The Four Angels holding the winds - Part 1







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Learn from the Past > Understand the Present > Prepare for the Future

Inreach & Outreach Resource



This booklet is an eye opener of what's happening in the world.

This 40 page A5 size booklet has the key aspects of the –

PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE.

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Enter The Ark of Hope

The Great Controversy between God and Satan is primarily over

"WORSHIP"

Who will you Choose?



Get into the Ark Sanctuary





And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

Exodus 25:8

Psalms 77:13



Health Snippet - Trust

"The real epidemic in our culture is not only physical heart disease, but ...

<u>Spiritual heart disease</u> — that is, the profound feelings of <u>loneliness</u>, <u>isolation</u>, <u>alienation</u>, <u>and depression</u> that are so prevalent in our culture with the breakdown of the social structures that used to provide us with a sense of connection and community". <u>The social structures that historically connect us with God and community are the church and the family, <u>both are introduced in the Bible in Genesis!</u></u>

Ø Faith in God Favours Good Health: Research has clearly shown that when patients take a substance that they sincerely believe will heal them, their symptoms often improve or completely disappear. There are thousands of other well-documented examples of how a person's beliefs brought about real physical improvement. This phenomenon might help explain why Jesus frequently said to those He healed, "Your faith has made you well". Ø The human-Divine connection takes place in the frontal lobes of the brain, where all judgements are made.

According to one study, "Patients suffering pain after wisdom tooth extraction got just as much relief from a fake application of ultrasound as from a real one, so long as both patient and therapist thought the machine was on." Perhaps this is related to the truth that collective prayer for an individual's healing has demonstrated real results.

Want to live seven years longer? Reader's Digest has reported that in a nationwide study of 21,000 people, those who prayed and attended religious services more than once a week had a seven-year longer life expectancy than those who never attended services. Lower death rates than non-churchgoers — regardless of risk factors: Fewer symptoms and better health outcomes in 7 of 8 cancer studies, 4 of 5 blood pressure studies, 4 of 6 heart disease studies, and 4 of 5 general health studies. Less prone to depression, suicide, alcoholism, etc... God says: "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health." 3 John 2.

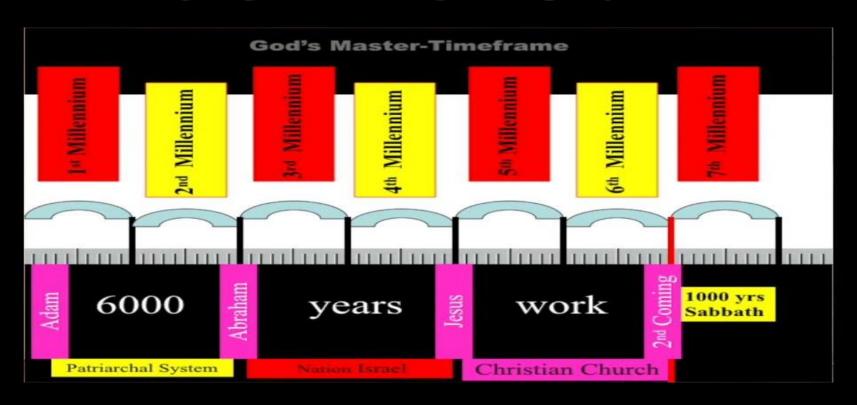
If you would like to learn "HOW" to trust in God, please read the book "Step to Christ" or email us or Just visit https://m.egwwritings.org/en/book/108/toc.

Can We Trust Bible Prophecy?





Yes we Can!



World history - BC and AD divided by Jesus 1st Advent





Past > Present > Future



And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.

And 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 given to hurt the earth and the sea,

Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.





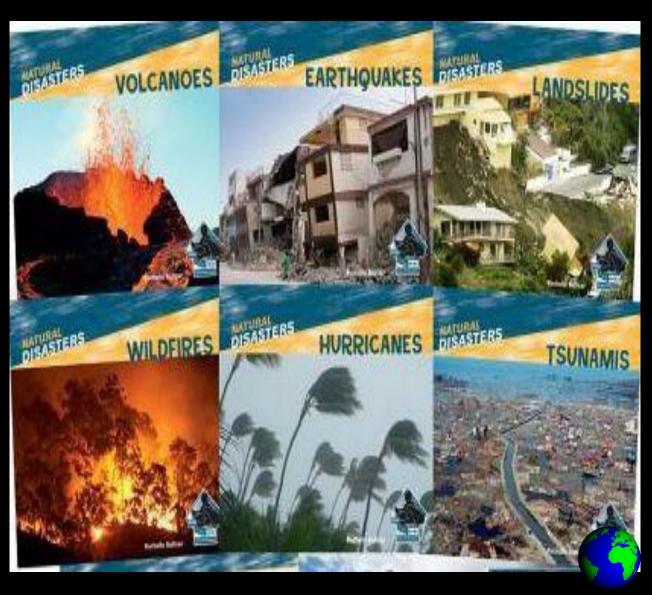
Soon the four winds of heaven will be loosed, and in every part of the globe there will be dissension, strife, war, bloodshed. Satan is stirred with intensity from beneath. The power of God will be the defense of His people until their warning message will have been proclaimed to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. -Manuscript Releases Volume Eighteen [Nos. 1301-1359] (1990), page 177, paragraph 3



Winds are a symbol of strife. The four winds of heaven striving upon the great sea, represent the terrible scenes of conquest and revolution by which kingdoms have attained to power. - *Great Controversy p* 439



Four mighty angels are still holding the four winds of the earth. Terrible destruction is forbidden to come in full. The accidents by land and by sea; the loss of life, steadily increasing, by storm, by tempest, by railroad disaster, by conflagration; the terrible floods, the earthquakes, and the winds will be the stirring up of the nations to one deadly combat, while the angels hold the four winds, forbidding the terrible power of Satan to be exercised in its fury until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads. - The Review and Herald, June 7, 1887, paragraph 13



THE WONDERFUL MINISTRY OF ANGELS



Angels have fascinated and mystified the minds of men through the ages. Most people have more questions than answers about these beings and many weird and distorted ideas have come down to us that confuse our understanding today.

ANGEL SHOWING JOHN THE HOLY CITY

When John fell down in awe to worship the angel he was told-

"See thou do it not!"

We are not to worship angels.





When we look away from tradition, legends and folklore and take what the Bible tells us about these beings- we can piece together a clear and enlightening picture of just who and what is involved.

We are going to look at the TRUTH about angels and expose some of the FALSEHOODS that have obscured our knowledge of ANGELS.

The connection of the visible with the invisible world, the ministration of angels of God, and the agency of evil spirits, are plainly revealed in the Scriptures, and inseparably interwoven with human history.





There is a growing tendency to disbelief in the existence of evil spirits, while the holy angels that "minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation" (Hebrews 1:14) are regarded by many as spirits of the dead. But the Scriptures not only teach the existence of angels, both good and evil, but present unquestionable proof that these are not disembodied spirits of dead men.

Angels are not people who have died!

Angels were around before anybody died. The dead are asleep in their graves until the resurrection.

The dead 'Know Not Anything' Ecclesiastes 9:5



There is nothing mysterious about the spirit that returns to God at death. It is the breath of life.



Before the creation of man, angels were in existence; for when the foundations of the earth were laid, "the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy." Job 38:7. After the fall of man, angels were sent to guard the tree of life, and this before a human being had died. Angels are in nature superior to men, for the psalmist says that man was made "a little lower than the angels." Psalm 8:5.

