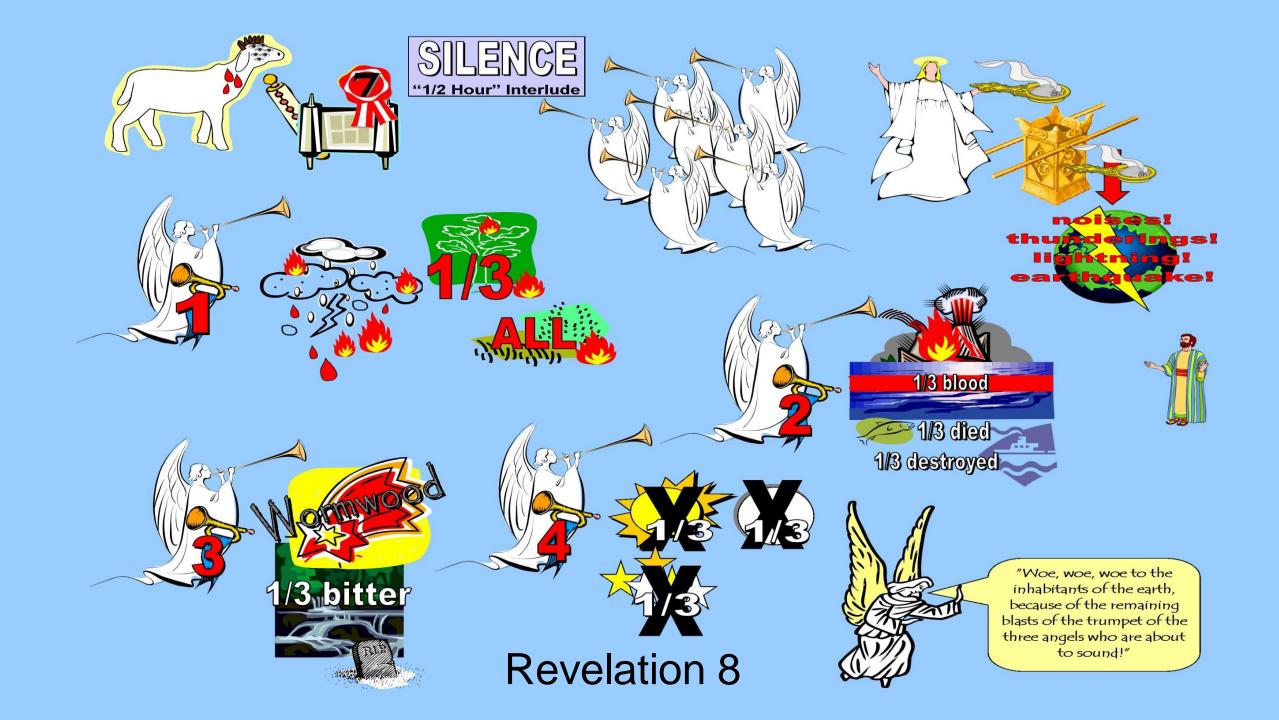
Revelation 3		Letters to the last 3 assembli		
	Sardis 3:1-6	Philadelphia 3:7-13	Laodicea 3:14-22	
Age	Reformation Era 1518 -1750 AD	Missionary Church 1750-1900	Apostate Church of the Last Days 1900-present +	
Speaker Title	"He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars."	"He who is holy, He who is true. He who has the Key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens."	"the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God."	
Praise	NONE! (did find a few who had not "soiled their clothes" and they would walk with Him in white)	Works, have a little strength (influence, ability), kept His word, not denied His Name. Kept command to persevere* (Missionary church)	NONE!	
Problems	Works indicated they had a reputation for being alive, but they were dead. He did not find their "works" complete or perfect before God.	NONE!	Neither hot nor cold (wished they were cold or hot); lukewarm. Say they are rich, have need of nothing, but He says they are wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked.	
Counsel or Warning	Be watchful, strengthen what remains (is about to die!) Remember what you heard, hold fast to it, repent OR ELSE I will come as a thief (suddenly) to take away what remains.	(This letter informs more than warns) Will make those of synagogue of Satan come and worship before their feet and know that He has loved them. "I am coming quickly!" Hold fast what you have so no one can take your crown.	Will vomit you out of my mouth! Buy from Me gold refined in fire (that you may be rich) white garments (that you may be clothed), anoint your eyes with eye salve (that you may see) As many as I love I rebuke and chasten. Be zealous and repent. Open door to Him!	
Promise	Clothed in white garments, will not blot name from Book of Life, will confess name before Father and His angels. <i>(covered with righteousness of</i> <i>Christ, remain in Book of Life, right to be with God)</i>	*will keep them from hour of trial coming upon whole world to test those "who dwell on the earth" Make him a pillar in temple of God, will go out no more, will write on him name of God, name of city of God, New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from Godwill write on him My new name. (eternally have access to God's place, identified with His city, identified with Jesus)	Will sit with Me on My throne. (will share in ruling over Millennial kingdom)	
Problem In a mutshell	<b>Complacency</b> , spiritually dead, more interested in material riches	NONE	Lukewarm, pride, more concerned about material wealth than spiritual wealth	

