REVELATION: PART 42 · STUDY GUIDE

# Revelation 14: The Lamb and the 144,000 on Mount Zion

Revelation 14:1–6 | Sunday, May 7 | Revelation Series

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## OVERVIEW

Revelation 14 is another of the parenthetical chapters, and this one is about the evangelists of the seven years. Hal counts three evangelisations of the world inside that period: the two witnesses in the streets of Jerusalem, then the 144,000 sealed Israelites, then an angel flying in midair with the eternal Gospel. The chapter opens with the Lamb standing on mount Zion — on the earth, not in heaven — and the 144,000 with Him, every one of them still alive at the end, which Hal calls the great miracle of the chapter. Their survival depends on converts hiding and feeding them, and that takes him across to Matthew 25 and the judgment of the Gentiles, where sheep and goats are divided by how they treated "these brothers of mine." He comes back to read the new song no one else can learn, and the description of these men: undefiled, following the Lamb wherever He goes, first fruits, no lie in their mouth, blameless.

## KEY SCRIPTURES

**Revelation 14:1–5** — The Lamb on mount Zion with the 144,000, and the song no one else can learn

**Matthew 24** — This Gospel of the kingdom preached in all the world — addressed, Hal says, to believing Israelites of the Tribulation

**Revelation 11** — The two witnesses, Moses and Elijah, preaching from the streets of Jerusalem

**Revelation 7** — Where the 144,000 are sealed before any harm may come to the earth

**Matthew 25** — The judgment of the Gentiles — the sheep, the goats, and "these brothers of mine"

**Ezekiel 20** — Where the Israelites are divided, believer from unbeliever, by mount Sinai

**Revelation 14:6** — Another angel flying in midair with the eternal Gospel

**1 Peter 1:8** — Though you have not seen Him, you love Him — an inexpressible, glorious joy

**John 5:24** — He who hears and believes has eternal life already, and shall not come into judgment

## KEY TERMS

**Parenthetical chapter** — a chapter that explains the main movements and the main people of the seven years instead of carrying the action forward

**The three evangelisations** — Hal's count of how the world is reached in seven years: the two witnesses, then the 144,000, then an angel

**The tribe of Dan** — the tribe left out of the sealing; Hal believes it is left out because the false prophet comes from it

**Ta ethne** — the Greek in Matthew 25 that can be read "nations" or "Gentiles"; Hal says it must be Gentiles here, because only individuals can be judged for eternal life

**Guilt trippers** — Hal's name for preachers whose main theme is fear, guilt and obligation — which, he says, is not the Gospel

**First fruits** — what the 144,000 are called: the first of all those who will be saved during that period

**The eternal Gospel** — the angel's message; Hal notes the Greek has no article before "eternal," which puts the stress on your eternal destiny being at stake

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

*Answer from the message itself. Every answer is in the teaching.*

1. Why is this called a parenthetical chapter, and what is it about?

2. Whom is Jesus addressing in Matthew 24 when He says this Gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world?

3. What are the three evangelisations of the world during those seven years?

4. Which tribe is left out of the 144,000, and what does Hal believe about it?

5. Where is the Lamb standing in verse 1, and why does Hal press the point?

6. What does Hal call the great thrill of this chapter?

7. When does the judgment of Matthew 25 take place, and who is judged there?

8. Why does Hal say ta ethne must be translated "Gentiles" rather than "nations"?

9. Who are "these brothers of mine," and what does the way people treated them show?

10. What does Hal say about preachers who motivate by fear, guilt and obligation?

11. What is the new song, and who can learn it?

12. How are the 144,000 described in verses 4 and 5?

## DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION

1. Hal says every one of the 144,000 comes through the whole period alive — and only because ordinary converts hide them and feed them. Whose faithfulness has kept you going?

2. In Matthew 25 the sheep are surprised: they do not remember doing anything for the King. What does that say about the kind of goodness God notices?

3. Hal is hard on preaching that motivates by fear, guilt and obligation. Where have you felt that, and what did it do to you?

4. He says that if people really get hold of what Jesus has done, you have to tie them down rather than prod them out. What would that look like in this group?

5. Only these men can learn their song, because only they went through what they went through. How has something you suffered changed the way you praise God?

6. They carry the name of God on their foreheads while the rest of the world carries the beast's mark. What is written on you, and who can read it?

## MEMORY VERSE

> *"Then I looked, and behold, the Lamb was standing on mount Zion."*
>
> — Revelation 14:1, as Hal reads it in this message