

66-Revelation – 16-Transcript

welcome back to Wednesday night Bible study tonight is chapter 14 we're going to revisit the mystery of the 144,000 let's open with the word of prayer and get straight into tonight's study our Heavenly Father we come before you as your servants we just want to thank you so much father for your holy word we know that your word is alive and we just pray father that you will feed us with this truth and strengthen us with it we thank you so much God for your many many blessings most of all for Jesus Christ in whose name we pray amen well we're done as I mentioned we're going into chapter 14 we'll just do a little bit of a rewind and just pick up where we were last week with chapter 13 just the end part of chapter 13 so let's just go back there where we read that this beast that came up from the land had power to give life unto the image of the Beast that came from the sea so he had power to give life unto the image of the Beast that the image of the Beast this is now some wonders and some miracles here that the image of the Beast should both speak so it can speak and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the Beast should be killed so this time ahead of us is a treacherous time the scripture says that the wicked men will wax worse and worse and here they're they're coming to their climax this is the pinnacle of wickedness and anybody who does not go along with them that this beast which is an image of the devil really a proxy for the devil that the devil should be worshiped the devil's agenda is to be like the Most High and to have everyone worship him so anybody who does not go along with this should be killed and he

causes all both small and great rich and poor free and bond everybody he's very very thorough
this is this is Satan's last chance he is very meticulous he's very thorough everyone must come under his control and worship Him so he causes all to receive a mark in their right hand or in their foreheads and obviously here he is again trying to mimic the Most High and a scripture goes on to say then that no man might buy or sell unless he has the mark or the name of the beast or the number of his name and then chapter 13 ends by saying here is wisdom let him that under that has understanding count the number of the beast for it is the number of a man and his number is six hundred threescore and six
now this binding of the hand and the receiving of mark in the hand and the forehead we is really alluding back to Deuteronomy and we see here in Deuteronomy that the the Hebrews the Israelites would would bind them for a sign upon their hand and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes and so they were to always be mindful of God's law and so this was an agreement that they had with God that they would bind them upon their hand and between and on the forehead and so this is what Satan is now mimicking and trying to be like the Most High now the scripture says as we saw in verse 15 that as many as would not worship the image of the Beast should be killed now we have seen this before
and if we go to Daniel 3 we'll see we'll recall the story of Shadrach Meshach and Abednego and it says then a hair a herald cried aloud to you it is commanded oh people nations and languages so same thing Satan won this

global control and here is trying for
this global control that at what time
you hear the sound of the cornet the
flute the harp the sack book the
psaltery the dulcimer and all kinds of
music

you shall fall down and worship the
golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the
King has set up so no doubt he set up
this image similar to the dream that he
had about this image where he was the
head of gold and so this whole thing
really represents this babylonian system
and everybody has to fall down and
worship this beast of this babylonian
beast and whoever whoso falleth not down
and worships shall the same hour as his
urgent this is immediate that same hour
be cast into the midst of a burning
fiery furnace now if you'd be ready that
at what time you shall hear the sound of
the cornet the flute the harp the sack
but the psaltery and dulcimer are all
kinds of musics was a big deal this is a
really big deal and when this orchestra
this band begins playing you shall fall
down and worship the image which I have
made does the same thing we're seeing
repeated now in this final three and a
half year period at the end of man's
history it's so if you'll fall down and
worship this image that's great well but
if you worship it not you shall be cast
the same hour into the midst of a
burning fiery furnace and who is that
God that shall save you he says and who
is that God that shall deliver you out
of my hands

Shadrach Meshach verse 16 and Abednego
answered and said to the king o
Nebuchadnezzar we are not careful to
answer you in this matter and this this
is what we must learn from these young
very brave young men as we go into the

future that we have to have our minds made up ahead of time now this is not something that once the decision once we're confronted with the decision we sort of start to weigh the pros and the cons and wonder hmmm I wonder you know what God mind and I'm sure God would understand and we've made up our minds we will never worship the devil nor his image and we will always cling to Christ and we love him and we will worship Christ and we're not careful to answer anybody about this any kind of confrontation that may come as a result of our walk with Christ oh well we've already made up our minds as the saying goes make the big decisions early we've made these big we've already made the decision so there's no this is a non decision that's what these young men are saying there's no decision to make here we made this decision a long time ago so we're not careful to answer you in this matter and so here we're here we see this whole situation repeated now in Revelation in this final period and so he causes all justice as Nebuchadnezzar they in Nebuchadnezzar is the head Babylon is the head and it's the same system this is just now that the feet of the same system the same devilish way of thinking and controlling and subjugating mankind who is made in the image of God so he causes all both small and great rich and poor free and bond to receive a mark in their right hand or in their foreheads and that no man can buy or sell unless he has this mark or the name of the beast or the number of his name and so for a lot of people this is a time to compromise surely God wouldn't want me to go hungry surely God would understand and so they're gonna go ahead and receive this

mark or the name or the number of the name so all of this now is the backdrop to chapter 14 so in the context of this thorough very meticulous very methodical very comprehensive subjugation of mankind to the image of the Beast which is the image of the devil we come into chapter 14 and we come now to the 144,000 and it says here and I looked and lo a lamb suddenly so now this is what John is seeing he sees a lamb a lamb stood on the Mount Zion on earth on Mount Zion and with him a hundred and forty-four thousand having his father's name written in their foreheads so from Psalm 2 and verse 6 we see yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion and we can go into Zechariah and other prophecies even Christ himself in Matthew was recorded that he prophesied he's going to return to the Mount of Olives and so here John sees this lamb standing on the Mount of Olives but he says with him are 144,000 and some of the commentators believe that this is another 144,000 so we already we already encountered 144,000 in Revelation 7 and so here of Revelation 14 some of the commentators think there's actually two hundred and eighty eight thousand but that's absolutely ridiculous this is the same 144,000 and yes we have encountered them before in Revelation 7 but the context for revelation 7 for that context we need to go just back up and we'll go back to chapter 6 so in Revelation chapter 6 we see we saw the opening of the seals so we saw the different horsemen the rider of the white horse the deceiver and we see this false prophet now deceiving the whole world and pointing them to the beast the beast from the sea being this political

