

REVELATION WORD BY WORD STUDY 12 (7:1-8) Jewish Evangelists

Introduction: Chapter 1 is the introduction, 2 and 3 are the history of the Church (the Jews failed God and God therefore raised up another people, the Gentiles and the Church. 4 and 5 describe what goes on with the Church in heaven during the Tribulation and the Church is known as the Bride of Christ. Chapter 6 is a summary of the Tribulation (summary is a popular method of Hebrew writers). Chapter 7 begins filling in the details of the seven (7) year period known as the Tribulation. A radio preacher of years gone by remarked that Christians should never go to movie houses because if they were there and Jesus came back, they would be left. BALONEY! If you are born again, no matter where you are, when Jesus comes, YOU will be taken.

Here is an AMAZING thing - the Tribulation begins with NO believers but something amazing happens. All of a sudden millions of Jews will believe in Jesus.

6:17 is actually part of chapter 7:

- "great day" is a technical term of the Tribulation.

- "who shall stand" - Who? It will be answered in chapter 7. The world will be in chaos during the Tribulation with war, death, famine and all kinds of disasters and yet millions of Jews will turn to Jesus Christ and 144,000 of them will evangelize the world. Leviticus 26 describes God's method of discipline for the Jews...disobey God and they will be punished. They did and for four cycles of disobedience and punishment, then they would be conquered, then removed to other lands. God led them to Palestine and promised them 490 years and they were to give Him one day of seven and one year of seven. They refused and God sent them as captives into Babylon for 70 years. They repented and He brought them back. They disobeyed again later and this time Rome destroyed their cities and scattered them abroad and they are still scattered and will remain so until the Tribulation, then something happens - THE TRIBULATION BEGINS WITH A WAVE OF JEWISH EVANGELISM AMONG THE JEWS. 144,000 Jews will begin to preach and evangelize the world.

There is a group who call themselves "Jehovah's Witnesses" who believe that only 144,000 of them were redeemed by the time Judge Rutherford died and that the rest of them will get through a crack somewhere and get to heaven. THEY ARE NOT JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES for their teachings are not true nor are they JEWS. You'll know them when they come knock on your door.

144,000 Jewish Evangelists will evangelize during the seven year period, then their converts will begin to evangelize, then Moses and Elijah will appear and begin to evangelize and no doubt there will be much publicity all over the world. Then angels will come to evangelize, just before Jesus Christ returns. All this going on while there is war, famine, death, etc.

There are three essences of God you should remember:

1. God is a fair God. He does not send anybody to hell until they've had a fair chance to believe. If somebody is willing to believe, God will somehow see that they have a chance to hear the Gospel.
2. Unlimited Atonement (1 John 2:2) - All sin has been atoned for and if such people as Hitler in the last moments of his/her death had turned to God in repentance and had been willing to believe, God would save them.
REMEMBER God has provided for everyone, every sin, those of the believer and the unbeliever as well has been paid for.
3. Divine Volition (2 Peter 3:9) - Every "normal" person (describe abnormal) comes to a "God consciousness" at some point in his/her life. If he/she goes positive, God sends the message to him/her. If he/she is willing to believe, the Gospel is sent. Many missionaries have been told by those they went to be with "we've been waiting so long for someone like you with such wonderful news.." Positive Volition.

Chapter 7

v1 - "4 angels" - servants of God

- "4 corners" - The Bible does not teach that the world is flat, contrary, it mentions the world as a sphere several times. The four corners is the technical term of the points of the compass, North, East, South

West, the four quarters of the earth.

- "holding" - actually restraining. Holding back the destruction mentioned in the 6th chapter. Why? God always gives grace before judgment. 144,000 Jews must begin to evangelize, thus the delay of destruction.

v2 - "east" - actually from the rising sun.

v3 - "forehead" - not some visible mark as an ink spot. It is the place of the mind, the soul, the spirit. The forehead is the thickest bone of the body and it protects the brain. Thus the soul is marked and sealed.

v4 - "were sealed" - had been sealed - You've been sealed if you are saved. The devil can't get to you. God has saved you and He has sealed you. 144,000 Jews are going to be saved, sealed and go preaching. NOTE: It is something that must be done by someone else - GOD. It has already been done, in you and me and in every believer.

