

# Journey Through the Bible: Revelation

## Session 20: The First Pause, The 144,000

Remember Acts 17:11

### Revelation Outline (1:19):

- Write what you have seen,
- What is,
- **What will take place after this**

### The First Pause:

-Each grouping of Seven follows a pattern similar to Daniel's 70 weeks where the first series ends with a parenthetical passage (pause) before the final event. (6 Seals – Pause – 7<sup>th</sup>)

### Reminder from Previous Passage:

“Fall on us and hide us from the face of the one seated on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb, because the great day of their wrath has come! And who is able to stand?” (6:16ff-17)

- Answer:
- Those Who Choose Confession and Repentance  
Instead of Rebellion and Death
  - Those Who Ask for God's Forgiveness  
Instead of Denying His Sovereignty
  - Those Who are Reliant on His Grace  
Instead of Self-sufficiency
- C.F. Zech. 12:10; Hos. 5:15

### The Judgment of the Four Winds (v.1-3f)

Γωνία “Gonia”      Angle, Corner, or Quarter

- Four (Representative of a Global Action)
- Part of the Judgment of Natural Upheaval (6<sup>th</sup> Seal)?

ἄνεμος “Anemos”      A Very Strong Tempestuous Wind  
The Four Principal or Cardinal Winds

- Judgement Through Restraining the Winds?
- Judgement Through Violence from the Winds?
- Angels are Halted from Their Judgement
  - o Until the Servants were Sealed
  - o Potentially the Same Angels from the Trumpet Judgements

### The 144,000 (v. 3ff-8; 14:1-5)

- Persevered Through the Tribulation
- Identified as of the Lineage of Israel and Listed by Tribal Affiliation
- Found Innocent of Idolatry and Claim Salvation through Christ

12,000 From:

Judah	Reuben	Gad	Asher
Naphtali	Manasseh	Simeon	Levi
Issachar	Zebulon	Joseph(?)	Benjamin

-Where are Dan and Ephraim?

The Lost Tribes:

- No Biblical Basis for the Extinction of 10 Tribes of Israel
  - o Total Elimination of Population or Ethnic Identity
  - o NT Examples of Address to the Tribes: James, 1 Pet.
- Prophecies Over All Tribes
  - o Israel: Gen. 49
  - o Moses: Deut. 33
- Based on Misconceptions Taken from 2 Kgs 17; 2 Chr. 6

The Tribes of Israel (Northern Kingdom):

Asher	Issachar	Manasseh
Zebulon	Ephraim	Gad
Naphtali	Dan	Reuben
(Levi)		

The Tribes of Judah (Southern Kingdom):

Judah	Simeon*	Benjamin
(Levi)		

Faithful Remnants:

- 930BC. Jeroboam I took control of the Northern Kingdom (Israel/1 Kgs. 11:43-12:33) and instituted idol worship under his control resulting in a mass migration of Levites to the Southern Kingdom (Judah/2 Chr. 11:14-17). 2 Golden calf shrines were erected in Dan and Bethel (Ephraim).
- Pre-740BC. Many families moved from Israel to Judah out of political support for the Davidic dynasty (1 Kgs. 12:16-20; 2 Chr. 11:16-17). Many others moved to continue faithfully worshipping God at the Temple in Jerusalem. (2 Chr. 19:4; 30:1-26; 34:5-22; 35:17-18; Isa. 18:7) There was also a mass migration recorded during the time of King Asa (2 Chr. 15:9)
- 740BC. Assyrian Conquest and Diaspora of the Kingdom of Israel (Attempted Cultural Extermination)
- Post-740BC. King Hezekiah (Judah) called for all the families of Israel to worship in Jerusalem in celebration of the Passover. (2 Chr. 30:5-21) King Josiah accepts an offering for the renovation of the temple from Manasseh and Ephraim and all the remnant of Israel. (2 Chr. 34:9)
- NT Period "The 12 Tribes" (Acts 26:7; Jas. 1:1)  
The Prophetess Anna from the Tribe of Asher (Lk. 2:30)

Dan?

- Abandons Their Allotted Tribal Lands for the North (Golan, Judges 18)
  - Moses Predicts in Deut. 33:22
  - Deborah Points Out Their Lack of Assistance (Judges 5:17)
  - Omitted from Genealogical Records (1 Chr. 1-8)
  - Origin of Idolatry in Israel (Lev. 24; Judges 18)
  - Reoccurring Apostasy (1 Kings 12:28-30; 2 Kings 10:29)
  - Under a Curse (Jer. 8:16)
  - Idolaters Name to be Blotted Out (Deut. 29:18-21)
- Still Has an Eternal Destiny
  - Shall Judge His People as one of the Tribes of Israel (Gen. 49:16)
  - Have an Inheritance in the Millennial Kingdom (Ezekiel 48:1)
  - No Protected (Sealed) Representatives in the Tribulation

Joseph – Ephraim:

- Also a Tribe (and Territory) Under Idolatry
- Site of One of the Golden Calves
- Patriarch's Name Listed Instead of the Tribe's

The Great Multitude (v. 9-13)

- Distinct from the 24 Elders (Church)
- Gentiles from Every Ethnicity (and Other Jews?)
- Literary Proximity Hints to an Evangelical Relationship (Echo of Acts)
  - ...first to the Jew, then the Gentile. (Rom. 1:16)
- Lift a 7-Fold Praise to God, Echoed by the Angels
- Serve God Constantly (Temple)
- God is Their Shelter
- Relief from the Curse of Mortality
  - Hunger, Thirst, Intense Sun (Foreshadowing?)
  - The Lamb will be Their Shepherd

Acceptance of the Messiah:

Echo of Palm Sunday

- Robes Washed in Blood (Sacrifice)
- Palm Branches
- Yeshua Hosannah (" Savior Save Us")
  - C.F. "Salvation belongs to our God..." (v. 10)

