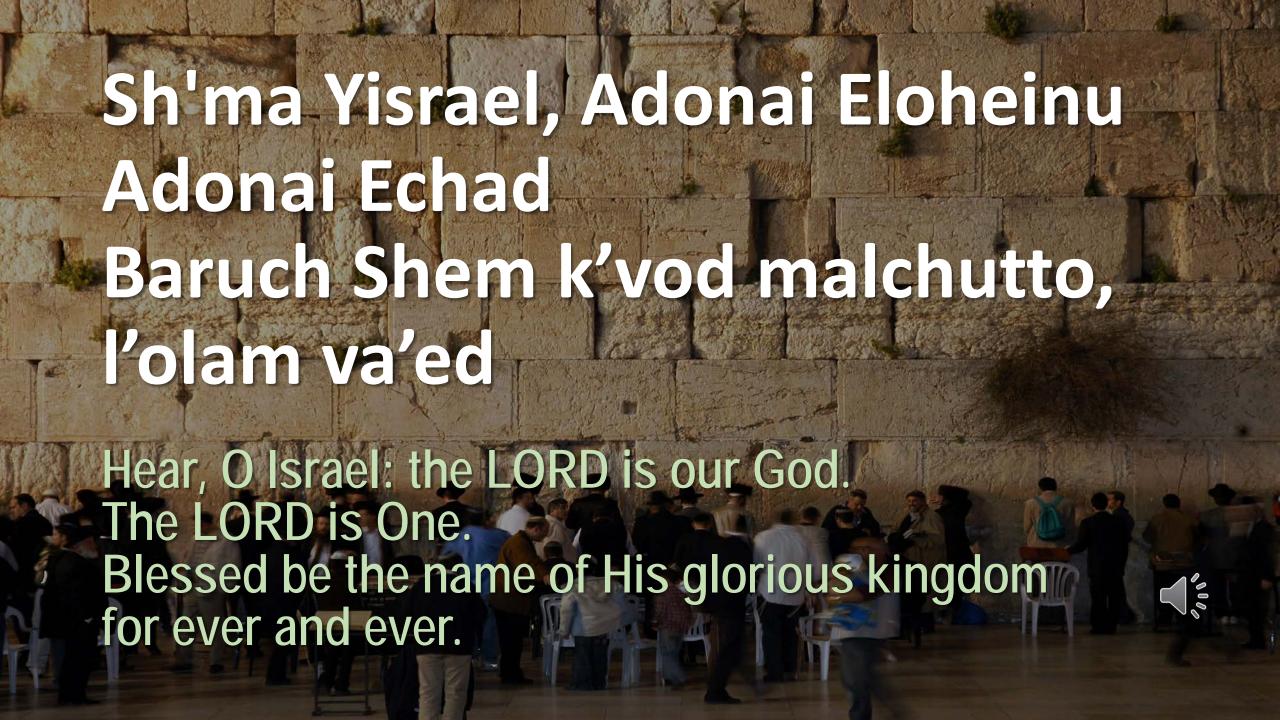
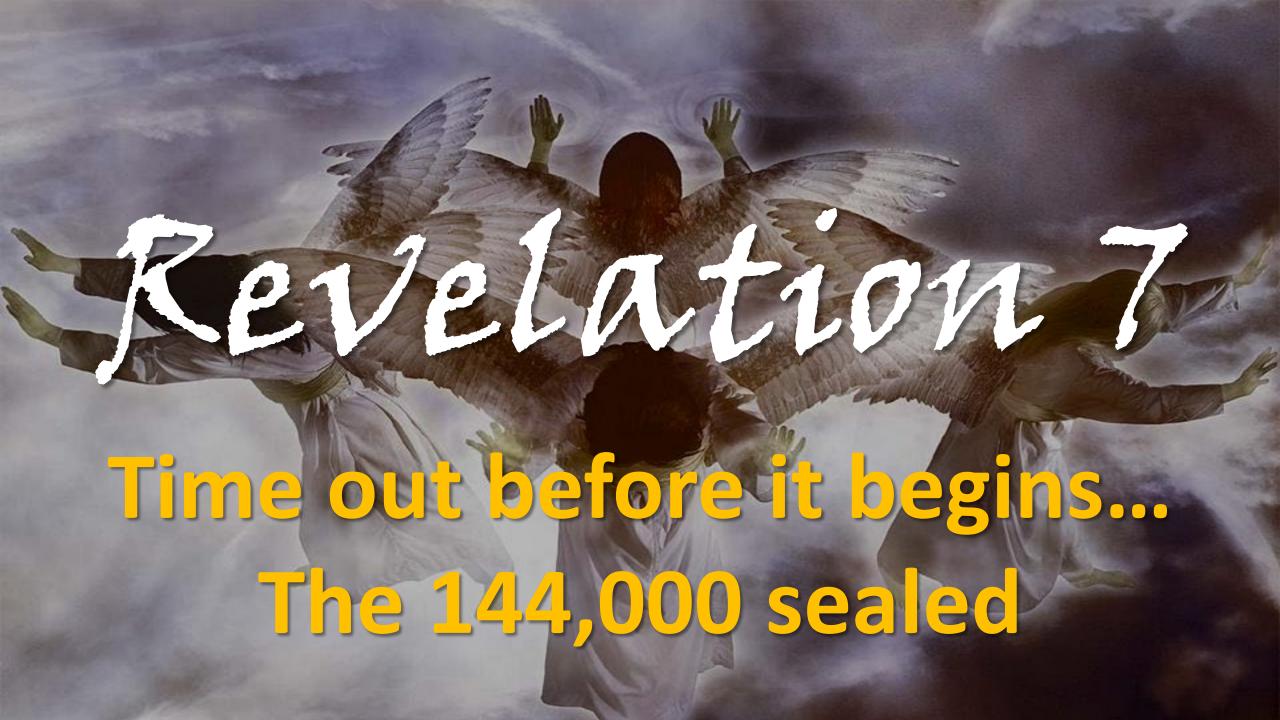
After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth to prevent any wind from blowing on the land or on the sea or on any tree.

