

1 A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

LESSON 27

2 RECAP

- We are still in the portion of Revelation that is the view from heaven – chapters 4 through 11
- The time period is from the Rapture through to the time Jesus sets foot back on this earth
- In our last few lessons we saw the first mention of the Jews in Revelation with the sealing of the 144,000
- Most of Biblical prophecy concerning the Jews is in the Old Testament and, for this time period, particularly in Daniel, Ezekiel, Isaiah, Joel, Habakkuk, etc.
- Most all the Book of Revelation deals with the Gentiles: the bride, the Raptured saints, the tribulation saints

3 RECAP cont.

- Last week we read chapter 7 verses 4-8
- There are to be 12,000 named out of each tribe of the Jews/Israelites for a total of 144,000 that are to be sealed
- We saw how God stopped everything before going on to the 7th and last seal
- God seals these Jews during this pause of events so that they will be protected from the terrible things to come upon the earth
- These Jews will greet Jesus Christ when He comes back with His bride and sets foot on the earth once again

4 THE TWELVE TRIBES

- Did anyone notice anything different when we read the names of the 12 tribes last week?
- There are some names that don't match the original 12 tribes as described in the Old Testament
- There is a reason for this as God has reason for everything
- There are two names that are different: Dan and Ephraim have been replaced by Levi and Joseph
- All Jewish names are significant and they all have a meaning
- The meaning of these names is not hard to trace and there is a method to their order here in Revelation

5 **THE TWELVE TRIBES cont.**

1. Juda – confession or praise of God
2. Reuben – viewing the Son
3. Gad – a company
4. Aser – blessed
5. Nephtalim – a wrestler or striving with
6. Manasses – forgetfulness
7. Simeon – hearing and obeying
8. Levi – joining or cleaving to
9. Issachar – reward or what is given by way of reward
10. Zebulun – a home or dwelling place
11. Joseph – added or an addition
12. Benjamin – a son of the right hand or a son of old age

6 **THE TWELVE TRIBES cont.**

- These are the 12 tribes given here in Revelation the 7th chapter
- When we put these descriptions together in order we find something very significant:
Praisers of God, looking upon the Son, a band of blessed ones, wrestling with forgetfulness, hearing and obeying the Word, cleaving unto the reward of a shelter and home, an addition, sons of the day of God's right hand, begotten in the extremity of old age.
- When reading this in Hebrew we find it is very remarkable and cannot be taken as a mere accident
- This is particularly true due to the order of the names and some of the names themselves are changed

7 **THE TWELVE TRIBES cont.**

- The same will also account for the omission of the names of Dan and Ephraim and the substitution of the names Levi and Joseph in their stead
- The names of Dan and Ephraim are not of the right importance to describe these 144,000
- This describes the Jews whole history, of what they went through from the beginning
- Dan means *judging* or *exercise of judicial prerogatives*, but these 144,000 are not judges and never become such
- Ephraim means *increase* or *growth by multiplication*, but these

144,000 are a fixed company with none before them and none after them

8 **THE TWELVE TRIBES cont.**

- Ephraim is not actually omitted because the tribe of Joseph would be considered the same; only the name is changed
- Dan is the only tribe not represented on the list
- These 12 tribes were never meant to keep separated
- People could move from one tribe to another freely and could intermarry
- The tribes are separated by geographical divisions, not racial divisions
- Ezekiel tells us where these tribal states will be located during the Millennium, the 1,000 years of peace
- Dan is the first one mentioned and it lies north of Damascus far up in Syria; Dan is not left out as a tribe but his location is why he is left out

9 **THE TWELVE TRIBES cont.**

Ezekiel 48:1

1 Now these are the names of the tribes. From the north end to the coast of the way of Hethlon, as one goeth to Hamath, Hazar-enan, the border of Damascus northward, to the coast of Hamath; for these are his sides east and west; a portion for Dan.

- At the time of the return of the Jews, Dan may be too far north to be included in geographical layout of Israel
- It is only after the destruction of all the enemies of Israel that the nation can occupy all the land originally given to it

10 **THE TWELVE TRIBES cont.**

Genesis 15:18

18 In that same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:

- God does not break His covenants
- This is the land God gave the Jews forever
- The Scriptures need to be studied to be understood
- The natural man cannot understand the things of God

- It takes the spiritual man looking into the Word spiritually to understand it

11 **THE TWELVE TRIBES cont.**

- In naming the 12 tribes He sealed, He gives us the history of the Jewish race
- In our study we are between the 6th seal and 7th seal which has the 7 plagues under it
- At this time God says stop, there are a few things that need to be done before the pouring out the rest of the wrath:
 1. God had to seal His people
 2. The martyred saints from the Great Tribulation had to be resurrected
- The completion of these activities closes a certain period of time and opens another

12 **THE TRIBULATION SAINTS**

Revelation 7:9-12

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.