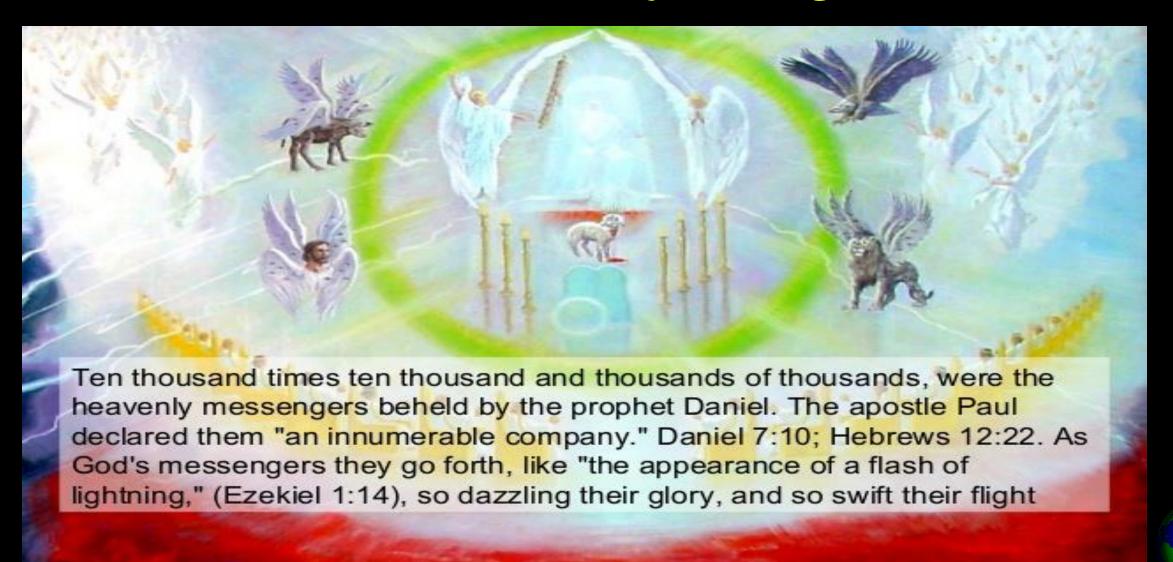


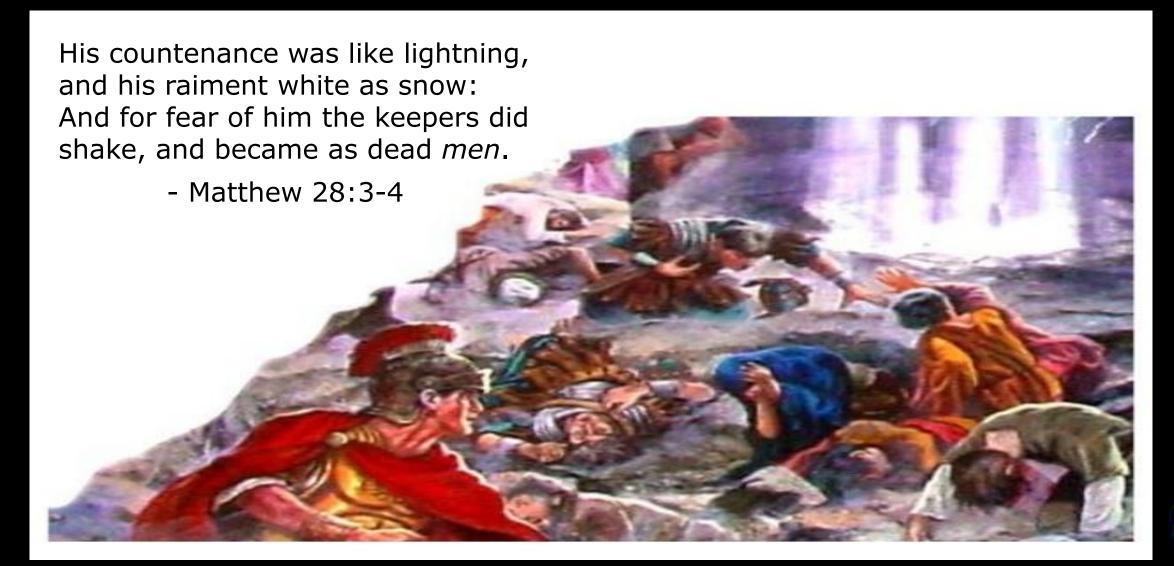
We are informed in Scripture as to the number, and the power and glory, of the heavenly beings, of their connection with the government of God, and also of their relation to the work of redemption. "The Lord hath prepared His throne in the heavens; and His kingdom ruleth over all." And, says the prophet, "I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne." In the presence chamber of the King of kings they wait--"angels, that excel in strength," "ministers of His, that do His pleasure," "hearkening unto the voice of His word." Psalm 103:19-21; Revelation 5:11



An Angel with a fiery sword guarded the tree of life after Adam and Eve sinned, although no human had died.









When Sennacherib, the haughty Assyrian, reproached and blasphemed God, and threatened Israel with destruction, "it came to pass that night, that the angel of the Lord went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand." There were "cut off all the mighty men of valor, and the leaders and captains," from the army of Sennacherib. "So he returned with shame of face to his own land." 2

Kings 19:35; 2 Chronicles 32:21.







Angels are sent on missions of mercy to the children of God. To Abraham, with promises of blessing; to the gates of Sodom, to rescue righteous Lot from its fiery doom;



JACOB'S LADDER





to Peter, doomed to death in Herod's dungeon; to the prisoners at Philippi; to Paul and his companions in the night of tempest on the sea; to open the mind of Cornelius to receive the gospel; to dispatch Peter with the message of salvation to the Gentile stranger--thus holy angels have, in all ages, ministered to God's people.









One of the Angels' jobs is to keep records of every thought, word and deed. We don't know for sure how it is done but the Bible assures us that the 'Books of Heaven' exist!







A guardian angel is appointed to every follower of Christ. These heavenly watchers shield the righteous from the power of the wicked one. This Satan himself recognized when he said: "Doth Job fear God for nought? Hast not Thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side?" Job 1:9, 10.

The agency by which God protects His people is presented in the words of the psalmist: "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them." Psalm 34:7. Said the Saviour, speaking of those that believe in Him: "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of My Father." Matthew 18:10. The angels appointed to minister to the children of God have at all times access to His presence.





Angels are often portrayed in Prophecy as doing something that controls the events of history- and it is indeed so. As they carry out the commands of God through His power they are His instruments to shape and guide the movements of history so that it is said, "And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:"

Daniel 2:21

Angels with the Trumpets of History!

Revelation portrays the events of history by placing them under the 7 trumpets sounded one after the other by 7 angels.





Who is the Archangel?

What about ARCHANGELS??

There is only ONE ever referred to as an Archangel; and when Jesus returns there is mentioned only the 'Voice of the Archangel' singular.

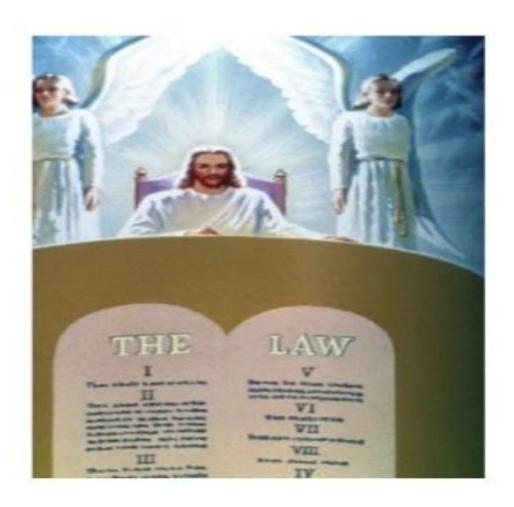
The only one referred to like that is actually Jesus as He stood before God's throne as leader of the angelic hosts. Michael means 'Who is like God" there is no one else 'like God' but God the Son, one with the Father through all eternity. Our Saviour!







Who is the Archangel?



Gabriel is <u>not</u> referred to as an Archangel and all the other ones are figments of man's imagination as he made up myths to confuse his own mind.

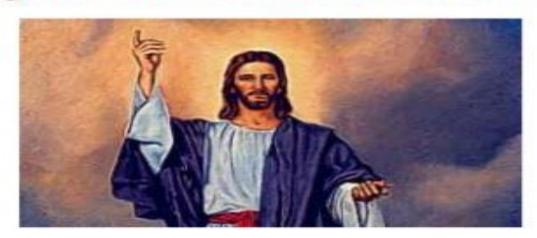
Gabriel is only referred to as "His Angel". He occupies the place at the throne whence Satan fell from. He is also the special messenger to the Prophets."

Heaven is not run as a Hierarchy - so there is no striving for rank and position. There is no competing for God's attention. Heaven is like a loving family, and those who eventually go there from this earth will have already learned to be part of the family!



Who is the Archangel?

The Archangel is Christ and Here is the Biblical Proof



For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: - 1 Thessalonians 4:16

Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee. – Jude 9



Jesus the Archangel



Finally, on that Wonderful
Day – we will get to see the
angel who watched over us
all our life – what a thrill that
will be!

The Four angels of destruction



The Four winds - Past

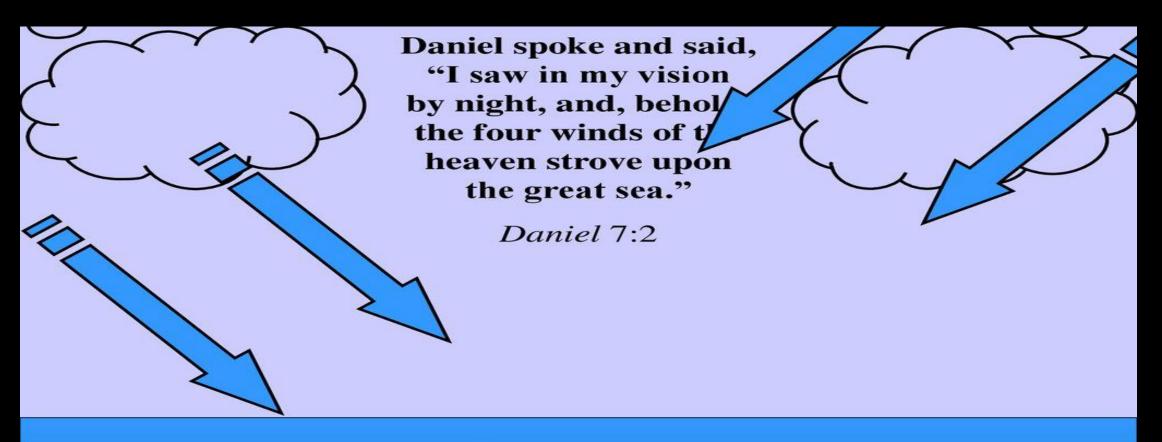
In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon,
Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed:
then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.

Daniel 7:1





The Four winds - Past



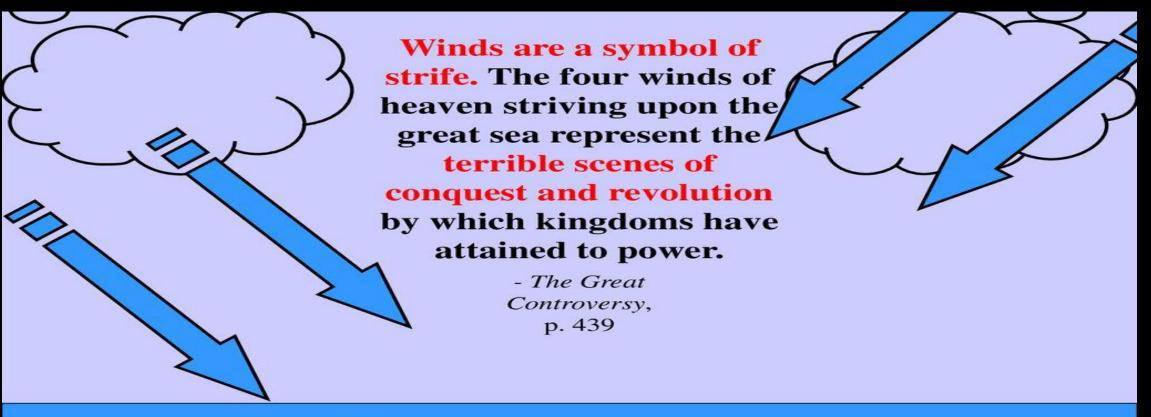
The Sea

...The waters...are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.

Revelation 17:15



The Four winds - Past



And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships.

Daniel 11:40



The Four winds of destruction - Future

The Winds of Strife

Revelation 7

¹ And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.

Education, p. 179:

"Angels are now restraining the winds of strife, that they may not blow until the world shall be warned of its coming doom; but a storm is gathering, ready to burst upon the earth; and when God shall bid His angels loose the winds, there will be such a scene of strife as no pen can picture."



