# Revelation 7:1-17 144,000 Israelis Sealed – Great Multitude of All Nations

Angels at four corners of the earth

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.

# Do not begin until the Servants of God are Sealed

<sup>2</sup> 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, <sup>3</sup> saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads."

### 144,000 Sealed

<sup>4</sup> 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; 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; 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.

## Great Multitude from the Great Tribulation Worship God and the Lamb

<sup>9</sup> After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, <sup>10</sup> and crying out with a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

#### Angels worship God

11 All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 saying:

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, Be to our God forever and ever. Amen."

#### Multitude Identified

- 13 Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?"
- 14 And I said to him, "Sir, you know."

So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

# Special Reward for the Great Tribulation Multitude

15 Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple.

And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. 16 They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; 17 for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

**NKJV** 

#### Facts Revealed:

Angels at four corners of the earth [Revelation 7:1]

- 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]
  - ♦ These **four angels** have power over the four winds of the earth.
  - ♦ This is an awesome revelation, that the winds of the earth can be totally controlled by only four angels who have been assigned the duty for the time of the Great Tribulation.

Do not begin until the Servants of God are Sealed [Revelation 7:2-3]

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."

- ♦ The four Angels are assigned the task of harming the earth, sea, and trees.
- ❖ The angel with the Seal of God has authority to command the four angels to delay their task until the Servants of God are sealed.
- ♦ Those who receive the Seal are called **Servants of God**.
- ♦ The Seal of God on their foreheads makes those sealed immune from the plagues of the Great Tribulation as they do their work serving the Lamb. They follow the Lamb wherever He goes. [Revelation 14:1-5]
- → They are protected Witnesses of Messiah Jesus to the world throughout the Great Tribulation. [Revelation 9:4]
- ♦ The **Seal of God** is the **Name of the Father**. [Revelation 14:1]

(This is the most logical time to expect for the **Rapture** since the purpose is the same, in the rapture the saints are taken out of the path of the Wrath, while the seal protects the 144,000 from the plagues of the Wrath).

# 144,000 Sealed [Revelation 7:4-8]

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: [Revelation 7:4-8]

<b>Judah</b> 12,000	<b>Reuben</b> 12,000	<b>Gad</b> 12,000	<b>Asher</b> 12,000
Naphtali 12,000	Manasseh 12,000	<b>Simeon</b> 12,000	Levi 12,000
Issachar 12,000	<b>Zebulun</b> 12,000	<b>Joseph</b> 12,000	<b>Benjamin</b> 12,000

- ♦ Those sealed are from the specific tribes of Israel named in the list.
- → Ephraim and Dan are omitted from this list.
- ♦ Joseph (enduring Faith) is inserted in the place of Ephraim (fruitful in the land).
- ♦ Dan is omitted because they are witnesses and not judges, Dan means **Judge**.

- → The 144,000 are all virgin men, therefore they will not be physically fruitful in the land. [Revelation 14:4]
- ♦ These 144,000 are Redeemed from among men as firstfruits to God and to the Lamb. [Revelation 14:4]

Great Multitude from the Great Tribulation Worship God and the Lamb [Revelation 7:9-10]

After these things I looked, and behold, a **great multitude** which no one could number, **of all nations**, **tribes**, **peoples**, **and tongues**, standing **before the throne and before the Lamb**, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" [Revelation 7:9-10]

- ♦ Saints from the entire earth are in Heaven before the Throne of God and the Lamb.
- ♦ They worship God on the Throne and the Lamb together for providing their Salvation.
- ♦ White robes represent the righteousness of the Saints. [Revelation 19:8]
- → Palm branches are the acknowledgement for the Messiah as displayed at the Triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. [John 12:12-15, Matt 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:28-40]

Angels worship God [Revelation 7:11-12]

♣ All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying:

"Amen! **Blessing** and **glory** and **wisdom**, **Thanksgiving** and **honor** and **power** and **might**, Be to our God forever and ever. Amen." [Revelation 7:11-12]

❖ This worship by the Angels is very similar to the worship by the twenty four Elders before the Throne:

"You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created." [Revelation 4:9-11]

Multitude Identified [Revelation 7:13-14]

- Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" [Revelation 7:13]
- ♣ And I said to him, "Sir, you know."
  - So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. [Revelation 7:14]
  - ♦ The Multitude of every nation, tribe, people, and tongue are the Saints of God who specifically faced the Great Tribulation, the most difficult time ever for mankind.
    [Matthew 24:21, Mark 13:19, Daniel 12:1]
  - ♦ They stood by faith to the point of Martyrdom trusting in the sufficiency of the Blood of the Lamb for their righteousness. [Revelation 7:14, 12:11]
  - ♦ They loved not their lives to the death. [Revelation 12:11, Matthew 16:25, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, 17:33]
  - ♦ They take part in the First Resurrection and reign with Christ a thousand years sheltered in the Temple of God. [Revelation 20:4-6, 7:15-17]
  - ❖ Because they faced the Antichrist, False Prophet, and the greatest test of all Time of Great Tribulation since the creation of the earth and never to be equaled again, they receive the richest of all rewards for their stand to the point of Martyrdom remaining obedient to the commandments of God and holding their testimony of Jesus.

Special Reward for the Great Tribulation Multitude [Revelation 7:15-17]

- Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple.

  And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. [Revelation 7:15]
  - ♦ This is as close to God as is possible to be in the Kingdom age on this earth.
- They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead

them to living fountains of waters.

- And **God will wipe away every tear from their eyes**." [Revelation 7:16-17]

  The most extreme test of the Great Tribulation merits the greatest reward in the Kingdom of God.
- ♦ The Saints who went before and in the Rapture will reign with Christ in civil government around the world.
- ♦ These Great Tribulation Saints serve God in the Temple.