power really envisioned by the Red Horse
is this warfare and some forceful
subjugation

so one is a force of deception one is a
force of subjugation resulting then in
famine and pestilence and death and so
we see all of this unfolding and as a
result of all of this activity of these
four horsemen the fifth seal is opened
and we see what the result of all this
activity is is a targeting of God's
people and so what we see a result here
when you open the fifth seal the John
saw under the altar the souls of them
that were slain for the word of God and
for the testimony which they held so
they have a testimony about Christ and
they're holding on to it no matter what
and they were slain for the word of God
and this testimony and they cried with a
loud

saying how long O Lord holy and true
does thou not judge and avenge our blood
on them that dwell on the earth first
question in this passage is how much
longer and this is all symbolically so
this is not a real you know these are
these are people are not in heaven
saying this it's a vision that John has
and it's really a symbol of the patience
of the saints and so the response is
white robes notice this white robes were
given unto every one of them every
single one of them received white robes
and it was said unto them that they
should rest yet for a little season so
we constantly see this reference to this
final time period it's a three and a
half year period and it's going to be
intense it is an intense three and a
half year period as they the history of
this age comes to a conclusion and so
they just have to be patient as we get
through this intense three and a half

year period the caboose on the train so to speak we just didn't they need to wait that under God God will respond to them but he's orchestrating something and so they need to rest yet just for a little season until their fellow-servants also and their brethren should be killed as they were should be fulfilled so we have this outstanding prophecy that the Saints must be killed and so it has started but the full complement has not been reached and so they have to wait until the full complement is reached there they're just a part of the prophetic fulfillment there's more Saints have to be put to death coming back to chapter 13 of Revelation where we were last last week or the week before it was given to him that's this beast from the sea to make war with the Saints this is the red horse riding that he's to make war with the so who's the target the Saints and so this is why in the fifth seal there has to be patience this war has to unfold it's not this is not God has lost control this says everything is being orchestrated according to his will and so he's given permission remember that the mighty angel has one foot on the sea and one foot on the land so everything that's happening under the sea and on the land is coming under the Dominion of God and so it was given he's given permission to make war with the Saints and not just to make war with them to overcome them and this really means a physical overcoming that that day is going to force everyone to receive the mark of the beast and this is going to identify who the true Saints are and who are the hypocrites who are the ones that

you know like to be seen as righteous
like to be perceived as Christian but
you know when it comes to food and water
you know when it comes to bread they're
there they're they're gonna be led by
their stomachs and so this is a teasing
out a separation a measuring of the
saints of God there's gonna be the inner
court and then there's the outer court
and so he's given permission to make war
with the Saints and to overcome us
physically not spiritually it's up to us
whether or not we'd hold on to the vine
hold on to the the root and power was
given him over all Kindred's and tongues
and Nations so we're gonna see this
global submission to the devil through
this beast power and all that dwell upon
the earth shall worship Him everybody's
going this way the whole world is going
is just the same way these young men
Shadrach Meshach and Abednego their
whole society was bowing down and
worshiping the image of the Beast but
they would not and so in the same way
even though it you know at this time
it's quite dire in the whole world is
going after the Beast and in in
wandering and just in awe of him there
are going to be Saints
who are going to be faithful to the end
and all that dwell upon the earth shall
worship Him whose names are not written
in the book of life of the lamb slain
from the foundation of the world so from
the very foundation this redemptive
provision was made for this redemptive
process and our names are written in the
book of life praise God and so as long
as we remain true and hold on to the
lamb oh and overcome the devil overcome
the devil's puppets these beasts with
the blood of the Lamb that's what we're
good at so we're successful not by

ourselves not on our own through our own strength but through the blood of the lamb slain from the foundation of the world and so this is why Christ taught us when we studied Luke and if you weren't with us for Luke you can find it in the archive just review chapter 11 of Luke where Christ taught us how to pray and we look at the Lord's Prayer which was really a model for how we should pray and what we should pray about but he concludes that lesson in in how to pray by saying this just recall those of you who were with me for the the Lord's Prayer and I ask you I'm sorry and I say unto you ask and it shall be given you seek and you shall find knock and it shall be opened unto you we need to go into this future period with this understanding that God is for us and if we ask it'll be given to us if we seek we'll find it and if we knock it'll be open to us for everyone that asks receives and he that seeks finds and to him that knocks it shall be opened so this separation who's in the inner court and who's in the outer court really it's gonna be up to us that if we don't respond to this calling we don't take this calling seriously if we neglect this calling we're in the outer court but if we ask and we seek and we knock everyone that seeks everyone that asks everyone that seeks everyone that knocks it's going to be opened it's gonna be given it's gonna granted and he says for if a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father will he give him a stone or if he ask a fish will he for a fish give him a serpent or if he shall ask an egg will he offer him a scorpion so Christ uses three separate examples he tells us to pray for three separate things and then

uses three separate examples to say if you were a father and your child asked for bread or fish or an egg how would you respond by giving him evil things were fathers we would never do this if you then if I then being evil know how to give good gifts unto our children how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him and this is what we have to understand as we go into this future period where the wicked wax worse and worse we have to be asking for the Holy Spirit we have to be filled with the Holy Spirit it is the Holy Spirit through us that is going to get us through this period ahead if we are alive to see it or if future days and there are Saints who are maybe going into the archives and listening to this this is what we need to get through these times is the Holy Spirit and if we ask for the Holy Spirit God is gonna give us give us the Holy Spirit and really what this is saying is he's going to give us the kingdom it might not look like it it might look like we've asked for the kingdom but instead we're getting persecution you know we've asked for that for the kingdom but we're being killed but we have to understand how God thinks and we have to have the vision that God has and we are absolutely being given good things that this test of character this this ability to separate ourselves from the world and be counted into the inner court this is a tremendous gift this is a tremendous gift this is you know therefore he who has ears to hear let him hear we have eyes to see let us see and that's why it's so important for us to really digest the message of this book this prophecy of