Future - The Four angels of destruction



Now here John see another word-picture, again this does not happen after the one we just read, but it is a separate view showing something that happens during that 6th seal time.

John sees 4 mighty angels on the four corners of the world. Now some silly people say, "See the Bible is not true! The earth doesn't have corners." This simply means the four directions, north, south, east, and west. We often say things like, "The people came from the four corners of the earth," and we mean from all over the earth.



Future - The Four angels of destruction

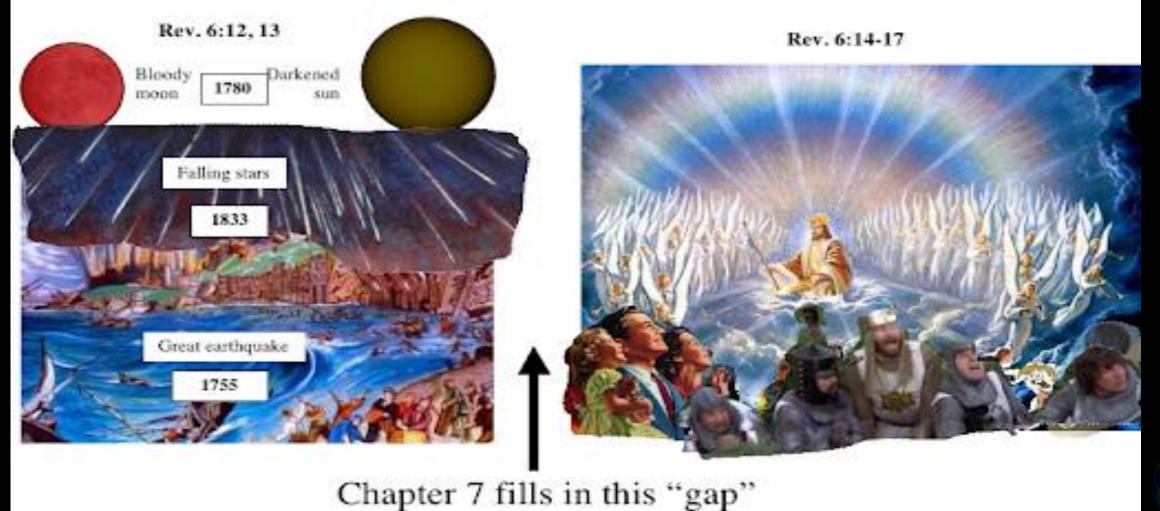


Here these angels are holding the winds. Now, no human could hold 'winds', but these angels can. And what are the winds that they hold? Remember in prophecy, winds mean trouble, war, strife and destruction. God has powers working in this world to hold back the evil forces so that His people have a chance to get ready for His coming. It says they protect the earth and the sea- this means the areas where there are lots of people (the sea); and where there are just a few people (the earth). And the 'Trees' mean governments or rulers. Remember Nebuchadnezzar's dream where a great tree was used to mean his rule in Babylon.

If these angels were not holding back the 'winds', Satan would destroy the whole earth.



Revelation 7 - The Interlude between the 6th and 7th Seals





Need to understand - The Sixth Seal



¹² And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

¹³ And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

- Revelation 6



Need to understand - The Sixth Seal









November 13, 1833

November 1, 1755



(Joel 2:31, Revelation 6:12 & Matthew 24:29)

Need to understand - The Sixth Seal

We are right now living between verse 13 and 14 of Revelation 6. The things that are going to happen in verses 14-17 are when Jesus comes in the clouds of heaven.

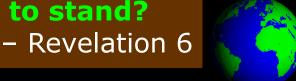
People who have a lot of power, think they can get away with whatever they want to do—but someday soon, things will change.

14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?



The Sixth Seal – Who shall be able to stand







Need to understand - The Sixth Trumpet



The blowing of the sixth trumpet introduces the second woe

And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, - Revelation 9:13



Past - The sixth of the seven trumpets

"And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them." Revelation 9:13-16



Past - The Four angels of destruction

The four angels have been active before the Second Coming of Christ in Rev 9:14.15., under the sixth trumpet. "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind. (This happened when the Ottoman Turks attacked the Byzantine Empire and ended its 150 year rule of infliction and torment upon men.)



150 years of attacks on the Eastern Roman Empire

Daniel 2

- Unless you have the division of the Roman
 Empire as predicted in Daniel 2, into the Western
 Roman Empire and the Eastern Roman Empire,
 the historical interpretation of Revelation 8 & 9
 has no foundation or relevancy.
- This subject of Daniel 2 <u>continues</u> in Revelation as the downfall of the Eastern Roman Empire (1449) <u>begins the 6^a Trumpet</u> and is the ending of the first of the three woes.
- Hebrews 6:1



Rev 9:15 - 1 Hour, 1 Day, 1 Month, 1 Year

The Josiah Litch Prophecy

- The 1449 date Beginning of the Ottoman Empire
- Add 391 years from prophetic time found in verse 15
- 1840 July 27
- Then you add 1 hour
- One hour is 1\24th of a prophetic day
- Thus a day equals a year in prophecy or 360 days
- You divide 360 days by 24 and you get 15 days
- To the date 1840 and July 27 you add 15 days and you have
 - August 11, 1840
- This was the date given by Josiah Litch for the fall of the Ottoman Empire, two years in advance. The historical event happened on that exact day!



Great Controversy page 334

In the year 1840, another remarkable fulfillment of prophecy excited widespread interest. Two years before, Josiah Litch, one of the leading ministers preaching the second advent, published an exposition of Revelation 9, predicting the fall of the Ottoman empire, and specifying not only the year but the very day on which this would take place. According to this exposition, which was purely a matter of calculation on the prophetic periods of Scripture, the Turkish government would surrender its independence on the eleventh day of August, 1840. The prediction was widely published, and thousands watched the course of events with eager interest. {GC88 334.4}

Rev 9:15 -1 Hour, 1 Day, 1 Month, 1 Year

The Swiss Reformer Heinrich Bullinger [1575 A.D.] was one of the first Biblical Expositor to identify the Turks as the power under the sixth trumpet.

The Turks had thought and found help from the western allies Britain, Austria, Prussia and Russia, who all had interests in the Near East. On the 15th of July these powers signed the treaty of London. The Turkish emissary Rifat Bey arrived on August 11' 1840 at Alexandria with the terms of the London convention.





Rev 9:15 - 1 Hour, 1 Day, 1 Month, 1 Year

On July 27, 1299 Osman I attacked Nicomedia, the eastern empire suffered 150 years of devastating Turkish Advancement. In 1449 the **Emperor-elect of Greco-Roman Empire asked Ottoman Sultan** permission to reign. Egypt conquered most of the empire and in 1840 Ottoman Sultan appealed to Europe for help. England, Russia, Austria and Persia ordered Egypt to cease the conquest. This ultimatum reached Egypt on August 11, 1840 - The Midnight Cry, January 6, 1843, pp. 7-10.



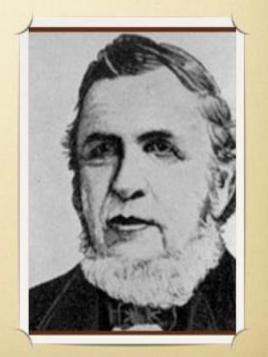
Rev 9:15 - 1 Hour, 1 Day, 1 Month, 1 Year

This amazing prophecy was pointed out and written up in the newspapers before August 11,1840 and when it really happened on the exact time, 1000's believed that God's Word was true and turned to the creator God.



Josiah Litch

·1809-1886



Friday, October 19, 12

Past - The sixth of the seven trumpets

"And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and



brimstone. By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt." Revelation 9:17-19.



What is this? Fire-breathing horses?

Oh, no it isn't—at this time gunpowder and guns were used for the first time against the people in Eastern Europe. When the pistols were held close to the horses as the rode to the attack, it looked like fire and brimstone came from the mouths of the horses. This is also the time that knights in armour weren't much use any more as the armour would not stop the bullets.

Notice here that it now says the third part of men were killed, where before they were only tormented. This power brought the Eastern Roman Empire finally to its political end.



"Having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone" These three colors red, yellow and blue were the ones these Turkish warriors wore. And again we see the amazing warhorses of these desert people, even their horses were trained to attack and be fierce. They also made great cannons and using their power, managed to overthrow Constantinople where the eastern Roman Emperor had for so long had his throne.

Papal Rome's Veneration



"And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts." Revelation 9:20, 21.

Papal Rome's Veneration

WORSHIP AND VENERATION

WORSHIP LATRIA (LATIN)

The adoration that is given to God alone.

HYPER VENERATION HYPERDULIA (LATIN)

The honor and reverence given to Mary as the Mother of God. She is the most excellent of creatures.

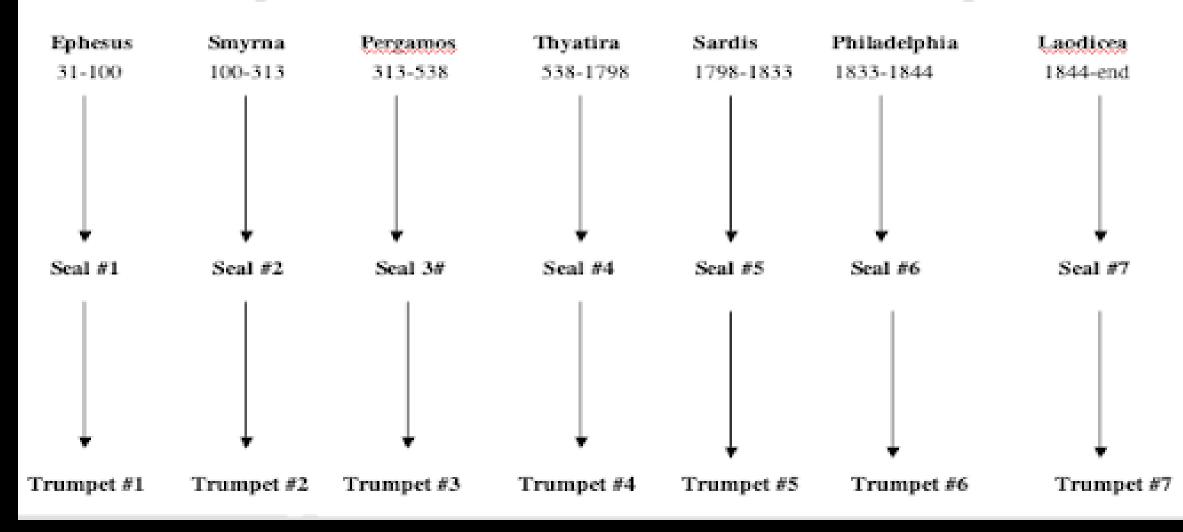
VENERATION/DULIA The honor and respect given to Saints and angels