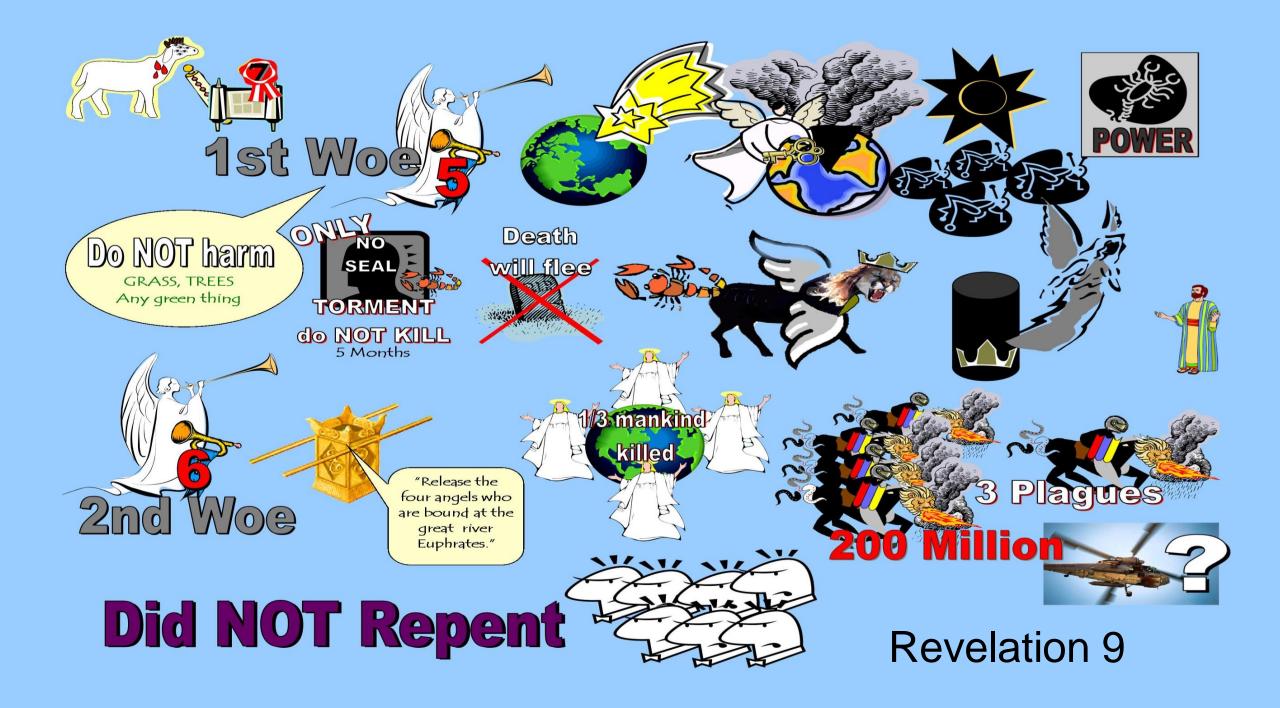
















"The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

hunde

"We give you thanks...the One WHO IS AND WHO WAS AND WHO IS TO COME. Because You have taken Your great power and reigned, The nations were angry and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, and those who fear Your Name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth."

