GOD'S END-TIME WARRIORS

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"144,000"

(Revelation 7)

SESSION #5 – WORKBOOK
Intended For
"KINGDOM WARRIORS IN THE ARMY OF GOD"

Unveiling Mysteries in the "Book of Revelation"

Based upon the Book:

GOD'S ANOINTED WARRIORS

By

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(Slides # 2 - 4)

SUMMARY OF THE FIRST SIX SEALS

Recall that the breaking of the first five seals began in the 1st century shortly after the gospel of Jesus Christ first went out into the world.

These spiritual powers, symbolized by the four horsemen, continue to affect the entire world. Yet Jesus refers to these afflictions as "merely the beginning of birth pains."

Now the tremendously devastating event that is launched with the opening of the 6^{th} seal has not yet occurred.

- \triangleright However, it is highly probable that the 6th seal "earthquake" that rocks the world is the same earthquake described in book of Ezekiel when a mighty army from the north descends upon the nation of Israel and destroyed on the Golan Heights.
- ➤ It is also probable that this massive earthquake is the trigger that will launch a global nuclear war which will devastate 1/3 of the entire earth. This is depicted in the forthcoming trumpet series which will be addressed in the next session.

Thus, what we see in the opening of the 6^{th} seal is a portrayal of the entire scenario beginning with a great earthquake and evolving into a nuclear holocaust.

- All of this is extremely hard for Christians to accept as a forthcoming event is allowed by the Lord Himself but we must remember that this will also be a time of opportunity to stand and fight for the Kingdom of God against a spiritual enemy that will soon launch the most powerful offensive attack against the church since the beginning of time.
- ➤ The Lord is calling us to join Him in this great end-time war against the forces of the Prince of Darkness who has kept mankind in bondage for the last 6,000 years.

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(Slides # 5 - 6)

HOPE CONTINUES TO SHINE IN THE MIDST OF DARKNESS

Tremendous devastation will take place on the earth during the coming period of "trumpet judgments." One-third of the earth, the seas, and mankind are targeted for destruction, yet two-thirds will survive.

Key Points:

However, if it were God's purpose to destroy the entire earth, He wouldn't do it in stages.

These trumpet judgments are unbelievably devastating, yet they are still warnings to mankind and a **call for repentance**.

In fact, God will plant His chosen warriors among the nations to be powerfully anointed ministers for Christ during this time of great suffering.

> For before the first trumpet sounds, the Lord will send an angel to seal His "servants of God" in order to prepare them for the trumpet judgments that will soon descend upon the earth.

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, saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the <u>servants</u> of our God on their foreheads." And I heard the number of the sealed, <u>144,000</u>, <u>sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:</u> *Revelation 7:2-4*

(Slide # 7)

"144,000" SERVANTS = ARMY OF GOD IN LAST DAYS

<u>"Servants"</u> is an English word that really doesn't fully communicate the character of these men and women who will receive the seal of God prior to the launching of the trumpet series of events.

- ➤ In both Hebrew and Greek it is a description applied to the apostles, to the prophets, to Moses, to the true worshippers of Christ,¹ and to anyone who gives himself wholly to another without regard to personal interests.²
- These are the characteristics found in these mighty "servants of God."

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¹ Acts 10:36; Ephesians 6:6

² 1 Corinthians 7:23

Key Points:

This group of 144,000 are warrior-spirited servants serving as soldiers in the Army of God during the latter days.

- They are totally sold out to the Lord Jesus Christ and will glorify His name with their lives throughout the latter days of God's judgments.
- They are the God's Anointed Warriors in the Body of Christ whose light will continue to shine in the midst of great darkness.
- They will bring the hope of salvation to millions of people who are scared and searching for answers.

These <u>"warrior-spirited servants of God"</u> are commonly known as the 144,000 Sons of Israel descended from the twelve tribes of Israel.

They represent "God's Anointed Warriors" that are the disciples who will be empowered and dispatched by their King, Jesus Christ to minister in the midst of the Great Tribulation.

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(Slide # 8)

WHO ARE THE "SONS OF ISRAEL" REFLECTED BY THE 12 TRIBES?