The 7 churches, 7 seals & 7 trumpets

Recapitulation of the 7 churches, seals and trumpets





And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;

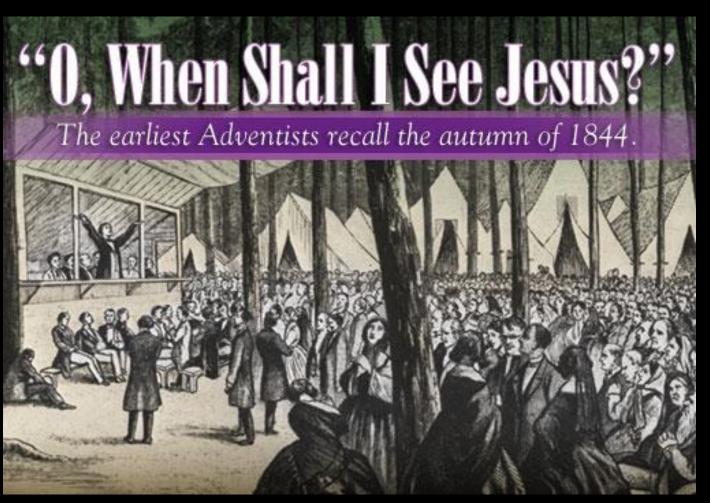
- Revelation 3:7

And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder; so he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.

- Isaiah 22:22



The Millerites were the followers of the teachings of William Miller, who in 1831 first shared publicly his belief that the Second Advent of Jesus Christ would occur in roughly the year 1843–1844. Coming during the Second Great Awakening, his beliefs were taken as predictions, spread widely, and were believed by many, leading to the Great Disappointment.





Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and *I will write* upon him my new name.

- Revelation 3:11-12









AD 27 = JESUS IS BAPTISED

AD 31 = JESUS IS CRUSIFIED



1844 = JESUS IN MOST HOLY PLACE

= JESUS COMES AGAIN



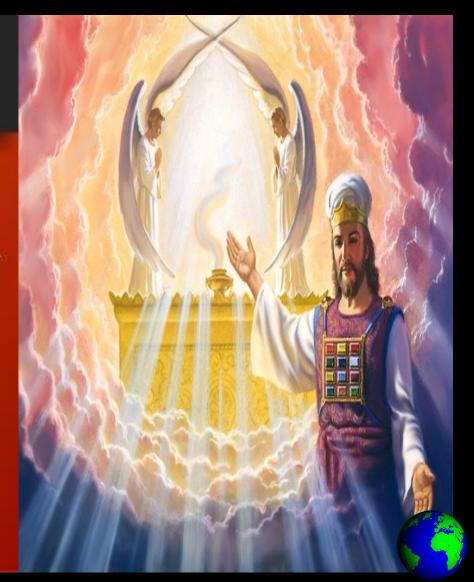
The Conclusion in "The Law of Moses"

- 1. A literal sanctuary exist in heaven.
- 2. The Hebrew sanctuary system was a complete visual representation of the plan of salvation patterned after the heavenly sanctuary.
- 3. Just as earthly priest had a two-phase ministry in the wilderness sanctuary, so Christ had a two-phase ministry in the heavenly. The first phase began in the Holy Place at His ascension, the second on October 22, 1844, when Christ moved from the first apartment of the heavenly sanctuary to the second.



The Conclusion in "The Law of Moses"

- 4. The first ministry of service dealt with forgiveness, while the second involves the blotting out of sins and the cleansing of both the sanctuary and the individual believer.
- 5. The cleansing of Daniel 8:14 was a cleansing from sin and was therefore accomplished by blood rather than by fire.
- 6. Christ would not return to earth until He accomplished His second-apartment ministry.



Revelation 10 & 11:1-14 - The Interlude between the 6th and 7th Trumpets

- Revelation 10:1 11:14 presents a second interlude prior to the sounding of the 7th trumpet in Revelation 11:15
- This interlude gives assurance...
 - that God has even more planned to vindicate His saints
 - that He does not reveal to men everything that He is doing or will do
 - and that He will not allow His testimony to be stamped out by the forces of evil.



- This chapter is between the sixth and seventh trumpet,
- There are interludes between the sixth and seventh seals and trumpets and bowls.
 Judgments from Heaven are temporarily suspended.
- 3. This information does not advance the Revelation's events.
- 4. This chapter serves as a interlude which reveals God's grace and mercy in the midst of judgment.



The Mighty Angel

- This is a good Angel. The Greek word "allon" is used so its another of the same kind.
- 2. The attributes of the angel are symbols of judgment.
- 3. This angel is given great authority and power over the earth as his feet rest on the land and sea.
- 4. This angel is about to execute terrible judgment.

- 1 And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:
- 2 And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth, Revelation 10



The Mighty Angel

- Revelation 10

- He has a "little book" (Gk.
 "Bibliaridion") not the "scroll" of (Gk.
 "biblion") of Revelation 5:1.
- 7 But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.
- 8 And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth.

DANIEL 12

Shut up the words, seal the book,

To the time of the end

The man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river

Held up his hands to heaven

Sware by him that liveth for ever

The words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

REVELATION 10

A little book open

There should be time no longer

The angel stood upon the sea and upon the earth

Lifted up his hand to heaven

Sware by him that liveth for ever

Prophesy again before many people.

The Little Book = Book of Daniel





And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings. – Revelation 10:11



The Birth of God's Last Church – Revelation 12:17



Seventh-day Adventist Church
21 May 1863, Battle Creek, Michigan, United States



The Importance of knowing History

"Mr. Baker, an observer of the seventh day, was arrested April 11, 1893, and tried before Justice Phillips, of Queen Anne county, April 12, on the charge of plowing on Sunday. He was sentenced to pay a fine and cost amounting to \$11... The judgment of the lower court was affirmed, and he was sent to jail, and served 43 days."

"American State Papers Bearing on Sunday Legislation" by William Addison Blakely Page 722





The Importance of knowing History

"Mr. Marvel, another observer of the seventh day, was arrested in Queen Anne county in June, 1893, and prosecuted for setting out tomato plants on Sunday, a work which occupied only a few minutes. The complaining witness against him was his own son."





[&]quot;American State Papers Bearing on Sunday Legislation" by William Addison Blakely Page 723

The Importance of knowing our History

1 Selected Messages p. 234.6 (Letter 96, 1896)

An unwillingness to yield up preconceived opinions, and to accept this truth, lay at the foundation of a large share of the opposition manifested at Minneapolis against the Lord's message through Brethren [E.J.] Waggoner and [A.T.] Jones. By exciting that opposition Satan succeeded in shutting away from our people, in a great measure, the special power of the Holy Spirit that God longed to impart to them.





The Importance of knowing our History

Christs Object Lesson p. 403.2

There are many who have given themselves to Christ, yet who see no opportunity of doing a large work or making great sacrifices in His service.

These may find comfort in the thought that it is not necessarily the martyr's self-surrender which is most acceptable to God; it may not be the missionary who has daily faced danger and death that stands highest in heaven's records.





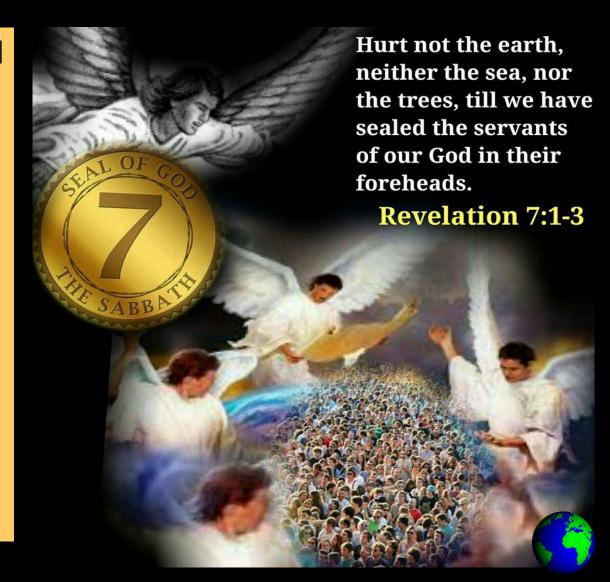
The Four angels of destruction



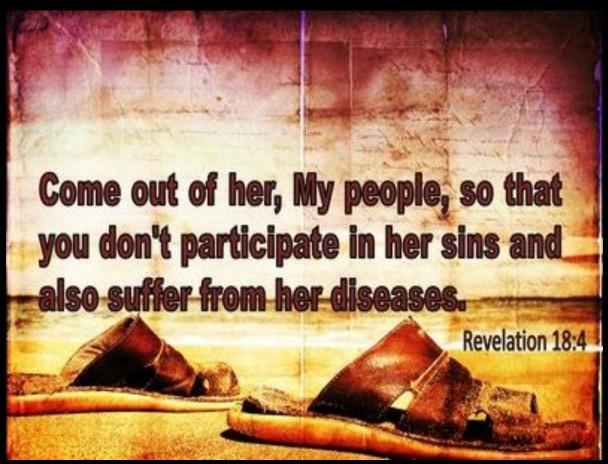
The Four angels of destruction - Future

The devastation that will precede the second coming of Christ is put off until the "servants of God" are "sealed" "in their foreheads."

- The seal is a mark of God's protection for His people - Ezekiel 9:4, 6; Exodus 12:13.
- It is identical to the name of God "written in their foreheads." Revelation 14:1; 22:4.
- God's name signifies His character -Exodus 34:5-7.
- The "forehead" is where the conscience resides and decisions are made.
- So the "seal" or "name" in the forehead is the character of God written in the mind.









