**Revelation Chapter Seven, the Interim, between 6-7 Seals.**

**”John hits the ‘Pause Button’”**

**Let’s Review...**

1. **When the elders explain something to John, they are explaining things going on in heaven.**
2. **When the living creatures explain something to him, it pertains to the earth. Give examples, for instance: Rev. 5:5-6. Does Chapter 7 have other examples?**
3. **Rev. 6-19, details the Seventieth Week of Daniel. Explain**
4. **When does the Tribulation begin? Rev.6:16-17. After the Lamb opens the seal.**
5. **Discuss the question at the end of Chapter 6. Chapter 7 answers this.**
6. **When does the Wrath of the Lamb appear? Compare that to the actions of the Gentle Shepherd.**
7. **In the first four seals, how much of the earth’s population is destroyed?**
8. **In Luke 21:36, Jesus says, “Pray always that you will be able to escape.” “Escape” what? John never asks a question in the entire book of Revelation.**
9. **Here are the “Pause Sections” in Revelation: Rev. 7:1-17, Rev. 10:1-11, Rev. 11:1-14, Rev. 12, Rev. 13, and Rev. 14. Why do you think John chooses to pause in strategic locations? The first pause answers the question in Rev.6:7, “Who can stand?”**

**Revelation--Chapter 7**

1. **There are two divisions in the Chapter 7: Sealed Servants (1-8) Saved Servants (9-17)**
2. **Why is Chapter 7 called the parenthesis?**
3. **Who are the angels mentioned in verse 1-2? All action stops momentarily, waiting for the other events.**
4. **What are the four corners of the earth? What are the four winds? Is this implying that the earth is flat? N., S., E., W.**
5. **In Verse 2, describe the angel? Is there a difference between this angel and the first four mentioned in verse 1?**
6. **This angel that “seals the 144,000” comes from the east; the 144,000 are gazing toward the “sun rising.” Read Malachi 4:2 and compare the similarity.**
7. **Discuss the “until” clause in verse 3-4? Until the 144,000 Jews are sealed**
8. **God’s sovereignty is obvious throughout this section of Revelation. Compare with Psalm 135:6-7.**
9. **Discuss “sealed” in verse 3-4.**  Jewish, virgin, young men, from the 12 tribes. Children of Israel.
10. **Did John actually “see” the 144,000?**
11. **Read I Kings 19:18 and examine the 7,000 Jews in the days of Ahab who did not bow the knee to Baal. Also refer to Romans 11:4-6. Are these similar to the “remnant” of the tribes of Israel in Rev. 7.**
12. **Name the tribes mentioned in verse 5-**8. **Which tribes are missing from the original 12 tribes?** This is literal. 12,000 from 12 tribes. **Read. Genesis 35:23-26 and Exodus 1:1-4. And detail the 12 tribes of Israel. Zilpah—Gad and Asher, Leah—Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Rachel—Joseph (Manasseh and Ephraim), Benjamin, Bilhah—Dan, Naphtali---the Twelve Tribes…29 times in the Bible the 12 tribes are listed. Often the list is different. Joseph’s sons are often listed as two, and sometimes as one. There is a difference between the twelve tribes of Israel and the twelve sons of Israel. “Israel” is the name that God gave Jacob (**[**Genesis 32:28**](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Genesis%2032.28)**). His twelve sons are Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin (**[**Genesis 35:23-26**](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Genesis%2035.23-26)**;**[**Exodus 1:1-4**](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Exodus%201.1-4)**;**[**1 Chronicles 2:1-2**](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/1%20Chronicles%202.1-2)**). When the tribes inherited the Promised Land, Levi's descendants did not receive a territory for themselves. Instead, they became priests and had several cities scattered throughout all of Israel. Joseph did not receive a tribe, either—Jacob had adopted Joseph’s two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, essentially giving Joseph a double portion for his faithfulness in saving the family from famine (**[**Genesis 47:11-12**](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Genesis%2047.11-12)**). This makes the tribes as listed in Joshua: Reuben, Simeon, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Benjamin, Ephraim, and Manasseh. Adding to the confusion, the tribe of Ephraim is sometimes referred to as the tribe of Joseph (**[**Numbers 1:32-33**](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Numbers%201.32-33)**). Ephraim and Dan are often referred to as regions; these are not fixed regions. Paul was the tribe of Benjamin.**
13. **In Genesis 49:1-28, the Bible gives us some prophecies about the tribes of Israel. Notice what was said about the tribe of Dan. Dan and Ephraim are missing; both went into idolatry, Dan first. "DAN SHALL BE A SERPENT BY THE WAY, AN ADDER IN THE PATH THAT BITETH THE HORSE HEELS, SO THAT HIS RIDER SHALL FALL BACKWARD." We know it was the serpent that deceived Eve, and threw all of mankind backward into sin. Notice the similar language in Genesis 3:1-15, "Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where *art* thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I *was* naked; and I hid myself. And he said, Who told thee that thou *wast* naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. And the LORD God said unto the woman, What *is* this *that* thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou *art* cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." Some people think that the false prophet will come from the tribe of Dan.**

