

November 08, 2023

Christ The Rock Church Revelation Chapter 7

Chapter 1 – Unveiling of Christ
Chapters 2 & 3 – Seven Letters
Chapter 4 – Throne Room
Chapter 5 – Kinsman Redeemer
Chapter 6 - Seals Opened
Chapter 7 - (parenthesis)
Judgment Interrupted

Chapter 7

What is the role of Israel in God's program?
What about the teaching of the “ten lost tribes”
“Will people be saved during the Tribulation?”

Chapter 7

Two groups:

(1) the Jews and (2) the Gentiles from all nations.

7:1-8

Jews

Numbered – 144,000

Sealed on the Earth

7:9-17

Gentiles

Not numbered

Standing in Heaven

Chapter 7 Division

Verses 1-8

Tribes listed

Verses 9-17

“after these things”

(the next vision John sees)

Great Awakening

**Second Purpose of the Tribulation is to
bring about worldwide arrival.**

144,000 witnesses to minister to the world
in first half of the 7-year Tribulation.

Who are these “witnesses?”

A Remnant and a Witness

Romans 11:29 – Gifts and calling of God

Isaiah 49:6; Luke 2:32 – light to Gentiles

The Church is now gone

Israel's commission reestablished

Revelation 7:1

And after these things I saw
four angels standing on the
four corners of the earth, holding
the **four winds** of the earth, that the
wind should not blow on the earth,
nor on the sea, nor on any tree.

Fours

Four angels (7:1)

four living creatures (4:6)

four angels bound at the river Euphrates (9:14)

Messengers: angels

Corners: uttermost parts

Winds: Judgments (Jer. 51:1)

Twelve

Tribes – Chapter 7; 21:12

Apostles – Chapter 21

Gates – Chapter 21

Foundations - Chapter 21

The Wall – 12x12x1000 (12 sq.)

The City – 12 (x 1000) furlongs

Revelation Numerology

2 (eleven times);	3 (eleven);	3 1/2 (twice);
4 (thirty);	5 (three);	6 (twice),
7 (fifty-four);	10 (nine);	12 (twenty-two);
24 (seven);	42 (twice);	144 (four);
666 (once);	1,000 (nine);	1260 (twice);
1,600 (once);	7,000 (once);	12,000 (thirteen);
144,000 (three);	200,000,000 (once Rev. 9:16).	

Biblical Numerology

4 = material, physical Earth

10 = made up of 4 (physical creation), and 6, (man). The number 10 is one of testimony, law, responsibility and completeness of order.

[Commandments, plagues, etc.]

12 = Government (Tribes, Apostles, Elders (X2))

Revelation 7:2-3

And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having **the seal** of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea,

Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, **till we have sealed** the servants of our God in their foreheads.

Sealed

Joh 6:27 – Jesus Himself has been "sealed" by the Father

2Co 1:22 -- who also sealed us and gave *us* the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge

Sealed

Eph 1:13-14 - In him you also, when you **heard** the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and **believed** in him, were **sealed** with the promised **Holy Spirit**, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Mark of the Beast – counterfeit seal of Satan

Sealed

Ezekiel 9:4 And the LORD said to him, “Pass through the city, through Jerusalem, and put a mark [a cross] on the foreheads of the men who sigh and groan over all the abominations that are committed in it.”

Sealed

Rev. 14:1 -- Then I looked, and behold, the Lamb *was* standing on Mount Zion, and with Him 144,000 who had His name and the name of His Father *written on their foreheads.*

High priest to wear the **golden plaque** having the engraved motto, “Holy to Yahweh” (Exo 28:36, Exo 28:38).

Diagnosis of **leprosy** by the priest (Lev 13:42, Lev 13:43; 2Ch 26:20).

David smote **Goliath** in the forehead (1Sa 17:49).

Followers of the beast marked on the (right) hand and **forehead** (Rev 13:16; Rev 14:9; Rev 20:4),

The Harlot woman dressed in scarlet and purple has her name written on her **forehead** (Rev 17:5).

Revelation 7:4

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.

Not the church, J.W., Mormons, etc.

