

Revelation — Revival Part 2

“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. Look, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’” (Matt 23:37)

“Then I will return to my lair until they have borne their guilt and seek my face—in their misery they will earnestly seek me.” (Hosea 5:15)

Dispensationalists — 144,000 are the first fruits of a redeemed Israel.

But concerning Israel he says, “All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and obstinate people.” (Romans 10:21)

“I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew.” (Romans 11:1-2)

“Again I ask: Did they stumble so as to fall beyond recovery? Not at all! Rather, because of their transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel envious.” (Rom 11:11)

“I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in, and in this way all Israel will be saved.” (Romans 11:25)

Psalm 67

“May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us— so that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.”

“May God bless us still, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.”

God says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth." (Isaiah 49:6)

144,000 - Jews who have come to Christ; Jews who have been redeemed, kept themselves pure, been obedient to the Lamb, been faithful, loyal, diligent, holy servants of the Lord during this time.

They are instrumental in the conversion of other Jews and Gentiles, like a massive missionary army.

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come." (Mathew 24:14)

Fulfilment of the prophecies in Zech 12.10; 13.1, 13.9; Zech 14; Ezekiel 20.38.

Alternative view - 144,000 are not an ethnic Jewish remnant but represent the entire community of the redeemed.

12 x 12 x 1000: 12 (number of completion - 12 tribes of Israel; 12 apostles of Jesus); 1000 = great multitude.

Twelve of Jacob

- includes Levi
- Manasseh, Joseph's son
- Dan not listed. Why was he left out? (Judges 18:30-31).

"After these things I looked".

"These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?" I answered, "Sir, you know." "These are those who come out of the great tribulation and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." (Rev 7:13)