Come Out Of Her My People





"I was shown that the judgments of God would not come directly out from the Lord upon them, but in this way: They place themselves beyond His protection. He warns, corrects, reproves, and points out the only path of safety; then, if those who have been the objects of His special care will follow their own course, independent of the Spirit of God, after repeated warnings, if they choose their own way, then He does not commission His angels to prevent Satan's decided attacks upon them.

It is Satan's power that is at work at sea and on land, bringing calamity and distress and sweeping off multitudes to make sure of his prey.--14MR 3 (1883). {LDE 242.2}



"Four mighty angels are still holding the four winds of the earth. Terrible destruction is forbidden to come in full. The ... winds will be the stirring up of the nations to one deadly combat, while the angels hold the four winds, forbidding the terrible power of Satan to be exercised in its fury until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads." {Maranatha 175.} "Angels are holding the four winds, represented as an angry horse seeking to break loose and rush over the face of the whole earth, bearing destruction and death in its path." {20MR 216.6}





Revelation 7:1 "And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree."





Revelation 7: 2,3 "And 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 given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads."





Here comes another angel from the 'East', this means he comes from heaven with a message from God. Now we see why these angels are holding back the trouble, they are giving time for God's servants, His true people to get 'sealed'. A 'seal' is like a stamp of ownership. These people are going to have a 'seal' that shows they belong to God. This 'seal' is on their foreheads; this means that they have chosen with their minds to believe and obey God. The forehead area of the brain is where we make our decisions. In Ezekiel 9 we see a 'man with a writer's inkhorn' placing a mark on those that 'sigh and cry'. Why did they sigh and cry? Because of all the wicked things people are doing and ignoring God's Holy Law!





Now this 'sealing' is making up their minds so strongly that they will never change. Each person has to study for their self, and get to know Jesus for their self and love Him with all their heart.





How do you get to love somebody? Well you have to get to know them, don't you? So it is with God, as we learn about Him from the Bible, we pray to Him and allow His Holy Spirit to come into our lives and teach and guide us, we get to know Him and trust Him more and more. Finally there comes a time when we are so solid in our decision to love and follow Jesus that NOTHING would change our minds. Then we are sealed. This takes time and so the angels hold the winds to give that time. God knows when His people are 'sealed' into loving and obeying Him.





The wicked end up 'sealed' too, but in a sad-bad way. They have disobeyed God for so long and rejected His love and His word until their hearts become hard and they reach a place where they would never change, not in a million years.

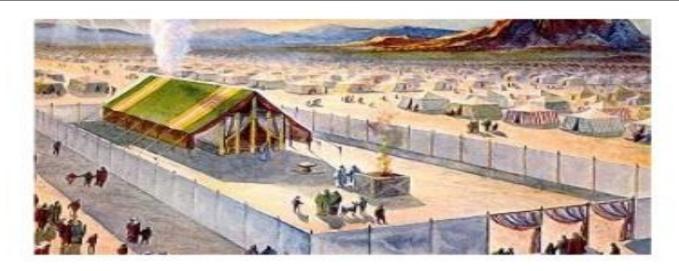






We know that the 7th day Sabbath is the 'seal' of God's 10 Commandment Law. It is the only place where it tells God's name, (the Lord thy God) His territory, (Heavens and Earth) and his authority (He is the Creator). The 'sealed' people of God will keep His true Sabbath!

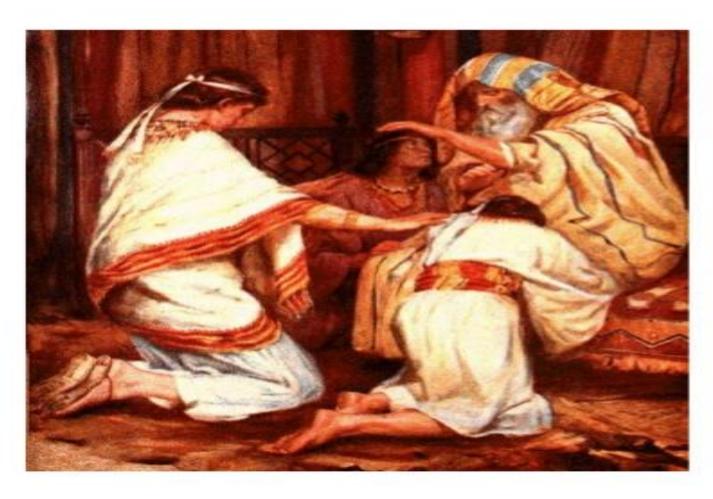




Revelation 7:4 "And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel."

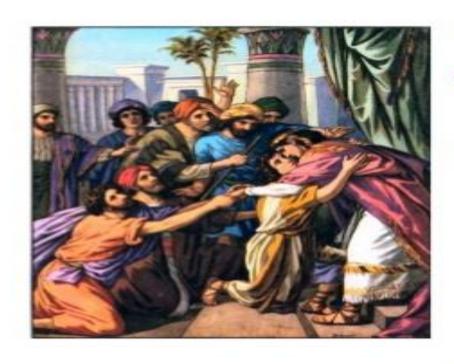
The number 144,000 has been a puzzle to many people. Some think it is a symbol, and it is true that it means something. There were 12 tribes in Israel and there were 12 Apostles. Here Twelve thousand out of each tribe, 12X12 = 144,000. It does seem here though that it may be a real number. It represents the people of God who will be alive on the earth when Jesus returns. They will go to heaven without ever dying.





The twelve sons of Jacob, who became the heads of great families, called tribes, were Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun. Benjamin, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, and Joseph. But Jacob, on his dying bed, adopted the sons of Joseph, Ephraim and Manasseh, to constitute two of the tribes of Israel. Gen. 48:5.





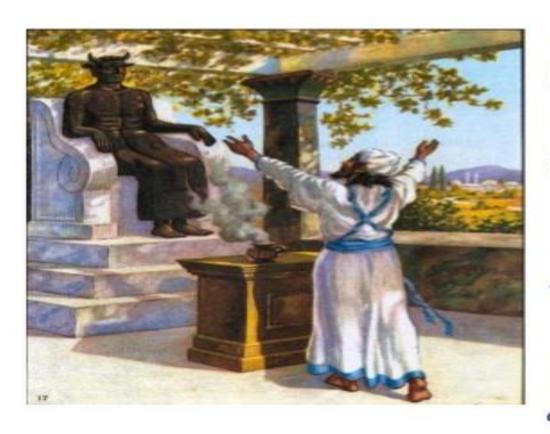
JACOB'S SONS

5 Of the tribe of Juda were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Reuben were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Gad were sealed twelve thousand. 6 Of the tribe of Aser were sealed twelve thousand. 6 twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Nepthalim were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Manasses were sealed twelve thousand.

7 Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Levi were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Issachar were sealed twelve thousand.

8 Of the tribe of Zabulon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Joseph were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Benjamin were sealed twelve thousand.





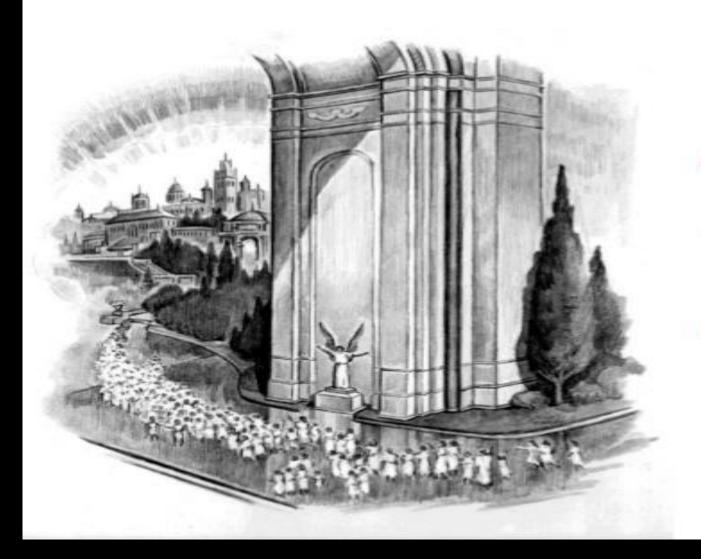
But here in this list we find 2 names left out. Ephraim and Dan are not on this final list. The Bible says "Ephraim is joined to idols: let him alone." Hosea 4:17. The tribe of Dan was also involved in Idol worship and repented not.

There are some people who have done interesting studies about the characters of these different 'tribes', and feel that they represent different personalities, you might like to read about it sometime.

God knows who these special people will be, who will be alive when Jesus comes and go home to heaven without ever dying. Maybe some of us will be among them!



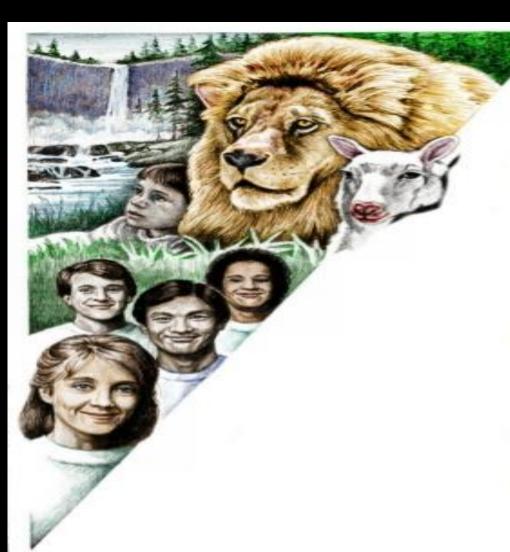
Future – The Great Multitude



Revelation 7:9, "After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; 10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb."



Future - The 144,000 & The Great Multitude



Some people worry when they think about the 144,000 because it doesn't seem like a very big number to be saved from the whole earth. But we never need to worry about that, there is lot's of room in heaven for all, and nobody who really wants to be there and truly gives their heart to Jesus will be left out.

Just imagine this beautiful scene; all of the dear people of God from all different countries, happy in heaven and singing joyful songs to Jesus. They have palm branches in their hands as a sign of victory over sin and Satan, and white robes, which means they all have lovely characters like Jesus.



Future - The 2/3rd Angels in heaven



11 And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God,

12 Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever.

Amen.





Revelation 7:13,14 "And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.