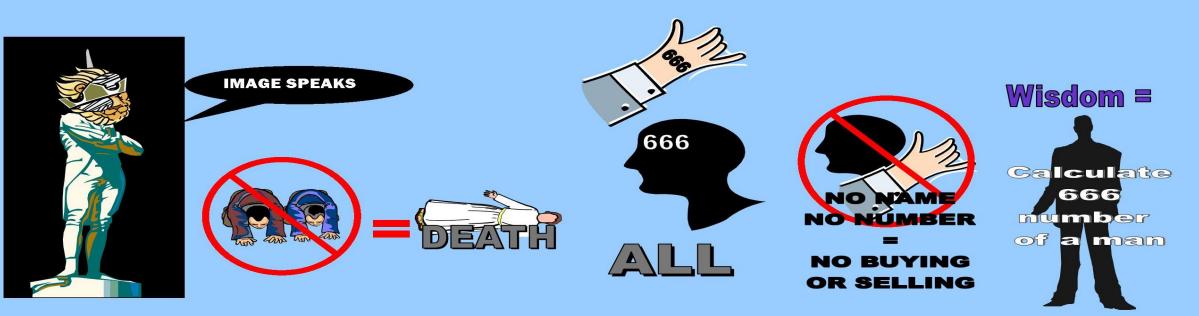
#### **Revelation 11b**

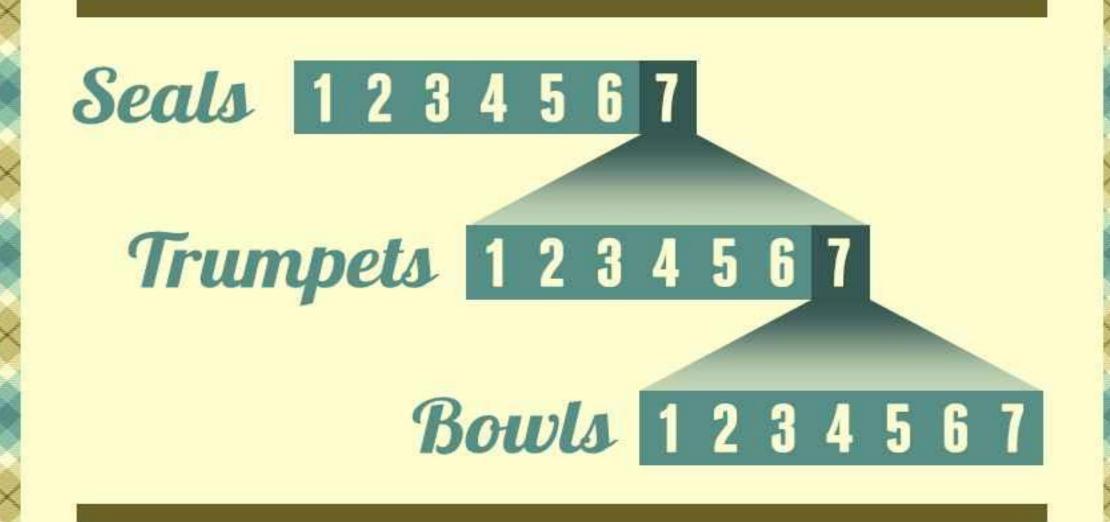
0











### A few things before we get started...

 Chapter begins with "Then I looked and behold...." <u>something new</u>. • "Behold" = John startled, reader to pay attention. CHRONOLOGY...Where and When are We?

- End of chapter 9 = <u>Man still unrepentant</u>.
- For this and other reasons, many believe at end of chapter 9 have reached near end of Daniel's "70th Week," <u>near end</u> of 7-year tribulation (how near???).
- Chapters 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 <u>informational visions only</u>, not "events" in certain time period, *or advancing a timeline*.





- Chapter 10 = timeout for John, new instructions. More to prophesy, won't be pleasant. Seems grace period up, final judgment soon. No more delay.
- Chapter 11 = spiritual condition of worshippers; two witnesses, 3½ year ministry ends in this chapter.
- Chapter 12 = history of Israel and Messiah, war in heaven, persecuting "woman" (Israel) and her "offspring." <u>Focuses on last 3½ years</u>.

- Chapter 13 = two beasts, final world rulers (AC + FP), + dragon (Satan) will persecute saints, kill those who do not worship 1<sup>st</sup> beast, control entire world economy. <u>Happening last 3½ years</u>.
- And now chapter 14. <u>three distinct</u> <u>parts</u>: 1) revisit of 144,000 Jews, 2) some great news and some dire warnings from angels, and 3) divine harvests.



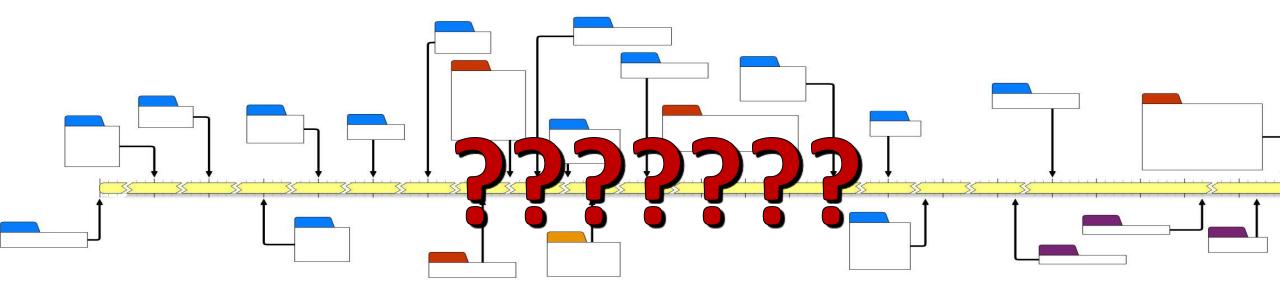


- All (chapters) seem to be those that will *happen at end of tribulation*.
- Makes sense then, 70th week, 7-year tribulation, may be almost "up" at end of chapter 9.
- Only thing left = final Bowl Judgments (includes Armageddon).