Revelation but these are good things
this is the fact that the Beast is
given permission to make war with the
Saints and not only to make war with us
but to overcome us this is a gift from
God and it's going to reveal
something profound in our character and
it's going to set us up for all eternity
so he goes on to say now just going back
to the context of Revelation chapter 7
where the hundred and forty-four
thousand are introduced to us for the
first time again getting the context for
this continuing in Chapter six John
writes in the kings of the earth and the
great men and the rich men and the chief
captains and the mighty men and every
bondman and every free man so the whole
world that has gone along with the devil
and received the mark of the beast all
of them they hid themselves in the dens
and in the rocks of the mountains and
said to the mountains and rocks fall on
us and hide us from the face of him that
sits on the throne and from the wrath of
the Lamb so now the lamb is acting and
now these mighty men are terrified and
so we had one question already which was
from the Saints how much longer and
there they're told hold on more Saints
need to be added to the inner court now
there's another question this is really
coming from the wicked but it's a very
powerful question and it introduces the
hundred and forty-four thousand for the
great day of his wrath has come so now
with the sixth seal we're now being
ushered into the great day of his wrath
before this we were experiencing the
wrath of the devil now the wrath of the
Lamb is coming
and they have a question and who shall
be able to stand in their mind no one
can stand in front of the wrath of the

lab and they're all running for cover but that's the question that was asked to introduce the hundred and forty-four thousand and that introduction of the hundred and forty-four thousand in Chapter seven was an inset chapter was a parenthetical chapter and it was just fast-forwarding it was it was pushing us forward into the future to say look there's good news there's a great multitude that actually comes through this tribulation and are successful in Christ and then we got back into the unfolding of the seals well now we're coming to the fulfillment the actual fulfillment of the hundred forty-four thousand when Christ returns so now Christ returns and he's on the earth and it says here in chapter fourteen verse one that John looked remember he's to record what he sees in what he hears so he's recording for us here what he sees he looked and lo a lamb stood on Mount Zion on the Mount Sion so the lamb is standing and with him meaning also standing are the hundred and forty-four thousand so the answer to the question who shall be able to stand in the face of the wrath of the Lamb the answer is the faithful Saints it's those saints who stood for him during this intense three and a half year period when the devil had his way and then and the devil's beasts had their way and all mankind was going after them but there was a group of saints representing the inner court who stood like Shadrach Meshach and Abednego and said we're not careful to answer you do do whatever you want our God can save us and even if he chooses not to save us that's okay with us as well because we are in complete submission to our great

God and we trust him and we know that He loves us and if we ask him for a fish he's not gonna give us a scorpion if we ask him for bread he's not gonna give us a stone if we asked him for an egg he's not gonna give a serpent we trust our father we trust our God and so the answer to the question who shall be able to stand while here the here they are it's the hundred and forty-four thousand standing with him on Mount Zion having his father's name written in their foreheads so the Devils children have their father's name written in their foreheads but the faithful Saints have their father's name written in in their foreheads or our foreheads if we live to be in this period and so this question though was asked earlier about who will be able to stand if we go to Psalms 15 verse 1 where David asked this Lord who shall abide in your tabernacle who shall dwell in Europe so we see these 144,000 standing with Christ in his holy hill dwelling with him in his holy hill who are they who what qualified them to be able to do this he that walks uprightly so we're entering into a time where the whole world is going mad there's a Greek saying that the he who the Gaga or him who the gods would destroy they must first make mad there's some you know there's some devilish truth in that that Satan is turning the whole world mad so he can destroy them and so in midst of this time of great evil there are people who walk uprightly and work righteousness work righteousness and speak the truth in our heart we will not be bullied we will not be forced to comply if there's truth in our heart we will speak it and if it makes the world unhappy oh

well oh well truth is truth we cannot
apologize for truth he speaks the truth
in his heart he that back bites not with
his tongue that is a serious serious sin
God hates it and if we are engaged in it
we will not be with Christ we will be
measured in to the outer Court to be
measured in to the inner court
you must repent of a backbiting tongue
nor does evil to his neighbor we would
never do that we are discerning the body
of Christ
and we would never do evil to our
neighbor nor taketh up a reproach
against his neighbor this is that these
are the characteristics that the Saints
are developing in order to dwell with
Christ and the father forever in whose
eyes a vile person is condemned and
we're just living in in opposite land
we're living in the twilight zone vile
people are exalted in our society and
the righteous are condemned and we're
now being we're going to be asked who do
we agree with what side are we on and we
have to speak the truth in our heart and
if a person is a vile if a person is
despising God's commandments we're just
gonna call it we're just gonna say
what's true oh well truth is truth and
so the vial are condemned by God's
people but he honors them that fear the
Lord and this world is so upside down
they they condemn those that fear the
Lord and they honor vile people and so
we're not gonna be tracking side by side
with the world in fact we're gonna be in
opposition to the world just our very
presence they will hate us because
they'll realize that they're upside down
he that swears to his own hurt and
changes not I've sworn this is what I
said I'm gonna do I'm gonna keep my word
let your yea be yea your nay be nay and

