

Questions & Answers From The Bible Sunday Night Series



REVELATION... CHAPTERS 7 & 14

12 Tribes x 12,000 People

144,000 JEWS

THE 144,000... <u>JEWS</u>

12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel... Ch. 7:4-8

- 4 And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.
- 5 Of the tribe of Juda were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Reuben were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Gad were sealed twelve thousand.
- 6 Of the tribe of Aser were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Nepthalim were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Manasses were sealed twelve thousand.
- 7 Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Levi were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Issachar were sealed twelve thousand.
- 8 Of the tribe of Zabulon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Joseph were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Benjamin were sealed twelve thousand.

Much of the confusion regarding the 144,000 is a result of the false doctrine of the Jehovah's Witnesses. The Jehovah's Witnesses claim that 144,000 is a limit to the number of people who will reign with Christ in heaven and spend eternity with God. The 144,000 have what the Jehovah's Witnesses call the "heavenly hope."

Those who are not among the 144,000 will enjoy what they call the "earthly hope"—a paradise on earth ruled by Christ and the 144,000. It is true that there will be people ruling in the millennium with Christ.

These people will be comprised of the church (believers in Jesus Christ, 1 Corinthians 6:2), Old Testament saints (believers who died before Christ's first advent, Daniel 7:27), and tribulation saints (those who accept Christ during the tribulation, Revelation 20:4).

Yet the Bible places no numerical limit on this group of people.

Furthermore, the millennium is different from the eternal state, which will be established at the completion of the millennial period. At that time, God will dwell with us in the New Jerusalem.

He will be our God, and we will be His people (Revelation 21:3).

The inheritance promised to us in Christ and sealed by the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13–14) will become ours, and we will be co-heirs with Christ (Romans 8:17).