And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

12,000 from the tribe of <u>Judah</u> = Jews
12,000 from the tribe of Gad,
12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali,
12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali,
12,000 from the tribe of <u>Simeon</u> = Jews
12,000 from the tribe of Levi,
12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun,

12,000 from the tribe of Joseph, (Ephraim) 12,000 from the tribe of **Benjamin** = **Jews**

Revelation 7:4-8

Before discussing their identity in our generation, understand that there are primarily two opposing views which are widely held by the western church:

First, there is what many call the "pre-tribulation dispensational" view.

Adherents of this view believe that the 12 tribes of Israel who are sealed prior to the trumpet series are the latter day Jewish people from the nation of Israel.

This view teaches that only Jewish people will comprise the earthly church during the Great Tribulation since the present day Christian church will have been raptured.

Additionally, they also "assume" that natural Israel is simply today's "Jews."

This view erroneously infers that since the descendants of the northern tribes (who are not Jewish) can no longer be visibly identified, they cannot be counted among the sons of Israel.

Second, there is what is commonly known as the "spiritual Israel" view.

Adherents of this view believe that these 12 tribes of Israel represent the New Testament church.

- This teaching that the church has replaced Israel as the chosen people of God is commonly called "replacement theology" and has been embraced by many in the church for centuries.
- Now, there certainly are some New Testament verses which address the parallelism between Israel and the Church.³ Yet these passages do not teach that the Israelite nation has been replaced by the church as God's New Testament people.
- This is a false theology and a very dangerous teaching that resulted in hatred toward the Jews whose descendants are continually blamed for the crucifixion of Christ.

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³ Galatians 3:29; Philippians 3:3; Romans 2:28-29; 9:6

(Slide # 9)

WHO ARE THE "SONS OF ISRAEL" REFLECTED BY THE 12 TRIBES?

Now this brings us to another perspective that is much more rational and biblically sound than those teachings outlined above.

First - Note the following question:

> Why are all "twelve tribes" of Israel included among those sealed prior to the trumpet judgments?"

And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

,	,,
12,000 from the tribe of $\underline{\mathbf{Judah}} = \mathbf{Jews}$	12,000 from the tribe of Reuben,
12,000 from the tribe of \overline{Gad} ,	12,000 from the tribe of Asher,
12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali,	12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh,
12,000 from the tribe of $\underline{\mathbf{Simeon}} = \mathbf{Jews}$	12,000 from the tribe of Levi,
12,000 from the tribe of Issachar,	12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun,
12,000 from the tribe of Joseph, (Ephraim)	12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin = Jews
	Revelation 7:4-8

Key Points:

Today's Jews are descendants of only a couple of tribes, primarily Judah & Benjamin, which historically comprised the Southern Kingdom of Israel known as the Judeans.

- ➤ However, this sealing of 144,000 also includes tribes within the Northern Kingdom of Israel which were scattered among the nations of the world over 2,700 years ago.
- ➤ Thus, the identity of the 144,000 runs much deeper than those traditional views of modern day theologians who erroneously teach that either all Israel means "the church" or "the Jews".
- Let's take a look; perhaps you will find the following both intriguing and enlightening.

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(Slide # 10)

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE NORTHERN KINGDOM OF ISRAEL

The Bible records that the foolishness of King Rehoboam, who was the son of Solomon, caused the Northern Tribes to rebel and establish a separate nation.

This occurred around 930 BC, when Israel was divided into two separate kingdoms.

	<u>Tri</u>	bes in	the Northe	rn King	dom of Isr	ael = Is	raelites or Ephi	raimites	
1.	Reuben	2.	Gad	3.	Asher	4.	Naphtali	5.	Manasseh
6.	Issachar	7.	Ephraim	8.	Zebulun	9.	Levi (partial)	10.	Dan

	Tribes in the	Southern Kingdo	om of Judah = Jews
1. Judah	2. Benjamin	3. Simeon	4. Levi (partial)

However, a small number of peoples among the northern tribes did later emigrate to the south.

Now let's take a brief look at what happened to both these northern and southern tribes following their division into two separate kingdoms:

Over a period of 200 plus years, 19 "evil kings", ruled over the **Northern Kingdom**, which evolved into a tremendously dark and idolatrous nation. After they continually refused to listen to the prophetic messengers that the Lord sent to them, the nation of Assyria, an enemy of Israel, was commissioned by God to conquer the Northern Kingdom in 722 BC. It was a brutal massacre of men, women, and children, but those who survived were all deported from the land and forced to assimilate into other nations and cultures where they completely lost their religious and national identity. Thus, the Northern Kingdom of Israel was gone and these 10 Tribes never reappeared in the pages of history after their defeat by the Assyrians.