so if I said yes it's yes if I said no
it's no even if it even if it hurts me
I'm not gonna go against my word because
no Liars will be in the kingdom of God
he that puts not out his money to usury
nor takes reward against the innocent
and and and you know this taking reward
against the innocent I don't believe
it's possible to live in the future
world the the beast system without
taking reward against the innocent it's
going to be a two-tier system and it's
going to
live off the backs off the innocent and
so if we're going to enjoy the benefits
of society it means that we're gonna be
taking reward against the innocent and
so we need to turn our back on this and
say no we will not participate in such a
system he that does these things shall
never be moved and so the devil and the
devil's puppets think that they are
overcoming the Saints the reality is the
Saints shall never new moved the Saints
shall inherit the earth
and so this backdrop that we saw then
the question who shall stand this is
what is answering the question or the
answer to the question is what we saw in
Chapter seven initially and what we're
seeing now in chapter 14 that there's
144,000 that are able to stand and dwell
with Christ and I heard the number of
them which were sealed and there were
sealed 144,000 of all the tribes of the
children of Israel so that's what he
heard and after this I beheld what did
he see and lo a great multitude which no
man could number so first he sees or
sorry first he hears 144,000 being
counted out in each of the tribes but
then he sees a great multitude which no
man could number of all nations and
Kindred's and people and tongues stood

before the throne and before the lamb
clothed with white robes and palms in
their hands so the 144,000 we've covered
this before it's a symbol it is a it's
an auditory symbol that all the tribes
are accounted for and there's 12,000 in
each of the tribes to come up with
144,000 but when when John looks he
doesn't see twelve tribes
Parshin doubt or partition doubt and you
know he can count exactly 12,000 in each
of the tribes he turned and he just sees
a great multitude because this multitude
is what the hundred and forty-four
thousand symbol represents and these are
the ones notice that they stood before
the throne and this is answering the
question who shall stand before the
wrath of the Lamb well it's the hundred
and forty-four thousand and this the
fact that they're coming from all
nations and Kindred's and people is God
fulfilling or beginning to fulfill his
promise to Abraham that he will bless
them that bless Abraham and curse those
that curse Abraham and in Abraham shall
all the families of the earth be blessed
in the devil and in the devil servants
all the families of the earth are cursed
but in Abraham through Christ all the
families of the earth all the families
of the earth are blessed and notice now
in we've read this before well and we'll
read it again as we get to chapter 21
but we jumped ahead earlier but remember
that John said the New Jerusalem had a
great and a wall great and high and it
had twelve gates and at the twelve gates
were twelve angels and names written
thereon which are the names of the
twelve tribes of the children of Israel
in other words it is impossible to get
into the New Jerusalem unless you come
through one of the gates of Israel so

there's no such thing as as Gentiles in the New Jerusalem so there's great multitude from all the different peoples and Kindred's and tongues they have to have representation in Israel and they come into the New Jerusalem through one of the gates of Israel so everybody belongs to one of the tribes to twelve tribes of Israel

and then so it says on the east of three gates on the North there's three gates on the South three gates and on the west esri gate so you cannot get in unless you come in through one of the gates of Israel but notice now in verse 14 that the wall of the city had twelve foundations and in them the names of the Twelve Apostles of the Lamb so we are seeing here now the twelve by twelve we've got the twelve tribes of Israel the twelve forefathers the patriarchs representing the Old Covenant and then we have the Twelve Apostles representing the New Covenant so this symbol is twelve by twelve God showing God's faithfulness to his covenant to Abraham first fulfilling it in the Old Covenant when Israel failed then giving Israel the Holy Spirit and fulfilling it in the New Covenant and so twelve by twelve is the hundred and forty-four and then the thousand if we look at Deuteronomy know therefore that the Lord your God He is God

the faithful God the 144,000 is a symbol of God's faithfulness old covenant faithfulness new covenant faithfulness he's the faithful God which keeps covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations so this really represents the the faithfulness of God we've got the Old Covenant patriarchs twelve times the new covenant of

apostles 12 144 times a thousand
generations just to underline we exist
because of God's faithfulness and these
hundred and forty-four thousand with us
the symbol of 144,000 are those who come
through the tribulation trusting in
God's faithfulness and washing their
robes in the blood of the Lamb
so now we come back to chapter 14 and so
I looked and I saw this lamb that stood
on the Mount Zion and with him those who
are worthy to stand with him 144,000
having his father's name written in
their foreheads and I heard a voice from
heaven as the voice of many waters and
as the voice of a great thunders or this
really rumbling sound is very deep heavy
sound of power and I heard the voice of
harpers harping with their harps and
behold I sorry is just gonna this is our
harkening back to his Ezekiel and behold
the glory of the God of Israel came from
the way of the east and his voice was
like the noise of many waters and the
earth shined in his with his glory this
is the same God there is one god there's
one author of the entire Bible and he
speaks with the same voice so when
people come with their nonsensical
scriptures and try and tell us that this
is our God speaking no I'm sorry we
know a forked tongue we know a lying
tongue we know the devil's tongue when
we hear it and we also know our
Shepherds tongue we know our God's voice
and so it's the same voice through all
the prophets and that all the prophets
voices are are converging now into the
final chapter of mankind's history which
is given with this final revelation from
our God and they sung as it were a new
song before the throne so they were
given a new song that they were singing
before the throne and before the four

beasts remember in Revelation chapter 4 we saw these four we called them really I said I was going to use another term living things living creatures and before the the four living creatures so we'll keep beasts for the servants of the devil and here there are these four living creatures and the elders and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty-four thousand so there are many men but only the 144,000 can learn this song so these are very very privileged people and I remember hearing a teaching from a false prophet saying that 144,000 oh these are Laodiceans and and you know they didn't quite make it they didn't measure up and so they have to suffer and meanwhile that the true people of God you know they'll be in the place of safety and they won't have to suffer and the Bible is actually saying the exact opposite that these 144,000 represent people who have the highest privilege from God God is honoring the 144,000 in a way that he's not honoring the rest of the saints that these things are really given special privilege and they get to praise Him with a song that no one else will learn this song except 144 thousand which were redeemed from the earth think they came from the earth they were redeemed from the earth and when we saw then in Chapter 7 the tribes that of the tribe of Judah 12,000 Reuben 12,000 GAD 12,000 Astra 12,000 Neff Talon 12,000 Manasseh 12,000 Simeon 12,000 Levi 12,000 is a chart 12,000 Zebulon 12,000 Joseph 12,000 Benjamin 12,000 and it's interesting that this song that no one can learn except them if we actually look at the meaning of these names maybe we get an idea a glimpse of what this song is all about because if we look at