Now here we are talking about this special group who have been sealed in their foreheads. They are dressed in pure, white robes - this is their perfect characters that Jesus has given them. They came out of a time when the entire wicked world united to destroy God's truth and blot it from the earth. But in the strength of their mighty Lord, they stood firm for the truth and obeyed God's Commandments.





How did they get these pure characters? It tells you— they washed them in the blood of the Lamb. They accepted the forgiveness made possible by Jesus death and they chose to have Him live His perfect life in them. They chose to have Jesus' character instead of their own sinful ones. Day by day, hour by hour, they kept choosing His ways, in the strength He gave them and when temptation came, they refused to yield. They cried out to Jesus to take all sin and wicked selfishness out of their lives.





It took time, and as victory was gained over one sinful trait, the Holy Spirit would show them more things that had to be overcome and they would cry again to Jesus for victory. The closer they came to Jesus, and the more they learned about His beautiful character, the more sinful they saw themselves to be and the more they cried to Jesus for Him to take away the sin from them and cover their poor selves with His robe of perfect character.





15-17 "Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."



These ones have a special experience, all who are saved in heaven will have passed through trials and been overcomers, but these final ones have seen the whole world given over to Satan. They have seen the close of

They have seen the close of probation when the Mercy of God is totally removed from the wicked and Satan has full control of them. They have seen the terrible 7 last plagues of God's anger fall on the wicked and have clung to Jesus through the time of Jacob's trouble.





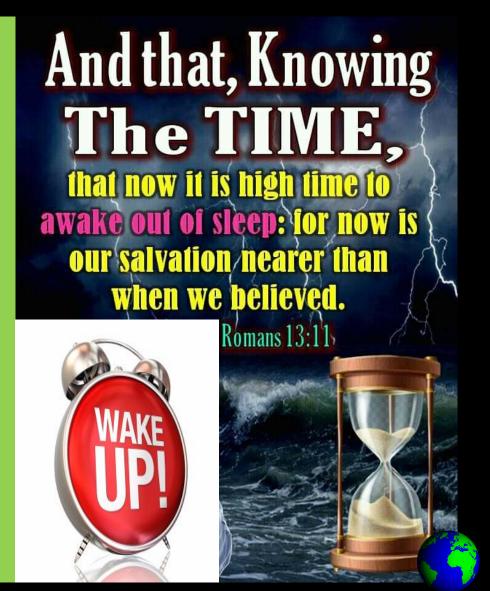
The 4 angels are still holding the winds- it is time to get to know Jesus and give your whole heart to Him! There is nothing more important than that!

Revelation 7:13-17, are some of the sweetest texts in the whole Bible, read them often and think about what they mean. We want to be in that group!



The coming of Christ is nearer than when we first believed. The great controversy is nearing its end. The judgments of God are in the land. They speak in solemn warning, saying: "Be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." - Matthew 24:44

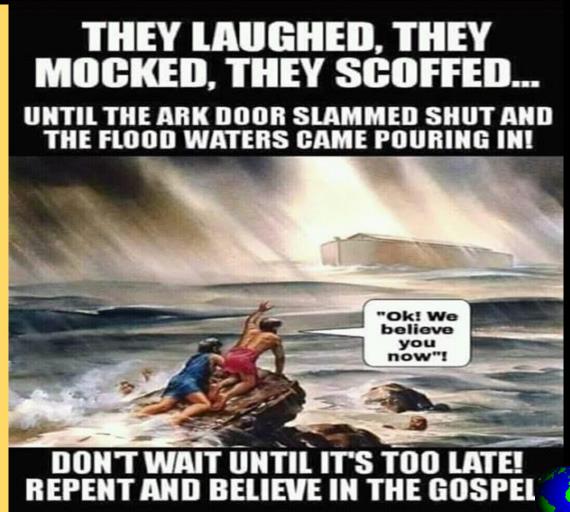
But there are many, many in our churches who know little of the real meaning of the truth for this time. I appeal to them not to disregard the fulfilling of the signs of the times, which says so plainly that the end is near. Oh, how many who have not sought their souls' salvation will soon make the bitter lamentation: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved"! - Jeremiah 8:20



I saw that many measure themselves among themselves, and compare their lives with the lives of others. This should not be. No one but Christ is given us as an example. He is our true Pattern, and each should strive to excel in imitating Him. We are co-workers with Christ, or co-workers with the enemy. We either gather with Christ or scatter abroad. We are decided, wholehearted Christians, or none at all. Says Christ: "I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of My mouth." - Revelation 3:15,16



But who reads the warnings given by the fast-fulfilling signs of the times? What impression is made upon worldlings? What change is seen in their attitude? No more than was seen in the attitude of the inhabitants of the Noachian world. Absorbed in worldly business and pleasure, the antediluvians "knew not until the Flood came, and took them all away." Matthew 24:39. They had heaven-sent warnings, but they refused to listen. And today the world, utterly regardless of the warning voice of God, is hurrying on to eternal ruin.



I am instructed that when the Lord's time comes, should no change have taken place in the hearts of proud, ambitious human beings, men will find that the hand that had been strong to save will be strong to destroy. No earthly power can stay the hand of God.

The nations are in unrest. Times of perplexity are upon us. Men's hearts are failing them for fear of the things that are coming upon the earth. But those who believe in God will hear His voice amid the storm, saying, "It is I; be not afraid."



The time is not far distant when the test will come to every soul. The mark of the beast will be urged upon us. Those who have step by step yielded to worldly demands and conformed to worldly customs will not find it a hard matter to yield to the powers that be, rather than subject themselves to derision, insult, threatened imprisonment, and death. The contest is between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. In this time the gold will be separated from the dross in the church.

—Testimonies for the Church 5:81 (1882).

The Seal of God and the Mark of the Beast

The sign, or seal, of (
God is revealed in the
observance of the

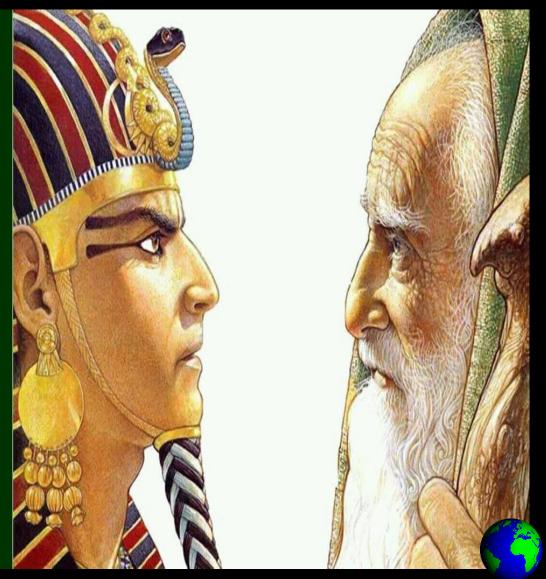
Seventh-Day Sabbath,

the Lord's memorial of creation.

The MARK OF THE
BEAST is the
opposite of this--the
observance of the
first day of the week.



God destroys no man. Everyone who is destroyed will have destroyed himself. Everyone who stifles the admonitions of conscience is sowing the seeds of unbelief, and these will produce a sure harvest. By rejecting the first warning from God, Pharaoh of old sowed the seeds of obstinacy, and he reaped obstinacy. God did not compel him to disbelieve. The seed of unbelief which he sowed produced a harvest of its kind. Thus his resistance continued, until he looked upon his devastated land, upon the cold, dead form of his firstborn, and the first-born of all in his house and of all the families in his kingdom, until the waters of the sea closed over his horses and his chariots and his men of war. His history is a fearful illustration of the truth of the words that "whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Galatians 6:7. Did men but realize this, they would be careful what seed they sow.



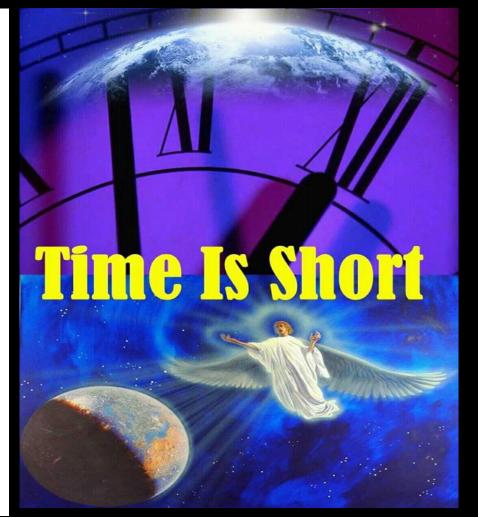
Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD: Amos 8:11

Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. - Isaiah 55:6,7



There are many, many in our churches who know little of the real meaning of the truth for this time. I appeal to them not to disregard the fulfilling of the signs of the times, which say so plainly that the end is near. O how many who have not sought their soul's salvation will soon make the bitter lamentation, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and my soul is not saved"!

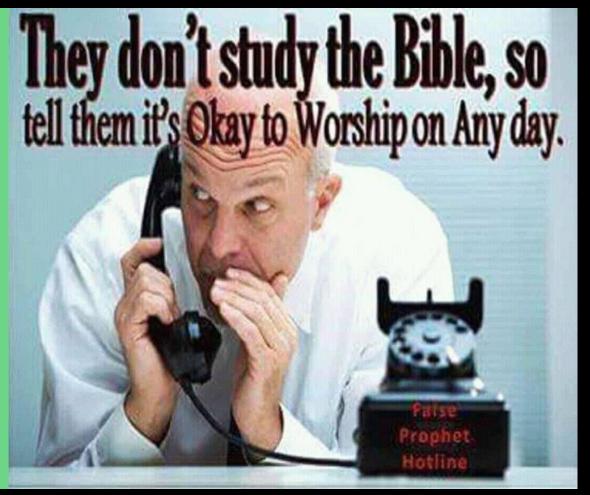
- Jeremiah 8:20





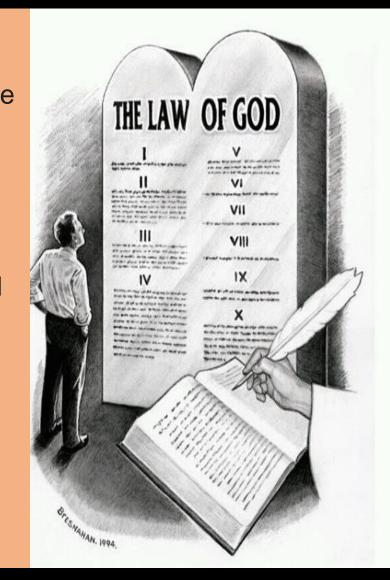
The Close of Probation

 "The events connected with the close of probation and the work of preparation for the time of trouble, are clearly presented.
 But multitudes have no more understanding of these important truths than if they had never been revealed." The Great Controversy, 594.