The <u>Southern Kingdom</u> continued to remain in the land, although 130 years later, due to their idolatrous lifestyle, they were conquered by the Babylonians and went into captivity for 70 years (beginning in 605 BC) after which approximately 50,000 people returned to their homeland and the city of Jerusalem. These 50,000 who chose to leave Babylon (536 BC) and return to their country are those who came to be known as the "Jews". Yet, as many as 95% of the Judean descendants chose to remain in Babylon and were assimilated into the Babylonian culture.

Why is this important?

- > It gives us understanding of where today's "Jews" come from.
- > This means that the descendants of the Northern Tribes, as well as those who remained in Babylon, are "not" considered "Jews."

(Slide # 13)

GOD'S COVENANT EMBRACES ALL THE DESCENDANTS OF ISRAEL

Isn't it somewhat ironic that today's "Jews" are continually referred to as national Israel, yet they represent a very, very, small fraction of Abraham's descendants through Isaac and Jacob?

Now this does raise some interesting questions:

➤ Didn't God make His covenant with "all" the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob which are represented by the 12 tribes of Israel?

In fact – they were to be become a multitude of nations:

Genesis 17:3-7

And God said to him, "Behold, my covenant is with you, and **you shall be the father of a multitude of nations.**

No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, **for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations.**

I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and <u>I will make you into nations</u>, and kings shall come from you.

And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant , to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

Because of the disappearance of the Northern Tribes, does this covenant now apply only to the house of Judah? Consider the following:

> Just before the fall of the Northern Kingdom in 722 BC, the Lord sent the prophet Hosea to Israel to prophesy concerning the coming captivity.

In order to illustrate His long-suffering nature for Ephraim, the Lord told his chosen prophet, Hosea to marry a harlot. Subsequently, she was unfaithful to Hosea which broke his heart and she left him for other lovers. After a period of time, the Lord told Hosea to forgive her and take her back and be restored as his wife. Likewise, the Lord states that Ephraim would someday be restored and become His Bride. ⁴

In his writings, <u>Hosea foretold what was to take place for Ephraim (10 Northern Tribes)</u> after their disappearance into captivity – that is:

- The number of their descendants would be more than the "sand of the sea which cannot be measured." 5
- ➤ They were to be rejected and become "wanderers among the nations." ⁶

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⁴ Hosea 2:14-23; Zechariah 10:6

⁵ Hosea 1:10

➤ However, the Lord was not finished with the Northern Tribes, nor would He ever be finished with them. ⁷

(Slide # 14)

GOD'S COVENANT EMBRACES ALL THE DESCENDANTS OF ISRAEL

Hosea foretold what was to take place for the 10 Northern Tribes after their disappearance into captivity – that is:

- 1. The number of their descendants would be more than the "sand of the sea which cannot be measured."
- 2. They would become "wanderers among the nations."
- 3. The Lord was not finished with the Northern Tribes, nor would He ever be finished with them.
- 4. Ephraim would someday be restored and become His Bride.

(Slide # 15)

ISRAEL (EPHRAIM) NOW LIVING AMONG THE NATIONS

4,000 years ago, Jacob laid his hands upon his grandson Ephraim (a son of Joseph) and prophesized that the descendants of Ephraim would become a multitude of nations.⁸

- ➤ As most bible scholars know, the name of Ephraim in scripture frequently refers to the entire Northern Kingdom.
- ➤ Certainly, Ephraim was the largest tribe, but as big as it got, it never became a multitude of nations before it disappeared in 722 BC.
- ➤ Well then, if it didn't happen before the disappearance, then Ephraim must have become a multitude of nations after its disappearance.

