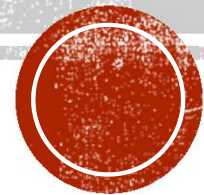


REVELATION 7 — SEALING THE 144,000

By Richard Osei

Ref. Chuck Missler





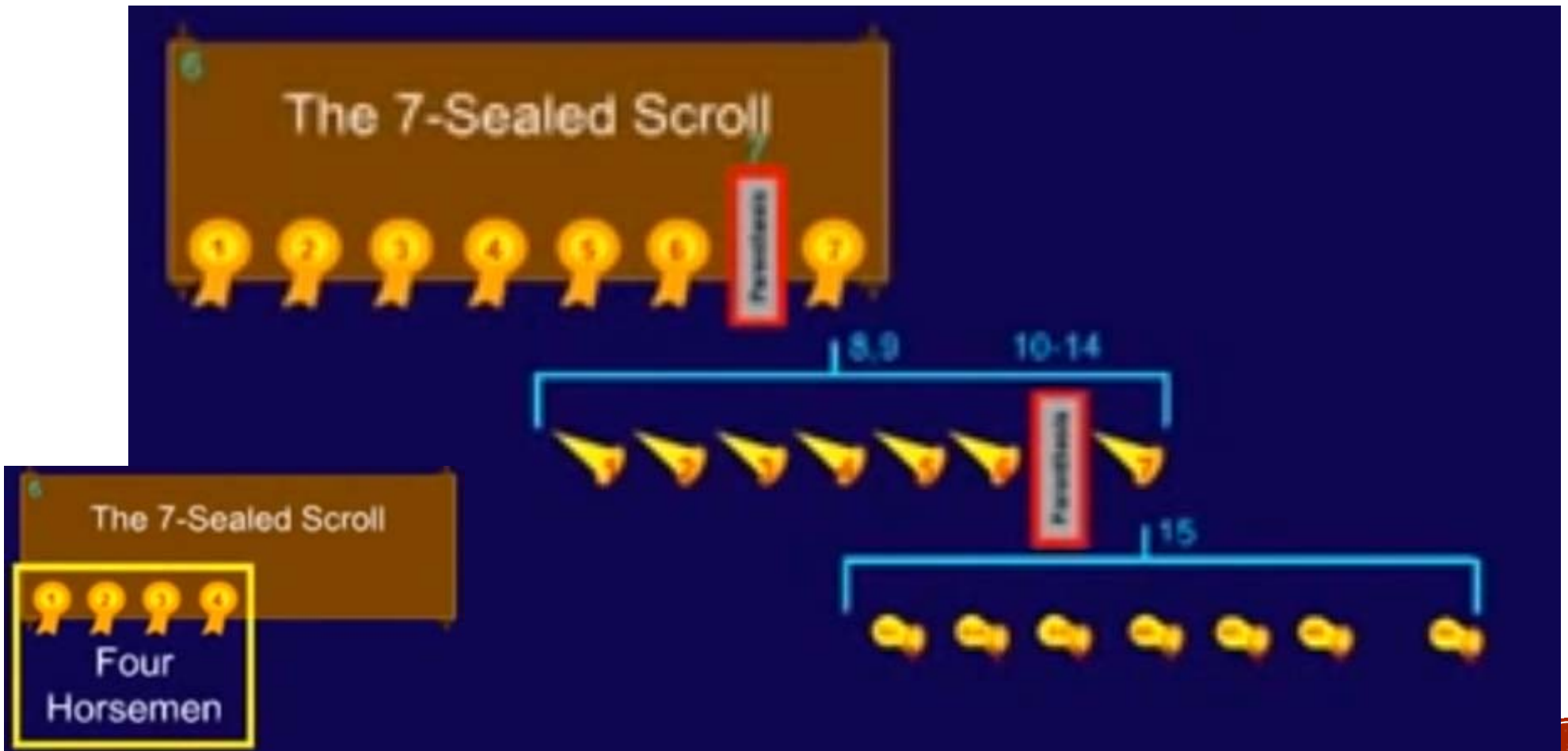


OUTLINE OF REVELATION

- 1-3 - Introduction
 - 4-11 - Salutation & Occasion
 - 12-18 - Vision of the Risen Christ
 - 19 - Outline of the Book
 - 20 - Prep for Chapters 2 and 3
-
- Write^[i] the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this. (Rev. 1:19)



REV. CHAPTER 6 – OPENING THE SEALS





THE FOUR HORSEMEN?

