



Chapter 14



144,000

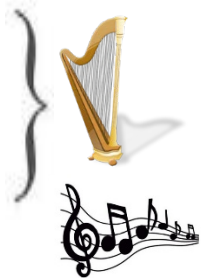


WITNESSES



The Lamb and the 144,000 on Mount Zion

Revelation 14:1-5 (NASB), ¹Then I looked, and behold, the Lamb *was* standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads. ²And I heard a voice from heaven, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder, and the voice which I heard *was* like *the sound* of harpists playing on their harps. ³And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders; and no one could learn the song except the one hundred and forty-four thousand who had been purchased from the earth. ⁴These are the ones who have not been defiled with women, for they have kept themselves chaste. These *are* the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These have been purchased from among men as first fruits to God and to the Lamb. ⁵And no lie was found in their mouth; they are blameless.





n chapter seven of Revelation we are first told of these 144,000 young men who have become the end-time witnesses for the Lord. These witnesses (in my opinion) complete the work of the Church (Matthew 28:16–20) which has been referred to as the **GREAT COMMISSION**.

Matthew 28:16-20, (NASB), ¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Jesus gives His church direction and purpose. The taking of the Gospel to the world has been the mission of the church since Jesus first spoke the words in Matthew 28. There is no higher calling but to share the **GOSPEL of JESUS CHRIST** and to **MAKE DISCIPLES** of all nations.

At this point in the book of Revelation the Church has been missing for three and a half years, but don't you know God will always have His witnesses, there will always be someone who will share the Gospel and here there are 144,000 of them. They will continue the work of the church. They will take the Gospel to all the world and to those who have never heard, **TEACHING** the commandments of the Lord.

Now is the time for all who are left on the earth to make their decision who they will serve, to take the **MARK of the BEAST** or not. The largest revival the world has ever seen will happen during this time.

Who are the 144,000 Witnesses?

Revelation 14:4-5, ⁴ “These are the ones who have not been defiled with women, for they have kept themselves chaste [*virgins*]. These *are* the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These have been purchased from among men as first fruits to God and to the Lamb. ⁵ And no lie was found in their mouth; they are blameless.

1. The **144,000 WITNESSES** are young **JEWISH MEN** (ref. c7:4-8) who have not defiled themselves with women, who have remain virgins, some translations say kept themselves “*chaste*.”
2. Who **FOLLOW the LAMB** wherever He goes: This speaks of their complete obedience to do the will of the Lamb. In the same way that the Lamb followed the Father (John [4:34](#)), so these followed the Lamb. Those who fully follow God are blessed. Joshua

and Caleb were allowed into the Promised Land because they followed God fully ([Num. 14:24](#)).

3. **FIRST FRUITS** to God and to the Lamb: The nation of Israel is said to be the firstfruits of God's increase which would eventually include multitudes of redeemed Gentiles ([Jer. 2:3](#)). James indicated that the early church was "a kind of firstfruits of His creatures" ([Ja. 1:18](#)). In the time since, the harvest has spread to multitudes around the world. Here, after the Church Age and the fullness of the Gentiles has come in ([Rom. 11:25](#)), these represent the firstfruits of the spiritual awakening of Israel in preparation for the [Millennial Kingdom](#) to follow ([Eze. 37:1](#)).

The 144,000 may also be considered firstfruits from the perspective of their unique preservation through the Tribulation enabling them to contribute to the initial Jewish population which enters the Millennial Kingdom in their natural bodies and subsequently populates the kingdom ([Isa. 65:20](#), [Isa. 65:23](#)).¹

The Mark vs. The Seal

During the tribulation period there will be two groups of people. These two groups will make up just about the entire population of the earth, and they will all have a **MARK** (Antichrist) or a **SEAL** (Jesus) depending on who they worship as God. The world and the Beast will demand a commitment from you. There will be no changing your mind, no half-hearted effort, just total commitment. It's like getting a tattoo. You either get it or you don't.

The First Group: The first group begins with the 144,000 converted Jews: (Rev. 7:3-4)

Revelation 7:3-4 "saying, Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousands of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed:"

I believe initially only the 144,000 will have God's seal on them. However, as they begin their work and souls are added to their numbers, these new converts will receive God's sealing also. This "**SEALING**" is talked about in Rev. 14:1 where we are told the seal is the name of the **FATHER of the LAMB**. If you are being tormented, then you do not have God's seal on you. The last revival of all time is under way and souls are being added to the kingdom daily, a great cloud of witnesses is rising up.

¹ <https://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-14/revelation-14-4.html>

The Promise

Revelation 20:4 “And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.”

The promise God makes to those who commit to Him is eternal life with Him. You will **REIGN** with Christ for a **THOUSAND** years and know the joy of serving God. The promises of this life are temporary, but the joys of heaven are eternal and everlasting.



The Second Group:

Rev. 13:16-17 “He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.

Revelation 9:4 “They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads.”

The Walking Dead

In Rev. 13:16 above it states that he **CAUSES**, everyone to receive the mark. This word “causes” means ... as by **FORCE** or you will be killed. Those who do take the mark of the beast will find themselves in this second group. They have rejected the message of salvation through faith in Christ. Their self-centeredness and selfishness lead them

straight into the arms of the Antichrist They will not recognize him as such, but this is what the great deception is about. They will be deceived, lied to and made to believe a lie. Proverbs 14:12 and 16:25 says “There is a way that seems right to a man, But Its end is the way of death.” Yes! This group will be able to buy and sell freely and without the persecution from their new world ruler. But then there is another “perk” they did not expect; there is a promise waiting for them also.

The Promise: For those who never accepted the gift of God and wanted to live life their way, for those who bought into the claims of the antichrist and took the mark and swore loyalty to the new world order, there is a promise God has made to them:

Revelation 14:9-11 “Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, "he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. "And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.”

Revelation 16:2 “So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.”

Those who take the mark, in whatever form it is given, may have bought themselves some **TEMPORARY** relief from the persecution of the Antichrist. But they would be better off to fear God rather than man, for heaven is for eternity. But then, so is Hell.