Not only will the descendants of Ephraim (Northern Kingdom) suddenly reappear, but after thousands of years of separation, they would once again be united with Judah (Southern Kingdom).⁹

⁶ Hosea 7:8, 8:8, 9:17; Micah 5:7-8

⁷ Hosea 11:8-9

⁸ Genesis 48:19

⁹ Larry Simmons, 42 Months to Glory (Oklahoma City, OK: Ephraim House Publishers, 1994), p.86

The prophet Ezekiel speaks clearly of this future uniting of Judah and Ephraim and we also learn from scripture that when Ephraim returns back in the land of Israel where they were once cast out, they will be forever called "sons of the Living God." 10

(Slides # 16 - 19)

ISRAEL (EPHRAIM) NOW LIVING AMONG THE NATIONS

Now, approximately 150 years after the 10 northern tribes fell into captivity, the prophet Jeremiah revealed that God was going to make a New Covenant with the house of Judah "and" with the house of Israel?

"Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. *Jeremiah 31:31 & 33*

Were the prophets mistaken when they heard from the Lord that He was going to forgive and restore (not replace) the house of Israel as a people of God?

"I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph. I will bring them back because I have compassion on them, and they shall be as though I had not rejected them, for I am the Lord their God and I will answer them. Then Ephraim shall become like a mighty warrior, and their hearts shall be glad as with wine. Their children shall see it and be glad; their hearts shall rejoice in the Lord. "I will whistle for them and gather them in, for I have redeemed them, and they shall be as many as they were before. Though I scattered them among the nations, yet in far countries they shall remember me, and with their children they shall live and return. Zechariah 10:6-9

There are numerous biblical prophecies predicting the restoration and uniting of the 12 tribes into one nation once again who will eternally serve the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.¹¹

One last example – The Lord spoke the following to His prophet Ezekiel:

"Son of man, take a stick and write on it, <u>'For Judah,</u> and the people of Israel associated with him'; then take another stick and write on it, <u>'For Joseph</u> (the stick of Ephraim) and all the house of Israel associated with him.' <u>And join them one to another into one stick</u>, that they may become one in your hand.

And when your people say to you, 'Will you not tell us what you mean by these?' say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I am about to take the stick of Joseph (that is in the hand of

¹⁰ Ezekiel 37:19-21; Hosea 1:10

¹¹ Hosea 11:8-9; Zechariah 10:6; Ezekiel 37: 16-22; Micah 5:7-8

Ephraim) and the tribes of Israel associated with him. And I will join with it the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, that they may be one in my hand.

When the sticks on which you write are in your hand before their eyes, then say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will take the people of Israel from the nations among which they have gone, and will gather them from all around, and bring them to their own land. And I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. And one king shall be king over them all, and they shall be no longer two nations, and no longer divided into two kingdoms. Ezekiel 37:16-22

(Slide # 20)

Now, it is true that descendants of the former northern tribes no longer exist as a single nation, yet they do exist worldwide in many nations.

- ➤ God has scattered them among the nations, but He is about to anoint and seal many of them for a future purpose.
- Well, where are they? Where has the Lord hidden them? Obviously, they don't even know themselves.

The fact that we have lost track of these descendants of the Northern Kingdom is irrelevant. Our Lord has made promises to those people which will be kept.

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(Slides # 21 - 22)

IS AMERICA - HOME TO THE DESCENDANTS OF EPHRAIM?

Well, let's take a look at where these descendants of Ephraim may currently live.

- There are many stories concerning how numerous descendants of the 10 Lost Tribes have migrated to Europe.
- Also, it is interesting to note that the prophet <u>Hosea says that at the time of Ephraim's return</u> to the land of Israel, many will come from "the west". 12

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¹² Hosea 11:10

➤ Certainly many of these peoples would have migrated into Europe and subsequently, to America.

It is a strong probability that a great number of the descendants of Ephraim are Christians living in the United States. <u>Note the following interesting parallels:</u>

The Lord has put His laws on their hearts:

- The covenant of circumcision was required of ancient Israel. Up until the 1980's, babies were routinely circumcised in the United States and millions still are today. This was one of the few nations upon earth, besides Israel, to do so. Why us?
- The United States was the first nation to have a five day work week, thus observing the Sabbath as well as Sunday. Where did that originate?

Finally, Paul tells us in Romans that "all Israel will be saved" when the "fullness of the Gentiles has come in." ¹³ Perhaps this is because the "10 Northern Tribes" are mixed in with the Gentile nations.

Think about this!