Are there 10 'Lost' Tribes

From the Assyrian captivity – 722 BC

Northern Kingdom ever returned from Captivity, therefore,
Rev. 7 can't be actual tribes of Israel – must be the church

Ezekiel 48:31 – The twelve gates named for 12 tribes

Zec 9:1 – "the Lord has an eye on all the tribes of Israel"

Mat 19:28 – Jesus promises Apostles will judge the 12 Tribes

Act 26:7 – Paul references the 12 tribes as current in his day

James 1:1 – James addresses the "twelve tribes scattered abroad"

Revelation 7:5-8

Of the tribe of **Judah** were sealed
twelve thousand.

Of the tribe of **Reuben** were sealed
twelve thousand. Of the tribe of **Gad**
were sealed twelve thousand.

Revelation 7:5-8

Rev 7:6 Of the tribe of **Asher** were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of **Naphtali** were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of **Manasseh** were sealed twelve thousand.

Revelation 7:5-8

Rev 7:7 Of the tribe of **Simeon** were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of **Levi** were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of **Issachar** were sealed twelve thousand.

Revelation 7:5-8

Rev 7:8 Of the tribe of **Zebulun** were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of **Joseph** were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of **Benjamin** were sealed twelve thousand.

Tribal Order in Bible

Birth Order	Genesis 49	Deuteronomy 33	Numbers (marching order)	Revelation 7 (144,000)
1. Reuben	Reuben	Reuben	Judah	Judah
2. Simeon	Simeon	Judah	Issachar	Reuben
3. Levi	Levi	Levi	Zebulun	Gad
4. Judah	Judah	Benjamin	Reuben	Asher
5. Dan	Zebulun	Joseph (Ephraim/Mannasseh)	Simeon	Napthali
6. Napthali	Issachar	Zebulun	Gad	Manasseh
7. Gad	Dan	Issachar	Ephraim	Simeon
8. Asher	Gad	Gad	Manasseh	Levi
9. Issachar	Asher	Dan	Benjamin	Issachar
10. Zebulun	Napthali	Napthali	Dan	Zebulun
11. Joseph	Joseph	Asher	Asher	Joseph
12. Benjamin	Benjamin		Napthali	Benjamin
		No Simeon		No Dan

One of these Things is not like the Other

Ephraim and Dan not listed.

Levi and Joseph listed.

There actually are thirteen tribes.

What About Dan

Judges 18:29-31/Deut. 29:21/Jer. 8:16-17 – Dan introduced idolatry nationally into Israel and were cursed because of it.

Ezekiel 48:1-3 – Dan restored Millennial Kingdom

Under the divided Kingdom (Jeroboam) golden calves set up at Bethel and Dan

False Teachers teach Rev. 7 must speak of the church because ten Northern Tribes were lost.

2 Chronicles 11:13-16 – The faithful priests from all throughout the land came to Judah. ALL THE FAITHFUL FROM ALL THE TRIBES ALSO MIGRATED SOUTH. Northern Kingdom taken captive by Assyria (722 B.C). and later dispersed. Members from all of them had migrated into Judah and maintained their bloodlines.

Lost Tribes myth

Ezekiel 48:31 – The twelve gates in the Millennial city will be named after the 12 tribes

Zec 9:1 – "the Lord has an eye on all the tribes of Israel"

Mat 19:28 / Luke 22:30 – Jesus here promises the disciples they will sit on twelve thrones judging the 12 tribes of Israel

Lost Tribes myth

Act 26:7 – Paul references the twelve tribes as though they were current in his day (the New Testament age).

James 1:1 – James addresses the "twelve tribes who are scattered abroad"

Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,

Revelation 7:9-17

Rev 7:10 and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

Revelation 7:9-17

Rev 7:11 And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,

Revelation 7:9-17

Rev 7:12 saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Revelation 7:12 – No ‘Riches’

When the church sings its song of redemption (5:9), they sang the new song saying, "thou art worthy." The angels respond to that song in worship saying, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive the power and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing." (5:12)

Here are the same things with a couple of differences. *To the churches' song they refer to riches, why?* The Lord considers us as His treasure. Paul prayed for the Ephesians that they might receive a Spirit of wisdom and understanding. That they might know what is His riches in the saints, or you might know how much God values you.