#### • Many say end of chapter 9 mid-point of Tribulation.

Chapter 1: Revelation of Glorified Messiah, Instructions	Chapters 2 and 3: Letters to 7 churches Church Age current timeline <i>"Things which are"</i>	<b>Chapters 4 and 5:</b> Invitation to Throne Room Living creatures 24 Elders Lamb with a scroll Amazing wonder, ceaseless p <i>"Things which will take place</i>			Chapters 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19	Chapter 20	Chapters 21-22	
		Chapter 6: Seals opened (1-6) Judgments begin Chapter 7: The 144,000 Tribulation Sai <i>"Interrude"</i>	Chapter 8: Trumpet Judgments 1-4 (chaos in natural world) nts <b>3½ ye</b>	MID-P	Great Tribulat OINT 3½ years	Willennium	Eternity	

- Chronology in Revelation: often difficult to tell precisely WHERE we are on 7-year timeline.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> set of judgments ("bowls" ch 16) poured out in very rapid succession. No clues how much time.



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

v. 1-5

#### Scene 1: The Lamb and the 144,000

<sup>1</sup> 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. <sup>2</sup> 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.



<sup>3</sup> 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 fortyfour thousand who were redeemed from the earth. <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

Just in verse 1 a few *issues to solve*:

- The Lamb obvious!!!
- Mt. Zion earthly and heavenly?
- The 144,000 same as chapter 7, or others?



THRE

#### THE LAMB

 "...behold, a Lamb..." Lamb in direct contrast to beasts of previous chapter. same Lamb in chapter 5, and chapter 7. Yeshua HaMashiach.

 "behold" emphasizes importance. Commands reader to pay attention, something important here.

#### **MOUNT ZION**

- "...Mount Zion..." traditional Zion on earth, Jerusalem, OR in heaven?? (Hebrews 12:18-24) Could be either, or partly both (144,000 on earth, harpists in heaven, etc.)
- If earthly Zion, *Jerusalem*, maybe even Messiah returning, joining sealed 144,000.
- If in heaven, obviously would be heavenly Zion. (John may be seeing both heaven and earth in this vision.)

### THE 144,000

- all kinds of suggestions and speculations for identity of this 144,000, including:
- Original 144,000 Jews selected from each of 12  $\bigcirc$ tribes of Jacob, and sealed from harm in chapter 7 NO E Special elite group of believers (Gentiles?) other than 144,900 in chapter 7 esentative sample of all believers, symbolic of redeanied

- Logical, same 144,000 sealed chapter 7. Some say others. <u>We really don't know</u>.
- Safest (at least for now) interpretation = same 144,000, perhaps to indicate God faithful in bringing them safely through Tribulation.
- Some <u>allegorize as Zion and 144,000 representing</u> <u>"Church." No! Based on replacement theology, a LIE.</u>
- Reminded those who love God also sealed, mark of God.
  Contrast to mark of doom (666).

- If mid-point, can assume these still being kept safe, and appearance here = reminder of this.
- Others say 144,000 are same as chapter 7, but here are with Lamb, so possibly martyred?
- Questions still remain:
  - Same 144,000 as chapter 7?
  - Still on earth ? (Alive in physical body?)
  - Redeemed already, returning with Yeshua?

### WE JUST DON'T KNOW!!



# <sup>2</sup> 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.

- "voice" = phone also translated "sound." Perhaps not a voice, but loud noise of harps. If harps, sound made by MANY, thunderous, amazing!
- Harpists Chapter 5 = saints in heaven.
- Chapter 15 = tribulation saints, redeemed out of this terrible time.
- Together, represent <u>all redeemed</u> of God.



<sup>3</sup> 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.

- new song = New act of divine deliverance/blessing deliverance of 144,000 through tribulation?
- Proclaims "Look what new thing God is doing!"
- Church already redeemed, resides in heaven (ch 5). Now Jewish 144,000 also redeemed (ch 14).
- <u>MAY</u> INDICATE 144,000 NO LONGER ON EARTH, BUT IN HEAVEN WITH OTHER REDEEMED?
- God doing *new thing* (redeeming Israel?)

