

The Mystery of The 144,000 Sealed Jews

Revelation 7 : 1 - 8

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. Pastor Joe's personal commentary is in brackets modifying the biblical text underlined with dots. You can find this passage in your Pew Bible on page 1196.

REVIEW OF THE SEALS

- 1 The First Seal was a seal of deception—False Christ/false peace
- 2 The Second Seal was the seal of destruction—War
- 3 The Third Seal was the seal of destitution—Famine
- 4 The Fourth Seal was the seal of devastation—Death
- 5 The Fifth Seal was the seal of persecution—Martyrdom
- 6 The Sixth Seal was the seal of devastation—Terror
- 7 The Seventh Seal happens in Rev. 8 following a “pause” in Rev. 7.

God stops the activity for a period of time to draw back the curtain and allow us a glimpse at His heart. Men have rejected the *grace* of the Lamb and now, they must experience the *wrath* of the Lamb. However, before He pours out the final judgment upon the human race, God stops to answer a prayer prayed long ago by the prophet Habakkuk:

I have heard all about you, LORD. I am filled with awe by your amazing works. In this time of our deep need, help us again as you did in years gone by. And in your anger, remember your mercy.

- Habakkuk 3:2, NLT

1. The Deliberate Pause

Revelation 7:1, NIV84 -¹ *After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth [an idiomatic expression that refers to the four points of the compass; “corners” can also be translated *quarters*], holding back the four winds [rf., judgment of God] of the earth to prevent any wind from blowing on the land or on the sea or on any tree... [and they were told]... “Do not harm [“harm” carries the idea of “injury without mercy”—*absolute destruction*] the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.”*

“There is no person that God’s does not want saved!”

2. A Defining Prophecy

Revelation 7:2–3, NIV84 -² *Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: ³ “Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal [refers to the “official stamp” on the signet ring of a king] on the foreheads of the of servants [Gk: δούλος, *doulos*, can be translated “slave” (but not in a harsh sense); these were saved, sealed, and sold out servants] of our God.”*

- There are exactly 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel (Romans 9-11)
God is not finished with Israel! He has a plan for their future restoration and redemption.
- They are saved through the preaching of “the two witnesses” (Rev. 11:1-12)
- They will preach the Gospel to the known world (Matt. 24:14 and Rev. 14)
- God knows who they are! (Matt. 1 and Rev. 14:1-5)

“There is no promise too hard for God to keep!”

3. A Distinct People

Revelation 7:4–8, NIV84 -⁴ *Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel. ⁵ *From the tribe of Judah 12,000 were sealed, from the tribe of Reuben 12,000, from the tribe of Gad 12,000, ⁶ from the tribe of Asher 12,000, from the tribe of Naphtali 12,000, from the tribe of Manasseh 12,000, ⁷ from the tribe of Simeon 12,000, from the tribe of Levi 12,000, from the tribe of Issachar 12,000, ⁸ from the tribe of Zebulun 12,000, from the tribe of Joseph 12,000, from the tribe of Benjamin 12,000.**

The Seal of the Saved

A. It is a seal of *possession*.

1 Corinthians 6:19–20, NIV84 -¹⁹ *Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.*

B. It is a seal of *protection*.

1 Peter 1:5, NIV84 -⁵ *who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.*

C. It is a seal of *preservation*.

Ephesians 4:30, NIV84 -³⁰ *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*

"There is no _____ too hard for God to solve"



Answers to "The Mystery of the 144,000" Sermon
Based on Revelation 6:12-17

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UNDER NUMBER 3. A DISTINCT PEOPLE

"There is no problem too hard for God to solve"