- ➤ When we consider our own genealogy, can we trace our roots back 200 years? 500 years? How about 2,700 years?
- Modern Israel consists of Jewish immigrants from many nations. Ephraim, with many more people and an 800 year head start, would be much more widespread than Judah.
- > So, whether one is Hispanic, Asian, Negro, Indian, or Caucasian, it's more than probable that many of us are physical brothers and sisters descended from Abraham who have immigrated to many countries around the world. Only God knows with certainty.
- Now, this doesn't mean that every Christian is a descendant from Ephraim, although certainly many are; perhaps the great majority. But, like Rahab, Ruth, and Jethro, many Gentiles are also grafted into the promises of Israel.

BREAK-TIME

(Slides # 23 - 24)

(Slide # 25)

THE MEANING OF THE NUMBER "144,000"

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¹³ Romans 11:25-27

Key Points: The number twelve in the bible frequently represents the people of God. For example: ➤ 12 Tribes of Israel in the Old Testament ➤ 12 Apostles of Christ in the New Testament The 24 Elders before the throne of God in Revelation 4 are probably, representatives of God's people from both the Old Testament and the New Testament. The New Jerusalem will have 12 gates bearing the names of the 12 tribes of Israel and will also have 12 foundation stones bearing the names of the 12 Apostles. > 144,000 will be sealed with the names of both the Father and the Son written on their foreheads.¹⁴ $144,000 = 12 \times 12 \times 1,000.$ The use of the number 144,000 does not necessarily imply an exact number of those sealed; it is possibly symbolic of a perfect totality of those God has chosen to be sealed as His anointed witnesses prior to the coming trumpet series. Notes: (Slides # 26 - 27)

¹⁴ Revelation 14:1

THE IDENTITY OF THE 144,000 SEALED SERVANTS OF GOD

Key Points:

Who are the 144,000 sealed servants of God and where do they come from?

- They are Christians descended from the tribes of the southern kingdom (Jews), and
- They are Christians descended from the tribes of the northern kingdom (Israelites or sons of Ephraim), and
- ➤ They are Christians descended from the gentile nations who have been grafted into God's people.

Currently, they reside in every nation around the world, but a day is coming when they will all gather together with their Commander-in-Chief, Jesus Christ on Mt. Zion.¹⁵

The 144,000 who are sealed are a remnant of the church, not the whole.

- ➤ These are the mighty warriors in the Army of God who will lead His people during the reign of terror that will descend upon the earth; men and women who heard and obeyed the command of Jesus to "be prepared" for His coming.
- > These are the ones who choose to follow the Lamb wherever he goes and they are redeemed from mankind as "firstfruits for God and the Lamb.16"

This section of prophecy is not speaking of eternal salvation; it is an anointing of discipleship for those who will be a powerful light in the midst of the darkest period in the history of the world.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. *Isaiah 60:1-2*

Many will be eternally saved but not sealed.

➤ We see a sign of this immediately after the sealing of the 144,000, when John is shown a numberless multitude from every nation worshipping before the throne of God.

(Slides # 28 - 29)

A NUMBERLESS MULTITUDE WORSHIPPING

¹⁵ Revelation 14:1-5

¹⁶ Revelation 14:4

BEFORE THE THRONE

(Revelation 7:9-17)

This great multitude will be comprised of those Christians who were within the church at the launching of the latter day judgments as well as many others who are among the great harvest that will take place within the midst of the great tribulation.

These are Christians who have suffered tremendous sorrow, grief, hunger, and of course, persecution from the worldly system, but refused to compromise their faith even unto death.

Key Points:

This is a depiction of those who are now experiencing His glory, following their suffering and death in the midst of the great tribulation.

- Now they will reign forever and ever with our Lord because they have truly repented and were reborn into the kingdom of God.
- > Death may be a blessing conferred on people for their faithfulness and to deliver them from evil times.

They are those who overcame the world like the Apostle Paul who believed that:

➤ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs-heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. Romans 8:16-18

The purpose for John receiving this vision of the multitude and recording it is to continually provide hope for our Christian brothers and sisters who will experience great difficulties during this approaching time of great tribulation.

It is intended to encourage them in their sufferings knowing that it is not worthy to be compared with the eternal glory that awaits those who remain steadfast in their faith unto death.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you." *Matthew 5:10-12*

(Slides # 30 - 31)

144,000 IS A REMNANT OF THE CHURCH - NOT THE WHOLE

Again, it is a special privilege for some believers, granted by the Lord Himself that they might suffer for the sake of Christ.