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 honor, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

13 **THE TRIBULATION SAINTS cont.**

Revelation 7:13-15

13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?

14 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.

15 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.

14 **THE TRIBULATION SAINTS cont.**

Revelation 7:16-17

16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

17 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.

- The tribulation saints are a specific group as are the 144,000 Jews and the Raptured saints
- Chapter 6 verse 9 gives John a peek at who these are
- These souls were wanting to be resurrected but they were told to wait for the rest of their brethren

15 **THE TRIBULATION SAINTS cont.**

- They had to wait for their number to be complete as we have to wait for the number of the bride to be complete for the Rapture to take place
- The Jews will be the only ones left alive on earth at this point and eventually they will repopulate the earth, get their land back, and have Jerusalem as their capitol
- The only ones who go to the New Jerusalem are the Raptured saints, the joint heirs
- The different groups go to their different destinations according to their place in different ages, what they have done and what they have given

16 **THE TRIBULATION SAINTS cont.**

- This portion we just read, Revelation 7:9-17, is about the tribulation saints as it actually states this
- They had to give their blood as it was the only way they could be saved
- The preaching of the gospel, directed by the rider on the white horse, and assisted by the other horsemen, will result in the conversion of a multitude from all nations
- These are saved after the Rapture during the Great Tribulation and are immediately persecuted and killed by Antichrist
- They are all raised from the dead at one time and appear in heaven

as a separate group, arriving late

17 **THE TRIBULATION SAINTS cont.**

- This completes the Resurrection of the saints, called the first resurrection (Revelation 20:4-5)
- This Resurrection also marks the end of the Dispensation of Grace
- The tribulation saints will most likely have glorified bodies and will be able to go in and out
- There are heavens of heavens and Paul says even a "3rd heaven" (2 Corinthians 12:2)
- There are many places mentioned in the Scriptures where these groups are to reside; from the New Jerusalem to the earth to worlds without end

18 **THE TRIBULATION SAINTS cont.**

- Most people think there is just heaven or hell but that is not the case
- It is true that you're going to either make it with God or make it with Satan but it isn't just one spot on God's side
- In verse 15 it states that the tribulation saints will serve God in His temple; this could be earthly Jerusalem or the heavenly New Jerusalem
- To close our study of Revelation chapter 7 we will look at the method of persecution of the tribulation saints from the earth's point of view in chapter 13

19 **THE TRIBULATION SAINTS cont.**

Revelation 13:12-14

12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men,

14 and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

20 **THE TRIBULATION SAINTS cont.**

Revelation 13:15-18

15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the

image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

17 and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

21 **THE TRIBULATION SAINTS cont.**

- This is what is called "the mark of the beast"
- This does not necessarily mean that everyone has to take the mark stamped 666
- Verse 17 details that it is a name, a number or a mark of the beast
- These all have the same meaning and is due to Satan being the wily spirit that he is
- People are fooled and deceived by Satan's power
- The Holy Spirit has more power than Satan
- We need to be full of the Holy Spirit otherwise we will be fooled by Satan

22 **THE TRIBULATION SAINTS cont.**

- Revelation 13:17 tells us what this persecution is; you can neither buy nor sell
- Death will result from hunger, thirst, privation, and mental anguish due to loss of friends and home
- Revelation 7: 16 tells us "They shall hunger no more..."
- The reason for this Scripture is because they, the tribulation saints, starve to death
- During the first part of the plagues to come the Scriptures tell us that the heat of the sun is very great so the lack of water during great thirst will also result in death

23 **THE TRIBULATION SAINTS cont.**

- This is why in chapter 7 verse 16 the Scripture says "neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat"
- In chapter 7 verse 17 it says "...and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."
- The sorrow of their life their those 3-1/2 years, the pain, the hunger,

and the thirst is so great that this persecution will cause them to give their lives in great, great numbers

- The resurrection of the tribulation saints ends the Dispensation of Grace
- The Holy Ghost, as we have it today, is taken out of the earth when the Rapture happens

24  **END GRAPHIC**