Revelation 7:1



We came to Papua **New Guinea and** found a real, genuine love for Israel. This is only possible through the power of the Gospel. Unbelievable!!! They said it's the first visit of a **Messianic Jew** there. This is what the Gospel is doing for Gentiles: they love Israel! They sing here: 'Sh'ma Israel..." - Hear o Israel... in village "Jambitange." https://trumpetofsalvation. org/





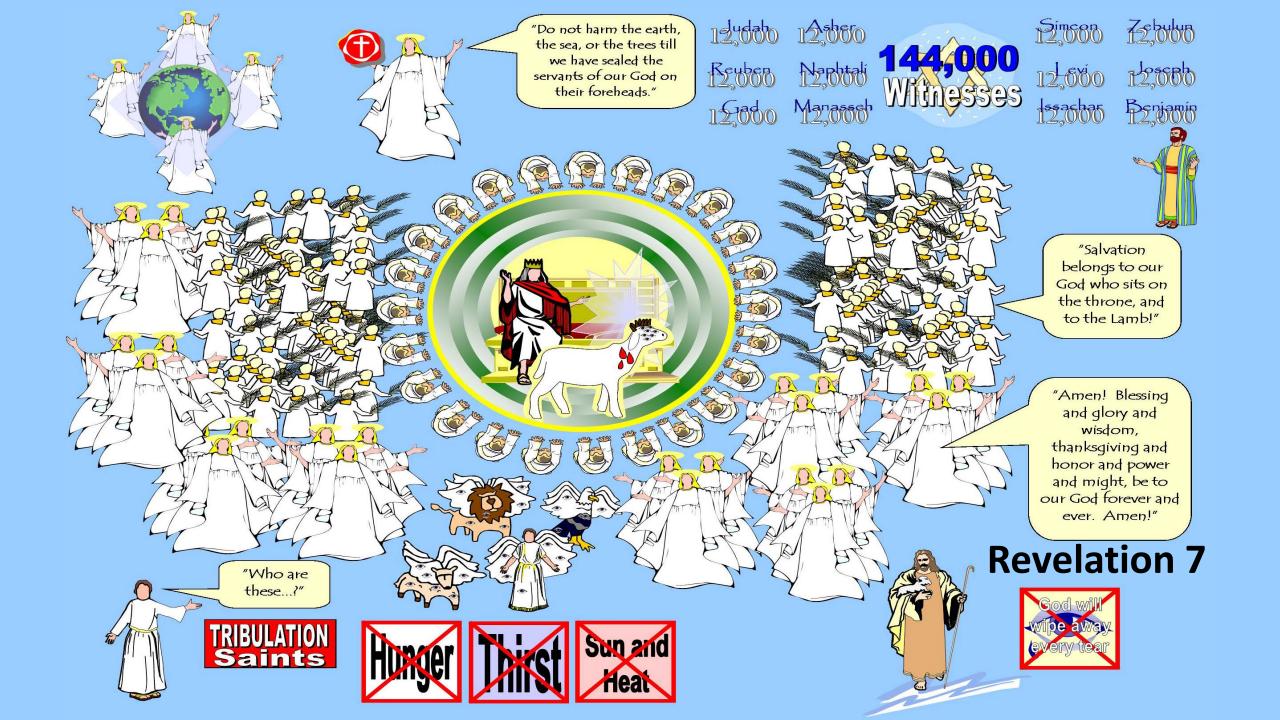


¹ After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree. ² Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, ³ saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads."

⁴ 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:

of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand were sealed;

⁷ of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand were sealed; ⁸ of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand were sealed.



TIME OUT...

- Each judgment set has an "interlude" between 6th and 7th of each group.
- Chapter 7 = interlude before 7th seal opened, which releases 7 trumpet judgments.
- Chapter 6: "Who can stand?" NONE, among the lost. But this chapter shows who can.



Important to understand...

- After Church age, God's <u>focus returns</u> to <u>lsrael</u>.
- Evident throughout Revelation.



- Features 2 main groups of saints:
 - √1) Jewish believers (v. 1-8), and
 - √ 2) martyred believers (includes both Jews and Gentiles), (v. 9-17)
- While Gentiles are saved, **Jews take center stage**.

•2 errors resolved here:

- 1) Replacement Theology
- 2) myth of Ten Missing Tribes (more later...)

MAIN EVENTS IN CHAPTER 7

- 4 angels at 4 corners of earth <u>holding 4 winds back</u>
- Another angel, with seal of living God, "Don't harm anything yet, until the servants of God are sealed on their foreheads."
- 144,000 from ALL the tribes of Israel sealed
- Another group: <u>Great multitude from all nations</u>, tribes, peoples and tongues saying "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" Angels + 4 living creatures worship with them. (Martyred saints)

¹ After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree.

Revelation 7:1





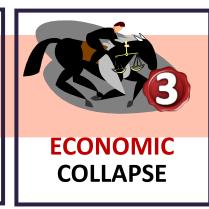
Revelation 7:1

- "After these things..." note meta tauta again, chronology.
- After what things? follows opening of seals in chapter 6.
- If chapter 6 = "overview" of conditions on earth during "time of Jacob's Trouble" sealing activity may in fact be one of first events.
- Remember: <u>Beware of attempting to fit all on</u> a human timeline!!!

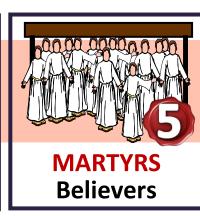
CHAPTER 6: OPENING OF 6 SEALS...













- REGARDING CHRONOLOGY: We know one follows other, but we do not know how much time between each, or how they fit on a timeline.
- Best guess, ALL present <u>ENTIRE 7 years</u>, more
 PRONOUNCED in last 3½ years (Great Tribulation)

CHAPTER 6: OPENING OF 6 SEALS...







Timeline????







144,000 **SEALED**

Chapter 7: INTERLUDE between seal/trumpet judgments...