the meaning of these these names in the order that they are presented in Chapter 7 we can say now will I praise the Lord so these these saints that are standing in Mount Zion with God now will I praise the Lord

surely the Lord has looked upon my affliction and a troop comes happy am i with great wrestling's have I wrestled and God has made me forget all my toil the Lord has heard that I was hated but now my husband will be joined unto me God has given me my hire and now will my husband dwell with me God has taken away my reproach and God shall add to me the son of his right hand you know it's almost like as you can see the the choir there's great choir of 144 symbolized by 144,000 Saints it's almost like for each tribe that that is represented that they get to sing that part of the song that their tribe represents and then together they all sing in harmony and and they're just praising God in the very special way that is articulated by the tribes that they represent our God is a great and a wonderful wonderful God let's continue with the the passage he says these are they which were not defiled with women for they are virgins these are they which follow the lamb wherever he goes these were redeemed from among men notice this being the firstfruits unto God and to the lamb so we know that these are firstfruits they're firstfruits unto God and to the lamb we're also told though that they are virgins so they're firstfruits they're virgins and verse five goes even further and in their mouth was found no guile for they are without fault before the throne of God who are these hundred and forty-four thousand Saints who are they

and and what does it mean that they are
virgins let's let's understand this
let's unpack this and make sure that we
do understand what the scripture is
saying so first of all it says there
without fault
there's no guile in their mouth and
there without fault before the throne so
who do we know who do you know that's
without fault
who do you know that has no guile in
their mouth well let's search the
scripture Ezekiel tells us here and
first actually we'll deal with this
virgin who you know that's a virgin
that's not defiled with women that can
be in this hundred and forty-four
thousand Ezekiel tells us and a holla
that is representing Israel played the
harlot when she was mine and she doted
on her lover's on the Assyrians her
neighbor's which were clothed with blue
captains and rulers all of them
desirable young men horsemen riding upon
horses well in the end time do we not
have horsemen riding upon horses do we
not have the Assyrian rising up do we
not have these powerful people that
Israel again is going to decide to
collude with rather than trust her God
thus she committed her whoredoms with
them with all them that were chosen men
of Assyria and with all on whom she
doted with all their idols she defiled
herself
that's how she defiled herself that so
so the Virgin is a symbol of those who
have not defiled himself the whole world
has gone off to the Beast the whole
world has received its mark or its
number its name but these are virgins
these are the ones that would not
receive the the fornication the Assembly
the collusion with the Beast they'd

rather they'd rather die and so they die
in their purity because they're not
engaged in this for the spiritual
whoredom the spiritual adultery and so
God considers these Saints that the
Beast has power to overcome to make war
with and overcome those that collude
that cooperate with the Beast these are
in the outer court those that refuse to
collude and cooperate with the Beast
these are in the inner court
and these God considers spiritual
virgins so he says therefore I've
delivered her into the hands of her
lovers into the hand of the Assyrians
upon whom she doted so here we saw just
repeated here in 2:13 that he causes all
small and great rich and poor free and
bond to receive a mark in their right
hand or in their foreheads and that
corrupts them these people who receive
this mark are defiled the Saints who
refuse it are considered virgins they
are not defiled with this false one now
in terms of the no guile in their mouth
without fault david says purge me with
hyssop and I shall be clean watch me and
I shall be whiter than snow so these
Saints who take the blood of the Lamb
and washed ourselves we are considered
clean we are considered without fault
before the throne then said I this is
Isaiah now what was me for I am undone
because I am a man of unclean lips and I
dwell in the midst of a people of
unclean lips for my eyes have seen the
king the Lord of hosts so Isaiah's
beside himself that how can he live
having seen the Lord with unclean lips
then flew one of the seraphim's unto me
having a live coal in his hand which he
had taken with the tongs from off the
altar and he laid it upon my mouth and
said lo this has touched your lips and

your iniquity is taken away your sin
purged and your sin purged
so these hundred and forty-four thousand
our spiritual Virgin's the virgins is a
symbol and being without dial they are
cleansed by the blood of the Lamb these
are those who have come through the
tribulation and they have washed
themselves in the blood of them
back to Revelation 14 and they followed
another angel saying Babylon is fallen
is fallen that great city because she
made all nations drink of the wine of
the wrath of her fornication
so the virgins did not participate in
this point and in this spiritual pornea
the spiritual fornication and adultery
but the whole world went along with it
and now finally God is acting so the
Saints who were early in the tribulation
early when the horsemen started to ride
and who were persecuted and slaughter
early in the timeline they had to wait
until all the saints that fulfilled the
full count of God's covenant
faithfulness symbolized by the 144,000
once that count is complete then God
acts and now he brings down Babylon
saying it's fallen it's fall in that
great city because she had made all
nations drink of the wine of the wrath
of her fornication and this is calling
back to the prophecy of Isaiah where as
ayah writes in chapter 21 and behold
there comes a chariot of men with a
couple of horsemen and he answered and
said Babylon is fallen is fallen the
exact same phraseology Babylon has
fallen and then to really reinforce that
it's repeated is fallen Babylon is
fallen is fallen and all the graven
images of her God he has broken unto the
ground so it's a complete collapse of
Babylon now Babylon began with Genesis

