

Who Will Stand

October 2, 2023

Revelation 7:1-17

After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, that no

wind might blow on earth or sea or against any tree. 2 Then I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun,

with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm

earth and sea, 3 saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on

their foreheads." 4 And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

5 12,000 from the tribe of Judah were sealed, 12,000 from the tribe of Reuben, 12,000 from the tribe of Gad,

6 12,000 from the tribe of Asher, 12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali, 12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh,

7 12,000 from the tribe of Simeon, 12,000 from the tribe of Levi, 12,000 from the tribe of Issachar,

8 12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun, 12,000 from the tribe of Joseph, 12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin were sealed.

9 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, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

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, 12 saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving

and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they

come?" 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.

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.

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

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.”

1 When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

This was written first of all to bring comfort to first century Christians.

- God restrains His final judgment to gather His elect.
- God provides for, preserves, protects and pastors His saints forevermore.
- The saints and angels delight in the worship of God.

The four angels who stand at the four corners of the earth represent God’s agents standing guard across the whole of the earth holding back the winds of God’s judgment.

The four winds stand for the final judgment to come that will engulf the whole world.

They are described as servants of God sealed by God.

The seal is the name of Christ and of God (Rev. 14:1).

Ephesians 1:13-14

The seal of God displays provision of salvation along with His

protection and preservation of the elect even in death.

144,000 symbolically represents all Christians throughout history, both Jews and Gentiles (The church militant)

Galatians 3:26-29

*144,000 is the church militant sealed on earth

*The multitude is the church triumphant in Heaven

God provides for, preserves, protects and pastors His saints forevermore.

Who will be able to stand?

Only those in Christ. Because only those in Christ belong to God, are sealed by him, numbered by him, and clothed by Him.

Let the picture of the multitude encourage your evangelism!

Do not presume upon God's outward seal as evidence of you being sealed inside.

Embrace your eternal security.

The saints and angels delight in the worship of God.

Revelation 8:1

Seventh Seal:

- Silence before the throne
- His delay of judgment is but brief.
- He hears the prayers for justice, and He will act swiftly.