- No one else could learn song except 144,000, being sung in heaven. Exclusive to 144,000.
- Not given lyrics of this new song only song in Revelation where this is true.
- <u>Very loud noise</u>! Salvation for Israel BIG DEAL, hence loud noise.
- Resort to speculation. Don't have all the answers.

<sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

- Verse 4 = most of controversy, differing opinions regarding this group of 144,000.
- <u>Not given this info in chapter 7</u> of 144,000, so sometimes **thought to be different group**, with different set of characteristics. <u>Cannot assume that</u>.
- Indicates faithfulness and redemption, and now "virgin" status spiritually (perhaps as well as physically).

- Literal, or symbolic, or spiritual? Could be both.
- On"defiled" + Moluno = "soiled" or defiled, sexual relations outside of marriage. <u>Never applied to</u> <u>marriage union</u>.
- Does not necessarily mean they were not married (<u>celibate</u>, set aside for God like eunuchs). Could be married, but <u>keeping vows of marriage covenant</u>.

- Passage should <u>never be used to justify celibacy</u> (sometimes called "monkery"). Refers to relations OUTSIDE marriage, repeatedly condemned throughout scripture. Sexual sin one of humankind's biggest downfalls.
- Tribulation will be <u>known for rampant sexual sin</u>, (end times one world false religion, paganism.) Already well on its way.
- Greek "women" = *gune*, "women" but <u>specifically WIVES</u>.
  Both spiritual and physical adultery (sin) intended here.

- May chose celibacy, like Jeremiah, forbidden to marry (Jeremiah 16:1-4).
- Others say "The 144,000 virgins are undefiled in the sense that they have refused to defile themselves by participating in the fornication of worshipping the beast." (Ladd)
- May also be <u>symbolic</u> that 144,000 are Jews of ch 7, and **God likened unfaithfulness of Israel to adultery.**

- Israel "wife of God," committed adultery by "fornicating" with other gods. Adultery = metaphor for infidelity to Israel's real husband... Elohim.
- When Israel faithful, called **"virgin."** When unfaithful, called **"harlot."** (See 2 Kings 19:21, Isaiah 54:5, Hosea 2:5, Ezekiel 16, 23)
- NT, after birth of Church, believers called virgin bride of Christ. "...I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ." (2 Corinthians 11:2a)



- These = <u>faithful believers</u>, "virgin" status.
- In a nutshell, 144,000 probably both physically chaste ("virgins") whether married or not, having not defiled themselves with sexual relations <u>outside</u> of marriage (will be common in that time)
- <u>AND</u> spiritually faithful to the Lamb, as spotless bride (not worshipping Beast). Would be true even if consecrated and "set aside" and do not marry.

**COMMENTARY:** During the Great Tribulation there will be an exaggerated emphasis upon sex, and obviously immorality will prevail. The 144,000 will have kept themselves aloof from the sins of the Great Tribulation. Now, considering adultery in the spiritual sense, in the Old Testament idolatry was classified as spiritual fornication. The classic example is in Ezekiel 16 where we find God's severe indictment against Israel for fornication and adultery—which was idolatry. The 144,000 will also have kept themselves from the worship of the Beast and his image during the Great Tribulation. Therefore, the comment, "These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins," is probably referring to chastity in both the literal sense and the spiritual sense. (McGee)

- Follow Lamb everywhere. Where He leads, they follow. DO WE? Personal will, desires, lusts, goals all submitted to Him. ARE OURS?!!
- Another contrast to "inhabitants of the earth" who follow unholy trinity (dragon, 2 beasts).
- Notice believers <u>follow</u> Lamb. Too often we head out in front of Him!
- Being "firstfruits" may indicate <u>first of many to come</u>, representative perhaps of all Israel redeemed.

"And in their mouth was found no <u>deceit</u>,..."
 Deceit = dolos, craftiness, guile, deception.

 Some say "deceit" here = "the Lie" of the enemy. Original lie = we can be like God, or gods ourselves, do not need God or His gift.

 "...for they are without fault before the throne of God." ONLY way to be without fault before God: receive gift of life from Him, blood of Jesus that covers our sins. By not believing the LIE.

## 3 Distinct "Scenes:" • Lamb + 144,000 on Zion

## Messages from 3 Angels

## Divine Harvests

Yevarekh-kha Adonai veyishmerekha May the LORD bless you and keep you

Ya'er Adonai panav elekha vihunneka May the LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you

### Yissa Adonai panav elekha viyasem lekha shalom. May the LORD lift up His countenance upon you

state constant and

and give you peace.