and it exists that continues to exist
all the way through until revelation so
in Genesis we saw the beginning of
Babylon 11:1 that the whole earth was of
one language and of one speech one
ideology one concept and that's
everyone's now receiving the mark of the
Satan finally has his way uninterrupted
now the whole earth is of one language
and one ideology they're all united in
their resistance to God and so this
began in Genesis and it doesn't end
until revelation and they said go to let
us build a city and a tower notice the
structure of Babylon from the very
beginning a political beast a city and a
spiritual beast a tower so that the
spiritual beasts give reinforces and
directs everybody to the political beast
and so this is right in the foundation
of Babylon and it doesn't end until
revelation when Christ returns
so we'll go now to Jeremiah to see this
prophecy against Babylon thus says the
Lord behold I will raise up against
Babylon and against them that dwell in
the midst of them that rise up against
me so Babylon has always been an
adversary to God because it's in
collusion with the devil the adversary
of God he's going to rise up and against
them that dwell in the midst of them
that rise up against me a destroying
wind and will send on to Babylon fanners
so now we're seeing these just
separating the shaft of the chaff from
the wheat and then we need the wind to
make that separation I will send on to
Babylon fanners that shall fan her and
shall empty her land for in the day of
trouble shall they be against her
roundabout against him that bends let
against him that bends let the archer
bend his ball and against him that lifts

himself up in his Brigantine or his coat
of mail and spare ye not her young man
destroy you
utterly all her host and we saw this in
Revelation he that lives by the sword
must die by the sword whatever means of
violence you are perpetrating it's gonna
come back on you thus the slain shall
fall in the land of the chaldeans the
Babylonians and they that are thrust
through in her street
notice this in verse five of Jeremiah 51
for Israel has not been forsaken and
this is well you know Christ in Matthew
24
after condemning Jerusalem in Matthew 23
he begins in Matthew 24 saying let no
man deceive you we're going to believe
Jerusalem's gonna be surrounded by
armies we're gonna believe that God has
forsaken Israel the prophecy tells us is
rayul has not been forsaken nor Judah of
his God because of God's covenant
faithfulness that's what the hundred and
forty-four thousand is all about God is
faithful to his covenant the Old
Covenant stands they broke it
God didn't break it and so he put in
place the New Covenant and he's faithful
to a thousand generations for Israel has
not been forsaken nor Judah of his God
of the Lord of Hosts though their land
was filled with sin against the Holy One
of Israel they broke the Covenant they
were unfaithful the God of Israel is not
unfaithful he made a promise to Abraham
and he fulfills that promise flee out of
the midst of Babylon and deliver every
man his soul and we'll see this in
chapter 18 of Revelation where it come
out from her my people be not cut off in
her iniquity for this is the time of the
Lord's vengeance he will render unto her
a recompense

Babylon has been a golden cup in the Lord's hand and made all the earth drunk the nations have drunk of her wine therefore the nations are mad and you know brethren I think we would all agree the nations are mad we are just seeing madness all around the world it's just it's like common sense is gone it doesn't matter what language the nations speak it doesn't matter what their heritage heritage is somehow they've all agreed together to go insane together and then the nations are mad

Babylon is suddenly fallen and destroyed suddenly they they were just so it's like a balloon getting bigger and bigger and bigger and bigger and they think there's no end and then suddenly just bursts and collapse Babylon and these rich men in these mighty men is suddenly fallen and destroyed how offer her take balm for her pain if so be she may be healed and so now we're coming back to chapter 14 and the third angel followed them saying with a loud voice if any man worship the Beast and His image and receive his mark in his forehead or in his hand the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God so again make the big decisions early we we are not gonna drink this wine I'm sorry the whole world is drunk everybody thinks it's a great idea to drink this wine sorry we're not participating anybody who receives the mark on his foot in his forehead or in his hand the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation it's undiluted so if we start thinking like the devil if we start acting like the devil carrying out the devil's works we're going to be branded as the devil's children and then this wrath which is

undiluted is gonna fall on us so we've got to be we've got to be that Psalm 15 character where we're gonna study those characteristics and we're gonna develop those characteristics and we're gonna have God's name written on our foreheads and his work the work of righteousness in our hands the same shall drink the wine of the wrath of God which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the Holy Angels and in the presence of the Lamb so those who decide to to be like Sodom

gamora they're gonna suffer the fate of Sodom and Gomorrah and they're gonna suffer that fate in the presence of the Holy Angels and in the presence of the Lamb their Creator is going to watch this because they have brought this upon themselves he's going to given them every opportunity to repent the gospel will be preached all over the world and every no one can say I didn't know I didn't hear in Psalm 75 David writes for in the hand of the Lord there is a cup and the wine is red it is full of mixture and he pours out the same but the dregs thereof all the wicked of the earth shall wring them out and drink them back to Revelation chapter 14 and the smoke so again we're just seeing how in this book of Revelation all these prophecies they echo the previous voices of the prophets and all these outstanding prophecies of the prophets converge into Revelation there's one God and we're not going to accept any false doctrine false scriptures revelation 14 verse 11 and the smoke of their torment ascends up forever and ever and they have no rest day nor night who worship the Beast and

His image and whosoever receives the mark of his name I just want to comment on this for ever and ever because people think oh they're gonna be burning in hell forever and ever and we understand and know that that's just not the case I think that there may be some this study really is designed specifically for God's people but we may have people listening in who are not did not have the Holy Spirit they're interested in what does the Bible say but this I wouldn't recommend the study of Revelation for somebody who doesn't know the gospel I would recommend Luke and acts understand the gospel first understand what what this path is all about and this now is for people who've made the commitment who then God is saying he wants us to understand what lies ahead just so that we understand the magnitude of the commitment that we've made and we don't go back on it and that we really look forward with eagerness to what lies ahead but in case there are some people here who don't know don't understand that the true doctrines of the Bible and that people are not burning in hell forever and ever there's this phraseology the Bible cannot contradict itself in Romans 6:23 we know that the wages of sin is death wages of sin is death the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord so there's not that you can have eternal life you're wicked and you're sinful but you can have eternal life in hell the Bible says very clear if you're if you are a sinner you die the second death has power over you and you're gone those who are righteous are the ones that live forever so this language of you know torment forever and ever if we look at