**NOTE: The tribes of Dan and Ephraim are missing because they introduced idolatry into Israel. Deut. 29:18-21, says that the man, or woman, or family, or TRIBE that should introduce idolatry into Israel, should have their or its name “blotted out” from under heaven, and be separated out of the tribes of Israel. They both allowed Jeroboam to set up golden calves in their territories to be worshipped, one at Dan, in the tribe of Dan, and the other at Bethel, in the tribe of Ephraim. Joseph and Levi are substituted.**

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***Meanings of the names of the tribes: read as a sentence...***

**Judah—Praise of God**

**Reuben—Viewing the Son**

**Gad—A Troop is coming**

**Asher—Blessed**

**Naphtali—Wrestling or Striving**

**Manasseh—Forgetfulness**

**Simeon—Hearing or obeying**

**Levi—Joining or ‘cleaving to’**

**Issachar—Reward**

**Zebulun—To Dwell**

**Joseph—Added**

**Benjamin—Son of My Right Hand**



1. **Where is the tribe of Dan? Read Genesis 49:17.Jacob speaks of Dan as a serpent…. ….Moses’ prophecy; Moses will leap from Bashan….Dan of his own accord, moves north into Golan Heights. The tribe would not help with the battle where Deborah and Sisera are involved; he becomes a sea-faring tribe. I Chronicles 1-8, the tribe of Dan is missing. He is not mentioned in the sealed 144,000 in Revelation. He’s the tribe through which idolatry entered the land, also apostasy. He sponsors a golden calf by Jeroboam. Read Deut. 29:18-23, Lev. 24: 10-16, Judges 18:1, 2, 30-31.and Jeremiah 8:16. idolaters have their name blotted out. Where is the tribe of Ephraim? Hosea 4:17 and Ezekiel 48:1-2 refer to Jeroboam’s idolatry; why does this affect Ephraim? It is often mentioned with Joseph or Manasseh. Ephraim is included in the Joseph name. Because Ephraim was associated with Jeroboam’s idolatry at Bethel. In the book of Ezekiel 48:1-2, Dan is given land in the Millennium, although his tribe is not spared through the great tribulation, also Ephraim.**
2. **How are the “sealed 144,000 Jews” a type of Noah? Enoch a type of “the raptured church?” Compare this to the passage in Ezekiel 9:1-22.**
3. **Verse 9 starts the second half of this chapter. Who is this multitude? How large is this? Are they Jews only? Describe the attributes of this multitude. These have palms in their hands; they cry with a loud voice, these are the redeemed from the tribulation. They are saved out of the tribulation.**
4. **Compare the “palms” in this scene to the “palm branches” in John 12:12-16. Could this be a “second chance” for those “Jewish folks” that didn’t accept Jesus on that Palm Sunday so very long ago. Reflect.**
5. **Name the two groups we see in Chapter 7. 144,000 evangelist-Jews in 7:4 and the vast multitude in 7:9. Link the “multitude” to the sixth seal in Rev. 6:12-17.**
6. **What is the song/ prayer the multitude sings? All of the worship is directed to God and Jesus Christ.**
7. **List the 7-fold “worship words” in verse 12.**
8. **Read Ephesians 2:8. Comment on their salvation, the “gift of God.”**
9. **Verse 16 points back to the “seal judgments.” Elaborate.**
10. **What does “wash their robes?” How are they different from the elders? These are redeemed out of the tribulation by the 144,000 sealed Jews. They are not crowned; they stand before Him and serve Him day and night. They are not “John’s” bunch; John did not recognize them. They are different than the 24 elders. These are two different groups.**
11. **Distinguish what the job is for these redeemed?**
12. **Re-read Rev. 6:9-11, the Fifth Seal. Compare this to the multitude you are now viewing. Are these the martyrs mentioned in the Fifth Seal? Yes; this is not the church, because John did not know them. These are the tribulation martyrs.**
13. **Read Isaiah 53: 4-6, Matthew 26:28, Ephesians 1:7, Ephesians 2:13, and Hebrews 9:11, 13—discuss how these verses about redemption apply to the multitude seen in Rev. 7.**
14. **Who asked John about the multitude? An elder. Rev. 7:16**
15. **Who will lead these redeemed? The lamb**
16. **What are the tears? Why are they crying? Read Rev. 21:4.**
17. **In Verse 15, what does “serve” mean? Is this a different task than the “church?” Read Rev. 3:21.**
18. **Discuss thirst. Compare Isaiah 12:2-3, Jeremiah 2:13, I Cor, 10:2-4, and John 6:35.**
19. **In chapter 14, there is an illusion back to the 144,000. Read Rev. 14:1-5. And discuss.**
20. **Contrast the Tribulation Saints with the 24 Elders (The Church):**

**Not Crowned Crowned**

**Palms in hands Harps in hands, no palms**

**Saved “out of “tribulation “Kept out of” tribulation-- Rev. 3:10**

**Stand before thrones Sit on thrones—I Cor. 6:2-3**

**Serve Him day and night Reign as kings and priests**

**Not recognized by John (I Cor. 6:2-3, I Pet. 2:9, Rev. 1:6)**

Assignment for next week: Read Revelation Chapter 8 and 16

And Read Joshua, Chapters 5-6

**Promise 2 Peter 1:19, “We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts.”**