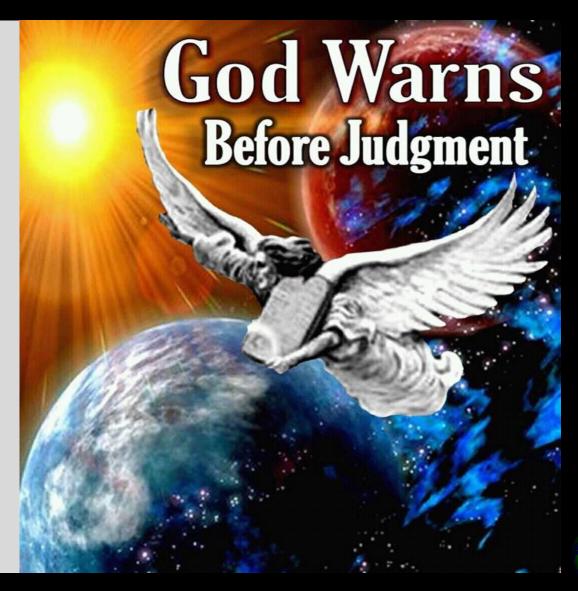
There are many who fail to understand the relation of faith and works. They say, "Only believe in Christ, and you are safe. You have nothing to do with keeping the law." But genuine faith will be manifest in obedience. Said Christ to the unbelieving Jews, "If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham." John 8:39. And concerning the father of the faithful the Lord declares, "Abraham obeyed My voice, and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws." Genesis 26:5. Says the apostle James, "Faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." James 2:17. And John, who dwells so fully upon love, tells us, "This is the love of God, that we keep His commandments." 1 John 5:3.



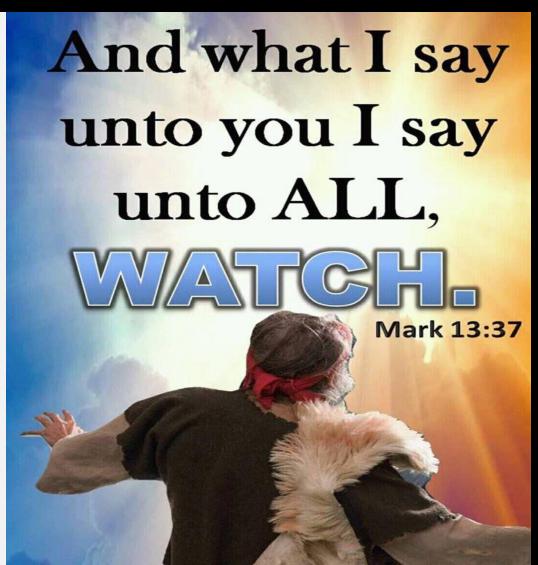
We have to want that sinless lifewe have to choose to have it—if we want to give Jesus lip-service while we still cling to our darling sins we will be lost! Those who are saved at last will hate sin just as God hates it—they will have rejected all of its so called pleasures and see it for the hideous, cruel thing that it is. TRUST & OBEY FOR THERE'S NO OTHER WAY TO BE HAPPY IN JESUS BUT TO TRUST AND OBEY!



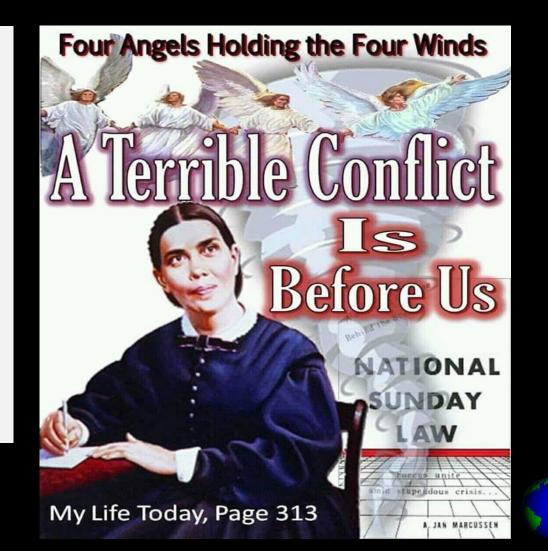
"And now also," said the prophet, "the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire." Not by its name, but by its fruit, is the value of a tree determined. If the fruit is worthless, the name cannot save the tree from destruction. John declared to the Jews that their standing before God was to be decided by their character and life. Profession was worthless. If their life and character were not in harmony with God's law, they were not His people. - DA 107.1



"Watch ye therefore:...lest coming suddenly He find you sleeping." Mark 13:35, 36. Perilous is the condition of those who, growing weary of their watch, turn to the attractions of the world. While the man of business is absorbed in the pursuit of gain, while the pleasure lover is seeking indulgence, while the daughter of fashion is arranging her adornments—it may be in that hour the Judge of all the earth will pronounce the sentence: "Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting." Daniel 5:27.—The Great Controversy, 479-491.



Fearful is the issue to which the world is to be brought. The powers of earth, uniting to war against the commandments of God, will decree that "all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond" (Revelation 13:16), shall conform to the customs of the church by the observance of the false sabbath.



Jesus Is Coming Soon

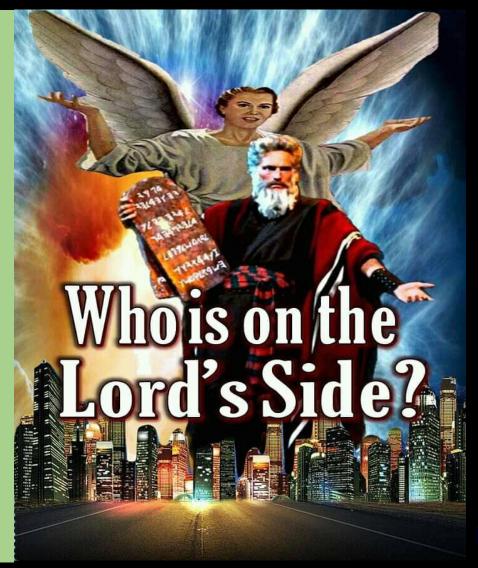


The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:9



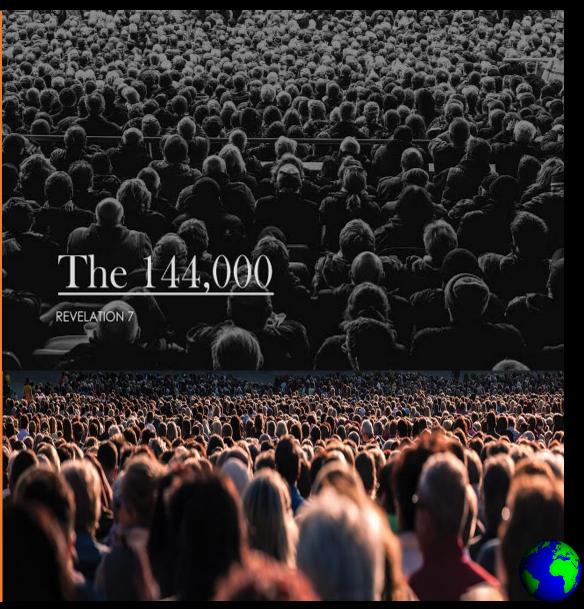
Mercy's sweet voice is calling, "Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein. " "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; " 2 Timothy 4:3 "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. " 2 chronicles 7:14





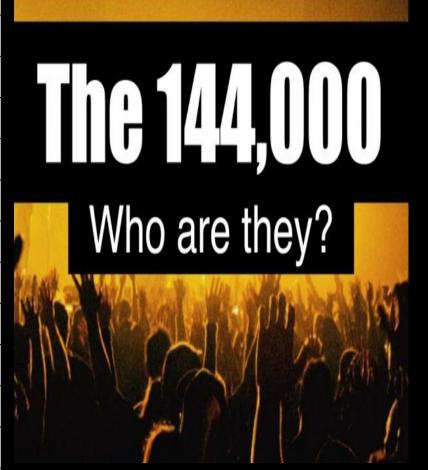
Future - The 144,000

The 144,000 is an all-inclusive group of faithful followers who love Jesus and are obedient to His commandments (Rev 14:4, 5). They conquer the image of the beast, endure persecution (Rev 7:1-3; 14:9-11; 13:15-18), stand victorious with Jesus Christ and sing the triumphant song of their experience with God (Rev 14:3). The number is therefore symbolic of God's end-time universal church who make up spiritual Israel (Rev 7:4-8). They are the remnants who survive the shifting in Laodicea (Rev 3:14-22) and include those who respond to the loud cry of the third angel's message when the image of the beast becomes law (Rev 15:2).



The tribes of the literal Israel

Genesis 49:1-28	<u>Numbers 1:5-15</u>	Ezekiel 48:1-29	Revelation 7:5-8
Reuben	Reuben	Dan	Judah
Simeon	Simeon	Asher	Reuben
Levi	Judah	Naphtali	Gad
Judah	Issachar	Manasseh	Asher
Zebulun	Zebulun	Ephraim	Naphtali
Issachar	Ephraim	Reuben	Manasseh
Dan	Manasseh	Judah	Simeon
Gad	Benjamin	Benjamin	Levi
Asher	Dan	Simeon	Issachar
Naphtali	Asher	Issachar	Zebulun
Joseph	Gad	Zebulun	Joseph
Benjamin	Naphtali	Gad	Benjamin





The names & meanings of Israel

birth, Genesis 35:18).