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ...... standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, *Philippians 1:27-29*

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"Striving side by side" is perhaps, <u>witnessing two by two</u> proclaiming the gospel in the midst of evil darkness which has come upon the entire earth.

- ➤ This is publicly proclaiming Jesus Christ without fear of the enemy even though you are in the midst of severe persecution. Joy remains in the hearts of these warriors.
- ➤ They love Jesus Christ and they love others more than they value their own lives.

Now the 144,000 who have been sealed for the mission of discipleship during the great tribulation will be greatly challenged.

- As it was with the apostle Paul, tough, challenging times await this sealed army of Christ.
- Yet, wherever they go proclaiming His name in the midst of chaos, they will go in a powerful anointing that will greatly impact many peoples across the earth.¹⁷
- A great revival lies ahead, but contrary to much modern day teaching, the greatest revival will come in the midst of the greatest tribulation.

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¹⁷ John 14:12-14

LEADERSHIP QUALITIES THAT IDENTIFY THE "144,000"

They are among those historical champions of God who were willing to lay down their lives for the gospel of the kingdom. They understand that they will be persecuted by the world, but it doesn't deter them.

- They are Christians who continually deny themselves and take up the cross daily and follow Christ. 18
- They are His true disciples in the latter days that view chaos as the greatest opportunity for the light to shine in the midst of darkness.
- They are warriors that continue to rejoice in the midst of trials for they know that it is through the bootcamp in the wilderness that faith and purity of heart is greatly strengthened.
- Their military mindset understands that there is no victory without a battle and one is not equipped for battle without the training received in the bootcamp of life's tough challenges. 19

They are those who deeply sigh and groan over the sinful abominations that are committed in the midst of the nations.

- ➤ They are being sealed like their brothers and sisters were prior to the destruction of Jerusalem in the days of Ezekiel.²⁰
- > Today, these are those in the Body of Christ who recognize the challenging times that are coming quickly and they can be frequently found strengthening their relationship with the Lord in their respective prayer closets.
- ➤ They are habitual intercessors who understand that in order for true faith to be exercised, one needs to let go of the world and lay hold of Heaven. They are the "watchmen" who are prophets in the Army of God.²¹

Many Christians may believe that this is not for them; but it is for all who will hear His voice and begin to spiritually prepare.

In summary, the 144,000 "servants of God" do not include the entire church, but are the firstfruits of His people, those anointed disciples of Jesus that walk with Him for $3\frac{1}{2}$ years during His latter day's ministry.

¹⁸ Luke 9:23

¹⁹ James 1:2-4

²⁰ Ezekiel 9:4

²¹ Isaiah 21:6; Ezekiel 3:17

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	(Slide # 35)
	THE NEXT SESSION:
	First Read: Revelation $8-10$
	TRUMPETS, NUKES, & A LITTLE BOOK
>	Opening the 7 th Seal
٠ '	The Dawning of the Day of the Lord
> '	The Blowing of the 1st Trumpet that Burns 1/3 of the Land
> '	The Blowing of the 2nd Trumpet that Burns 1/3 of the Oceans
٠ '	The Blowing of the 3rd Trumpet that Burns 1/3 of the Fresh Waters
> '	The Blowing of the 4th Trumpet that Darkens 1/3 of the Daylight
> '	The Blowing of the 5 th & 6th Trumpets & their Effect on 1/3 of Mankind
	An Interlude:
٠.	A Mighty Angel Descends with a "Little Book"
> .	A Mighty Angel Descends with a "Little Book"

THE LAMB OF GOD - OUR TRUE "COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF"

The days are rapidly approaching when a tremendous separation will take place among mankind.

Yet, during this present era of warfare, He reigns as our Commander-in-Chief and His Name continues to be the battle cry for those warriors who fight daily for righteousness and truth.

His name is Jesus, Our Lord, Our King, Our Commander-in-Chief

- A truly mighty Leader who would never delegate assignments to His people that He Himself wouldn't readily embrace.
- > A Commander that Christian warriors will readily follow not matter the danger or what costs have to be paid.
- These are warriors whose deepest desire is to hear Jesus welcome them with the following words when they enter into His presence:

....... 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' *Matthew 25:21*