TRIBULATION SAINTS PRAISE



8:1
SILENCE IN
HEAVEN
FOR ½ HOUR

8:2
TRUMPET
JUDGMENTS
BEGIN

What did we learn earlier as we studied the 6th chapter of Revelation, that applies to the whole of this book? *Two things....*

1) We can't construct a definitive timeline.

And about some things....

2) WE JUST DON'T KNOW!!



- **Number 4** in scripture often represents the physical material world (completed on the 4th day of creation, prior to creation of life), the creation, the earth.
- "the four corners of the earth..." = four ordinal directions (N, E, W, S), or entire earth.
- Used frequently in scripture...

- ...And gather together the dispersed of Judah From the <u>four</u> corners of the earth. (Isaiah 11:12)
- "...I will bring the <u>four winds from the four quarters of heaven</u>, ..." (Jeremiah 49:36)
- "...Come from the <u>four winds</u>, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." (Ezekiel 37:9)
- ...I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the <u>four winds of</u> <u>heaven</u> were stirring up the Great Sea. (Daniel 7:2)
- ... four notable ones came up toward the <u>four winds of heaven</u>. (Daniel 8:8)

...his kingdom shall be broken up and divided toward the <u>four</u> winds of heaven,... (Daniel 11:4)

...for I have spread you abroad like the four winds of heaven," says the Lord. (Zechariah 2:6)

And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. (Matthew 24:31)

- Four angels
 holding four
 winds...something
 coming here.
- Winds often symbol for judgment, but before judgment, something else must happen first.



- God
 restraining
 His wrath for
 a purpose.
- Apocrypha, angels controlling forces of nature



² Then 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 granted to harm the earth and the sea, ³ saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads."



- Angels very involved in God's plan of redemption.
- "...another angel...having the seal of the living God." Seal implies ownership, protection, authority.
- Seals play big role in Revelation. This seal in marked contrast to another seal in Chapter 13 –"mark of the Beast." Both permanent.
- "sealed" = sphragizo = to stamp with a private mark for security/preservation, also to keep secret, to seal up.
- God places <u>His personal mark</u> on these Jewish believers for their protection and His purpose.

• Remember *ekklesia* (Church, Bride of Messiah) <u>already</u> <u>sealed</u>: "In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, …in whom also, having believed, <u>you were sealed</u> <u>with the Holy Spirit of promise</u>, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory." (Eph 1:13-14)

were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,

- Those sealed here NOT the Church.
- "...the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea." Angels bringing judgment, held back until sealing complete. Trumpet judgments will bring catastrophic harm to the earth, and to the people on it.
- "...Do not harm....till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." First mention of seal, or mark, on forehead of people in Revelation.
- God's seal, these people "called servants of God."

• Interesting passage in Ezekiel 9:4-6 — "...and the LORD said to him, "Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it." To the others He said in my hearing, "Go after him through the city and kill; do not let your eye spare, nor have any pity. Utterly slay old and young men, maidens and little children and women; but do not come near anyone on whom is the mark; and begin at My sanctuary."

CONTEXT:

- Ezekiel given vision...Glory departs from Temple
- Judgment of Jerusalem under Nebuchadnezzar
- 2nd/3rd siege of Jerusalem (Temple destroyed 3rd)
- Judgment begins/Israel, place of God's sanctuary
- Always remnant of true believers, faithful to God

Once again, scripture woven together.... same thing happening here in Tribulation.

- Sounds familiar! <u>Notice where judgment/killing</u> <u>begins...at God's house!</u> He will judge those who claim to be His, <u>but are not</u>, first.
- Many think ALL believers sealed with mark during tribulation, will protect and keep them from suffering horrors of this time. (<u>Left Behind</u>, Tim LaHaye)
- Others think *only* these 144,000 Jews who have mark, since not mentioned for tribulation saints.
- Many tribulation saints killed, <u>seems they are not spared</u> from <u>all violence</u> of these years.

- "Till" or "until" small word with BIG implications.
- Romans 11:25 "For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in."
- After "fullness" of the Gentiles, attention turns back to Israel, as it does in this chapter 7.