Riches

The kingdom of heaven was likened to a man going through the field and discovering **a treasure** and who, for the joy thereof, went out and sold everything so he could buy the field and have **the treasure** (Matthew 13:44). "Now the field", Jesus said, "is the world", and He was the one that gave everything. He gave His life to purchase the world in order that He might obtain the **treasure**.

Revelation 7:9-17

Rev 7:13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?”

Revelation 7:9-17

Rev 7:14 I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Revelation 7:9-17

John didn't recognize them. If this was the Church, John would know them.

He would also have recognized this group if they were the Old Testament saints, because he had seen Moses and Elijah with Christ and knew them (Matthew 17:1-8).

Revelation 7:9-17

Rev 7:15 “Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

Revelation 7:9-17

These saints are **before the throne** of God, (not seated **ON** thrones).

They **serve him** day and night in his temple (role of servants – The Bride).

Revelation 7:9-17

Rev 7:16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

Revelation 7:9-17

Rev 7:17 For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

A word about exegesis

Either approach the text literally (while still acknowledging obvious symbolism, types, etc.), or, allegorize the text (like Origin, Augustine). Either this chapter is speaking of the nation of Israel literally or it is speaking allegorically of the church or some other select group (such as the Jehovah's Witnesses believe).

Replacement Theology (most denominations)

**Reconstructionism, Dominionist,
Kingdom Now**

Replacement theology believes because the Jews rejected Jesus as their Messiah they are no longer God's chosen people, and God does not have specific future plans for the nation of Israel.

Why do most denominations believe this

Problem: Revelation taught Jesus was going to return and deliver the world from it's evil world government and false religious system (which at the time John recorded it was the Empire of Rome & later, the Catholic Church).

Why do most denominations believe this

Development of Theology over the centuries was most notably accomplished by the men we refer to as the *Early Church Fathers*. They are:

The first three are considered the chief ones...

Clement of Rome.

Ignatius of Antioch.

Polycarp of Smyrna.

Why do most denominations believe this

Papias of Hierapolis.

Justin Martyr.

Irenaeus of Lyons.

Clement of Alexandria.

Origen of Alexandria (main allegorical school).

Why do most denominations believe this

Leads to **Augustine**: followed Origen's
allegorical approach

Augustine developed bulk of Catholic doctrine

They say, the Millennial Kingdom is symbolic of Christ's rule on the Earth through the church.

The reformers focused on the gospel and salvation issues but neglected Eschatology.

Replacement Theology

The name “Israel” appears 75 times in the New Testament. In each of those times it refers to national Israel – not the church.

Replacement theology: the church replaced Israel and the many promises made to Israel are fulfilled in the church. Prophecies concerning the blessing and restoration of Israel to the Promised Land are spiritualized or allegorized into promises of God’s blessing for the church.

Replacement Theology

The Bible teaches after the rapture (1 Thess. 4:13-18), God will restore Israel as the primary focus of His plan. The first event at that time is the tribulation (Revelation chapters 6–19). The world will be judged for rejecting Christ, while Israel is prepared through the trials of the great tribulation for the second coming of the Messiah. Christ will return to the earth when Israel calls to Him at end of the tribulation.

Replacement Theology

The remnant of Israel who survive the tribulation will be saved, and the Lord will establish His kingdom on this earth with Jerusalem as its capital.

With Christ reigning as King, Israel will be the leading nation, and representatives from all nations will come to Jerusalem to honor and worship the King—Jesus Christ. The church will return with Christ and will reign with Him for a literal thousand years (Rev. 20:1-5).

Conditional covenants vs. Unconditional covenants

Mosaic Covenant: conditional (loss of rewards)

Abrahamic Covenant: Unconditional

(Gen 12-13) (Christians, Jews and Muslims)

Land Covenant: Unconditional (Gen 15:18-21)

Davidic Covenant: Unconditional

(2 Sam. 7:11-16; Luke 1:30-33; Hosea 3:4-5)