- ²¹ For thus says the Lord GOD: “How much more it shall be when I send My four severe judgments on Jerusalem—the sword and famine and wild beasts and pestilence—to cut off man and beast from it?”
- Ezekiel 14:21



GROUP OF SIGNS

	Matthew	Luke	Revelation
False Christ	24:4-5	21:4	6:1-2
Wars	24:6	21:9-10	6:3-4
Famines	24:7a	21:11	6:5-6
Death	24:7b-8	21:12	6:7-8
Martyrs	24:9	21:24	6:9-11
Global chaos	24:10-13	21:25	6:12-17



REVELATION 7

- “Who shall be able to stand?”
- Sealed Servants 7:1-8
 - 144,000 from 12 Tribes
- Saved Servants 7:9-17
 - From out of the Tribulation



REVELATION 7

- After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree. ² Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, ³ saying, “Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.” ⁴ And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred *and* forty-four thousand of all the ***tribes of the children of Israel were sealed:***

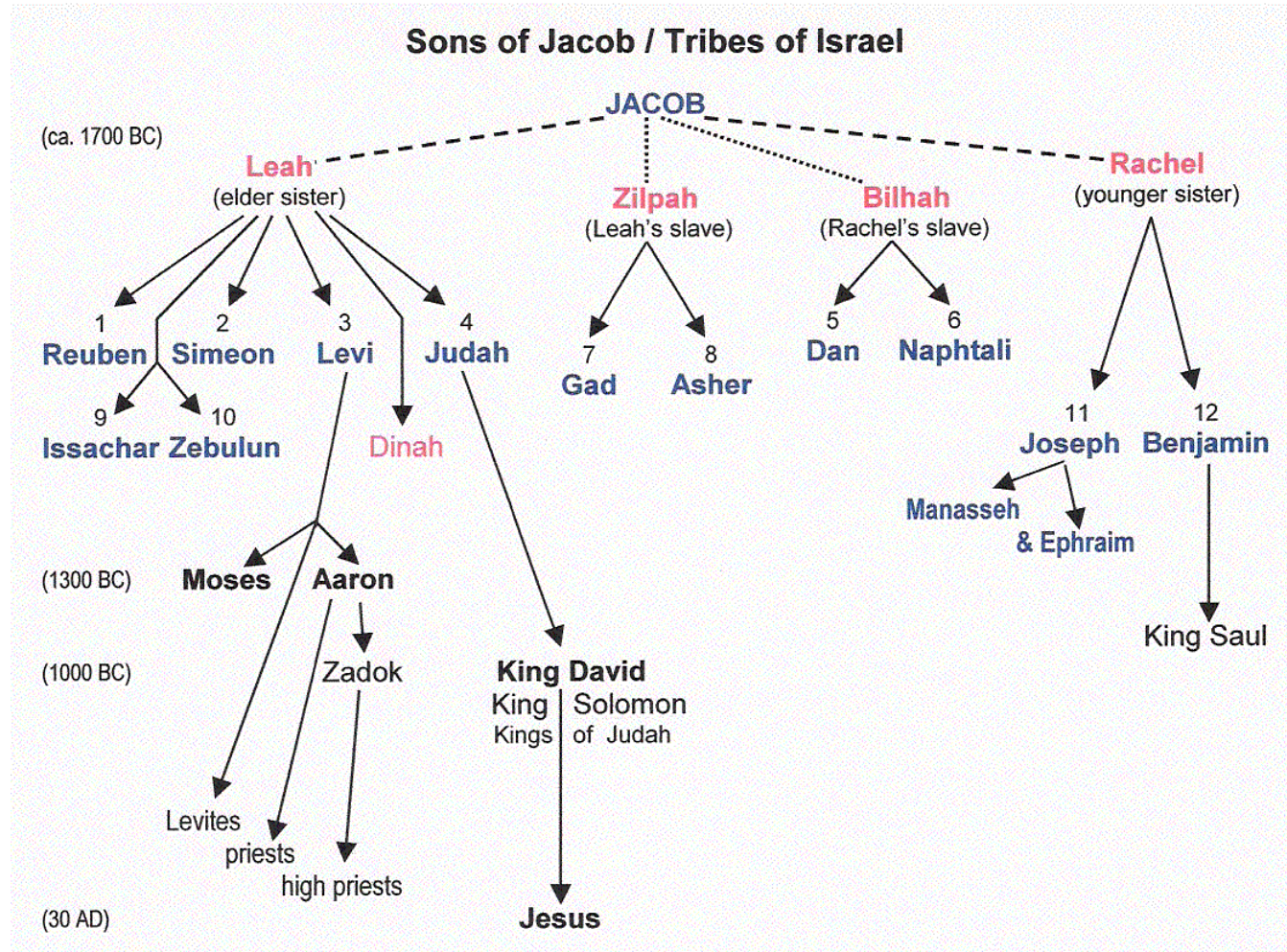


REVELATION 7

- of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand *were* sealed;^[a]
of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand *were* sealed;
6 of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand *were* sealed;
7 of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand *were* sealed;
8 of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand *were* sealed.



