

The 144,000: The Godhead's First String

Revelation 14:1-5

February 5, 2023

I. Introduction

A. Overview of Chapter 14

1. 144,000 – v. 1-5
2. First Angel: The everlasting gospel – vs. 6, 7
3. Second angel: the doom of Babylon – v. 8
4. Third angel: the doom of the beast worshippers – vs. 9-13
5. Angels 4, 5, 6: the harvest of the earth – vs. 14-19
6. Armageddon – v. 20

B. A reminder of what we learn from Revelation

1. Our God is the one true God, and He wins!
2. Satan is defeated
3. Heaven and Hell are real
4. God can grant His own the ability to walk victoriously

II. The lamb and the 144,000 – vs. 1-5

A. Where they are – v. 1a

1. We first saw the 144,000 in Chapter 7
2. They apparently minister throughout the Tribulation
3. Before the Lamb (28 times in Revelation)
 - a. See 19:13-16
4. On Mount Zion
 - a. Only reference in Revelation
 - b. Used seven times in the New Testament
 - c. It speaks of the earthly Jerusalem in II Samuel 5:7 and Isaiah 2:3
 - d. Hebrews 12:22 - heavenly Jerusalem, or a symbol of rejoicing & security

B. Who they belong to – v. 1b

1. The Godhead (I Corinthians 6:19, 20)
2. According to 7:4 and 9:4 they have the name of the Father and Son on their forehead
3. Paul bore a mark on his body
 - a. I Corinthians 15:49; Galatians 6:17

C. What they are doing – vs. 2, 3

1. John hears a voice from heaven
 - a. Like the sound of many waters: great volume
 - b. Like loud thunder: great loudness

- c. Like the sound of harps: soothing

2. They learned and sang a song

- a. They were before the throne
- b. They were before the four living creatures
- c. They were before the elders
 - i. Only they could sing it because no people ever went through what they did

D. How they are described – vs. 4, 5

1. They have not been defiled with women

- a. Laws of Holy war:
 - i. Deuteronomy 20; I Samuel 21:5; II Samuel 11:11 I Tim 3:2; I Thessalonians 4:1-8; James 4:4 (Spiritual adultery)
- b. Chaste - pure, virgin – v II Corinthians 11:2
- c. See Psalm 86:11

2. They follow the Lamb wherever He goes

- a. Some do: Mark 2:14; John 21:19; Acts 9:11, 17, 26, 27
- b. Some do not: Mark 10:21-22; Luke 9:59-62
- c. Some do only after being disciplined: Jonah
- d. Are you willing to be what He wants you to be and do what He wants you to do? If you are, you will go where He wants you to go?

3. They are first fruits to God and the Lamb

- a. They are the first to be saved among the Jews during the Tribulation
- b. Others will follow: Romans 11:26; Zechariah 8:22; Isaiah 2:3

4. No lie was found in their mouth

- a. Ephesians 4:25, 29
- b. James 3:2

5. They are blameless

- a. Daniel 6:35; Job 1:8
- b. Acts 16:1, 2; I Timothy 3:2; 14-16