- **REMINDER:** Again, some scriptural indication that all believers <u>MIGHT</u> be sealed, but we know that all are <u>not protected from martyrdom</u> in this time.
- Scripture does not tell us all believers <u>WILL</u> be sealed.
- Once again,

we simply DON'T KNOW!

⁴ And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand of a the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed: ⁵ of the tribe of... ...were sealed...



Judah

Asher Simeon Zebulun 12,000 12,000

Reuben 12,000 Napthali

Levi

Joseph 12,000 12,000 12,000

Gad

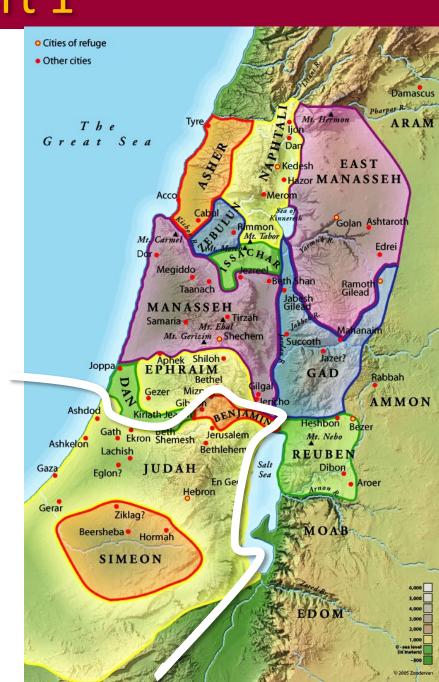
Manasseh Issachar Benjamin 12,000,12,000

Revelation 7:5-8

- 144,000 literal number, not beyond counting
- "ALL the tribes of Israel" "Ten lost tribes of Israel" = MYTH
- Israel <u>split</u> under Solomon's son Rehoboam.
- Northern Kingdom of ISRAEL =
 10 tribes; Southern Kingdom of
 JUDAH = 2 tribes (Judah and
 Benjamin + Simeon)



- God apportioned land. (Levi none, except Cities of Refuge within areas of other tribes)
- Migration between; scripture indicates all tribes preserved
- Israel conquered by <u>Assyria</u> 722 BC, scattered to Gentile nations, no return
- Judah conquered by <u>Babylon</u> 606 BC, exiled 70 yrs, returned to land



- After captivity in Babylon, Ezra records return of 4 main tribes: **Judah, Benjamin, Simeon** (already blended into Judah), and priests, tribe of **Levi**. Does not mention others.
- Does not mean they were not there, just in small numbers, not worthy of mention.
- Remaining tribes (Northern Kingdom) had been scattered to Gentile nations, but after Judah returned to Jerusalem, other tribes would have migrated back into lands given to Israel (Galilee north, Samaria central, Judah south).
- **Tribal allotments**, however, <u>likely not in effect</u>, having been lost upon their captivity.