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1. Judah = "I will praise the Lord" (Genesis 29:35)
2. Reuben = "Surely the LORD has looked upon my affliction" (Genesis 29:32)
3. Gad = "Good fortune" (Genesis 30:11)
4. Asher = "Happy am I" (Genesis 30:13)
5. Naphtali = "With great wrestlings have I wrestled" (Genesis 30:8)
6. Manasseh = "God has made me forget all my toil" (Genesis 41:51)
7. Simeon = "the LORD has heard that I was hated" (Genesis 29:33)
8. Levi = "my husband will be joined to me" (Genesis 29:34)
9. Issachar = "God has given me my reward" (Genesis 30:18)
10. Zebulun = "Dwelling" (Genesis 30:20)
11. Joseph = "The LORD shall add to me" (Genesis 30:24)
12. Benjamin = "Son of right hand side" - From the Hebrew Binyamin. "Bin" means 'Son'
and "Yamin" means 'right hand side' (Jacob changed Benjamin's name after his
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This list tells the story of salvation as experienced by the church, Christ's bride: "I will praise the Lord for Surely the LORD has looked upon my affliction. With good fortune and Happy am I. With great wrestlings have I wrestled, but God has made me forget all my toil. The LORD has heard that I was hated. My husband will be joined to me. God has given me my reward of dwelling. The LORD shall add to me the Son of His right hand side."



Gideon - A type of end-time events

Gideon's Army – Judges 7

- (a) A small group selected from among all Israel
- (b) Vessels (pitchers)
- (c) Lamps hidden within the vessels
- (d) Trumpets they blew
- (e) A trinity of evil:
- 1.Midianite
- 2. Amalekites
- 3. Children of the East. Like grasshoppers for multitude.
- (f) The Midianites etc. turned on each other and destroyed themselves.

The 144000 – Revelation 7

- (a) A small group selected from among all of spiritual Israel (Rev 14:1-5)
- (b) Our Bodies are vessels for the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 6:19)
- (c) The Holy Spirit that will be seen in and upon the faithful (Isaiah 60:1)
- (d) The Messages of God (1Cor 14:8-9)
- (e) The end-time enemies of God's people:
- 1. Dragon (Rev 16:13)
- 2. Beast (Rev 16:13)
- 3. False Prophet (Rev 16:13)
- (f) The enemies of God's people will destroy each other. (Revelation 17)

Identifying the 144,000

- 1. They exist in the last days. Rev 13 describes the final attack on God's people as the beast and his image rise to slay them (Rev 13: 15). Rev 14:1-5 describes those who will have victory over the beast and his image the 144,000.
- 2. The 144,000 are "of Israel" (Rev 7:4). As Israel refers to the church (Rev 7:3), the 144,000 are therefore a special group sealed from among Christians.
- 3. They are the answer to the question at the end of the previous chapter, "Who shall be able to stand?" (Rev 6:17).
- 4. The 144,000 are those who will stand through the final events and see Jesus Second Coming. Clearly they include more than just literal Israelites.
- 5. They are Christians as they "follow the Lamb." (Rev 14:4). John "heard" their number. (Rev 7:4). In Rev 9:16 John also "heard the number" of those who are not true followers of Christ.
- 6. They have the seal of God (Rev 7:2-4) They keep God's Sabbath.



Identifying the 144,000

- 7. They have the Father's name in their foreheads (Rev 14:1) Name stands for character (Genesis 32:28). The 144,000 have God's character (Rev 14:5).
- 8. They are Virgins (Rev 14:4) Spiritually pure Christians (2 Corinthians 11:2).
- 9. They are Servants of the living God (Rev 7:3) Christians who are free from sin (Romans 6:22).
- 10. They are Firstfruits (Rev 14:4). Firstfruits can refer to first in quality (Numbers 18:12; Ezekiel 44:30). The 144,000 are highest quality Christians.
- 11. They are without guile Without fault (Rev 14:5; Jude 24). They are Like Christ (1Peter 2:22).
- 12. The 144,000 are redeemed "from among men" (Rev 14:3), i.e. they do not die. On the other hand God says of those that die, "I will redeem them from death." (Hosea 13:14).



Who are the spiritual Israel today?

Romans 2:28.29 - Jew inwardly James 1:1 - Greeting 12 tribes 1 Peter 2:9 - A chosen generation Philippians 3:3 - The true circumcision

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.
29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

- Galatians 3



So long have men worshiped human opinions and human institutions that almost the whole world is following after idols. And he who has endeavored to change God's law is using every deceptive artifice to induce men and women to array themselves against God and against the sign by which the righteous are known.

But the Lord will not always suffer His law to be broken and despised with impunity. There is a time coming when "the lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day." Isaiah 2:11



And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake,

SOME TO EVERLASTING LIFE, and SOME to

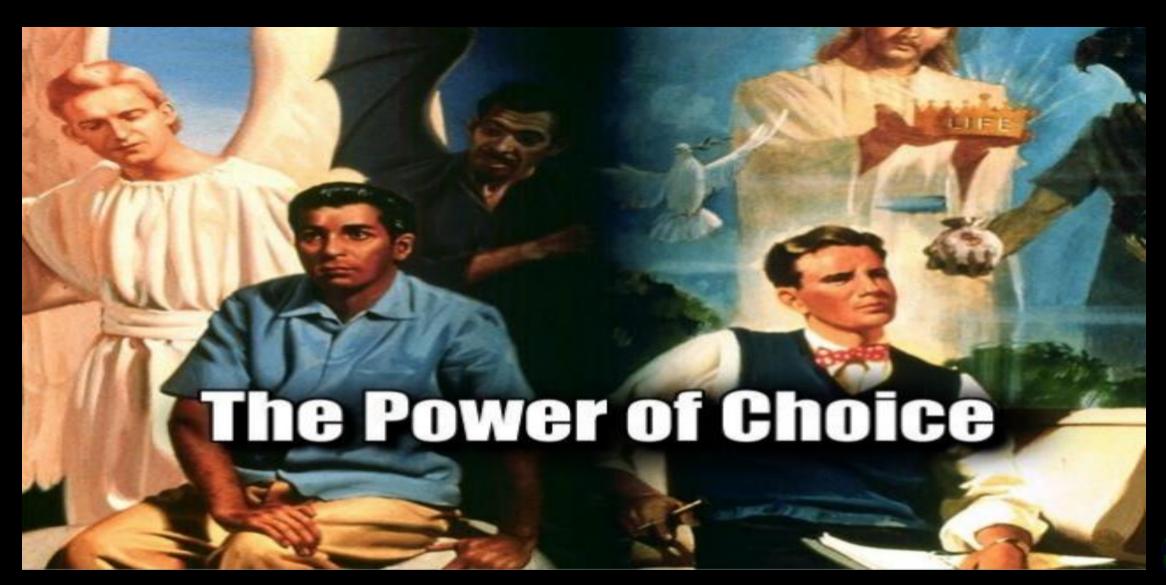
shame and everlasting CONTEMPT. DAN 12:2



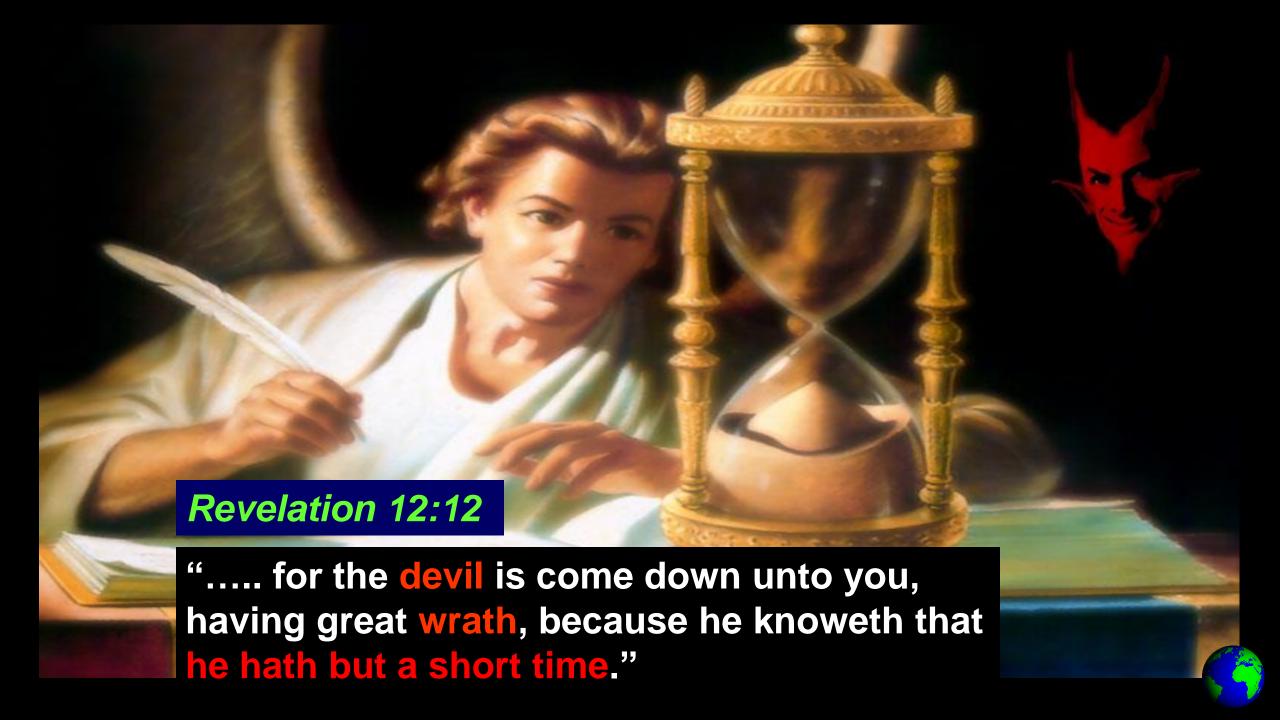
"I saw that the four angels would hold the four winds until Jesus' work was done in the sanctuary, and then will come the seven last plagues. These plagues enraged the wicked against the righteous; they thought that we had brought the judgments of God upon them, and that if they could rid the earth of us, the plagues would then be stayed. As decree went forth to slay the saints, which caused them to cry day and night for deliverance. This was the time of Jacob's trouble. Then all the saints cried out with anguish of spirit, and were delivered by the voice of God. The 144,000 triumphed." - White, Early Writings36,37



God has given all:







Enter The Ark of Hope

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

- John 10:16







Psalms 77:13

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. -Revelation 3:20

