

1 **A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION**

LESSON 45

2 **FLOOR PLAN GRAPHIC**

3 **FIRSTFRUITS OF THE KINGDOM**

Revelation 14:1-3

1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Zion, and with him a hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.

2 And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps:

3 and they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.

4 **FIRSTFRUITS OF THE KINGDOM cont.**

Revelation 14:4-5

4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

5 And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.

- We have studied these 144,000 Jews previously in Lesson 26 which covers this part of chapter 7
- The sealing of the 144,000 Israelites was noted in the 7th chapter together with the company of Tribulation Saints who are raised from the dead

5 **THE 144,000 ISRAELITES**

- The Resurrection is not seen in this section as it does not concern the earth
- The 144,000 remain here so they appear also in the earth history
- Note that the seal they have is evidently the name of God in their foreheads (verse 1)
- Normally these 144,000 would be considered a part of the church since they are saved at the same time as the Tribulation Saints
- The reason they are not among the saved in heaven is that they were not killed
- Antichrist is at this time confirming the covenant he made with the Jews, not the nation of Israel

6 **THE 144,000 ISRAELITES cont.**

- Antichrist would not be killing the Jews at the same time he is confirming his covenant with them
- In this scene we see a most wonderful event as God's people in one mind and accord, Jew and Gentile, unite in a service of worship
- They are worshipping together with part of them in heaven and part of them on earth on Mt Zion
- The music is played in heaven even though the redeemed Israelites are on earth; they join the singing and worship
- Verse 4 tells us more details about these 144,000 that includes those from the 12 tribes as mentioned in chapter 7

7 **SPIRITUAL FAITHFULNESS**

- Adultery and fornication is commonly used in the Bible to denote spiritual unfaithfulness
- The opposite would denote faithfulness and the word "virgin" would apply to both men and women

II Corinthians 11:2-3

2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

8 **THE 144,000 ISRAELITES**

- Verse 4 tells us that these 144,000 Israelites have been faithful to the one true God
- Their garments, their life, is undefiled
- Jesus was the firstfruits of many brethren (Romans 8:29)
- Jesus has the unique status of being the eldest in God's redeemed family
- These 144,000 are the firstfruits of redeemed Israel
- Their sealing marks the beginning of Daniel's 70th week
- They will be the earthly nucleus here to receive the King when He returns (see chapters 6&7)

9 **PREACHING THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL**

Revelation 14:5-7

5 And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.

6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,

7 saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

10 **PREACHING THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL cont.**

- These Scriptures are parallel to those regarding the white horseman found in chapter 6 in the heaven's view portion (lessons 23 and 24)
- This is still the gospel of Jesus Christ, that never changes
- It is slightly altered from the gospel we know to fit the time we are studying
- The gospel preached throughout the Great Tribulation is during the period of grace mixed with judgement while ours fits the time of

grace only

- This gospel will be preached all the time that Antichrist is persecuting the saints, those who do not make it in the Rapture and who are martyred

11 **PREACHING THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL cont.**

- Those that make it in the Rapture are those who have changed, are growing in God, and are keeping their garments spotless
- We are seeing the Tribulation Saints in this part of our study, those who did not make the Rapture for one reason or another
- It is through this supernatural preaching that the saints are multiplied in the earth
- There is no preaching, missionary work, or evangelist work done by those left on the earth, it would be impossible under the conditions
- The preaching is done by the redeemed in heaven, the bride

12 **PREACHING THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL cont.**

- Those doing the preaching are led and directed by the white horseman when the first seal of the little book is broken
- From the earth looking up, these messengers would appear as "angels"
- These messengers can reach every part of the earth in a short time
- In Matthew chapter 24, part of the Olivet Discourse, the disciples are asking Jesus when are these things going to be, what will be the signs of His coming, and what will be the signs of the end of the world
- His answer concerns the time we are living in

13 **PREACHING THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL cont.**

Matthew 24:12-14

12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

- The "end" in verse 14 is the end of the tribulation period, the first 3-1/2 years after the Rapture

14 **PREACHING THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL cont.**

Revelation 14:6-7

6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,

7 saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

- Many are saved by this supernatural preaching
- The message they preach is adapted to the times which are that of grace and judgement mixed

15 **PREACHING THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL cont.**

- The preaching will be a warning of the judgements that are to come and of the penalties of receiving the mark of the beast
- This preaching could be considered the greatest hell-fire and brimstone preaching that's ever been preached
- There is no grace in this message: you either change or this is what's going to happen to you
- Verse 7 delivers the message which is: you better fear God more than you fear this beast or this Antichrist that can only take your life
- It is only God who can destroy the soul

16 **PREACHING THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL cont.**

Revelation 14:7

7 saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

- The angel (messenger) announces that the God who made heaven,

- earth, the sea, and the fountains of waters is about to bring judgement upon this unbelieving world
- Mankind's science has prepared this world for the worship of Antichrist
 - The theory of evolution allows for no God except a kind of deity that is itself a product of that same evolution

17 **THE APPEARANCE OF ANTICHRIST**

- The arrival of a super-man, Antichrist, will be hailed as the "emergence of Deity on a whole new earthly level."
- He will be able to do all these miracles and wonders and so will be recognized as a "superman"
- They will say "He is a man who evolved to be like God"
- The world has been prepared and is ready for the super race of humans to appear and it will be in the form of a man, Antichrist
- Most of the world believes in the theory of evolution
- God has been proven over and over, time and again
- Antichrist will be hailed as an earthly deity

18 **PREACHING THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL**

- Then comes this messenger announcing that God the creator, the supernatural not the "super" man, is about to bring judgement upon this unbelieving world
- Here is a contradiction to what Antichrist is saying and those people who are saying "worship him"
- There is an even stronger supernatural power in the air saying "you better not listen to him"
- God is in control here and this results in many, many people giving their lives rather than taking the mark of the beast
- This message contains so very important information

19 **PREACHING THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL cont.**

- The angel specifically mentions 4 things that God has made: heaven, earth, the sea, and the fountains of waters
- These are the first four things to be affected when the judgement

comes

- This first messenger, the white horseman, is warning the people:
 1. that they are living in a world that God has created
 2. that there is above them a heaven where God is
 3. and that He is about to send terrible plagues upon those who corrupt the earth, the sea, and the fountains of waters

20 **THE WHITE HORSEMAN**

Revelation 6:1-2

1 And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see.

2 And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.

- From the earth's point of view they look up and see these angelic beings going to and fro preaching this gospel of the kingdom

21 **MT SINAI GRAPHIC**