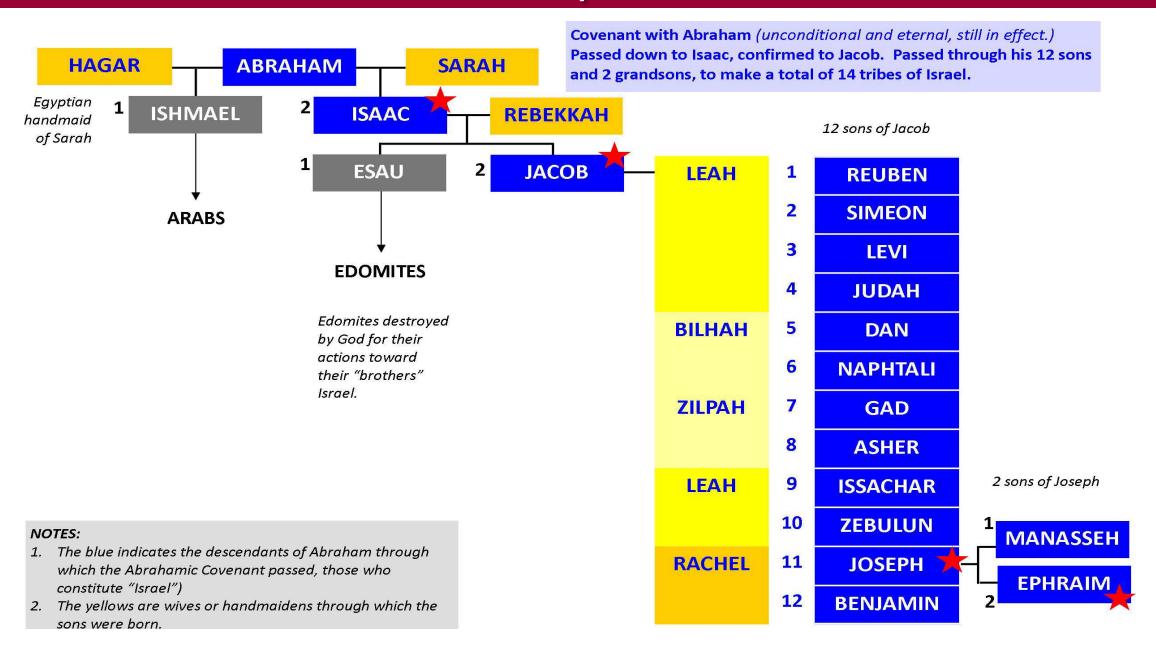


• Eilat

ISRAEL
TODAY:
All 12 (14!)
tribes
present

ISRAEL around the world:

EGAL 12 (14!) tribes present





- NOTICE <u>Two tribes missing from list</u>: "whole" tribe of Dan, and "half " tribe <u>Ephraim</u>. WHY??
- Ephraim may be <u>explained a few ways</u>. <u>Ephraim</u> = "half" tribe, one of 2 sons of Joseph, so in a sense Ephraim included in mention of Joseph (common).
- Ephraim also **involved in idolatry**, <u>possibly reason for nonmention</u>. Hosea 4:16-18 says, "For Israel is stubborn Like a stubborn calf; Now the LORD will let them forage Like a lamb in open country. "<u>Ephraim is joined to idols, Let him alone</u>. Their drink is rebellion, They commit harlotry continually." **(but not likely reason)**



Jacob Blessing Ephraim and Manasseh, Benjamin West, c. 1768

- "Ephraim," though name of one of Joseph's sons and adopted tribe, also name God gave to northern kingdom of Israel as a whole.
- May make another explanation quite possible, even likely. Another lesson....(another time)

- <u>Dan</u> ("whole" tribe) lack of mention troubling. **Especially since "all tribes" mentioned.**
- In every listing of tribes, 20+, only 12 tribes listed, (sometimes Levi missing because did not go to war, etc.)
- Speculation/controversy why DAN missing.

 One potential, reasonable explanation. <u>Blessing of Jacob</u> on his sons (not blessings, but prophecy...) Genesis 49:17

 "Dan shall be a serpent by the way, a viper by the path, that bites the horse's heels so that its rider shall fall backward."

- Dan heavily involved in idolatry, like Ephraim. Recorded Leviticus 24:10-16, Judges 18:1-2; 30-31. Leaders in apostasy 1 Kings 12:28-30, 100 yrs later in 2 Kings 10:29.
- Dan also mentioned as "voice of calamity" in Jeremiah 4:14-15, and in Amos 8:14 Those who swear by the sin of Samaria, Who say, 'As your god lives, O Dan!' And, 'As the way of Beersheba lives!' They shall fall and never rise again.
- Tribes of <u>Dan and Ephraim first to fall into idolatry</u> after occupying the land. <u>Could</u> be why neither are listed.

- Idolatry <u>may</u> be responsible for lack of mention. However, <u>ARE mentioned in tribal land allotments</u> in Millennial Kingdom (Ezekiel 48:2)
- Some say <u>antichrist may be Jewish</u> (there is reason SOME believe this), and even <u>come from tribe of Dan</u>, explaining why this tribe not mentioned here among the 144,000 witnesses. (MORE ON THIS IN CH. 13)

- We do NOT know WHY not listed, at least not yet.
 Speculation abounds. Important, but we can't be sure right now.
- So, what is the answer to the question as to why Dan not found listed here?

