

**The Revelation of Jesus Christ – Message #15**  
**Revelation 14:1-7 – The 144,000 & the First Angel**  
**(11/1/09 PM)**

**(Outline Map of the Tribulation)**

Chapter 14 continues the parenthetical section between the sounding of the 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet (11:15-19) to the beginning of the Bowl Judgments in chapter 15. This chapter continues the prophetic summary of chapters 12 & 13 and stands in contrast to them. We have seen the satanic trinity of Satan, the Antichrist and the False Prophet. We have seen their worldwide deception through idolatrous worship of the Antichrist and his image.

1. **The 144,000 on Mount Zion** (1-5)

***Introduced In Chapter 7***

John “looked and behold”. This is again used by John to introduce startling events. These are the same men John saw being sealed in chapter 7 very likely soon after the beginning of the Tribulation. They are the 12,000 out of every tribe of Israel. (14:1) “having His Father’s name written on their foreheads.” The seal was to protect and preserve them throughout the terrible events of the Tribulation Period.

• **The scene is on earth in Jerusalem**

(1-2) “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. And I heard a voice from heaven like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder”

If they are in heaven it would mean they had died and what would have been the purpose of seal? These men are most likely God’s missionaries who will go throughout the world preaching the Gospel. They will no doubt be persecuted and attacked but God will preserve them. They will enter the Millennial Kingdom in their physical bodies.

**This Is a Prophetic Vision of the Ultimate Triumph of the Lord Jesus Christ**

Zechariah 14:8-9, “And in that day it shall be that living waters shall flow from Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and half of them toward the western sea; in both summer and winter it shall occur. And the Lord shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be — “The Lord is one,” and His name one.”

Micah 4:1-3, “Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it. Many nations shall come and say, “Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.” For out of Zion the law shall go forth,

and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and rebuke strong nations afar off; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.”

• **The join in the heavenly song of redemption**

(2-4) “And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. 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.”

This song began with the twenty-four elders (the Church) in (5:9-10) when Jesus Christ took the Seven-sealed Scroll. We saw then that the prophecies were about to fulfilled and their prayers were about to answered. They were joined by an angelic host (5:11) “many angels...the living creatures”. This results in a universal anthem of praise (5:13) “And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them.

The harps suggest that this is a joyous song of praise.

### **It Appears that Heaven’s Praise Has Overflowed to Earth**

We are not sure why the song here is restricted to the 144,000 at this time. Possibly it is because of all that they have suffered throughout the Tribulation and this was their great privilege.

- **They have kept themselves blameless**

(4-5) “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. And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.”

We have previously seen that the satanic and demonic influence will plunge the world into unspeakable immorality and perversion. In the midst of such ungodliness they like Enoch before them will live godly lives.

Jude 12-15, “These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving only themselves. They are clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots; raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever. Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, “Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.”

These probably young men will be the “firstfruits” of Israel’s salvation. Romans 11:25-26, “...blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved...”

They will most likely have a special place in the kingdom as they “follow the Lamb wherever He goes”.

### **They Will Be God’s Voice Witnessing to the Truth In the Midst of Satan’s Lies and Deception**

## 2. The Angel Proclaiming the Gospel (6-7)

### ***These Three Angelic Messages Anticipate the Final Bowl Judgments***

(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”

Some believe that this is not the Gospel of salvation but an announcement of coming judgment. However there is only one Gospel. This is the eternal Gospel that brings eternal life.

Galatians 1:8, “But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.”

- **This is God’s final call for repentance during the Tribulation**

The message goes throughout the world. The angel flies in mid-heaven and cannot be hindered by Satan. Most likely the war in heaven has already occurred. Satan has been cast down to the earth. The angel flies unchallenged calling for the earth dwellers to turn away from the Antichrist and turn to Christ.

(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."

This is the sin of mankind, refusing to acknowledge God and give Him the glory due His name.

Romans 1:20-21, "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened."

We have seen how God has poured His judgment upon nature. Now He announces that the time for repentance is short. This is the first use of the word "judgment" in Revelation.

**The Creator of the World Is Also the Judge**