



Tribulation: The 144,000

Pastor Jeremy McGarity

I. CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

1. SIGNS OF THE END

"See, I have told you ahead of time."

MATTHEW 24:25 | NIV

2. THE RAPTURE

"Don't let your hearts be troubled ... When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am."

JOHN 14:1, 3 | NLT

"But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! It (The Rapture) will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye ..."

1 CORINTHIANS 15:51-52 | NLT

*"... (We) will be **caught up** in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever."*

1 THESSALONIANS 4:17 | NLT

3. THE TRIBULATION

"For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be."

MATTHEW 24:21 | NKJV

4. THE ANTICHRIST

"... a fierce-looking king, a master of intrigue, will arise. He will become very strong, but not by his own power."

He will cause astounding devastation and will succeed in whatever he does. He will destroy those who are mighty, the holy people. He will cause deceit to prosper, and he will consider himself superior."

DANIEL 8:23-25 | NIV

5. THE MARK OF THE ANTICHRIST

"(Antichrist) also forced all people, great and small, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hands or on their foreheads, so that they could not buy or sell unless they had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of its name."

REVELATION 13:16-17 | NIV

II. THE MYSTERIOUS GROUP

1. KNOWN AS **THE 144,000** .
2. THEY ARE NOT **THE CHURCH** .
3. THEY ARE NOT **JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES** .
4. THEY ARE **JEWISH CHRISTIAN EVANGELISTS** .

III. THEIR CHARACTERISTICS

1. THEY HAVE BEEN **PURCHASED** .

"... And 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."

REVELATION 14:3 | NASB

2. THEY HAVE BEEN **PREPARED** .

"Wait! Don't harm the land or the sea or the trees until we have placed the seal of God on the foreheads of his servants. And I heard how many were marked with the seal of God—144,000 were sealed from all the tribes of Israel."

REVELATION 7:3-4 | NLT

3. THEY ARE **PROTECTED** .

"They were told not to harm the grass or plants or trees, but only the people who did not have the seal of God on their foreheads."

REVELATION 9:4 | NLT

4. THEY ARE **PURE** .

"They have kept themselves as pure as virgins, following the Lamb wherever he goes. They have been purchased from among the people on the earth as a special offering to God and to the Lamb."

REVELATION 14:4 | NLT

5. THEY ARE **PERSISTANT** .

"... following (Jesus) wherever He goes ..."

REVELATION 14:4 | NLT

6. THEY ARE POWERFUL **PREACHERS** .

"After this I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in

white robes and held palm branches in their hands. And they were shouting with a great roar, 'Salvation comes from our God who sits on the throne and from the Lamb!'"

REVELATION 7:9-10 | NLT

IV. THEIR MAIN GOAL

"TO SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST ."

LUKE 19:10 | NIV

"The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent."

2 PETER 3:9 | NLT

NIV = NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION, NLT = NEW LIVING TRANSLATION,
NKJV = NEW KING JAMES VERSION, NASB = NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. What is one thing that stood out to you in this week's sermon and why?
2. If the end times started now, would you feel ready? How do you feel the Lord as been preparing you for what's to come?
3. Do you struggle with God allowing personal, national, or environmental disasters to occur? How do you feel this might draw more to salvation knowing God's heart is not for anyone to be destroyed (2 Peter 3:9)?
4. As a group, read Luke 19:10 & 2 Peter 3:9. What is your main goal and purpose on earth? How well are you living this out?
5. How can we be praying for you this week?