WE DON'T KNOW!!!

IMPORTANT! 144,000 JEWISH. Not symbolic for others. Quite clear, God intentional about listing this way. 12,000 from 12 tribes, all Israel. Not symbolic for other people. Many try to claim, identify/them, including Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormons. Literal Jews, Messianic Jews (believers in Messiah Yeshua, more in ch 14)

- We have given title "witnesses" though word not used here.
- Word "witnesses" used only 4 X in Revelation, all in chapter 11, in reference to the Two Witnesses.
 This is not used in reference to the 144,000 mentioned either in chapter 7 or in chapter 14.
- Actual = "servants" Greek duolos, bondservants, slaves.
- Many <u>believe</u> 144,000 are witnesses for Yeshua during "time of Jacob's Trouble "(Tribulation). Like 144,000 Jewish "Billy Graham's."

 Some believe 2 groups presented this chapter <u>are</u> related. That the **144,000 become witnesses to Gentiles** ...or all nations.

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be <u>preached in the whole</u> world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come." (Matthew 24:14)

 Sealed Jewish believers witness of Yeshua to all nations, then those saved are seen in heaven later as part of those redeemed, or <u>Tribulation Saints</u>.

"And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." (Revelation 7:14)

 Others say sealed Jews = <u>literal number of Jews saved</u> through Tribulation (1/3 in Zechariah).

And it shall come to pass in all the land," Says the LORD, "That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die, But one—third shall be left in it: I will bring the one—third through the fire..."

(Zechariah 13:8-9a)

- If true, very small # compared to # of Jews in world today. More Jews today than 3X 144,000.
- Number <u>probably represents something OTHER</u> than total number saved through Tribulation.

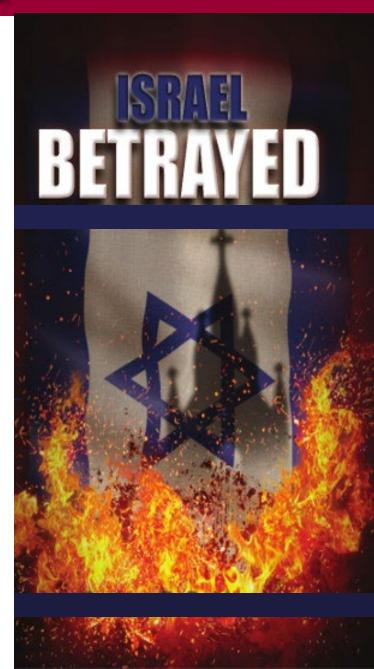
- In OT Jews to be a "light to the Gentiles" to bring God's message to entire world.
- Failed, <u>became arrogant</u>, self contained. Thought God and His Messiah belonged to them alone.
- Here may be "second chance" if they are witnesses.
- Significant group seen next <u>tribulation saints</u> from all nations, = <u>result of Jewish witnesses?</u>
- HUGE SOUL HARVEST

 Many mistakenly believe the Covenants God entered into with Israel <u>are not in effect any longer</u>, or that He has replaced Israel with something or someone else.
 WRONG!!!!!

• "Replacement Theology" is a lie.

The "Church" has NOT replaced Israel in covenant relationship with God. Absolutely NO scriptural evidence of this. The unconditional covenants make this abundantly clear. We cannot fall into this trap. It is dangerous, and sinful. (Makes God a liar!)

- This chapter 7 <u>concretely refutes the lie</u> of **REPLACEMENT THEOLOGY.** There is **no such thing**. It is dangerous.
- With sealing of the 144,000 JEWISH believers, it is clear <u>Israel front and</u> center again. She has not forfeited her covenant relationship with God.
- All covenants still in place, eternal and unconditional, except Edenic and Mosaic.



















- Edenic and Mosaic covenants both conditional and temporary. They were broken, and God did exactly as He said He would do.
- Edenic replaced with Adamic, Mosaic replaced with New Covenant.