Sons of Jacob / Tribes of Israel



THE MYTH OF “TEN LOST TRIBES”

- No real Biblical basis
 - Epistles of James, 1 Peter: “to 12 tribes”
- Prophecies of 12 Tribes:
 - Jacob: Gen. 49
 - Moses: Deut. 33
- The myth is based on a misconception derived from the misreading of passages as Kgs 17:7-22, 2 Chr. 6:6-11



THE KINGDOM DIVIDED

- Even before the Assyrian captivity, substantial numbers from the northern tribes had identified themselves with house of David - 1 Kgs. 12:16-20; 2 Chr. 11:16-17
- Many to repudiated the Northern Kingdom and united with the southern kingdom in a common alliance to the house of David and to worship the Lord - 2 Chr. 19:4; 30:1, 10,11,25,26; 34:5-7,22; 35:17-18
- Horrified that Jeroboam set up a rival religion with golden calf worship at Bethel and Dan, many Northerners moved south, knowing that the only place acceptable to God was the Temple of Mt. Moriah - Deut. 12:5-7; 16:2-6; Isa. 18:7
- Those who favored idolatry migrated north to Jeroboam
- Later, when Asa reigned as kin in the south, another great company came from the north – 2 Chr. 15:9
- Yeas after the deportation by Assyrian, King Hezekiah of Judah issued a call to all Israel to come and worship in Jerusalem and celebrate Passover – 2 Chr. 30:5-21
- 80 years later, King Josiah of Judah also issued a call, and an offering for the temple was received from “Manasseh and Ephraim and all the remnant of Israel...” 2 Chr. 34:9



THE KINGDOM DIVIDED

- Eventually, all 12 tribes were represented in the south:
 - God addresses the 12 tribes in the south: “Speak unto Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all Israel in Judah and Benjamin...” 2Chr. 11:3
- The “Tribe of Judah” is sometimes used idiomatically for Southern Kingdom
 - 2 Kgs 17:18, et al. Cf. 1 Kgs 11:13,32 etc.
- When encountering tribal designations, it is important to distinguish between
 - The territories allocated to the tribes and
 - The people themselves



NORTHERN KINGDOM FALLS

- 724 BC: Shalmaneser V besieged Samaria 3 years
 - King Hoshea of Israel attempted to revolt against paying Assyrians annual tribute money (a treaty with Pharaoh of Egypt and did not help) and Samaria, Jeroboam's capital, fell in 722 BC – 2 Kgs. 18:2
- 721 BC: Sargon II seized power
 - Assyrians pulled down towers, took 27,290 captive, placed an Assyrian ruler over the city, looted it
- The Assyrian implemented their infamous policy of mixing conquered people to keep them from organizing a revolt
 - Israelite captives were mixed with Persians and others; strangers from far-off lands were resettled in Samaria.
 - The resulting mixed, Jewish populations resulted in the “Samaritans” – John chapter 4



THE BABYLONIANS TAKE OVER

- 722 BC: When the Northern Kingdom went into captivity all 12 tribes were also represented in the south
- 586 BC: When the Babylonians took the Southern Kingdom into captivity members of all 12 tribes of Israel were involved
 - When the Babylonians take over Assyria, the descendants of the captives from the North were probably again commingled with the captives of Judah
- Isaiah, prophesying to Judah, refers to them as the “House of Jacob, which are called by the name of Israel ...” Isa. 48:1;



COMMINGLED TERMINOLOGY

- Even before the death of Rehoboam, God looked upon all as a unity, seeing “all Israel in Judah and Benjamin” 2 Chr. 11:3
- After the Babylonian captivity, the terms Jew and Israelite are used interchangeably
 - Ezra call the returning remnant “Jews” 8 times, “Israel” 40 times
 - Ezra speaks of “all Israel” Ezra 2:70; 3:11; 8:35; 10:25 et al
 - Nehemiah calls them Jews 11 times, Israel 22 times
 - Nehemiah speaks of “all Israel being back in the land” Neh. 12:47
 - The remnant who returned from Babylon is represented as “the nation” Mal. 1:1