Jeremiah and Ezekiel as an example and there are multiple examples we can draw on in Jeremiah 17 27 says but if you will not hearken unto me to hallow the Sabbath day so speaking to Judah and not to bear a burden even entering into the gates in at the gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath day

then I will Kindle a fire in the gates thereof a fire in Jerusalem and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem and it shall not be quenched so this sort of language does this mean that there's going to be a fire burning in Jerusalem and burning the palaces of Jerusalem forever and ever and ever

no it's just it's just a Hebraic language that just means that this once this punishment is complete the result of the punishment is forever you know those who go out of existing go out of existence they go out of existence forever

there they're never coming back and in Ezekiel verse 47 of chapter 20 and say to the forests of the south hear the word of the Lord thus says the Lord God behold I will Kindle a fire in you and it shall devour every green tree in you and every dry tree the the flaming flame shall not

be quenched and all the faces from the south to the north shall be burned therein so again does this mean that this fire is burning forever and the New Jerusalem comes down and this is still on the earth so it's the result of the punishment that is forever it's not that people are going to be living forever when the Bible clearly says the wages of sin is death and so if there is anybody out there listening and interested doesn't quite understand the the Church of God's position on hell and even

heaven I would say please feel free to write to us info at CGI org or info at CGI Canada org either of those and we'll get some information to you continuing then in chapter 14 he says here is the patience of the saints so here is why the Saints can get through this that we understand he who lives by the sword will die by the sword we understand that Babylon is going to be destroyed and so let them have their day let them have their three and a half years and we just have to be patient as this beast's power is given permission to make war with the Saints and to overcome us and yet we will be patient because we are that's why the prophecy under begins with this apocalyptic vision being given to John so that he can give it to us so that we can understand the whole picture and we will not become overly anxious we will trust in the Lord here is the patience of the saints here are they that keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus or were persecuted for our testimony were persecuted for the Word of God or patient and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me write blessed are the Dead which die in the Lord from henceforth notice that brethren blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth it's the opposite of those so many false teachers are saying that if you're caught in this period of the three-and-a-half final three and a half years you're cursed the Bible is actually saying the opposite that if you are of the saints of God and you're in this final period of three and a half years and you die in the Lord you are blessed you are blessed may God grant that we be among the Saints that live in this final three and a half year period and hold to

the testimony of Christ we will be
blessed forever and ever and ever so
blessed are the Dead which die in them
you know we have such an opposite view
everyone's afraid of death blessed are
the Dead which die in the Lord from
henceforth yes says the spirit yeah says
the spirit that they may rest from their
Labour's and their works do follow them
they are going to be rewarded they've
been working righteousness and they've
died in the process of working this
righteousness and if we are among these
Saints we are blessed in Psalm David
says Psalm 116 15 precious in the sight
of the Lord is the death of his Saints
so don't let anybody in any way minimize
any Saints who are faithful to Christ to
the end and die doesn't matter how they
die let's not get caught up - oh look at
that terrible death he must have done
something wrong no the death of the
Saints is precious precious isn't in the
sight of the Lord is the death of his
Saints so so those of us if we are so
fortunate we don't know when this will
come to pass but if we are fortunate
enough to live in this period we want to
die faithful to Christ because these
Saints that die in this period are
special to Christ and in Romans 14 for
whether we live we live unto the Lord
and whether we die if we die unto the
Lord whether we live therefore or die we
are the Lord's so this is the sort of
thinking that we have to strengthen
ourselves with we're the Lord's we've
been purchased with a price and whether
we live we live for the Lord and whether
we die we die for the Lord and so we're
just in God's hands not a hair can fall
from our head without God's permission
and again we don't know if this is
speaking of us that we will be the ones

who will live through this period or if
it just grinds slowly
it's decades out into the future and
hopefully these archives will be
available and people will be building on
this understanding and will be getting
more and more understanding but doesn't
matter how much and we come to
understand one thing we do know God is
faithful to his covenant and if we just
obey Him love him fulfill the words of
this prophecy keep the words of this
prophecy we have nothing to fear
we have nothing to fear and so let's
let's really buckle down and do what we
need to do and if we die we pass over
that we pass on this understanding we
passed the baton on to the next
generation but somebody's gonna live
through this three and a half year
period and they are blessed whoever
these saints that get to live through
this period and die for Christ in this
period they're blessed for eternity and
I look to verse 14 and behold a white
cloud so now he sees this this white
cloud I looked and behold a white cloud
and upon the cloud one sat like unto the
Son of man having on his head a golden
crown and in his hand a sharp sickle and
so this is again tied into the
prophecies that were seen by the
prophets before daniel said i saw in the
night visions and behold one like the
son of man came with the clouds of
heaven same God and came to the ancient
days and they brought him near before
him so this is the time now for the
kingdom to be ushered in and another
angel came out of the temple verse 15
crying with a loud voice to him that sat
on the cloud thrust in your sickle and
reap for the time is come for you to
reap for the harvest of the earth is

ripe so we're talking now about the firstfruits and there's this special set of firstfruits labeled 144,000 but then there's all the set the firstfruits that have been developed through time and there the world only be harvested of Christ's return but it's not just us that are harvested the whole earth is harvested everybody at this time has to make a decision are they for Christ or against him because now the fruit is ripe so he says thrust in your sickle another angel came out of the temple crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the throne thrust in your sickle and reap for the time has come for you to reap so the father is given this message to Christ the harvest of the earth is ripe everybody now is in their camp those who are for the devil are for the devil and those who are for Christ are for Christ and he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth again this is all symbolic language and the earth was reaped and Jeremiah says I will render unto Babylon and all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight says the Lord behold I'm against you O destroying my mountain says the Lord which destroys all the earth and I will stretch out my hand upon you and roll you down from the rocks and make you a burnt mountain and so the daughter of Babylon is like a threshing floor it's time to Thresh her yet a little while and the time of her harvest come so again it's the same God it's the same voice all these outstanding prophets prophecies are now being fulfilled verse 17 and another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven he also having a sharp sickle and another angel came out from the altar

