"The Sealed 144,000" Revelation 7: 1-8

God has provided a witness during this awful time

God always has a witness!!

Sprinkled between these series of judgments are interludes - (Mark Hitchcock)

5 Non-Chronological Parenthetical Insertions

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Seals
         (Rev 7) 144,000 JEWS
123456 7
Trumpets
                 (Rev 10–11) No Delay; 2 Witnesses
          1 2 3 4 5 6 7 (Rev 12–14) Israel's flight
Bowls
                          (Rev 16:13-16) Armageddon
                       1 2 3 4 5 6 7 (Rev 17–18) Babylon falls
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Verse 1 - 3 God's Evangelistic Program

- "After these things "
 - = "metatauta" = not next in chronology, but next in what John sees!
- "Seal" = this is not a seal itself, but "the instrument" with which one seals or stamps
- What is this seal?

 Revelation 14: 1 gives us a clue

 "Having his Father's name
 written on their foreheads"

Who else are sealed in Scripture?

You are!!

Ephesians 1: 13-14

The *seal* signifies security, authenticity, ownership and authority

How are the sealed to live?

2 Timothy 2: 19
Romans 8: 29

The Christian life is a life of constant change - you are expected to change!!

The Christian faces a tsunami of opposition!

It is only through the Holy Spirit's power that we can stand against the world's incessant pressure!

What does being filled with the Holy Spirit mean?

It means yielded to the Holy Spirit and controlled by the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 5: 17-20

Why were you saved?

Is salvation a get out of jail free card?

"The chief end of man is to glorify God (to serve God; a dulos) and enjoy Him forever" (Westminster catechism)

Verse 4 - 8 Who are the 144,000?

Points to consider:

- 1) These are Jewish believers in Messiah, not the Church
- 2) Recall: the 7-year Tribulation period is the 70th week of Daniel Daniel 9: 24
- 3) 70 weeks were promised to the Jewish people

Points to consider:

- 4) These are week years = 490 yrs
- 5) Time stopped at the 69th week, 483 year point, when Messiah was rejected
- 6) The gap between the 69th and 70th week is called the Church Age

Daniel's Seventy "Weeks" Seventy Periods of Sevens

DANIEL 9:24-27

The Decree Messiah The Prince To Restore

Fulfilled

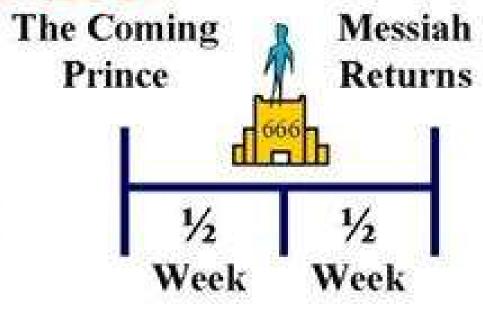
March 30 March 5,

444 B.C. A.D. 33

Artaxerxes' Triumphal

Decree Entry

Neh. 2:1-3 Luke 19:28-40



70th Week 7 years Unfulfilled



ISRAEL

Points to consider:

- 7) The 70th week focus is on Israel not the Church!
- 8) The 144,000 are Jewish believers who evangelize the world

Why the missing tribes?

Walter Scott explains:

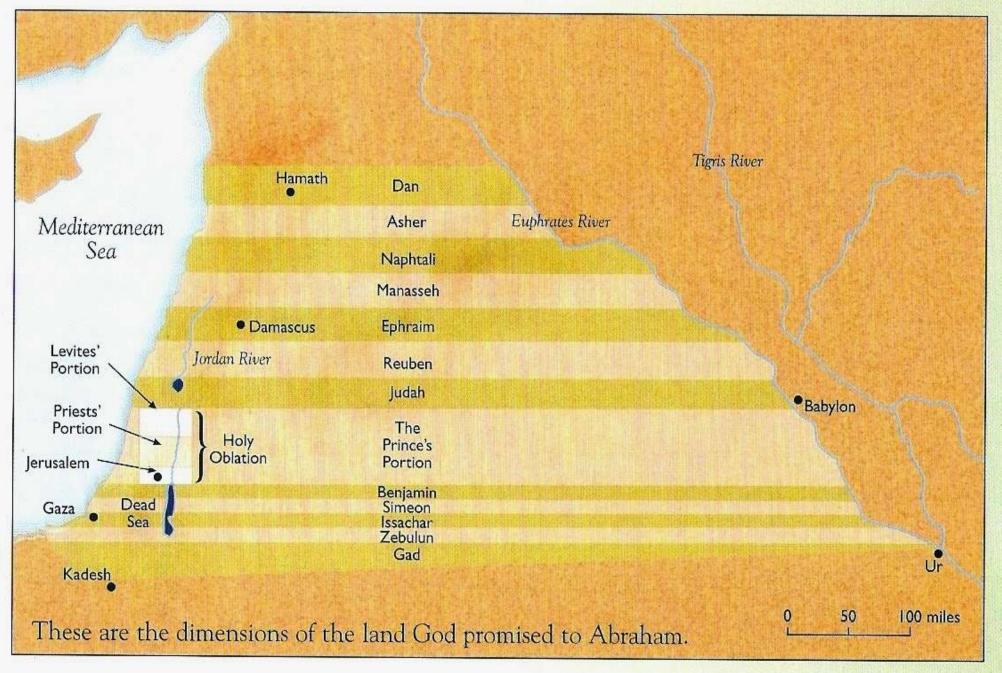
"When the tribes are listed in Scripture there are always 12 listed. Jacob had 13 sons, one is always omitted, and usually this is the tribe of Levi. In Revelation, Dan and Ephraim are omitted. Both these tribes were remarkable as being connected with idolatry in Israel. The probable reason for blotting out their names here"

The millennial distribution of the land **Ezekiel 48: 1-9**

God gave Dan what he wanted - the extreme north, farthest from the Millennial Temple where Messiah will reign

HOW SAD!!

The Division of Land During the Millennium



There are differences between the 144,000 and the multitude saved in 7: 9

Distinctions Between 144,000 & Multitude

- Revelation 7:1-8
- Numbered
- Jews
- Sealed
- Sealed before the Tribulation

- Revelation 7:9-17
- Innumerable
- All nations
- Slain
- Converted out of the Tribulation

Romans 11: 25-26 reveals a mystery:

Who the final harvest of Jews is!

Who are the "all"?

Those Jews who believe at the end of the Tribulation period!

How many are the "all"?

Zechariah 13: 8-9

The 144,000 are one of the means God uses to fulfill Matthew 24: 14

Every earth dweller will know who the True God is!

Yet, the majority will side with the antichrist!!

AMAZING DECEPTION!!

CLOSING: The Sealed 144,000

Despite everything Satan does, God always has the upper hand!

A remnant of Jewish believers will proclaim the Gospel to the world and be miraculously protected from antichrist's carnage

A great harvest will occur at the worst time in the history of the planet!

Impossible many say

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD!! - Luke 1: 37

Thinking about earth dwellers that are left after the Rapture:

- Your prior witness may come to mind
- With the witness of the 144,000, your witness may convince them that this is all real!

Remember the quote from the philosopher "Yogi Berra":

"It ain't over until it's over!"

As long as there is life, there is hope!

Never give up hope, keep believing and trusting!

God is in the impossible business!

OUR GOD IS THE GOD

OF THE IMPOSSIBLE!!

JESUS IS COMING!