

God's People: Sealed and Secure

REVELATION: YOUR STORY IN GOD'S STORY, Week 15

Revelation 7:1-8 (NIV)

I. A _____ before the Last Seal Judgement

¹ After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth to prevent any wind from blowing on the land or on the sea or on any tree. ² Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: ³ "Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God."

II. A _____ for _____

⁴ Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.

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

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

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

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

Other References in Revelation to Marks on God's People

Revelation 3:12

The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will they leave it. **I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God**, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; **and I will also write on them my new name.**

Revelation 9:1-4

The fifth angel sounded his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen from the sky to the earth. The star was given the key to the shaft of the Abyss. ² When he opened the Abyss, smoke rose from it like the smoke from a gigantic furnace. The sun and sky were darkened by the smoke from the Abyss. ³ And out of the smoke locusts came down on the earth and were given power like that of scorpions of the earth. ⁴ **They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any plant or tree, but only those people who did not have the seal of God on their foreheads.**

Revelation 14:1-5

Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him **144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads.** ² And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of rushing waters and like a loud peal of thunder. The sound I heard was like that of harpists playing their harps. ³ And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. ⁴ These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they remained virgins. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among mankind and offered as firstfruits to God and the Lamb. ⁵ No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless.

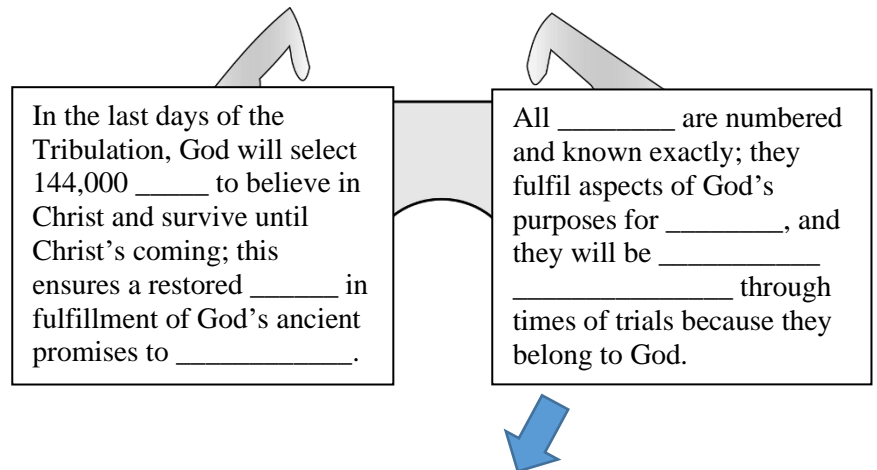
Revelation 22:3-4

³ No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. ⁴ They will see his face, **and his name will be on their foreheads.**

For other marks, see: Revelation 13:1, 15-17; 14:9-12; 17:3-5; 19:12-16; 20:4

The Bottom Line

In our introduction to Revelation (Jan 16, 2022), we said there is value in reading the book with both a "futurist approach" (the contents focus on the immediate time before Christ's return) and a "contemporary-historical approach" (we need to focus on how the original audience would hear and respond in their setting). At times an "idealist approach" is also helpful (the contents are largely timeless and symbolic). Like a pair of 3-D glasses we will use multiple lenses for our study.



If you are a _____, you are _____ and _____ for ownership by God, and God will _____ you safely _____, no matter what—just _____!

*So when you are pressured, say to yourself:
"I am a servant of God, sealed and marked for him."*