Scripture, including this chapter 7, tells us that two common ways of thinking are in fact lies:

- 1) 10 missing tribes (Northern Kingdom)
- 2) Replacement Theology

Remember that scripture interprets and explains scripture. Don't fall for the lies.

- God will keep His promises to Israel and the Jewish people. Zechariah 13:1 reads "In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness." YHVH will bring salvation to the Jews...
- Although chapter 7 tells us these Jewish servants are sealed and protected, we need to remember what Zechariah said of this time: "And it shall come to pass in all the land," Says the LORD, "That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die, But one—third shall be left in it: I will bring the one—third through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested." (Zechariah 13:8-9a)

• 144,000 Jews sealed, protected/owned by God. Has purchased them through blood of Jesus.

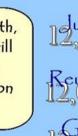
144,000

- Holding back judgment on earth <u>until</u> they are owned and protected by Him, under His authority.
- God's plan will be completely, perfectly fulfilled.





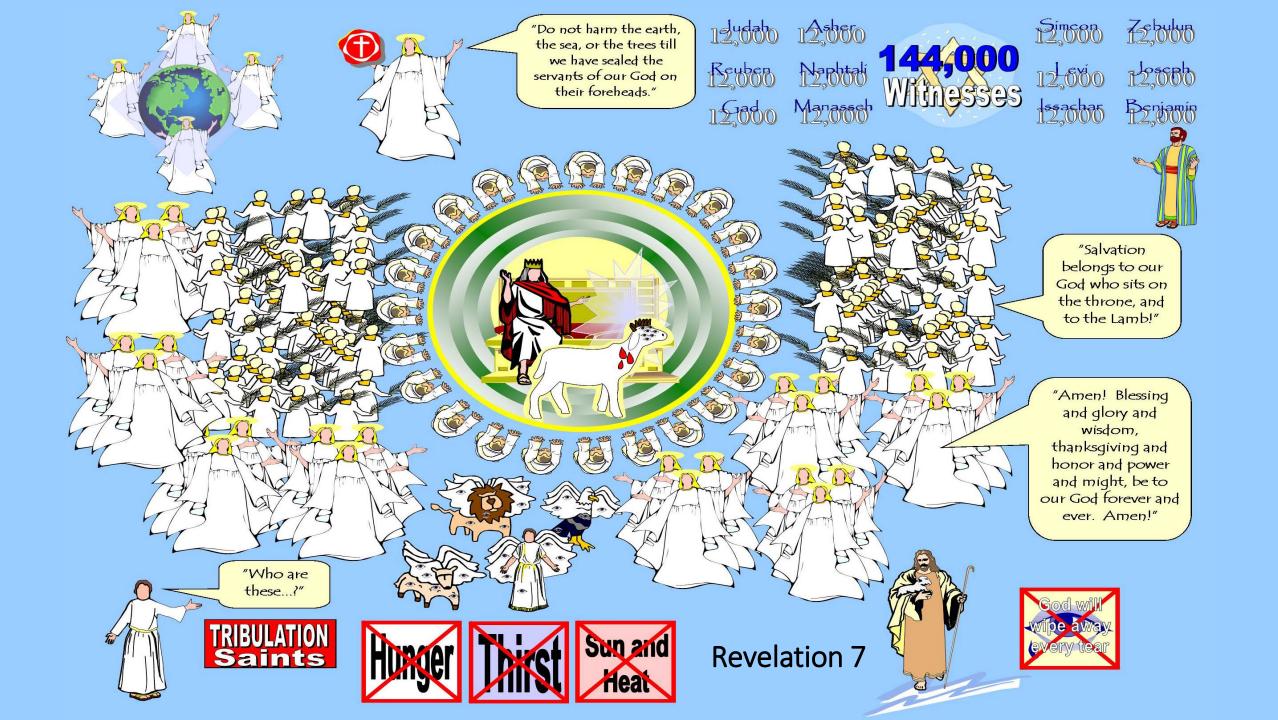












Yevarekh-kha Adonai veyishmerekha May the LORD bless you and keep you

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 and give you peace.

