

Bereans Bible Institute

Module XI – Revelation

Lesson 20 – Revelation 7:1-8

I. Chronology of Revelation:

A. Revelation is not chronological from beginning to end.

1. Christ's return is depicted 4 times:

- a. At the 6th seal
- b. At the 7th Trumpet
- c. The two harvests in ch. 14
- d. The 7th bowl, fully described in ch. 19

2. Whole sections (chapters) back up to give further details

- a. Ch. 7 is parenthetical, a recapping placed between the 6th and 7th seal.
- b. Chs. 10:1 – 11:14 are a recap between the 6th and 7th Trumpets.
- c. Chs. 17-18 are a recap placed between the 7th Bowl & 2nd coming.

II. Revelation 7 describes two things, the sealing of the 144,000 (vss. 1-8) & the righteous in the Kingdom (vss. 9-17)

A. This chapter is an expansion of Isaiah 49 (quoted in Rev. 6:16-17)

1. Vs. 1-4 God's "servant" Jacob (Israel) lost its way, but will be redeemed
2. Vss. 5ff Another "Servant" (Jesus – Acts 3:13,26; Acts 4:27,30) will redeem Israel, and redeem many more to be joined with Israel in the Kingdom.

III. Revelation 7:1-8 The Sealing of the end-time 144,000 of the tribes of Israel

A. Vss. 1 The "four messengers" standing at the "4 corners of the Land" (Ezekiel 7:1-2) bring God's judgment upon the Land God promised to Abraham & his 'Seed.' They withhold judgment (all the Seal Judgments) until the Remnant of Israel is sealed for physical protection.

1. The "4 messengers" are the "4 horsemen" (seals 1-4), God setting up for judgment the gentile nations violating His Land, in anticipation of restoring Jerusalem (Zech. 1:7-17; Zech. 6:1-8).

B. Vss. 2-3 The Sealing of the Faithful

1. A Messenger ascending from the rising of the sun (Mal. 4:1-6) is equivalent to the man with the inkhorn in Ezek. 9:1-11 who seals God's people in their foreheads.

2. The faithful remnant, who weep and mourn over Israel's sins, are sealed in their foreheads.

3. The same criteria will apply to the 144,000 sealed in Revelation 7.

4. This is how God will fulfill the promise made to the Fathers, and the promise to restore Israel under the Law of Moses (Deut. 30; Mal. 4), which Paul described in the "Olive Tree parable in Romans 11.