NEW TESTAMENT NOMENCLATURE

- Our Lord is said to have offered Himself to the nation, “the lost sheep of the house of Israel” Mt. 10:5-6; 15:24
- The New Testament speaks of “Israel” 75 times and “Jew” 174 times.
 - Acts 21:39; 22:3; Rom. 11:1; 2 Cor. 11:22; Phil. 3:5, etc
- “The twelve tribes” Acts 26:7; James. 1:1
- Anna knew her tribal identity – the tribe of Asher: Luke 2:30
- Paul knew he was of the tribe of Benjamin:
 - A “Jew” and an “Israelite” Rom. 11:1
- Peter Cries
 - “Ye men of Judea” and Acts 2:14
 - “Ye men of Israel...” and Acts 2:22
 - “All the house of Israel” Acts 2:36



REGATHERED AS ONE

- The Dry Bones Vision declares
- Judah (“Jews?”) and
- Israel (“10 tribes?”)
 - Shall be joined as one in the regathering – Ezek. 37:1 16-17; 21-22
 - This is true today.
- [The total physical descendants were not the people whom the promises were made] Rom. 9:4-7



The Sealing of the 144,000

Revelation 7

Judah	12,000	Simeon	12,000
Reuben	12,000	Levi	12,000
Gad	12,000	Issachar	12,000
Asher	12,000	Zebulun	12,000
Naphtali	12,000	Joseph	12,000
Manasseh	12,000	Benjamin	12,000

Where is the Tribe of Dan?

Where is the Tribe of Ephraim?



WHY NOT DAN?

- Prophecies:
 - Jacob: “A serpent...” Gen. 49:17
 - Moses: “Leap from Bashan” Deut. 33:22
- Left allocated territories Judge 18
 - Debora: “Didn’t leave his ships” Judges 5:17
- Omitted from genealogies 1 Chr. 1-8
- Not sealed in the Tribulation Rev. 7



DAN: WHY?

- Tribe through which idolatry entered the land
 - Lev.24:10-16; Judges 18:1,2,30-21
- A leader in apostasy under Jeroboam
 - 1 Kings 12:28-30
 - And 100 years later 2 Kings 10:29
 - The “Voice of Calamity” Jer. 4:14, Amos 8:14
 - Curse: Jer. 8:16
- Idolaters name to be blotted out:
 - Deut. 29:18-21



DEUTERONOMY 29:18-21

- ¹⁸ so that there may not be among you man or woman or family or **tribe**, whose heart turns away today from the LORD our God, to go *and* serve the gods of these nations,
- ²⁰ “The LORD would not spare him; for then the anger of the LORD and His jealousy would burn against that man, and every curse that is written in this book would settle on him, and the LORD would **blot out his name from under heaven**.
- ²¹ And the LORD would **separate him from all the tribes of Israel** for adversity, according to all the curses of the covenant that are written in this Book of the Law,



AND YET DAN...

- Dan shall judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel Gen. 49:16
- Dan inherits in the Millennium?
Ezekiel. 48:1



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Manasseh	12,000	Benjamin	12,000

Since: Joseph = Manasseh + Ephraim

Thus: Joseph - Manasseh = Ephraim



EPHRAIM: ALSO OMITTED

- Ephraim is also referred to only elliptically:
 - Joseph = Manasseh + Ephraim
 - Thus
 - Joseph – Manasseh = Ephraim
- Ephraim was also associated with Jeroboam's idolatry Hos. 4:17
 - “Ephraim *is* joined to idols, Let him alone. (Hos. 4:17)



A MULTITUDE FROM THE GREAT TRIBULATION

- ⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a **great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne** and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” ¹¹ All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying: “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, *Be* to our God forever and ever. Amen.”



A MULTITUDE FROM THE GREAT TRIBULATION

- ¹³ Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, “Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?”
¹⁴ And I said to him, “Sir, ^[b] you know.”
- So he said to me, “These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. ¹⁶ They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. ^[c] And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”



Contrasts

Tribulation Saints

- Not Crowned
- Palms in their hands
- Saved "out of" the Tribulation
- These stand *before* thrones
- These serve Him day and night
- Not recognized by John

24 Elders

- Crowned
- Harps, No Palms
- "Kept out" of the Tribulation 3:10
- Sit on thrones
1 Cor 6:2,3; 1 Pet 2:9;
Rev 1:6
- Reign as kings & priests
1 Cor 6:2,3; 1 Pet 2:9;
Rev 1:6



FOR NEXT STUDY

- 1. Read Revelation 8 & 9
- 2. Read Joshua 5:13 – 6:27

