

Who Are the 144,000?

And I heard the number of them which were sealed: [and there were] sealed ***an hundred [and] forty [and] four thousand*** of all the tribes of the children of Israel. ***Revelation 7:4***

1. **Judah** "I will praise the Lord"
2. **Reuben** "He has looked on me"
3. **Gad** "Given good fortune"
4. **Asher** "Happy am I"
5. **Naphtali** "My wrestling"
6. **Manasseh** "Making me to forget"
7. **Simeon** "God hears me"
8. **Levi** "Joined to me"
9. **Issachar** "Purchased me"
10. **Zabulon** "Dwelling"
11. **Joseph** "Will add to me"
12. **Benjamin** "Son of His right hand"

The Interpretation: A Song of Praise

"I will praise the Lord for He has looked on me and granted good fortune. I am happy because of my wrestling, God is making me to forget. God bears me and is joined to me. He has purchased me a dwelling and will add to me, the Son of His right hand."

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 first fruits unto God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God. ***Revelation 14:4, 5 KJV***

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Rules [prerequisites] for Interpreting the Bible and Prophecy

- God's appointed agency in the world for spreading the gospel today is the Christian church
- The promises given to Ancient (natural) Israel apply to God's people, the church of Jesus Christ today (Adventism), Spiritual Israel (1 Corinthians 15:46)
- The examples given in the Bible (experiences of Ancient Israel) are for our admonition upon whom the ends of the world are come (1 Cor 10:1-6, 11)
- Figures sometimes have two or more different significations; as day is used in a figurative sense to represent three different periods of time. (Miller's rule #10)
 - When reading the promises to Israel in the Old Testament, it is important to determine if the fulfillment was for literal Israel or whether it applies to the Israel of God in the last days, the 144,000, or perhaps both
 - To know whether we have the true historical event for the fulfillment of a prophecy: If you find every word of the prophecy (after the figures are understood) is literally fulfilled, then you may know that your history is the true event. But if one word lacks a fulfillment, then you must look for another event, or wait its future development. For God takes care that history and prophecy doth agree, so that the true, believing children of God may never be ashamed. Psalms 21:5; Isaiah 14:17-19; 1 Peter 2:6; Revelation 17:17; Acts 3:18 (Miller's rule #13)

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The 144,000 are a Distinct Group Among the Redeemed

The 144,000 make-up the first [firstfruits] of Jesus' two flocks:

- **John 10:16** – “And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one-fold, [and] one shepherd.”
- **Revelation 14:4** – “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.”
- **John 11:52** – “And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad.”
- **Zechariah 9:16** – “And the LORD their God shall save them in that day as the flock of his people: for they [shall be as] the stones of a crown, lifted as an ensign upon his land.”
- **Malachi 3:14-18** – those who keep God’s ordinances and mourn for the abominations committed in Israel will be numbered as jewels by Jesus
- **Isaiah 56:8** – “The Lord GOD which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith, Yet will I gather [others] to him, beside those that are gathered unto him.”
- **Ezekiel 8, 9** – those in Israel (Adventism) that sigh and cry for the abominations committed in the midst (9:4)

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God's (first & final) fulfillment/realization of a Royal Priesthood and Holy Nation:

- **Exodus 19:5, 6** – “Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth [is] mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These [are] the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.”
- **1 Peter 2:4-9**
- **Daniel 12:3, 10** – they are the wise [teachers] who lead many sons to righteousness

The 144,000 are watchmen on the walls, sounding the last warning message to the world

- Revelation 18:1-5
- Ezekiel 3:17-21
- Isaiah 52:6-8
- Matthew 25:1-10

The 144,000 have a specific work to perform once sealed, being lifted as an ensign (banner / flag / standard) to the world:

- **Revelation 7:9** – “After this [the sealing of the 144,00] 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;”

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(continued) The 144,000 have a specific work to perform once sealed, being lifted as an ensign (banner/flag/standard) to the world:

- Leviticus 23:17 || Rev 14:4 - As wave loaves once having leaven that is thoroughly baked out, they are lifted/raised up for all to behold
- Isaiah 60:1-11
- Isaiah 11:12-14 || Daniel 11:41
- Zechariah 9:16
- Ezekiel 37:1-10
- Joel 3:13, 14; Revelation 7:9 – the final ingathering of the world [multitudes] is completed as the 144,000 proclaim the message of Revelation 18:2-5 and are empowered by the Latter Rain
- Psalm 106:47

The produce [work/harvest] of the 144,000 will result in God's Church Triumphant, Jesus' one fold

- Joel 3:17
- Song of Solomon 6:10
- John 10:16