The Jehovah's Witnesses need to read their Bible and not all the junk they try to sell us at the door.

THESE 144,000 witnesses are racial, pure blooded JEWS, not Gentiles and certainly not the Jehovah Witnesses that come to our doors. These Jews are going to preach in the worst history of the world.

The revived Roman Empire will rule the world. NOTE THIS: One of the two world leaders will be a Jew from Palestine and of the tribe of DAN. He will set up an idol in the Jewish Temple and will demand the world worship this idol. REMEMBER THE TRIBE - DAN.

Now let us look at those to be sealed, making up the 144,000.

v5 - "Judah" - Why Judah first? Reuben was the first son of Jacob, the rightful inheritor of the double portion, to be the ruler of the family and the priest. What happened? Reuben sinned a great sin and God dethroned him, took away his spiritual authority. Why Judah? He was the fourth son of Jacob, his family became the ruling tribe (David came from the tribe of Judah, Jesus also came from the tribe of Judah and was called the "Lion of the tribe of Judah.)

NOTE: The Jews of today don't know which tribe they belong to but God will take care of that when the comes.

- "Ruben" - The oldest son of Jacob. He lost his leadership because of sin.

- "Gad" - It is interesting why here - He was the seventh son and seven (7) is the number of perfection.

v6 - "Asher" - the eighth son of Jacob and eight (8) is the number of completion.

- "Nephthali" - the sixth son.

- "Manasseh" - This is a bit strange for he was not one of the original sons of Jacob, but a grandson. He is the son of Joseph. Reuben sinned and God gave the double portion of blessing to Joseph. Manasseh and Ephraim were sons of Joseph and received blessings instead of Reuben. Manasseh never did much, just tagged along mostly and he never crossed the Jordan to help fight or anything.

ALL THIS WILL COME TOGETHER LATER, STAY WITH THE STUDY

v7 - "Simeon" - He was a son of Jacob by Leah, remember Leah and Rachel? Two wives and two handmaids with four sets of children - what a mess. Yet God dealt with it by His grace and something good came out of it anyhow.

- "Levi" - Ever wear "Levi" Jeans? Levi was one of the sorry sons of Jacob. He committed great sin and God never let him or his family have a foot of land in the promised land. God "disenfranchised" Levi. later on, however, Levi repented and God decided to make Levi, this sorry son, and his children priests and servants of God. This sorry tribe of Levi became the servants of God and the caretakers of His Temple - another act of God's grace. How many of us came from the tribe of Levi?

- "Issacher" - Ezzacher means "beast of burden."
- "Zabulun" - Zebulen, the tenth son.
- "Joseph" - Interesting here for Ephraim is intended, but Joseph stands in for him here.
- "Benjamin" - The youngest son.

There are thirteen (13) tribes, not 12. Remember Joseph got the double portion of blessing and his two sons, Manasse and Ephraim are counted.

NOTE: DAN was left out. WHY? Dan came into Palestine and became idolitros. He and his intermarried with the Canaanites and became wicked. He set up a golden calf Temple in Palestine and God blotted him out.

There will be 144,000 Jewish evangelists preaching all over the world.

Later on, their converts will also begin evangelizing all.

During the last 3 1/2 years of the Tribulation, Moses and Elijah will appear and preach.

Finally, angels will come to earth and evangelize. Everyone will have a chance before Jesus makes that fateful return to earth.

DO YOU NOW BEGIN TO SEE JUST A LITTLE OF WHAT'S GOING TO TAKE PLACE DURING THE TRIBULATION?

Stay with the study, things will gradually become even more clear.