which had power over fire and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle saying thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth for her grapes are fully ripe so there is a first fruits harvest but that's not this this is another harvest this is this is a this is the harvest of wicked men he says another angel came out of the altar having power over fire and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle saying thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth for her grapes are fully

and again Joel just same prophet same same voice Joel says put you in the sickle for the harvest is right come get you down for the press is full the vats overflow for their wickedness is great and so there's this sense of though the wine press the grapes have to be put into the wine press and there's this overflowing of the grape juice or the blood and in in this case and the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God

so this wine press all mankind that's wicked is going to be gathered and put in this wine press representing the wrath of God and as ayah says who is he that comes from Edom or turkey and with dyed garments from Basra this that is glorious in his apparel traveling them the greatness of his strength I that speak in righteousness mighty to save therefore are you read in your apparel and your garments like him that treads in the wine fat I have trodden the winepress alone and of the people there was none with me for I will tread them

in mine anger so God is coming to save
he's mighty to save I will tread them in
mine anger and trample them in my fury
and their blood shall be sprinkled upon
my garments and I will stain all my
remnant so we know that he's coming with
this blood blood-stained garments for
the day of vengeance is in my heart and
the year of my redeemed is come and I
looked and there was none to help and I
wondered that there was none to uphold
therefore my own arm brought salvation
to me and my fury it upheld me and I
will tread down the people in my anger
and I will make them drunk in my fury
and I will bring down their strength to
the earth and so there was none to save
except the one that his might is mighty
to save he's the only one that can
punish the wicked and redeem the
righteous and that's why we saw in
chapter 5 of revelry
that there was none worthy to open this
book and to unfold these seals except
the line of the tribe of Judah the root
of David David he's the one that can
punish and he's the one that can redeem
and so we see now here in chapter 20 as
we finished chapter 14 and the winepress
was trodden without the city and blood
came out of the winepress so instead of
those being grapes that are being these
are now human beings he punished by the
wrath of God and blood came out of the
winepress even unto the horses bridles
there's just so many wicked men by the
space of a thousand and six hundred
furlongs it's even up to the horses
bridles again all symbolic language and
we'll just conclude now in chapter 15
continuing because this is all about the
hundred and forty-four thousand of those
Saints that are symbolized by the
144,000 and I saw another sign in heaven

great and marvellous seven angels having the seven last plagues for in them is filled up the wrath of God and I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire and them that had gotten victory over the beast so in this three-and-a-half year period the Beast unleashes Satan's power and all the power of the devil is given to the Beast of the sea and the Beast of the land but this political beast is unleashed in all of its fury and it's making war with the Saints to overcome the Saints but the Saints are overcoming the Beast and now this beautiful vision that John sees I saw them that had gotten the victory over the Beast the same way that Christ got the victory over Satan here in this final chapter of mankind's history the Saints get the victory over the Beast because of their love for God and over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name so those three things that we needed to buy and sell we refused it and we were put to death but in the way that we died in the faithfulness that we died we got victory over the Beast and we were able to stand on the sea of glass having the harps of God and they sing the song of Moses the servant of God the son of the lamb so they're singing they had a new song earlier that only they could sing and now they're also singing the song of Moses and the song of the lamb saying great and marvelous are your works Lord God Almighty just and true are your ways you king of saints he's the king of things and there's a rejoicing now in this king of the Saints even though this is in the midst of the wicked being punished they've gone with the devil and these Saints are now resurrected and rejoicing

before God and Moses when when the the
children of Israel sang unto the Lord
they said that he triumphed gloriously
and this is the patience of the saints
that we understand he's going to triumph
Laureus Lee and Pharaoh and his rider
the devil they're thrown into the sea
the Lord is my strength and my song and
he's also become my salvation
he's my God and I will prepare him a
habitation my father's God I will exalt
him the Lord is a man of war the Lord is
his name so this is this is the patience
of the Saints we understand God and we
understand he's going to act I just want
to end as we talked about this hundred
and forty-four thousand a very special
group of Saints 144,000 a symbol of
God's covenant faithfulness which needs
to be understood in order to live
through and I'll say die through this
final three and a half year period which
is going to be vicious the devil is
unleashing everything he's thought but
those Saints who are faithful in this
period are counted into this 144,000
group and they are given special
privilege special status and that should
not surprise us because we've known all
the way from first Thessalonians 4:16
that the Lord himself shall descend from
heaven with a shout with the voice of
the Archangel and with the Trump of God
and the dead in Christ shall rise first
so God precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his Saints and these
particular Saints who had to die through
this particular period
they're just going to be exalted and
given special privilege and special
status and the ability to praise God
with special music that no one else has
given this privilege so this is what
encourages us that no matter how bad it

gets we can trust God and so we'll
conclude in chapter 15 and verse 4 who
shall not fear you so these are the
Saints that having come through all of
this who shall not fear you O Lord and
glorify your name for you only you only
are holy for all nations shall come and
worship before you for your judgments
are made obvious this is the God we
serve and the whole world is going mad
the whole world is running after the
devil we're standing firm we understand
who we serve the Lord is a man of war he
that lives by the sword will die by the
sword this is the patience of the saints
and may God grant that did we live into
this final chapter of mankind's history
that we be among those Saints that
understand that we cannot but fear God
we cannot but serve Him we cannot but
praise Him and so we will hold on to our
testimony
we'll keep the commandments of God and
we'll praise Jesus Christ for ever and
ever